



Strategic Directions for Cash Assistance in Moldova

Cash Working Group, June 2022

This document outlines the key strategic directions and guiding principles for cash and voucher assistance in Moldova, following the conflict in Ukraine.

Objectives:

The main objective is to ensure predictable and equitable access to cash assistance that

- addresses immediate basic needs of refugees, while ensuring protection and promoting self-reliance;
- mitigates social tensions and enhances social cohesion between host communities and refugees; and
- contributes to the government's social protection system, ensuring no-one is left behind.

Guiding Principles:

- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection provides overall guidance and direction.
- Design features of cash assistance and vouchers for refugees:
 - Refugees are enrolled through one system (PRIMES/BIMS) for the national multipurpose cash assistance scheme, to ensure efficiency.
 - Transfer value of multipurpose cash grant is standardised (2,200 MDL/pers/month in June 2022), in line with Moldovan Minimum Consumption Basket (National Office for Statistics). Transfer values may be adjusted e.g. due to inflation.
 - Actors collaborate to refer eligible refugees to the national scheme.
 - Assistance is provided equitably throughout Moldova, following same targeting criteria and geographical coverage. Ad hoc top ups are avoided.
- Protection is mainstreamed throughout:
 - Clear process for protection referrals (refer to Cash and Protection guidance).
 - Monitoring is protection sensitive.
 - Cash assistance is optimised to address protection (e.g. info, outreach)
 - "Cash for protection" is anchored in case management and coordinated with protection actors.
- Accountability to Affected Populations is ensured:
 - Post Distribution Monitoring is conducted regularly.
 - Refugees have safe and secure access to complaints and feedback mechanisms, and feedback and complaints are addressed and followed up.
- Linkages to self-reliance are explored.
- Cash assistance and vouchers for host communities in Moldova:
 - Host families are enrolled through a harmonised system, with alignment to Government's social protection schemes.
 - Transfer value of the cash grant is harmonised across the country.
 - Assistance is provided equitably throughout Moldova, following same targeting criteria and geographical coverage.
 - Assistance to vulnerable Moldovans affected by the conflict in Ukraine is aligned with Government's social protection schemes.