

Accommodation and Transport WG meeting minutes

May 23rd, 2022

1. Refugee Accommodation Centres
2. Otaci: update
3. Warehouses (VATRA and Virtual Warehouse) update
4. Was Sub WG update
5. Food Security SWG update
6. AoB

1. Refugee Accommodation Centres

UNHCR gave an update on the RACs:

The situation is not much changed since last week:

- The total number of RACs is **90** (28 are in Chisinau)
 - The overall capacity for the 90 RACs is **7,421**
 - The overall occupancy is **4,029**
 - **3,380 places are still available**
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- For a better coordination of the activities of the different organisations working and supporting the RACs, ACTED will asap send by email, a **4W document**, to be filled in
 - A 2nd round of assessment for the decommissioned schools is almost done and the final document will asap be shared with partners
 - UNHCR stressed once more how important is to work with the accredited RACs: the request is issued by the Governmental representatives and is a subject that is often is discussed lately
 - If an unregistered RAC is identified, please inform the managers about the request of the Government to registered officially so the RAC could get financial and in-kind support they need for refugees

Contingency RACs:

UNHCR (Giovanni) reminds everyone not to start works on the contingency RACs, to coordinate first the work and wait for the green light from the Crises Centre. We don't want of course to slow down the process but, before we invest money starting the works, we want to make sure we officially will get full access to rehabilitate and use these facilities to accommodate refugees in case of mass arrival.

Jonathan Hecke Swiss Agency for Development presents the project that they are setting up in Moldova

- 600 households that host refugees for at least two weeks in villages in rural area will be supported and helped to complete WASH installations,
- The project links the emergency needs of the moment to the long-term development goal
- Jonathan asked again if there are statistics with the repartition of refugees in households, something similar to the statistics we have for the RACs and if it can be shared

Gareth Lewis enquires if there are RACs in Transnistria? They are not getting the financial support.

ACTED responded there is a RAC nearby, but not an official one in Transnistria

2. Otaci: update

The UNHCR Site Planner Andrea Cuisana gave an update on the Otach BCP “Bus Station”.

Several missions have been taking place in order to assess the place.

- There is need for improvement of the site
- A place a 150m distance from the BCP is approved together with the mayor to improve not only for contingency plan but as a regular, proper bus station
- As a first step, the levelling and graveling work of the area is in progress, IOM is coordinating and paying this work
- We are working on the site planning, next week I will present the progress of it

Kamiya Keisuke from IOM is pleased how the coordination of work on the ground is developing

- UNICEF is stepping in to install toilets
- The groundwork started, according to the contractor will be finished in 25 days
- The work is progressing, they are quick in mobilising the resources and materials
- While the groundwork is ongoing, we are working on the layout of the site
- The first draft was already presented in the WG
- Once the groundwork is complete, we will bring containers, toilets, fencing of the area etc

UNICEF (wash expert Mohamed Almjadleh)

- already started the procurement for the containers etc
- further discussions to be held regarding coordination and the layout, installation of the site
- we coordinate also with UNHCR the assessment of the RACs
- we have plans for a WASH emergency training
- also, we work with Solidarity International on maintenance
- the improvement of the sanitary station in Moldexpo is planned to start soon
- the repairs of the 11 RACs, we are ready to start

ACTED is proposing from an efficiency point of view a better coordination in planning of building assessments with the partners involved.

ANAS: Irina Banova, Director of the National Agency for Social Protection joined the meeting.

ANAS is coordinating the activities of all the RACs in Moldova.

- We are financing the RACs
- At the moment as you know there are 89 RACs
- If you have any questions regarding the way they function, I am here to answer them

Gareth Lewis finds important to have access to the list of the RACs and the needs

- The access to the list of RACs is limited to a small number of people ANAS director replies, the needs are public on our official page from the data REACH collects
- There you can find all the information related to the hot meals provided to the RACs
- If there is a more detailed need on each centre separately, we don't have enough staff to collect and analyse the data
- A number of 15 people is managing 89 RACs at the moment
- The agency has other 14 subdivisions throughout the country that is managing

UNDP: Ioana Creitaru proposes to support the government and help to set up an online database that would reflect the:

- occupancy,
- needs of the RACs
- RACs that are closed
- Centers that are assets for the contingency plan
- Assessment of the new sites
- Coordination of the different assessments of the RACs
- An online system updated daily

Irina Banova responds that some important info can be founded on our official site

- We thought out a plan to place a questionnaire online, where manager can complete it instead of calling them daily
- Lack of necessary equipment in the RACs impede this idea
- Here is a request to the international donors to help us equip these centres
- The agency is drafting a document regarding the regulation of the RACs, to be approved by the government decision
- I kindly request if you have a model of this kind of regulation, please support us to draft one
- We need an accessible vehicle to transport PWD
- Also, we lack equipment for PWD
- The absence of refrigerators in the RACs can lead to food poisoning as we head into the summer and hot temperatures
- We have notifications from NGOs responsible for HR that are asking us to install toilets and showers for PWD in RACs, unfortunately we lack financial resources
- RACs shall have playrooms for children, to be equipped accordingly
- A lot of RACs lack professional psychological support for traumatise people that are registered in these centres

ACTED Julie Verburg informs that a lot of needs in RACs are identified to UAhelP,

- Refrigerators and other equipment will be soon distributed
- Lack of legal and PSS support is still deficient in most RACs

A short presentation of the info provided by REACH in a weekly fact sheet

- About occupancy rate
- Availability in RACs
- People's intentions
- Destination of people leaving the RACs
- Supplies for early childhood development
- School supplies for children and adolescents
- Reports for fresh fruits and vegetables
- Spring clothes and shoes

3. Warehouses (VATRA and Virtual Warehouse)

- ACTED: we are waiting for the green light from the GOV to take over the management and operation of the VATRA warehouse

4. Food Security SWG

- 45 accredited RACs are covered with hot meals- 45% of refugees staying in the country
 - We try to help RACs move from receiving hot meals to cook on site
 - 15 RACs are identified that can cook on site,
 - 100 lei per is paid per person per day
 - With summer approaching we cut the time of food delivery from 1h to 30min
 - We continue our RAC assessment to help the managers move to onsite cooking
- The ANAS director responds that moving to onsite cooking the managers will have to have the food security certificates and look for more staff to hire
- The government is covering the salaries for the staff
 - We will provide necessary support for the managers to obtain the food security certificate

AoB: was agreed to continue to have A&T WG meetings on a weekly basis.

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