

UNHCR Field Coordination Meeting in Otaci BCP

11 October 2022

Participants: The Mayor of Otaci, CDA/LCA, Solidarites International, 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	<p>The Mayor's Office: The mayor greeted the participants of the coordination meeting and said that during the reporting period there were no significant changes, except for intensified attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure in recent days. The mayor expressed his concern that due to increased attacks in Ukraine and power outages, an increase in the flow of refugees should be expected soon. At the moment, the flow of refugees to Otaci has remained at the same level. The Mayor also raised the issue of exclusion of citizens of Ukraine with a residence permit in Mogilev-Podolsky and neighboring villages from the UNHCR financial assistance program. In his opinion, assistance should be given only to those people who come from regions where hostilities are taking place and who intend to stay in Moldova. The mayor raised the issue of security at the Otaci border crossing point. The mayor said that information from Ukrainian colleagues comes too late and the mayor's office has to look for it in other sources. The mayor believes that in case of danger, each organization should act independently, depending on the information they have. In case of danger, there is a basement near the border crossing point in the school building where people can be evacuated. It was reported that World Vision, to which the cash program for the host community was handed over, did not contact the mayor's office to agree on the lists of beneficiaries.</p>	
	<p>Solidarites International: reported that the contract with the communal farm is at the final stage of drafting, it will be signed soon. A plumber will also be hired from there to maintain the sanitary containers at the bus station. It was reported that since October 1, the toilet at the Otaci border crossing point has</p>	<p>Solidarites International: Follow up action: distribution of</p>

	<p>been functioning. The day before the coordination meeting of Solidarites Int. launched a winterization program for containers in Palanka, and in about two weeks they will begin to insulate a container at the Otaci bus station. It was reported that a woman was hired to clean the sanitary containers at the bus station twice a day. The distribution of hygiene kits for refugees at the bus station continues. The kits include backpacks that are distributed to people who need them. The issue of distribution of family hygiene kits designed for two adults and one child is still open.</p>	<p>family hygiene kits to refugees. Solidarites International: Follow up action: preparation of the toilet containers on Otaci Bus Station for the winter. Solidarites International: Follow up action: Hire a plumber to maintain the sanitary containers.</p>
	<p>CDA/LCA: The CDA representative said that there are no changes in the flow of refugees, there are changes in crossing the border. Since the BCP was closed on October 10, there have been few border crossings. It was reported that during the day there was no electricity from the Ukrainian side, as strikes were made on the power supply lines of regional importance. On the day the BCP was closed, there was no official information about the attacks, so about 150 people were waiting at the border crossing point. Official information appeared only an hour after the customs closed. A CDA representative believes that it is worth considering a plan to inform people on both sides of the border in case of emergencies. It was reported that since September 30, the border police received an algorithm in case citizens of Russia and the CIS cross the border. In relation to these persons, a more detailed passport control and inspection is carried out. This is due to the mobilization in Russia and the fact that Moldova is located next to the war zone, and this is a security measure. There were no cases of discrimination against Russian citizens at the Otaci BCP. It is reported that closer to the winter period, an increase in the flow of the vulnerable population from Ukraine should be expected, who most likely will not settle in Moldova, but will transit.</p>	

	<p>UNHCR: The UNHCR field officer greeted the participants of the coordination meeting and informed that on September 28, the opening of the Otaci bus station took place, in which all partners took part. On the issue of bio toilets: UNHCR has already informed ACTED that the toilet at the BCP has been opened and the bio toilets are no longer needed, so they can be removed. UNHCR reported receiving 100 travel bags for distribution to vulnerable passengers through ACTED. They announced that they would soon receive a 33-kW generator for the bus station. It was reported that UNHCR is planning to insulate the tent at the bus station by winter.</p> <p>UNHCR informed the meeting participants on the winterization plan to be carried out jointly with the government. The activities planned by UNHCR include financial assistance to refugees: \$35 for each refugee, improvement of infrastructure, modernization of accommodation centers, distribution of non-food items, financial support for accommodation centers. The winterization plan starts in November.</p>	<p>UNHCR: Follow up action: completion of the winterization plan.</p> <p>UNHCR: Follow up action: distribution of travel bags for vulnerable cases through ACTED.</p>
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The next meeting is on 25 October 2022, at 11:00 AM in Otaci Mayor Office.

Thank you.