



SECTOR WG: LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION

Meeting Details			
Date	02 11 2022- Next meeting on 30 11 2022		
Time	1.00 pm		
Chair	Svetlana Turcanu, Deputy Secretary General of the Government, State Chancellery Andrea Cuzyova, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP		
Reporting	Teodora Zafiu, Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Coordination Specialist, UNDP, Teodora.zafiu@undp.org		
Email	Svetlana.turcanu@gov.md ; Andrea.cuzyova@undp.org ;		
Agenda			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the meeting • Access of Ukrainian refugees to the labour market in the Republic of Moldova (legal aspects) • Presentation from Peace for Moldova – supporting refugees to seek employment 			
Information collection and relevant links			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation Peace for Moldova 			
Participants			
<i>Svetlana Turcanu, State Chancellery</i>	<i>Catrinel Popescu, Solidarites International</i>	<i>Cristina Pavliuc, IOM</i>	<i>Oksana Vlasenko, UNDP</i>
<i>Andrea Cuzyova, UNDP</i>	<i>Oleg Hincu, D4I/ Palladium</i>	<i>Virgiliu Barda, IOM</i>	<i>Ala Svet, UN Women</i>
<i>Teodora Zafiu, UNDP</i>	<i>Kellie Leeson, IRC</i>	<i>Igor Dolghii, IOM</i>	<i>Daniela David-Cimpoies, UN Women</i>
<i>Anna Gherganova, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection</i>	<i>Teresa Caterino, Action Against Hunger - Spain</i>	<i>Alexei Ghiba, IOM</i>	<i>Svetlana Albina, UN Women</i>
<i>Lilia Plugaru, National Employment Agency</i>	<i>Eugeniu Martin, ICRC</i>	<i>Vitalie Frecauteanu, UNDP</i>	<i>Susanne Kilnk, UNHCR</i>
<i>Vitalie Sprinceana, Peace for Moldova/AO Platforma</i>	<i>Doina Haheu, IOM</i>	<i>Olesea Cazacu, UNDP</i>	<i>Irina Guban, RC Office</i>
<i>Almothana Hasan, People in Need</i>	<i>Veronica Bubuic, IOM</i>	<i>Ana Moraru, UNDP</i>	<i>Cristina Buga</i>
	<i>Mayse Jarbawi, IOM</i>	<i>Angela Frunze, UNDP</i>	<i>Ionela Nicorici</i>
		<i>Rei Doi, Peace Winds Japan</i>	



Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<p>Agenda Point 1 Access of Ukrainian refugees to the labour market in the Republic of Moldova Anna Gherganova, Head of Department for Occupational Policies, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Anna.gherganova@social.gov.md</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MSLP) informed about the legal aspects related to the employment of Ukrainian refugees in the Republic of Moldova. As per the current Government Decision on exceptional situations, persons from Ukraine can secure employment without the necessity to have a work permit (exception from Law 200/2010 regarding the status of foreigners in the Republic of Moldova). Employers who hire persons from Ukraine are obliged to inform the National Employment Agency (NEA). So far, approx. 900 Ukrainian refugees have been reported as hired by the private sector in Moldova. However, the figure may be higher as not all employers inform the NEA when they hire refugees.• With the Temporary Protection (TP) draft decision, the MLSP has proposed that refugees from Ukraine have the same rights to employment as the citizens of Moldova.• Participants were particularly interested in refugees' access to unemployment benefits and medical insurance. The MLSP and NEA clarified that the conditions for receiving unemployment benefits is the same for Ukrainian refugees and Moldovan citizens, i.e. a person should have contributed 12 months within the last 2 years to be eligible to receive unemployment benefits. The unemployment benefit is calculated as 40% from the insured income of the contributor if the person resigned, and 50% if the person was dismissed.• With regards to medical insurance, currently, employers hiring a refugee on an individual work contract need to transfer 9% of the employees' gross salary to the medical insurance state budget and inform the National Medical Insurance Company about the insured employee. Thus, Ukrainian refugees will benefit from the same medical services as Moldovans. In case refugees are hired on a service contract, for instance by NGOs, where medical insurance cannot be covered by the employer, the employee should cover him/herself the medical insurance.• The MLSP highlighted the fact that the implementation of the TP may require the MLSP and NEA to supplement their human resources and budget. This will be confirmed after the TP decision is approved. The State Chancellery confirmed that the implementation of the TP decision will have a high impact on the State budget.	<p>N/A</p>



<p>Agenda Point 2 Presentation from Peace for Moldova – supporting refugees to seek employment Vitalie Sprinceana, Peace for Moldova/AO Platforma vitalie.sprinceana@gmail.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peace for Moldova held a presentation about their project “ROBOTA: Career Counseling and Protection of Labour Rights of Refugees”. The aim of this pilot project implemented thus far in Chisinau is to provide the necessary support for refugees to engage in the labour market, including through information and legal counseling on labour rights, mapping of refugees’ competencies and skills, support with recognition of certificates and diplomas, assistance in preparing CVs and motivation letters, etc. The challenges encountered were also mentioned, which include missing TP mechanism, limited awareness of refugees about employment rights and opportunities, challenges in opening a business, no clear mechanism in place to verify employers and ensure that refugees have access to a decent job and their rights respected.• NEA clarified that they are not mandated to do check-ups of employees, and this is the responsibility of the Employment Inspectorate. However, the vacancies announced by the private companies to the NEA are verified by the Agency. NEA also informed that they distribute information about the existing vacancies with the Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs), as well as the Local Public Authorities (LPAs). Despite these efforts, there has been noted that refugees as well as RAC managers have limited information about employment opportunities and rights of refugees, while employers are also not all aware about the facilities for hiring refugees (i.e. exception from Law 200/2010 regarding the status of foreigners in the Republic of Moldova).	<p>A working group meeting on the topic of ensuring access to decent jobs and employment verification mechanisms will be organized in December.</p>
--	---	---