Product I – Guidance and studies on socio-economic inclusion by thematic area

September 2022
Objective

The **Product I – Guidance and studies on socio-economic inclusion by thematic area** developed by the RIWG to:

- foster a common understanding of key aspects of socio-economic inclusion
- equip stakeholders with helpful guidance and emerging good practices
Content

• RIWG role, objectives & membership
• Working definition of socio-economic inclusion
• List of tools, guidance and studies applicable to the Ukraine refugee response:
  • education and training;
  • employment and skills;
  • access to health services;
  • access to housing;
  • entrepreneurship and financial inclusion;
  • social protection;
  • non-discrimination and social cohesion, and;
  • measuring and informing socio-economic inclusion.
RIWG in a nutshell

• Established under the Regional Refugee Coordination Forum chaired by UNHCR

• Provides technical and policy guidance on the socio-economic inclusion of refugees, stateless people, third country nationals and other forcibly displaced people from Ukraine in countries covered under the RRRP

• Serves as a forum to explore, discuss, develop, guide, inform and coordinate innovative and gender-responsive approaches on socio-economic inclusion and social cohesion of the target group at the regional, national and local levels in Europe

• Advocates for, facilitates and strengthens an evidence-based approach in support of Governments’ efforts.

• Areas covered encompass employment, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, the humanitarian-development nexus, local development, social protection, social cohesion, gender, TVET and skills assessment/recognition.
RIWG membership

- RIWG is co-chaired by UNDP and UNHCR
- Current members include 14 organizations:
  - ECRE
  - ICVA
  - ILO
  - Impact Initiatives
  - IOM
  - TENT Partnership for Refugees
  - UN Women
  - UNDCO
  - UNESCO
  - UNICEF
  - WFP
  - WHO

- Other actors involved in the Ukraine response are welcome to join.
What is socio-economic inclusion?

• Socio-economic inclusion is a process that supports refugees, stateless persons, third country nationals and other forcibly displaced persons moving from Ukraine, in integrating into the economies and social fabric of host countries and communities.

• A lasting and successful socio-economic inclusion relies, on gender, age and diversity-responsive public policies oriented towards inclusive urban planning, housing, access to labour markets and decent work, education and skills, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion and social protection, in support of national and regional inclusion and development plans and strategies.

• Contributes to overcome inequalities, promote social cohesion and build peace.

• Aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
Socio-economic inclusion in the GCR

• Integration and Inclusion is a dynamic two-way process that requires efforts by all parties, including a preparedness on the part of refugees to adapt to the host society, without giving up cultural identity, and a corresponding readiness on the part of host communities and public institutions to welcome refugees and to meet the needs of a diverse population.

• The process is complex and gradual, comprising legal, economic and cultural dimensions.
Key actors

- **Local Authorities** are the crucial responders in providing reception, helping to cover basic need of new arrivals, conducting efforts for their effective inclusion into municipal services, such as education, childcare, housing, skills and employment and social protection and establishing multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms at the local level.

- **Private sector, civil societies, media, academia, UN agencies and development actors, and refugee and diaspora organizations** — are key to meaningful and sustainable inclusion.
Linkage with the SDGs
Thank you!

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