



## Inter-Agency Refugee Education Working Group (IREWG)

Meeting Details	
Date	16 September 2022
Time	13:00-14:00
Chair	Adriana Cazacu, State Secretary, Ministry of Education and Research (MER),  Co-Chairs: Larisa Virtosu, Education Specialist, UNICEF Katie Lampe, Child Protection Officer, UNHCR
Reporting	Ecaterina Babara, Programme Associate, UNICEF
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Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome. Endorsement of the previous meeting minutes. Agenda (IREWG Coordination, 5 min)</li> <li>2. Updates on the refugee children enrolment in the national education system (disaggregated data), Q&amp;A (MER and all, 15 min)</li> <li>4. Update on Temporary Protection (UNHCR, 10 min)</li> <li>5. Updates from the Roma Task Force (RTF, 10 min)</li> <li>6. Digital education readiness assessment 2021 -2022 (WB, 10 min)</li> <li>7. Winners of the Education Cannot Wait Grant (UNICEF, 5 min)</li> <li>8. Follow-up and next steps (All, 5 min).</li> </ol>	
Information collection and relevant links	
<a href="#">Education 5W Matrix</a> <a href="#">Winterization strategy template - Education</a>	
Participants	
MER, UNICEF, UNCHR, IRC, Plan International, UNDP, World Bank, UNFPA	

### Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
Welcome Endorsement of the previous meeting minutes	<b>Larisa Virtosu, Education Specialist, UNICEF</b> welcomed meeting attendees in her role as co-chair and presented the meeting agenda.  Previous meeting minutes were endorsed by <b>IREWG</b> members.	Agenda agreed.



Agenda		
Updates on the refugee children enrolment in the national education system (disaggregated data) Q&A	<p><b>MER</b> pointed out that according to the „<b>Instruction regarding the admission of children from Refugee families from Ukraine to general education institutions in the Republic of Moldova</b>” approved on 15 March 2022 by the Minister, all applicants benefit from the right to be enrolled in the national education system.</p> <p>According to <b>MER</b>, as per today official data on enrolled children in schools are 1169 students in 223 schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 480 – have the student status, that means that they benefit of the same rights as local students</li><li>• 689 – have the audience status, they have the right to participate in the national education system, but they are not eligible for the graduation exams.</li></ul> <p>The students are distributed in the following way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary school – 628 students</li><li>• Secondary school – 514 students</li><li>• High school – 27 students</li></ul> <p>The number of refugee children enrolled in kindergartens decreased in comparison with spring data (600). Now the number of children attending kindergartens in the <b>Republic of Moldova</b> is of 437 children.</p> <p><b>MER</b> informed that 1000 laptops donated by <b>UNICEF</b> will be soon distributed in schools according to a distribution scheme developed by the <b>MER</b>.</p> <p><b>UNICEF</b> mentioned that during summertime a series of bridging Romanian classes were organized for refugee children to facilitate their social inclusion. Catch up classes and MHPSS sessions were also organized helping refugee children to cope with their learning gap and psychological trauma caused by the Russian invasion in Ukraine. To ensure access to continuous learning, <b>UNICEF</b> will procure another 1000 laptops and school supplies both for refugee children and for children from socially vulnerable families of Moldova. Also, 2000 Ukrainian-Romanian ABCs have been printed and will be distributed in kindergartens hosting refugee children.</p>	<p><b>MER</b> will collect and provide disaggregated data on children enrolled in educational institutions (boys/girls) and statistics on number of refugee children who were enrolled last year who are re-enrolling this year.</p>



<p>Temporary protection as a response to the refugee crisis</p>	<p>Now, the legal status of the refugees is regulated by the law of emergency that will expire on October 8 and after that legal status of Ukrainians who are in the country would revert to the regular law on foreigners. They would be allowed to remain in the country for 90 days, until early January 2023.</p> <p><b>UNCHR</b> updated the <b>IREWG</b> members that a draft decision for Temporary Protection will be issued in the next couple of months by <b>Ministry of Internal Affairs</b>.</p>	<p>The <b>IREWG</b> members will provide comments/inputs to the draft of temporary protection document.</p>
<p>Updates from the Roma Task Force</p>	<p><b>RTF</b> mentioned that now, there are 3000 Roma refugee in Moldova on both banks of the River Nistru. <b>OHCHR</b> highlighted that only one out of two Roma children are enrolled in schools, as 41% if the respondents proved that during covid pandemic none of their children attended school as opposed to 90% enrollment rate or more for other Moldovan nationals. It was observed that in the case of major crises, Roma children no longer go to school, especially girls.</p> <p>Good practices and challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After several session of mediation 12 Roma children was enrolled in schools</li> <li>• Lack of transportation for mediators</li> <li>• Illiterate disabled teens accelerated</li> <li>• Illiterate adults accelerated learning programs needed.</li> </ul> <p>Note: In the RAC of Glodeni, 85% of refugee children are enrolled in education, but NFI is still necessary.</p>	<p><b>RTF</b> will present in the next <b>IREWG</b> meetings figures regarding Roma refugee children.</p>
<p>Digital education readiness assessment 2021 -2022</p>	<p>Due to the lack of time, the information regarding the Digital Readiness assessment will be presented in the next meeting by World Bank.</p>	<p>Agreed upon with the WB</p>
<p>Winners of the Education Cannot Wait Grant</p>	<p><b>UNICEF</b> updated all the <b>IREWG</b> members that for the Open Call of Interest, First Emergency Response (FER) funding, Education Cannot Wait (ECW)” participated 8 national and international NGOs. For evaluation were admitted 5 NGOs and 3 were identified as winners. The panel of evaluation included representatives from <b>MER, UNCHR</b> and <b>UNICEF</b>.</p> <p>The winners of Education Cannot Wait are International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council and Plan International.</p>	<p>The winners of the Education Cannot Wait Grant will be notified in the following week by <b>UNICEF</b>.</p>
<p>Follow-up and next steps</p>	<p>The next IREWG meeting will be organized for 30 September 2022, at 1 pm, chaired by UNICEF.</p>	<p>For any questions please contact:</p>



Regional Refugee Response  
for the Ukraine Situation

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