Moldova: Assessment & Analysis Taskforce meeting
Meeting Notes

Meeting Start Time: 6/23/2022, 10:00 AM
Location: Microsoft Teams (online).
Chaired by UNHCR and REACH Initiative

Present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yuri Arnautov</td>
<td><a href="mailto:arnautov@unhcr.org">arnautov@unhcr.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corina BARGAN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:corina.bargan@reach-initiative.org">corina.bargan@reach-initiative.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Dimanin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Patrick.Dimanin@helvetas.org">Patrick.Dimanin@helvetas.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Laur</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elaun@unicef.org">elaun@unicef.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omar Al-Ani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ALANIO@unhcr.org">ALANIO@unhcr.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOLINI Laura</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lbartolini@iom.int">lbartolini@iom.int</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JARBAWI Mayse</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjarbawi@iom.int">mjarbawi@iom.int</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolfgang Wedan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalia Cojocaru</td>
<td><a href="mailto:natalia.cojocaru@un.org">natalia.cojocaru@un.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ala Negruta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ala.negruta@unwomen.org">ala.negruta@unwomen.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dongju Kim</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dongju_kim@wvi.org">dongju_kim@wvi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahdi JAAFAR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.jaafar@hi.org">m.jaafar@hi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmed MOUSSA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ahmed.moussa@wfp.org">ahmed.moussa@wfp.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Maclayden UNFPA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:turchin@unhcr.org">turchin@unhcr.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alin LUCHIAN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alin.luchian@reach-initiative.org">alin.luchian@reach-initiative.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARIANNA PRYSIAZNIUK</td>
<td><a href="mailto:prysiazhniuk.m.marianna21@student.ro">prysiazhniuk.m.marianna21@student.ro</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thokozani Njonga</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thokozani_njonga@wvi.org">thokozani_njonga@wvi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higgins, Becky</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Becky.Higgins@plan-international.org">Becky.Higgins@plan-international.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angie Wen (UCR)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Angie.Wen@wvi.org">Angie.Wen@wvi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priscilla YOON</td>
<td><a href="mailto:priscilla.yoon@impact-initiatives.org">priscilla.yoon@impact-initiatives.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ye Ra Kim</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yekim@unicef.org">yekim@unicef.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genia YATSENKO</td>
<td><a href="mailto:genia.yatsenko@wfp.org">genia.yatsenko@wfp.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loice M. Gatimu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Loice_Gatimu@wvi.org">Loice_Gatimu@wvi.org</a></td>
</tr>
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Presentation of the preliminary findings of the MSNA

Objective
Support an evidence-based humanitarian response in Moldova through the provision of multi-sectoral data about the needs and coping capacities of Ukrainian refugee households in the country.

Population & sample
- Ukrainian refugees in RACs – random sampling, 130 interviews, 95+/−5% confidence level
- Ukrainian refugees in host communities, 574 interviews, indicative findings
- No access to the Transnistrian region

Demographics
- 67% of refugees are women, and 33% are men.
- 62% of HHs have at least 1 child
- Almost 50% of the population are 18-59 yo.
- Odesa, Mykolaiv regions, and Kyiv city are the most reported areas of origin.

Livelihoods & Inclusion
• 71% of HH heads reported not working in Moldova
• Education, government or public services, and retail were the top 3 sectors of occupation of the HH head before coming to Moldova
• In terms of coping strategies related to livelihoods, 76% reported spending savings.

Cash&markets
• Sources and amounts of income – 300 responses. Many respondents replied relying on savings and humanitarian assistance
• The highest amount of expenditures were going to rent, food, and fuel. 85% of HHs reported knowing about the presence of the banks in their area, and 13% were not able to confirm the presence of banks or other financial institutions. The majority of HHs are using cash as their main modality of payment

Health&nutrition
• Less than 25% needed healthcare. Out of the 78% of individuals who needed healthcare and did not access healthcare services (subset), most individuals were found to rely on self-medication (30%), eighteen percent (18%) did not know where to go, while 15% chose to wait to see if the problem will get better.
• Seeing even if wearing glasses is an issue reported by almost 50% of 60+ respondents.
• A high percentage of HH do not know whether children were vaccinated against measles or polio

AAP
• Just above nine-out-of-ten families (93%) reported receiving humanitarian aid since arriving in Moldova. Of the aid received, the majority of respondents reported receiving food (89%), cash (83%), and hygiene items (69%).
• Priority needs are cash, food, healthcare, and shelter.
• Nine out of ten (92%) of families reported being satisfied with the impact of the humanitarian aid on their needs, whereas almost all families (96%) reported being satisfied with the behavior of the aid workers in the area.

Intentions
• Three-quarters of families (75%) reported they would go back if the conflict would end, fifteen (15%) if there would be a ceasefire agreement, whereas 8% hoped for improved livelihood conditions as a prerequisite to go back.

Education
• Of the 16% of school-age children, aged 3-17 who applied to be enrolled in school or kindergarten, 84% were found not to encounter any barrier when enrolling in school and 79% have already started attending school at the time of the interview.

Protection
• Less than half of all families (45%) reported being aware of the existence of such services in the area, with a proportion slightly larger for families living in RACs (62%), compared to families living outside RACs (43%).
• 88% of HHs reported perceiving no threats in their location

Q&A:
Q: Average income: what period does this depict?
A: Income of one month before the data collection.

Q: What was the sampling strategy for refugees in the host communities?
A: This was a two-stage random sampling. Random selection of communities and settlements. Most of the refugees are in Chisinau, which influenced the research design.

Q: Were there any TCNs in the sampling?
A: No, only Ukrainian refugees.

Q: Were there any minority/diversity groups included in the sampling.
A: Neither from the sampling perspective nor in the questionnaire was included. There are some other assessments planned to be held (Area-Based Assessments) that might focus more on particular population groups.

Q: Education: what was the actual % of children attending school?
A: 16% were enrolled, but 79% started attending, which makes it 12.64%.

Q: Intentions: how the questions on intentions were structured?
A: Firstly, REACH asked respondents where they are from, and then what their plans are (whether to stay or to move to another country). Around 75% wanted to stay in Moldova.

Q: HH head: how the head of HH was identified, especially if the family was separated?
A: The HH head was identified as an adult currently in Moldova (e.g. the key informant on the HH level).

Q: Education: Were there any questions related to types of school children are attending and what does attending actually means?
A: There was no question about the types of school. For the attendance, there is only a question of whether children started attending after being enrolled.

Q: Was there any specification on the type of medical assistance that refugees need?
A: Yes the main three reported issues for accessing healthcare were identified: consultation for acute illnesses (33%), preventive consultations (32%), and medical check-ups related to chronic illnesses (16%).

There will be a full report prepared as well as some factsheets. REACH with UNICEF will be also capable to react to a request to present some more narrowed down findings at the working group meetings.