

UNHCR Field Coordination Meeting in Otaci BCP

30 August 2022

Participants: The Mayor of Otaci, CDA/LCA, ACTED, Solidarites International, Blue Dot/UNICEF, UNHCR.

The proposed agenda:

1. Introduction
2. Recent Developments in Otaci BCP
3. Activity updates
4. A.O.B.

Agenda	Discussions	Action Point
Introduction	Participants Introduction	
Recent Developments in Otaci BCP	The Mayor's Office: Mayor Otaci greeted the participants of the coordination meeting and said that during the reporting period the situation in Otaci has not changed dramatically. During the reporting period, there were cases when people from Ukraine illegally crossed the border – swam across the river Dniester and applied to the Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA) for the necessary documents. The flow of refugees arriving in Otaci has not changed. The Mayor thanked Blue Dot, with the support of Oxfam, for cooperating in holding an event for the children and parents refugees on the occasion of Ukraine's Independence Day on August 24 at the Blue Dot office.	
Activity Updates	ACTED: ACTED continue their activities and are present at the Otaci border crossing point. It was reported that from September 1, the work of bio toilets at the BCP will resume on the recommendation of UNHCR. Wi-Fi from ACTED was installed at the Otaci bus station.	
	Blue Dot/UNICEF: continue to operate normally. During the reporting period, the number of refugees from Ukraine coming to the Blue Dot office increased slightly and remained stable. Blue Dot was informed that in partnership with the Otaci municipality and the Women's Defense Center, an event was organized to mark the Independence Day of Ukraine, which took place on August 24 at the Blue Dot office. The event was attended by refugee families with children living in Otaci, as well as refugees who arrived at Blue Dot that day. In total, 7 families attended the event: 10 adults and 15 children. Blue Dot said this is the second event they have hosted at their office, the first being on the occasion of Children's Day.	

	<p>Solidarites International: At the bus station, there were no changes from Solidarites during the reporting period, as the electricity connection is still pending. On the issue of opening a toilet premises at the BCP: at the moment, Solidarites is negotiating a contract with the owner of the premises. The premises has already been renovated and the sewerage was connected. On August 25, 76 hygiene kits were distributed by Solidarites to families hosting refugees in Otaci and Volcinet. Solidarites said that when the bus station is operationalized, they will bring and distribute hygiene kits for refugees. Solidarites are currently working on winter packs.</p>	<p>Solidarites International: Follow up action: opening of the toilet premises on BCP-Otaci. Solidarites International: Follow up action: distribution of hygiene kits on Bus Station Otaci.</p>
	<p>CDA/LCA: there was a slight increase in the flow of refugees arriving through to Otaci BCP. A number of Ukrainian citizens are reported to be transiting through Moldova going on vacation. A small increase in the flow of elderly people is reported, the representative of the LCA / CDA attributes this to the approach of the winter period. There are reports of a number of people who come to Moldova to receive financial assistance. People with third-country citizenship are denied entry to Ukraine. A status of temporary protection for refugees is reported, which is currently being developed by the Moldovan government.</p>	
	<p>UNHCR: the UNHCR Field Officer thanked the mayor for the cooperation and the partners for attending the coordination meeting. The participants of the coordination meeting were informed about the progress of work at the bus station. The UNHCR in Chisinau sent an official letter to IGSU with a request for the presence of IGSU at the bus station in Otaci through the delegation of its representative. On the day of the coordination meeting, the receipt and installation of the storage container for the bus station was expected. It was reported about the continuation of the development of winterization plan: coordination on the development of a general plan is coordinated with all international organizations in Moldova. UNHCR informed that a contractor for connection the electricity for the bus station had been selected and thanked the mayor for recommending the company. Work is expected to start next week.</p>	<p>UNHCR: Follow up action: the completion of the remaining construction works at the BS. UNHCR: Follow up action: the connection of the electricity to the bus station Otaci. UNHCR: Follow up action: the completion of the</p>

	<p>UNHCR thanked the partners for participating in the mobile team, which began its activities with a visit to the Riscani region. It was reported that the mobile team will continue its activities in all northern regions.</p> <p>UNHCR reported that they continue to work and meet with the authorities on the issue of opening community centers. This issue has already been resolved in Donduseni and Edinet.</p> <p>Was reported the plan to purchase luggage bags and distribute them to those refugees who need them.</p> <p>The UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Officer presented to the meeting the Coordination Forum - a platform for coordination of all organizations and local authorities in the framework of assistance to refugees in Moldova.</p> <p>The UNHCR Child Protection Officer contacted the Child Protection Officer from Ukraine and they agreed to develop several points to be passed on both sides of the border (including through the Dopomoga portal, as suggested at the last meeting), as it relates to the rules of crossing borders of unaccompanied children in Moldova and Ukraine. Since he is on vacation this week, they will start working on this issue next week.</p>	<p>winterization plan.</p>
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The next meeting is on 13 September 2022, at 11:00 AM in Otaci Mayor Office.

Thank you.