



Inter-Agency Refugee Education Working Group (IREWG)

Meeting Details	
Date	18 November 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	Dina Zamfirova, Protection Associate, UNHCR
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Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introductions.2. Update from MER ;3. Update on RRP;4. Presentation by Roma task force on results of mapping activity and activities planned for next year;5. Partner updates:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a.Lumosb.Other partners6. WG updates;7. AOB	
Information collection and relevant links	
Education 5W Matrix Winterization strategy template - Education Regional Refugee Response Plan - March-December 2022 Ministry of Education of Ukraine recently updated Guidance for parents	
Participants	
MER, UNICEF, UNCHR, MAEIE, CCR, SI, LUMOS, PW, WVI, CRS, Tdh Moldova, People in Need, IRC, Plan International, ANTEM, WB	



Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
Welcome	<p>Katie Lampe, UNHCR welcomed meeting attendees in her role as co-chair and presented the meeting agenda.</p> <p>Previous meeting minutes will be endorsed along with those of the meeting in question by IREWG members.</p>	Agenda agreed.
<p>Updates on the refugee children enrolment in the national education system (disaggregated data) Q&A</p>	<p>MER presented the updated information on the institutionalization of refugee children in general education institutions in the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>The data was collected on 17 November. The local education authorities have 3421 children registered. In 3 days 31 children left the territory of the Republic of Moldova. For concreteness, MER explained the information related to the figure of 3421 children. It was mentioned that this information is updated daily by local education bodies and included in a file. Local public authorities in towns and villages collect the information and send it to the MER so that it is known how many children there are in each locality. *It was pointed out that the figure of 3421 children does not assume that all these children attend school.</p> <p>The number of children enrolled in general education institutions - 1823 children (8 more than 3 days ago). So, in 228 early education institutions, 668 children are enrolled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to age of 2 = 39 children; • up to 3 years=136 children; • up to 4 years = 185 children; • up to 5 years = 156 children; • up to 6 years = 139 children; • up to 7 years = 13 children. <p>In 224 general education institutions there are 1155 children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades 1-4=636 children; • Grades 5-9 = 492 children; • Grades 10-12 = 27 children. <p>154 children requested Romanian as language of education;</p>	<p>MER will collect and provide disaggregated data on children enrolled in educational institutions (boys/girls).</p>



	<p>Russian language-1101 children.</p> <p>Children enrolled in out-of-school educational institutions. In 20 non-formal educational institutions 119 children participate in extracurricular activities. Of this number, 112 children are of school age, and 7 children are of pre-school age.</p> <p>MER mentioned that this data is collected by MER together with LPAs. There is a big discrepancy between the number of children reported by the Ministry of internal Affairs and the number of children that MER holds. The Ministry of Education also has the data that the Crisis Management Center also reports, thanks to the contribution of development partners, especially UNHCR.</p>	
<p>Update on RRP</p>	<p>UNHCR reiterated that a few weeks ago, where talked about activities and priorities for the sector for 2023. The MER presented their activities and priorities also for next year. So, the next step, now the RRP maybe just to remind everyone is a report that's created each year that kind of as a summary of the activities in the humanitarian sector, particularly related to refugees. And it's used as a fundraising tool. So, it's a report for the whole region that's responding to the Ukraine emergency and there's a chapter for each country in the region.</p> <p>So, in the Moldova chapter will be broken down by sectors. There will be a paragraph on child protection on education on GBV etc. And it will talk about the major activities our sector is planning. And then the organizations the UN agencies, NGOs, the local organizations, the activities were planning to support the government's strategy for next year. And so now they've asked us to submit just a short narrative for our sector.</p> <p>UNHCR reiterated the proposed contribution, drafted Katherine UNHCR and Larisa Virtosu, UNICEF about details on RRP project submissions.</p>	<p>ALL will summarize in 2 paragraphs a very short narrative form projects that different organizations have submitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. all the priorities or the major priorities that will be implemented next year; 2. And the plan the RRP that was jointly created for next year.
<p>Presentation by Roma task force on results of mapping activity and activities planned for next year.</p>	<p>RTF mentioned that the first stage of the mapping Roma refugees is finished. RTF mapping of the Roma refugees in Moldova:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimation of over 3000 Roma refugees, up to 4000 refugees in Moldova, both banks of the river Dniester, many stakeholders agree on the estimation. • Localized in person over 2100 Roma refugees accommodated in RACs, host communities and privately accommodated, both banks of the river Dniester with the involvement of several entities and mediators. • Overall transited the country over 45 000 Roma refugees, according to certain stakeholders <p>Resume of identified good practices and cases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1After several sessions of mediation, 8, then 12 Roma children enrolled in schools and Testemiteanu 6 RAC, but needs of transportation, educational materials, NFI partially covered. 	<p>RTF will present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - location information of Roma children and parents; - Mapping of education interventions. <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -to add a focus also on specialized enrollment



	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Lack of transportation for mediators3. Illiterate disabled teen, accelerated education program necessary4. Illiterate adults, accelerated education program necessary <p>Glodeni: 85 % of refugee children are enrolled, but NFI still necessary. Still many Roma children stopped going to school and need more mediation, as they were enrolled without a mediator: In October 13 Roma children enrolled into schools, only 2 frequented, then 8. Another mediator on the location: 16 Roma children enrolled, zero at school on 16.11.</p> <p>Key activities -1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More involvement with the North and left bank of the river Dniester, especially with the Community Mediators, NGOs and initiative groups, refugee leaders, as well.• To reinforce the capacity of local Roma NGOs and initiative groups, especially in the line with the implementation of the Temporary Protection.• Training for the Community Mediators, activists, refugee leaders, in the line with the implementation of the Temporary Protection.• Accelerated programs of education for illiterate children; targeted outreach is required to ensure that Roma children are in school and learning. <p>Key activities - 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community projects to enhance cohesion, integration, and peaceful cohabitation• Vocational training and employment integration via UNHCR partners• Transitional accommodation as an advocacy action or some cases in test• Adapted written, audio and video materials - into different dialects of Romani and other languages• To improve the case management concerning referrals to other working groups, organizations• Tarna Rom 10 months project via RRP 2023, capacity building in education for Chisinau, Basarabasca, Anenii Noi, Edinet, Glodeni, Ialoveni, Criuleni, Stefan Voda, Ungheni. <p>It was proposed a suggestion for 2023 is to put an accent on accelerated programs and also on the work of mediators which will enroll children which are able to be enrolled directly into schools.</p> <p>Katie purposed to add a focus also on specialized enrollment support for the Roma community.</p>	<p>support for the Roma community; - to have an individual assessment of Roma children;</p>
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<p>Partner updates (achieved results seems March till now about challenges as well): a.Lumos b.Other partners</p>	<p>LUMOS presented the Key achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 270 refugee children assisted through ECD/ECI services at community and district levels • 44 refugee children assisted through youth friendly health services • 300 refugee parents and caregivers supported • 179 trainings and methodological support sessions provided to specialists, parents and teenagers (on developmental risks, nutrition, child protection, safeguarding, etc.) • 5 new community ECD friendly spaces set up and operational, providing support to all children and families, including refugee children and their families. <p>Activities in MD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need assessment methodology and tools developed • 6 types of standard aid packages developed • Needs of 1302 refugee children assessed • 1097 Humanitarian aid Packages distributed • Individual counselling sessions for 78 parents provided • Got legal custody and family placement – 29 unaccompanied children • Psychological support – 247 children and parents • Supporting Enrolment into education – 178 children • Access to medical services – 215 children • 8 social cohesion activities organised • Recreation/leisure activities – 242 children • Informational leaflet distributed to all refugee families. <p>*LUMOS also operates in Ukraine in the Jitomir, Odessa and Herson regions and we have focused on emergency response to crisis issues in the region.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid assessment and data collection in the pilot regions will continue 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination and planning at district level and cross-sector response to address the needs of refugees• Supporting authorities in meeting the needs of refugee children and their families• Supporting the involvement and participation of children and young people• Strengthen capacity building for ensuring adequate response in the pilot regions. <p>IsrAid Moldova asked for a clarification on the criteria used to select the children's centres.</p> <p>Lumos added that it was drawn up a list of criteria according to the number of refugee children in the region. We have planned these centres to promote communication and social cohesion for both refugee children and children in the community. In this way we can strengthen social cohesion.</p> <p>Together with UNICEF, we have been working on a Regulation governing the work in child-friendly centres for child development.</p>	
Follow-up and next steps	<p>Katherine informed about the fact that Ministry of Education of Ukraine recently updated Guidance for parents related to education of children. And while before there was a very strong focus on online education, the new guidance is encouraging parents to explore more opportunities for their children to go to local schools, perhaps combined with some online education. So, it might be interesting for those of us working in the sector just to review what their recent guidance is.</p> <p>The next IREWG meeting will be organized for 2 December 2022, at 1 pm, chaired by UNICEF.</p>	ALL to review the Guidance