



Ungheni Local Refugee Coordination Forum Meeting at Community Service Centre

Meeting Details	
Date	18 07 2024 - Next meeting TBC
Time	10.00 – 12.00
Chair	Cazacu Andrei, Field Team
Reporting	Cazacu Andrei, Field Team
Email	cazacu@unhcr.org
Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refresher introduction on the Local Refugee Coordination Forum• Updates on the UNHCR cash assistance program and the Referral Pathways Mechanism.• Updates from all organizations on key achievements and main challenges• Information session from CNAM - questions and answers• Information session from CNAS – questions and answers• Any other business	



Participants

Denis Carnovschi – Deputy Mayor

Iva Vavic – UNHCR

Cazacu Andrei – UNHCR

Sara Sivkova – UNHCR

Sabnam-Cristina Paknehad – UNHCR

Pierre A. Chacón – UNHCR

Casper Duijin – UNHCR

Vitalie Sprînceana – CNAS

Vasile Lupu – ATAS Center – West

Constantin Potlog - Territorial Structure of Social Assistance

Ines Arnautovic – DRC

Silvia Grosu – LCA / CDA

Atamuratov Marina - Primaria Ungheni

Valeria Danilov - DRC

Casapciuc Iulian – ACTED

Bargan Daniel – ACTED

Manciu Aliona - Gender Equality Platform, D. Cantemir

Barbacari Sergiu - General Inspectorate of Border Police

Svetlana Bobeica – Intersos

Dan Arama – Intersos

Cojocaru Vasile - Western Regional Directorate of the Border Police
General Inspectorate

Șveț Valentina - CRS Ungheni

Căniță Oxana - Ungheni Employment Subdivision



Summary of discussions and agreements / action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<p>1. General updates from all humanitarian actors.</p>	<p>Andrei Cazacu - UNHCR welcomed the participants and introduced the agenda points.</p> <p>Vitalie Sprînceana – CNAS informed about Government Decision No. 21 from 18.01.2023 regarding the provision of temporary protection to displaced persons from Ukraine. As a result, all displaced persons from Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova have received social benefits starting from March 1, 2023, under temporary protection. Additionally, by Law 499, Article 3, regarding state social allowances, benefits for children with severe, pronounced, and moderate disabilities have been established at 2083.43 MDL for severe disabilities, 1944 MDL for pronounced disabilities, and 1385 MDL for moderate disabilities. Moreover, an allowance for caregivers of children up to 18 years old has been set at 2222.28 MDL. These types of allowances have been extended until March 1, 2025. For mothers who gave birth in Moldova starting from March 1, 2023, they are entitled to a one-time birth allowance of 20,000 MDL beginning January 1, 2024 – as opposed to 10,935 MDL last year, and a monthly allowance of up to two years of 1000 MDL for uninsured persons. If the person is employed, they receive benefits based on the calculation from the last 12 months' salary. All these provisions are valid until March 1, 2025, with a possible extension.</p> <p>Following a question by CDA about transferring pensions from Ukraine to Moldova and the required documentation, CNA clarified that transferring pensions from Ukraine to Moldova is not possible for persons with refugee status. CAN highlighted a few cases in which this procedure has been conducted for persons who established a temporary residence. Procedurally, the beneficiary must approach the CNAS territorial office and apply, and based on the application, their file will be requested. However, this is only possible if the person resides in Moldova.</p> <p>Sara Sivkova—UNHCR, speaking on behalf of UNHCR and IOM, gave a refresher on referral pathways. UNHCR informed the participants about the referral pathways mechanisms and the referral pathways tool that was drafted with input from local actors, emphasizing the need to update information on this document regularly.</p>	<p>Attendees will share any changes or additional information to be included in the referral pathways tool</p>



	<p>Andrei Cazacu - UNHCR informed about the platform moldova.servicesadvisor.net and mentioned that those not registered on the platform can send the necessary data to create an account to cazacu@unhcr.org.</p> <p>Sabnam-Cristina Paknehad – UNHCR provided an update on the eligibility criteria for receiving financial assistance and clarified the steps involved in the changes to the eligibility criteria and the interviews conducted to understand the beneficiaries' levels of vulnerability. In response to a concern expressed by CARITAS regarding individuals discontinued from cash assistance, UNHCR stressed the possibility of a reconsideration process.</p> <p>Denis Carnovschi – Deputy Mayor, informed that the local and regional Public Administration have made a significant contribution to hosting refugees in the region, and thanked CARITAS and UNHCR for renovating the community center where the meeting took place. The Deputy Mayor stressed the role of the community center in supporting the efforts of the public administration to assist refugees.</p> <p>Căniță Oxana - Ungheni Employment Subdivision informed that the employment sector in Ungheni is extensive. Nevertheless, the job offers do not match the expectations of refugees, due to non-competitive salaries. The Employment Sub-division has discussed with an agency that offers training courses according to the demands of the market which they hope will increase the opportunities for refugees and locals to obtain a job.</p>	via email with sivkovas@unhcr.org .
1. AOB.	It was agreed that meetings of the LRCF in Ungheni could be held quarterly.	