



SECTOR: Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CP SWG)

Meeting Details	
Date	10 th May 2023
Time	15:00
Chair	UNICEF
Reporting	UNHCR
Email	lampe@unhcr.org , frossi@unicef.org
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Update from Chisinau Municipality2. Blue Dot trends and the needs of refugee children3. Updates from case management meeting4. Presentation of the Child Protection Needs Assessment (Plan International) and updates on the Multisectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA)5. Update about contingency planning6. Mapping of child friendly spaces7. Discussion about summer activities for children and youth8. AOB	
Information collection and relevant links	
Please use the below link to fill out information	
Link to operational data portal: https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784	
Participants	



1- Flore/UNICEF (Co-chair)	14- Virgiliu/P4EC	27- Fatima/UNFPA	
2- Katie/UNHCR (Co-chair)	15- Olesea, PNUD	28- Celine/UNFPA	
3- Carolina/UNHCR	16- Stavros/PLAN	29- Oleg/CDA	
4- Mihai/People in Need	17- Ilenia/PLAN	30- Olga/CDA	
5- Xenia/People in Need	18- Tatiana/Hope 4	31- Sevan/World Vision	
6- Natalia/Blue Dot	19- Corneliu/IOM	32- Azat/ICRC	
7- Natalia/APSCF	20- Dominica/LUMOS	33- Andrei/FFUPLM	
8- Martha/CRS	21- Traian/UNICEF	34- Diana/Red Cross	
9- Tatiana/CRS	22- Oleg/Palladium		
10- Cristina/Terre des Hommes	23- Diana/Chisinau Municipality		
11- Tatiana/ Terre des Hommes	24- Angela/Chisinau Municipality		
12- Simona/ Terre des Hommes	25- Tatiana/UNICEF		
13- Natalia/CCF Moldova	26- Casey/CWS		

Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
Update from Chisinau Municipality	<p>Daily statistics presented by the deputy mayor of Chisinau show a total of 525 children enrolled in school and 323 in kindergarten.</p> <p>The Municipality continues to provide the same services for refugee children. A total of 8220 children received medical assistance in the municipal institutions and 59 births were registered in Chisinau’s medical institutions. Psychological support was offered to 324 refugee children attending ongoing group activities.</p> <p>The Municipality reported 1874 beneficiaries of library services and 220 children as beneficiaries of the creativity centers, while 37 children are attending on regular basis the community centers for children and youth.</p> <p>The Municipality is assisting children encountering documentation problems and 24 children, out of which 3 are undocumented, were assisted and referred to different service providers. In addition, 10 children were assisted at the airport BCP.</p>	



	<p>The Municipality is currently updating the offer for summer camps, which are available also to refugee children. A total of 6400 places during the whole summer are available in the 3 full time summer camps of the municipality. A total of 1305 places are available for day-summer camps. The day summer camps will activate between 5 June to 14 July. Another 14 sport summer camps are providing 2100 tickets for children and the thematic and vocational schools will function between 1 to 30 June.</p> <p>With the support of UNICEF, the municipality is developing 7 services for children. The socially assisted living, for those who turned 18, includes Ukrainian refugee as beneficiaries. Other services are currently in development, such as the Maternal Center for mothers with children, the Day Center for children between 4 months to 3 years, and the center for children and families in risk situations. The Deputy mayor proposed to follow up with a technical discussion on this topic.</p> <p>UNHCR requested the Municipality to share the online link including information about the summer camps.</p> <p>UNICEF noted summer camps could be an opportunity to identify vulnerable children and children at risk and inquired about the need for training provision for the teachers in the summer camps.</p> <p>The Municipality confirmed this need but noted the need to separate between the types of summer camps organized.</p> <p>Early Starters inquired about the age range of the children to be enrolled in the summer camps. The Deputy Mayor noted confirmed the summer camps are organized for children aged 7 to 16 years old.</p> <p>Early Starters asked about summer camps for children under 7 years old, as this is a big demand.</p> <p>The Municipality noted the need to distinguish between summer camps and day centers. It was noted the lack of capacity and the lack of a legal framework to organize summer camps for children under seven.</p>	<p>Chisinau Municipality to send the updated information to be shared with the members of the group.</p> <p>Chair and co-chair to follow up with Chisinau Municipality to organize trainings with staff involved in summer camps</p>
<p>Blue Dot trends</p>	<p>Blue Dot Otaci: There is a slight decrease in numbers for the month of April. BD in Otaci assisted 442 people. A total of 11 children have been referred to social assistance services, as they have arrived with an unauthorized caregiver. One boy was placed in foster care.</p>	



	<p>The problem of unaccompanied adolescents 16 years old and older crossing to Moldova persists. The BD staff is providing explanations on the procedure. The Blue Dot assisted in a couple of complex cases and noted that the referral mechanism is difficult to put in practice.</p> <p>UNHCR shared the adolescent-friendly material elaborated with UNHCR Ukraine and informed the group about UNHCR's cooperation with the National Youth Council of Moldova to develop social media messages and TikTok's on the topic of interest.</p> <p>BD Palanca: Similar to Otaci, the overall trend in people visiting the Blue Dot is decreasing. The Blue Dot provided their services to a total of 500 children in March, compared to 335 children in April. An explanation for the low numbers at Leuseni BCP is that the Moldovan and Romanian customs were emerged, but the Blue Dot could not be relocated. As result, the busses are not stopping on the Moldovan territory. No foster care placement were registered by the Blue Dot Palanca, only one child placed in a specialized RAC (a maternal child center), due to the child's specific language needs. Reports show that more people are returning to Ukraine.</p>	
<p>Updates from case management meeting and raining for Child Protection Specialists</p>	<p>The Co-chair provided an update on the second session of the training for more than 75 child protection specialists across the country, organized by AVE Copiii, in cooperation with UNICEF, UNHCR and MLSP. The agenda of the training also included a session on registration of UASC for Temporary Protection.</p> <p>The Co-chair updated the members on the first brainstorming session on case management. The working group at the Ministry level is focused on Moldovan children. It was mentioned that the case management process needs to be flexible, to take into account higher caseloads that occur during an emergency.</p> <p><i>As main conclusions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The participants agreed that there is a need to improve the early identification of children at risk. The services provided in the refugee response can be used as a tool in early identification for children who can be at risk or victims of violence.-There is a need for stronger awareness about the children and adolescents at risk and specific services that can be accessed.- There is a need to develop quick guidance for Case Management in emergencies with dedicated guidelines to be used in emergencies, allowing adaptation to the situation.	<p>Work in collaboration with MLSP to set up further action points to strengthen the case management for refugee children.</p> <p>Chair and co-chair to share minutes on CM and updates on the ongoing discussion within the working group</p>



<p>PLAN International Presentation of the Child Protection Needs Assessment/Outreach workshop and updates on the Multisectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA)</p>	<p>PLAN presented the findings of the needs assessment in January 2023.</p> <p>The study focused on BCPs and transit points, with the objective of reaching the most vulnerable refugees, with the priority on child protection needs, GBV, MHPSS and basic needs. It was stated that refugees in community are at a higher risk, given that many services are focused in the RACs.</p> <p>Six FGDs with adolescents and their caregivers were conducted to understand the protection risks, as well as 11 KIIs with the actors involved in the refugee response.</p> <p>For the FDG part, some findings revealed that children don't feel safe to take public transportation to reach some of the services and children are exposed to bullying and discrimination. For adolescents, other needs, study versus work, were reported as priorities.</p> <p><i>The key findings of the assessment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The friendships established by the children are not the same as in Ukraine and most children are not involved in extracurricular activities in Moldova.-The change in daily routine impacted adolescents, and children cannot continue the same activities they did in Ukraine.- The adolescents are verbally exposed to bullying and harassment, being exposed sometimes to pro-Russian statements.- Strong gender roles are present in the lives of Ukrainian refugees, particularly for the Roma community.- On the access to services, it was noted that the RAC managers were not mandated to coordinate the services in the RACs.- The actors mandated with protection and assistance of refugee children at risk are overburdened. <p>PLAN presented the preliminary findings of the outreach workshop conducted in May 2023, organized with the objective to share lessons learned and identify successful strategies for refugee children's involvement.</p> <p>The findings of the workshop showed that bias related to refugee status, the need to work with parents and caregivers to promote integration and encourage social integration, service provision for the host community, and low numbers for TP enrolment are some of the key challenges encountered.</p>	<p>PLAN to share the report when released</p>
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	<p>The Co-chair updated the members on the timeline of the Multisectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA). REACH will carry out the data collection. The co-chair proposed to include a particular focus on the child protection in the qualitative component.</p> <p>It was noted that no additional assessments are necessary, but there is need to focus on a deeper analysis on child protection issues. The desk review will help REACH to strengthen the qualitative part.</p>	<p>The questionnaire will be shared with the child protection sub working group and members are encouraged to provide feedback.</p>
<p>Update about contingency planning</p>	<p>UNHCR co-chair informed the members that the inputs for the CPSWG were submitted to the protection working group. As a next step, consultations of the sectors will be held to identify the gaps and potential overlaps of the sectors. The plan will be shared for final inputs.</p> <p>For child protection, the focus is primarily on scaling up of the activities, supporting the capacity of the Blue Dots, the Guardianship Authority, and other child protection activities in the RACs and the community, NFI distribution, and support to the children in transit. It was highlighted that the coordination, in case of an influx, should go through the CP SWG.</p>	
<p>AOB</p>	<p>For the Child friendly spaces, the deadline extended. Members are encouraged to add their organization's child friendly spaces to the spreadsheet.</p> <p>On summer activities, it was suggested to compile the summer activities across the country.</p>	<p>Link for the CFS to be shared with the members.</p> <p>Members are encouraged to share the summer activities they are planning with the CP SWG co-chairs.</p>