

Basic Needs Working Group Meeting
 Meeting Minutes

Time & Location	8 April 2022 – Online Meeting	
Agenda item	Discussion summary	
Welcome and overview of meeting agenda	Activity	
	Introduction and Overview of Situation	UNHCR
	Updates on Main Findings and Challenges	All participants
	AOB	All Participants
Introduction and Overview of Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.5 million new arrivals to Poland. (24 February – 6 April) (BG data) • Arrivals continue from all over Ukraine, continue to arrive disoriented, many of them without an onward plan, some choosing to return. • Trends have decreased since 27 March with arrival figures below 25,000 people. • Overall flows expected to continue based on the situation in Ukraine. • 23,500 total arrivals on 7 April. • Over 500,000 persons have crossed the border from Poland into Ukraine since 24 February (BG data) No demographic data is currently available on those crossing into Ukraine. • In relation to Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, since the beginning of April, around 1,000 individuals approach the cash centre and are being registered daily. From the beginning of the cash programme in March (including the pilot) to 6 April 11,491 individuals (5,013 families) have been enrolled to receive cash assistance. • UNHCR’s second cash enrolment centre opened yesterday on 7 April at the Tauron Arena in Krakow. A total of 370 individuals (178 families) were enrolled on the first day. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Blue Dot hub also opened at the cash enrolment centre in Krakow, offering a protection desk and safe space for UNHCR and partners to identify and assist refugees who have specific needs, are vulnerable, or require additional support. The Blue Dot hubs are run jointly by UNHCR and UNICEF. • As of 4 April, 706,000 Ukrainian citizens have registered for the national PESEL number in Poland allowing them access to services such as health, education, and social support. 94% of those who registered are women and children. According to the national statistics, 44% of those who received PESEL are women, 49% are children, 3% are men and 3% are persons over the age of 65. • The Family and Social Policy Minister had announced at a press conference that 30,000 Ukrainian citizens had so far taken up work in Poland.
<p>Updates on Main Findings and Challenges on NFI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Cultural Center in Krakow stated that as a general observation; both number of the donations received from people as well as number of the refugees approaching to center and asking assistance are decreasing. However, organization is struggling to distribute food due do scarcity of the product. Therefore, they cannot serve food to large groups or places which people stay. Additionally, some refugees cannot benefit from the one-off cash assistance provided by the government following the registration for PESEL. A second problem that the organization faces is the lack of some items in their warehouse such as underwear and shoes. Therefore, organization is willing to cooperate with other NGOs which may assist them about this issue. Besides that, since the organization assists in the distribution of medicine to refugees, there is also challenges in that area due to scarcity of the products. Any organization which would like to cooperate with the foundation about those issues reach out them at maria.wojtacha@gmail.com. • UNHCR shared an observation from Lubelski region that, there seems to be no urgent needs for the NFI at the Dorohusk and Hrebenne BCPs since there is enough number stock at hand and not many people are crossing as previously and many of them are transiting. Focus can be given to urban locations where refugees are living. • IOM also states that there is no urgent need of NFI. However, there are some specific items as sport bags are needed. The organization is establishing a pipeline for partners in order to procure and logistically manage NFIs and distribute partners upon their request in case there is anyone asking for supply can reach out IOM for

	support.
Updates on Main Findings and Challenges on Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Cultural Center in Krakow stated that Voivodeship office has signed contracts with the places which offers free accommodation places for refugees up to two months. However, having a place for staying after two months is undetermined. Therefore, having a mid-term or long-term accommodation for refugees is still an ongoing issue. Additionally, some of the refugees are struggling to access cash assistance and they have difficulties to afford monthly expenses. In Krakow, there are still places for refugees to stay in as Tesco Centre and other accommodation places. However, Hotels, Hostels and students' houses has reached its limits. • Salam lab has a small accommodation place in their facility that can host refugees up to 70 people. However, it is planning to turn it down before Easter. They are looking places to settle people in areas provided by the Krakow office. The organization would more like to focus on linking people in Poland. • Habitat for Humanity stated that number of local people who host refugees in their houses are decreasing. An article has been published in Polish newspapers about the challenges that host families are facing in this perspective. Therefore, considering a plan without Solidarity houses in the future time should be considered. Detail of the article can be founded from here. About rental offers situation in Warsaw; there are almost no offers available for the refugees. Most of the posts are clearly saying that the flats are not for refugees. Every people who hosts refugees in their houses receive payment 40 ZI for per individual per day. • IOM supports collective accommodation places as site improvements, internal construction and some items that are need for running of the shelter. Additionally, running costs are also covered sometimes. Those collective accommodation places can be counted as a mid-term or long-term staying since there are no limitation for staying. • IOM also added that disagreement with AIRBNB has been solved so the system fully operates for the refugees especially that are not Ukrainian and for other vulnerable groups. IOM is also implementing cash program to the families that host refugees in their houses. Additionally, IOM accepts referrals so every NGOs can refer their beneficiaries to them via iompolandprykhystok@iom.int Target group is unaccompanied children and TCNs, prioritizing very vulnerable cases and the duration is one month accommodation which can be extended after

assessing the request.

- Thinktank miasto foundation has a team of environmental psychologists, architects as well as designers. In Warsaw, they have witnessed that there are some ideas of adapting abandoned office spaces and buildings into mid-term/long-term accommodation places. The organization would like to create a network in order to avoid inadequate organization of space. The foundation is able to communicate in Polish, English and French. Any organization who would like to create a network with the foundation may communicate via kontakt@thinktankmiasto.pl e-mail address.
- REACH has conducted a survey with 1,600 Ukrainian refugees. In relation to the type of the accommodation Poland, most of the people is staying with family or friends (%33). %28 of them said that they have found an accommodation place though social media/volunteer. %13 of the refugees still do not know where they will be accommodated. The number of the people who stay in accommodation place which provided by authorities is %8. As a final data, %8 of them has rented accommodation.
- Fairbnb has prepared a [platform](#) that can be used for managing offers from hosts. Every non-governmental organization and local entities can use the tool free. Cooperation is willing to cooperate with every NGOs in small regions. The platform is available in different countries, and it exists in Turkey for a long time. The target people of the tool are not limited only by refugees, but also for other vulnerable groups as well. Any organization which would like to cooperate can access to the cooperation via Anna Sroka, +48 608 572 915 anna.sroka@pl.fairbnb.coop
- Salesian Society has 59 facilities to serve as an accommodation place for refugees up to 1,200 places. Currently they are hosting 620 refugees in 38 houses/facilities. In addition to that, there is no time limitation for staying therefore those places can be counted as a mid-term or long-term staying places. Besides that, since they are present in all the countries in Europe, it can also serve as a transit point. Salesian Society mentioned that they use all possible resources to provide the best care for people affected by conflict in Ukraine. For those who are staying in Poland they provide accommodation, food, hygiene products, and clothes. Refugees can benefit from psychological, and legal assistance as well as interpretation assistance. Oratories, and schools are open for children and where it is possible, they are trying to find job for adults (i.e., few people were employed in

	<p>Salesian schools). Salesian Society is working on a way to transform some of the Oratories into kindergartens providing care, and education for children, so their mothers can find job. Any organization who would like to refer cases can communicate with them reach at pdo.waw@gmail.com</p>
Updates on Main Findings and Challenges on WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) mentioned that in joint assessment that was done between UNHCR and UNICEF, some issues has been identified as the emergency of hand hygiene. Therefore, hand washing stations that can be deployed or procured or alcohol-based hand rub stations or soap should be considered. • IOM stated that OXFAM successfully provides wash facilities in the reception and transit points.
Updates on Main Findings and Challenges on Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IOM said that since weather is changing, the need towards drinkable water is increasing.
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link for the meeting minutes. https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/307?sv=54&geo=10781
Next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Next Basic Needs Working Group meeting is scheduled to take place on 22 April 2022 at 3pm.

ACTION POINTS SUMMARY

No.	Action	Responsible
1.		