Members

WHO, UNHCR, MSFCH-Harmanli, Médecins du Monde, CRWB, Fireflies ai, Animus Association, FAR, IOM

1. Up-dates from members

UNHCR shared about the upcoming 2025-2026 Refugee Response Plan planning workshop that will take place on 19th September and it will include presentation on data collections and key findings of 2024 Socio-Economic Inclusion Survey.

WHO CO Bulgaria is currently organizing Quality Rights training for mental health professionals in Bulgaria.

2. Thematic Focus of the Meeting: updates on practices and addressing needs

Updates & Achievements

Médecins du Monde shared about the progress on their research, conducted jointly with Bordeaux University on how precarious environment affects health and mental health. The research is almost finalized and a preliminary date for a public presentation and round table for discussions is set up on 4th November in cooperation with the National Center for public health and analysis.

FAR inquired about referral systems and ongoing programs for psychological assistance to refugees with available translation. A list of organizations who offer such services across Bulgaria was shared for information and usage.

Animus Association shared about their chatbot in relation to the need of materials and information on mental health. The chatbot is available for public use in Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Arabic and Farsi. They also informed the group about the offered safe space for women and girls and a Ukrainian specific group with cultural mediators.

MSFCH is about to close their activities the field of mental health by the end of October, and they are doing a hand over for most of the activities to IOM.

3. AoB
- Chair announces next meeting to be held Hybrid at UNHCR office (2 Pozitano Square, Sofia
- Participants are invited to make a presentation on a key-specific topic or initiative of their choice.

Next steps: Chair to organize the next meeting and to share the minutes.

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