

# LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION



Photo: UNDP Moldova

## **Ukrainian women take up IT courses to gain new skills and have better chances at finding employment**

Evgeniya is 41 years old and is from the Odessa region. She is accommodated at the Center for Rehabilitation of Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in Găgăuzia region for almost six months, together with her two children.

Before the war, Evgeniya was a seamstress. *"We had a family business, my husband was a fashion designer – he designed clothes, I did the tailoring and sewing. We also employed several people. We used to sell our products at the famous Seventh Kilometer market in Odessa."*

Evgeniya is confident that an IT training will help her: *"I have gained experience that will be very useful to me. It will help us a lot in the development and promotion of the business"*. Like her fellow Ukrainians, Evgeniya does not know how long she will stay in Moldova. Until then, she is determined to find a job.

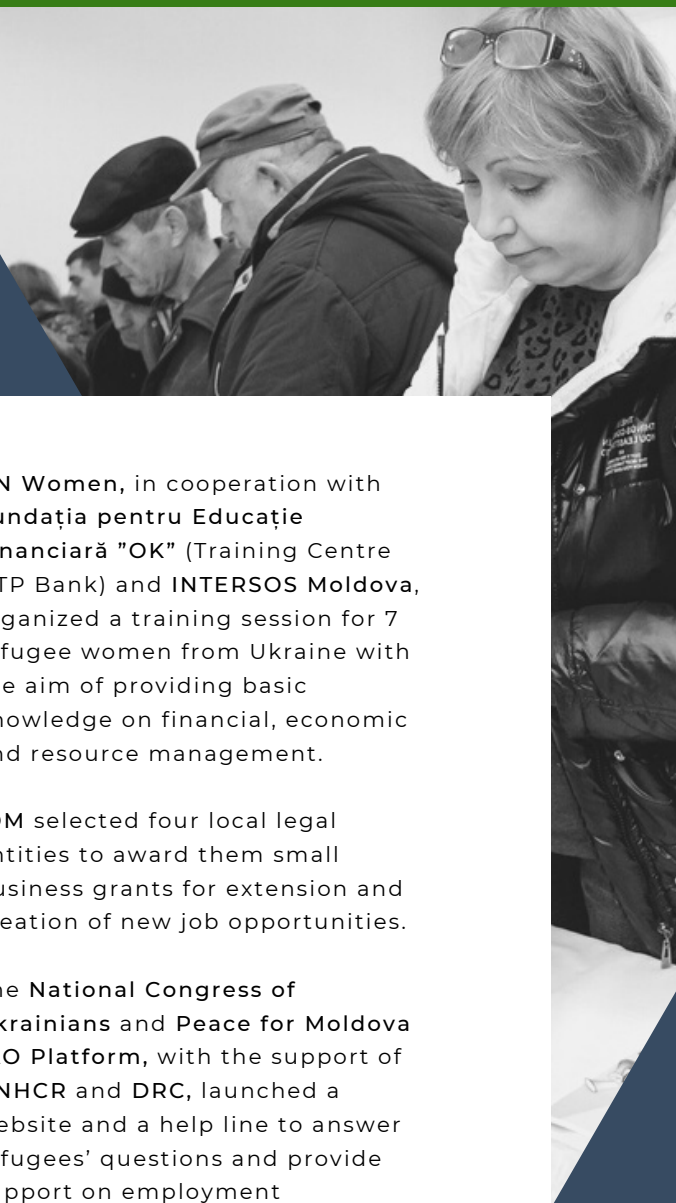
This year, 25 women benefited from digital literacy courses offered at the Center for Rehabilitation of Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in Găgăuzia region. The training sessions were organised with the support of UNDP, funded by the Government of Romania through RoAid – the Romanian Agency for International Development Cooperation.

*"In Ukraine, these women were employed in different fields – medicine, banking, agriculture, education, etc. They like these IT courses because they allow them to gain new knowledge and qualifications, which they will be able to use to continue their training,"* says Svetlana Georgieva, director of the Center.

The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is one of several Working Groups of the country-level refugee coordination structure set up by the Government of Moldova and UNHCR, with participation of a wide array of public and private, central and local institutions and stakeholders in the context of the Ukraine refugee crisis. The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is chaired by the State Chancellery of the Republic of Moldova and UNDP. The mandate of the Working Group is to enable a coordinated approach among partners working on livelihoods and inclusion topics, articulate and complement each other's work, and allow for a coherent response in line with the mandate of each organization. The work undertaken by the Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is a prime example of the humanitarian–development nexus: addressing crisis response needs, while considering longer-term resilience-building priorities that benefit refugees and host communities.

## UPDATES ON LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION INTERVENTIONS BY OUR MEMBERS\*

- UNDP and the European Union supported the **National Employment Agency** to organize a job fair, advertising over 250 job vacancies in Causeni. Approx 350 people, including 14 refugees from Ukraine, attended the job fair, seeking employment or opportunities for reskilling.
- CWS in partnership with **Zdorovii Gorod in Balti**, are providing vocational training to 47 Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons. As of November, the first cohort of 12 women have graduated. They also coordinated youth activities for 127 Moldovan and Ukrainian youth.
- 50 women refugees have been enrolled in professional training courses provided by UNDP with support from Sweden and the UK on the left bank of the Nistru river.
- UNDP has also enabled 25 women, including women refugees, to benefit from digital literacy courses offered at the Center for Rehabilitation of Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in Găgăuzia region (trainings will continue in December). The training courses are financially supported by the Government of Romania.
- IOM provided cash for skills to 11 beneficiaries, including 8 Ukrainian refugees, as well as a microgrant to one refugee to procure equipment and materials for self-employment.
- UN Women, in cooperation with **Fundația pentru Educație Financiară "OK"** (Training Centre OTP Bank) and **INTERSOS Moldova**, organized a training session for 7 refugee women from Ukraine with the aim of providing basic knowledge on financial, economic and resource management.
- IOM selected four local legal entities to award them small business grants for extension and creation of new job opportunities.
- The **National Congress of Ukrainians and Peace for Moldova /AO Platform**, with the support of UNHCR and DRC, launched a website and a help line to answer refugees' questions and provide support on employment opportunities. One regional outreach campaign was conducted during the reporting period in Balti. Separate campaigns were launched by Meta Business Suite to tackle the Moldovan citizens. 1,000 brochures and leaflets were printed to be distributed in RACs, humanitarian aid distribution points and other places where beneficiaries can be found.



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- 13 CSOs from Moldova were selected to implement projects contributing to improved socio-economic recovery and political participation of women and young women in forced displacement. The overall goal of the initiative supported by **Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund** and **UN Women** is to contribute to peaceful and gender equal societies, in line with UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.
- **Gender Centru** under the agreement with the **Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund** and with the technical support of **UN Women** organized a social cohesion event with art therapy, recitals of poems and songs, autumnal exhibitions and good humor in Roscani, Strasen district.
- **UN Women** has developed a gender-responsive intervention to enhance resilience, inclusion and agency of refugee and crisis affected women through community-based initiatives that among other components provides emergency humanitarian assistance to refugee women in 10 target communities and supports community-driven social cohesion initiatives in 7 communities.

\*The updates cover the months of November 2022.

Photo: UNDP Moldova

### Contact us

The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group meets every other Wednesday from 13:00 to 14:30, Chişinău time on Zoom: <https://undp.zoom.us/j/83411777112>. For any questions you may have regarding the Working Group, please reach out to Teodora Zafiu at [teodora.zafiu@undp.org](mailto:teodora.zafiu@undp.org).

### Members

Moldova State Chancellery, National Employment Agency of Moldova, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova, United Nations, UNDP, UNHCR, OHCHR, IOM, WFP, FAO, UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, WHO, ILO, ECHO, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Switzerland, HELVETAS, ACTED, People in Need, Terre des Hommes, CLEAR Global, Plan International, WeWorld, Caritas Moldova, NRC, Translators without borders, CWS Global, ICRC Global, ADRA, Keystone Moldova, Centrul Parteneriat pentru Dezvoltare, Palladium, REACH, DRC, IRC, Moldova for Peace, National Congress of Ukrainians of Moldova, Charity Centre for Refugees, Solidarite Internationale.