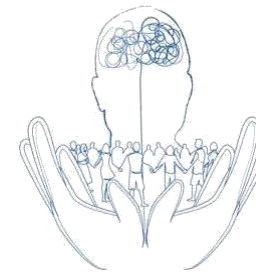


Romania MHPSS Sub Working Group Meeting Minutes – 11 April 2024



Members	12 online participants from the following organizations Romanian Red Cross, HIAS, Plan International, Terre Des Hommes, UNICEF, WHO, and Focal Points from the other sectors.	
Agenda items	Summary of the background information	Action Points
Introduction & Agenda Overview	<p>The Co-chair presented the key agenda points for the meeting, as can be seen below,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening - 5 mins • Updates from the co-chairs & partners- 15 mins • Presentation from MHPSS Co-chairs - "IASC MHPSS Minimum Service Package" (Presenter: Irem Umuroglu - 20 mins) • Going through the MHPSS indicators under RRP reporting – 10 minutes • AoB-5 minutes 	
Updates from the MHPSS members and Co-chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRC-Alina Garleanu begins discussing a project focused on providing psychosocial support through sports for displaced Ukrainians in Romania. Alina elaborates on the collaboration between the Danish Psychosocial Support Center and the Olympic Refugee Foundation to train sports coaches in psychological first aid (PFA). The project aims to train 300 sports coaches in Romania to better support vulnerable youth, particularly displaced Ukrainians. Alina calls for collaboration with organizations working with sports coaches or physical education teachers. Irem requests a detailed document about the program for circulation among participants. • IFRC & RRC- IFRC and RRC were able to give a presentation at the European Commission, highlighting the growing recognition of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) at the EU level. RRC shared details about her presentation at the EU event, focusing on operational approaches and the use of helplines for MHPSS. Alina emphasizes the importance of training, networking, and collaboration in MHPSS responses, citing experiences from the crisis response in Ukraine. Alina acknowledges the role of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members who are interested in the Sport Coach + Program are welcome to send an email to RRC to ask for more information. Alina Garleanu is the focal point, and her email address is alina.garleanu@crucearosie.ro • Co-Chairs to share further information about the project, once the relevant information materials are ready. • The technical Focal Point from the Olympic Refugee Center, Kathleen Latimer will be hosted in the

	<p>Ukrainian call center operators in providing support and highlights the responsibilities associated with their roles.</p>	<p>upcoming MHPSS sWG meeting that will take place in June 2024.</p>
<p>Further Information about the Sport Coach + Project</p>	<p>Objective: The Sport Coach Plus project aims to provide psychosocial support to displaced Ukrainians in Romania through sports activities. It seeks to empower sports coaches with the necessary skills and knowledge to offer psychological first aid (PFA) to vulnerable youth, particularly those affected by displacement and trauma.</p> <p>Collaborating Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danish Psychosocial Support Center: Plays a leading role in designing and implementing psychosocial support programs worldwide. In this project, it provides expertise in psychological first-aid training and program development. • Olympic Refugee Foundation: Known for its efforts in using sports as a tool for social inclusion and empowerment, particularly for refugees and displaced populations. Collaborates in designing sports-based interventions and mobilizing resources. <p>Project Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Component: The project involves the training of 300 sports coaches in Romania. These coaches will receive specialized training in psychological first-aid techniques, equipping them to recognize and respond to the psychosocial needs of vulnerable youth. • Target Population: The primary beneficiaries of the project are displaced Ukrainians residing in Romania. These individuals may have experienced trauma and displacement due to conflict, requiring tailored psychosocial support interventions. • Sports-Based Approach: The project utilizes sports as a medium for delivering psychosocial support. By integrating psychological first-aid training into sports coaching practices, the project aims to create safe and supportive environments where vulnerable youth can thrive. • Long-Term Impact: Through the Sport Coach Plus project, organizers aim to build the capacity of local sports coaches to address the psychosocial needs of their communities sustainably. By investing in training and skill development, the project seeks to create a network of support that extends beyond the duration of the program. <p>Call for Collaboration: The project organizers, represented by Alina Garleanu, extend a call for collaboration to other organizations working in the fields of sports, psychosocial support, and refugee assistance. They emphasize the importance of partnerships in maximizing the reach and impact of the project.</p>	

	<p>Documentation and Information Sharing: Participants express interest in receiving detailed documentation about the Sport Coach Plus project, including programmatic details, training materials, and evaluation frameworks. This information will facilitate future collaboration and replication of successful interventions.</p> <p>Overall, the Sport Coach Plus project represents a holistic approach to addressing the psychosocial needs of displaced populations through sports-based interventions, training, and collaboration.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Presentations from the Co-chairs</p>	<p>The MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support) Minimum Service Package (MSP) is a comprehensive framework designed to guide humanitarian organizations, governments, and other stakeholders in providing essential mental health and psychosocial support services in emergency and crisis settings. Developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the MHPSS MSP outlines a set of core interventions and activities to address the mental health and psychosocial needs of individuals and communities affected by emergencies, disasters, conflicts, and other crises.</p> <p>Here are some key components and features of the MHPSS Minimum Service Package:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehensive Scope: The MSP covers a wide range of mental health and psychosocial support interventions, including community-based activities, clinical services, capacity-building initiatives, and coordination mechanisms. It aims to address the diverse needs of individuals across the lifespan, from children and adolescents to adults and older adults. 2. Interdisciplinary Approach: The MSP recognizes the multidimensional nature of mental health and psychosocial well-being and promotes an interdisciplinary approach to service delivery. It involves collaboration among various sectors, including health, education, social welfare, protection, and humanitarian assistance. 3. Humanitarian Principles: The MSP is grounded in humanitarian principles, such as humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence. It emphasizes the importance of providing support to all individuals and communities in need, without discrimination or prejudice. 4. Adaptability and Flexibility: Recognizing the diverse cultural, social, and contextual factors influencing mental health and psychosocial well-being, the MSP encourages flexibility and adaptability in its implementation. It can be tailored to meet the specific needs and priorities of different populations and settings. 5. Evidence-Based Practices: The MSP is informed by evidence-based practices and principles derived from research, field experiences, and expert consensus. It emphasizes the importance of using approaches and interventions that have been demonstrated to be effective and culturally appropriate. 6. Capacity Building: The MSP includes provisions for building the capacity of local organizations, communities, and individuals to deliver mental health and psychosocial support services. This may involve training programs, supervision, mentoring, and the development of guidelines and protocols.

	<p>7. Monitoring and Evaluation: The MSP incorporates mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation and impact of mental health and psychosocial support interventions. It emphasizes the need for systematic data collection, quality assurance, and continuous improvement.</p> <p>8. Coordination and Collaboration: Given the complex and multisectoral nature of mental health and psychosocial support, the MSP underscores the importance of coordination and collaboration among different stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, UN agencies, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>Overall, the MHPSS Minimum Service Package serves as a guiding framework for ensuring the delivery of effective, coordinated, and culturally sensitive mental health and psychosocial support services in emergency and crisis contexts. By adhering to its principles and recommendations, humanitarian actors can better meet the diverse needs of individuals and communities affected by adversity and promote resilience, recovery, and well-being.</p>
AoB	N/A
Shared Folder	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-kO5peSjNhN4hnn6_2H5s_qPegrTzjDL?usp=drive_link