



Inter-Agency Refugee Education Working Group (IREWG)

IREWG Monthly Meeting – 26 October 2023

Meeting Details: Inter Agency Refugee Education Working Group Monthly Meeting	
Date	26 October 2023
Time	13:00-14:30
Chair	Valentina Olaru (MER)
Co-Chair	Katherine Lampe (UNHCR) Loujine Khoury (UNICEF)
Email	valentina.olaru@mec.gov.md lkhoury@unicef.org lampe@unhcr.org
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. MER updates regarding the enrollment numbers of Ukrainian children for the school year 2023/2024 in preschools and general education disaggregated by school level, sex, and directorate.2. EduTech Labs Guidance Note and mapping.3. Presentation of the main findings of the needs assessment for refugee children with disabilities, conducted by UNICEF with the support of Lumos Foundation Moldova.4. Partners Presentation5. AoB (RRP 2024 project submissions, ActivityInfo reporting)	



Information collection and relevant links	
Activity Info Platform: https://www.activityinfo.org/	
Participants	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Katherine Lampe - UNHCR - Fadia Jbara - UNHCR - Loujine Khoury – UNICEF - Lucy Strickland - Plan International - Ion DUMINICA - Coalition Roma Voice - Alina Negur - Charity CCR - Martha Glover Short – CRS - Mihai Cotorbai – PiN - Diana Alexi - Chisinau Municipality - Luminita Drumes- Speranta'87 Moldova - Valentina Ghenciu - Lumos Moldova - Constanta Cravet – Concordia Moldova 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marcel Straton – Lumos Moldova - Berfu Nisan Gur – WeWorld - Giulia Ciancio Paratore – WeWorld - Natalia Balta - Pestalozzi Children's Foundation - Olga Morozan – Pestalozzi Children's Foundation - Vicente Palacios Ducar – ECHO - Natasa Omerovic – IOM - Sana Sikova – UNHCR - Lorina Ghitu – CCF Moldova - Iulia Tvigu – UNDP - Eugenio Carillo – People in Need

Summary of discussions and agreements/action points

Agenda	Discussion	Actions Points
1. MER updates	<p>As of October 26, 2023, the number of Ukrainian children enrolled in Moldovan schools is 1,557 children. Of these children, 526 are enrolled in preschool, 780 are enrolled in primary education, 711 in secondary education and 66 children in high school. Disaggregation by gender is 49.71 % girls and 51.29 % boys.</p> <p>Regarding number of children studying online, MER stated that they are working to identify children studying online and will share information on this in the coming days. It is expected that some children who were previously studying online will register in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MER To share updated detailed enrollment numbers for Ukrainian children with the Education Working Group partners.



	<p>Moldovan schools as there are no more obstacles to prevent registration in the schools on the administrative level after the issued MER decree on the 9th of September.</p> <p>MER stated that they are in contact with Ukrainian education authorities on a variety of topics.</p> <p>The Roma Voices Coalition asked whether disaggregated enrolment data is available for Roma children within the MER system. MER responded that they currently do not collect disaggregated data on ethnicity, but following a request from the Ombudsman’s Office, they are in the process of beginning to collect data on Roma children (both Moldovan and Ukrainian).</p> <p>Another question was asked about how to support children who are not literate. MER responded that several options exist: a) a child who is not literate could be placed temporarily in a special education class, with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), concurrently with placement in a grade that matches their age. Alternatively, there is a process to request for a teacher to come to a child’s home and provide individualized education, but this process is more complicated. MER recommended that if partners/families are having problems with getting needed support from a particular school, to contact MER to find a solution.</p> <p>Regarding Accelerated Learning, MER stated that this is addressed in the 4 September Instruction. However, there is a lack of human resources (teachers) to meet the number of demands. It was suggested that humanitarian partners can directly hire Ukrainian teachers and deploy them to schools, inside the EduTech Labs, to help fill this need. Plan International mentioned the need to harmonize compensation for this activity. The IREWG will follow up on this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Working Group chair and co-chairs to follow up on a standard compensation package for teachers hired by humanitarian partners.
--	--	--



2. EduTech Labs	UNICEF discussed the EduTech Labs Guidance Note developed for the Refugee Education Working Group partners. The concept note is designed to guide the Refugee Education Working Group partners and any other relevant actors in establishing and operationalizing the EduTech Labs inside targeted schools in the Republic of Moldova, to promote and facilitate the inclusion of Ukrainian children in formal school settings. The note aims to clearly outline the package of services and standards expected from partners in each of these labs in an effort to ensure uniformity of the proposed intervention across the various targeted schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To circulate the concept, note with the partners and again reshare the Mapping of the EduTech Labs and ensure partners have the updated schools targeted in the shared list.
3. Presentation of the main findings of the needs assessment for refugee children with disabilities, conducted by UNICEF with the support of Lumos Foundation Moldova.	The main findings of the needs assessment for refugee children with disabilities, conducted by UNICEF with the support of Lumos Foundation Moldova was presented in detail during the meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To share the presentation of the main assessment findings with the partners.
4. Partners Presentations	People in Need (PiN) presented their Education Activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PiN's presentation to be shared with partners.
5. AOB	<p><u>RRP 2024:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector response plan developed and shared with all partners based on the MER priorities for RRP 2024 and the sector consultation workshop. • Project submission completed by 15 October 2023. • Sector leads will review all projects submitted on activity level to ensure no duplication or surpass the initially identified targets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To share the AAP training details with the WG partners.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Partners to receive feedback from the co-chairs, if edits are needed and to resubmit their activities on ActivityInfo until November 18, 2023. <p><u>ActivityInfo Reporting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Reporting for September activities is open between 25 October to 1 November 2023. All partners are kindly asked to make sure they add all their education activities on ActivityInfo portal. <p><u>Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) training:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">11 workshops organized in different areas in Moldova between 3 and 30 November 2023. Details regarding the training will be shared with the partners after the meeting.	
--	---	--