Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

FINAL

# Przemyśl Reception Point Meeting

Date: Wednesday 22 March 2023
Time: 12:00 – 14:00
Venue: City Office in Przemyśl

**Note: Next Meeting on 13 April, Thursday 2023**

**General Discussion Highlights:**

| Opening Remarks | Action Points |
|---|---|
| **Jacek Paniw - City of Przemyśl:**<br>General update on arrivals at Train Station Reception Point – stable numbers continue with slight decrease in trends to less than 2,000 arrivals/daily however did see a short spike. As previously stated, pendular spikes attributed to actual or perceived risks from active conflict. Arrivals may stay only 2-3 days to observe situation in Ukraine before returning, however these persons still require assistance during their short stay.<br><br>**Bartłomiej Barszczak – City of Przemyśl:**<br>Regarding the application of the Amendment to the Special Act, the City is not responsible for any longer-term shelters (for the moment) thus not implementing. Bilana is envisioned to limit stay for two weeks, if however, there are cases in which ppl reside longer (past the 120+ day limit) would need to create procedures.<br><br>**Mariusz Bezdzietny – ZHP/Scouts**<br>What are plans for the continuation of Hanover trains?<br>• **Reply, City of Przemyśl –** At the moment, only have confirmation that trains will continue until the end of April, and we only receive confirmation of month-to-month extension by German authorities. It remains very popular, yesterday 443 persons used service.<br><br>What are plans for transit accommodation (1-2days) pending train travel, as Bilana only has a capacity of 110 ppl and Tesco Center is closing?<br>• **Reply, City of Przemyśl –** This will be challenging as Tesco was a City-led initiative (with limitations as the property is privately owned) whereas the overall responsibility for situation falls under the Voivode. If high arrivals occur (and surpass Bilana capacity) may need to consider use of buses to relocate newly arrived refugees to other parts of Poland (or shelters) instead of waiting for trains in Przemysl. If buses are activated, humanitarians will need to understand role and clear information provided on relocation points to support coordination. The ideal however is continued use of trains. The City has ongoing discussions with the Voivode on subject. | • **UNCHR** – to raise question on support from Voivode incase Bilana capacity is surpassed at PCG meeting on 30th March. |

| | |
|---|---|
| • **Reply, Magdalena Kuska, IOM –** We may consider raising this point to the Voivode's representative at the Podkarpackie Coordination Group (PCG) meeting on the 30 March. | |
| **Transition plan between Tesco and Bilana Shelter** | **Action Points** |
| **Maciej Maruszak – Polish Red Cross (PCK):**<br>Aim to open Bilana on 24/25 March. Low number of persons in Tesco currently as most taken Hanover train and remain will likely depart on Thursday. Thereafter, new arrivals may be directed to Bilana. Tesco will remain open (technically) until end of April, but this period will be used to clean facility before handover to private owner. Humanitarian actors should begin next week to withdraw materials, activities, and staff from Tesco. PCK will contact each organization bilaterally to plan withdrawal.<br><br>**Bartłomiej Barszczak – City of Przemyśl:** Aiming to close operations in Tesco Center in next two weeks, whilst the contract will continue until the end of April – the remaining period will be used to clean and prepare facility for handover to private owner. Medair has kindly indicated they have staff available to help with cleaning process. The warehouse area of Tesco will also close. Approx. 70% of stored material has been relocated. New donations are being directed for transport direct to UKR to minimize stock buildup. The City is searching for alternative warehouse space. May nevertheless need up to 5-6 containers for remaining materials. | • **All Actors in Tesco** – by end of March to withdraw staff and resources from Tesco Center.<br><br>• **UNHCR** – to inform BNWG partners on potential need for 5-6 containers for the City. |
| **Bilana Humanitarian Center** | **Action Points** |
| **Alicja Bobola – PCK:**<br>Summary of planned actors and services:<br>• Shelter Management – PCK and CORE to co-manage, (CORE confirmed for only 3 months)<br>• Food Provision – organized by PCK, to be redirected from Tesco, 3x per day prepared food<br>• Medical – accessible through local facilities, no dedicated medical provider in Bilana<br>• PSS – consortium under DRC to work with ACF & Soleterre (individual & group sessions), to cover 5 days M-F<br>• Information Provision – DRC and ACF<br>• Case Management – based on needs basis only, IOM<br>• Playground – IOM to install external kids play area but need to coordinate installation with PCK/CORE.<br>• Cleaning – organized by the City<br><br>As Bilana becomes operational, we will identify additional needs and solutions. Request that Bilana actors (Core and Soleterre agreed to lead) develop a schedule of presence to better manage use of multipurpose container and PSS room. External Containers are provided by CORE; the 1st container is used as communications hub for internet/computer access, and 2nd is multipurpose space for group PSS, case management and ad hoc meetings (2nd container to arrive 13th April).<br><br>**Alex Wojtowicz – Medair:**<br>• This is last meeting that Medair will participate as closing operations. Many thanks to the City and all humanitarian actors for the cooperation and support over the past year. | • **IOM** – coordinate with CORE/PCK on exact location of playground installation.<br><br>• **CORE and Soleterre** – initiate preparation of schedule of partner presence in Bilana. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Mickiewicza Shelter (Sports Hall) Opening of Social Housing Facility** | **Action Points** |
| **Bartłomiej Barszczak – City of Przemyśl**<br>The Mickiewicz building (Sport Hall) is newly rehabilitated by CORE under two project phases (Phase 2 ongoing but to be completed by April. It will not be a temporary collective site, but a facility for mid/longer term social housing – open to refugees and others in need with smaller independent units (like small studios).<br>• Site Management – provided by Polish Red Cross, but open to technical support by other actor such as CORE which is helping to manage the Bilana shelter.<br>• Admission criteria – has been drafted by CORE and being reviewed by the City, thereafter will share with partners (City may take into account the Amendment to the Special Act as part of the criteria).<br>• Admission prioritization – aiming to start selection with HHs currently residing in communal shelters; exact plans to be determined.<br>• Services – for the moment, the City only plans for provision of accommodation and meals.<br>• Additional Proposed Services<br>  ○ **Lisa Ranzenigo, Soleterre** – suggest that PSS and recreational activities are provided, noting PSS may be adapted for mid/longer-term interventions.<br>  ○ **Magdalena Kuska, IOM** – suggest can provide support with labor market inclusion, Polish language classes and job seeking. | • **City** – to share the admission criteria for Sports Hall with partners once finalized. |

| **Organizations w/ 23 Participants Total** |
|---|
| Representatives of the City of Przemysl |
| Representatives of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister |
| UNHCR |
| Oxfam |
| Towards Dialogue Foundation |
| Medair |
| ACF |
| Global Christian Connection |
| IOM |
| Association of Ukrainians in Poland |
| Polish Red Cross |
| CORE |
| Soleterre |
| UNICEF |

**Contact**: Bryant Castro, UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Officer, castro@unhcr.org

END---