Regional Refugee Response Plan
For the Ukraine Situation

LOCAL REFUGEE COORDINATION FORUM

Introductory Note

September 2023

Local Refugee Coordination Forum (LRCF)

Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

⟶ A coordination space to discuss and address challenges in the local level.

⟶ It is a part of a larger structure called “Refugee Coordination Forum” (RCF).

WHAT?

RCF is a national coordination structure to foster collaboration and complementarity among actors involved in a refugee response.

HOW?

RCM is led by
the Government of Moldova
together with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency.

WHO?

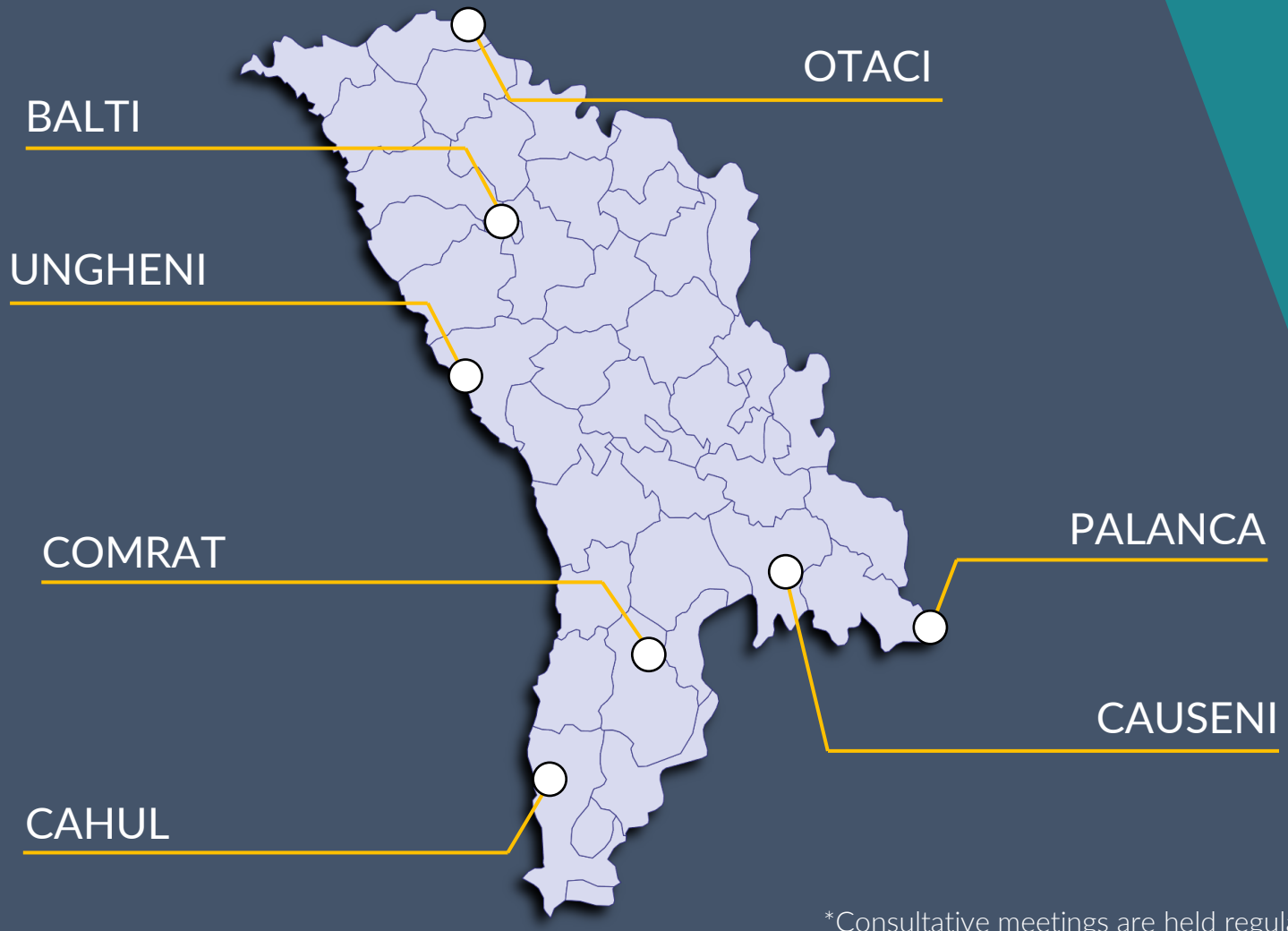
1 Refugee Coordination Forum includes:

- Ministries and other governmental bodies; and
- UN, international, national and Local NGOs operating over several regions.

2 Local Refugee Coordination Forum includes:

- Local municipalities (district level, city level and village level);
- UN Agencies;
- Local NGOs operating in a specific region;
- Community-led organizations;
- Refugee-led organizations;
- Representatives of the refugee and host communities; and
- International NGOs implementing projects in specific regions.

7 Local Coordination Forums
across Moldova



*Consultative meetings are held regularly in Tiraspol.

Co-chaired by
Local Municipal Authorities
and
UNHCR

GUVERNUL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Coordination Structure - Republic of Moldova

Refugee Coordination Forum
Inter-Sector Coordination Group
UNHCR

Sector Working Groups

- **Protection**
  - Child Protection
  - Gender-based Violence (GBV)
  - Mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS)
- **Health & Nutrition**
- **Logistics & Supply**
- **Education**
- **Social Economic Inclusion & Livelihoods**
- **Basic Needs**
  - WASH
  - Food Security

Cross-Sector Working Groups

- Multi-purpose Cash
- Information Management

Cross-Sector Task Forces

- Gender
- AAP
- PSEA

Local Refugee Coordination Forum
Local authorities & NGOs

What is what?
Some jargons explained

Protection

Assistance to ensure that all people – regardless of their age, gender or specific characteristics - have access to their rights and can live with safety and dignity.

Basic Needs

Assistance to ensure that people's daily necessities are covered, mostly physical and tangible needs such as food, non-food items, transportation and accommodation.

WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

Assistance to ensure people stay in a sanitary and hygiene living environment and that people have access to water supply and hygiene items and facilities.

PSEA (Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse)

Principles and actions to prevent and mitigate the risks of and respond to sexual misconduct by humanitarian workers against people receiving assistance.

Gender

Activities to ensure that the gender equality is part of a humanitarian response and its planning, and that assistance take into consideration specific needs and challenges for women, girls, men and boys.

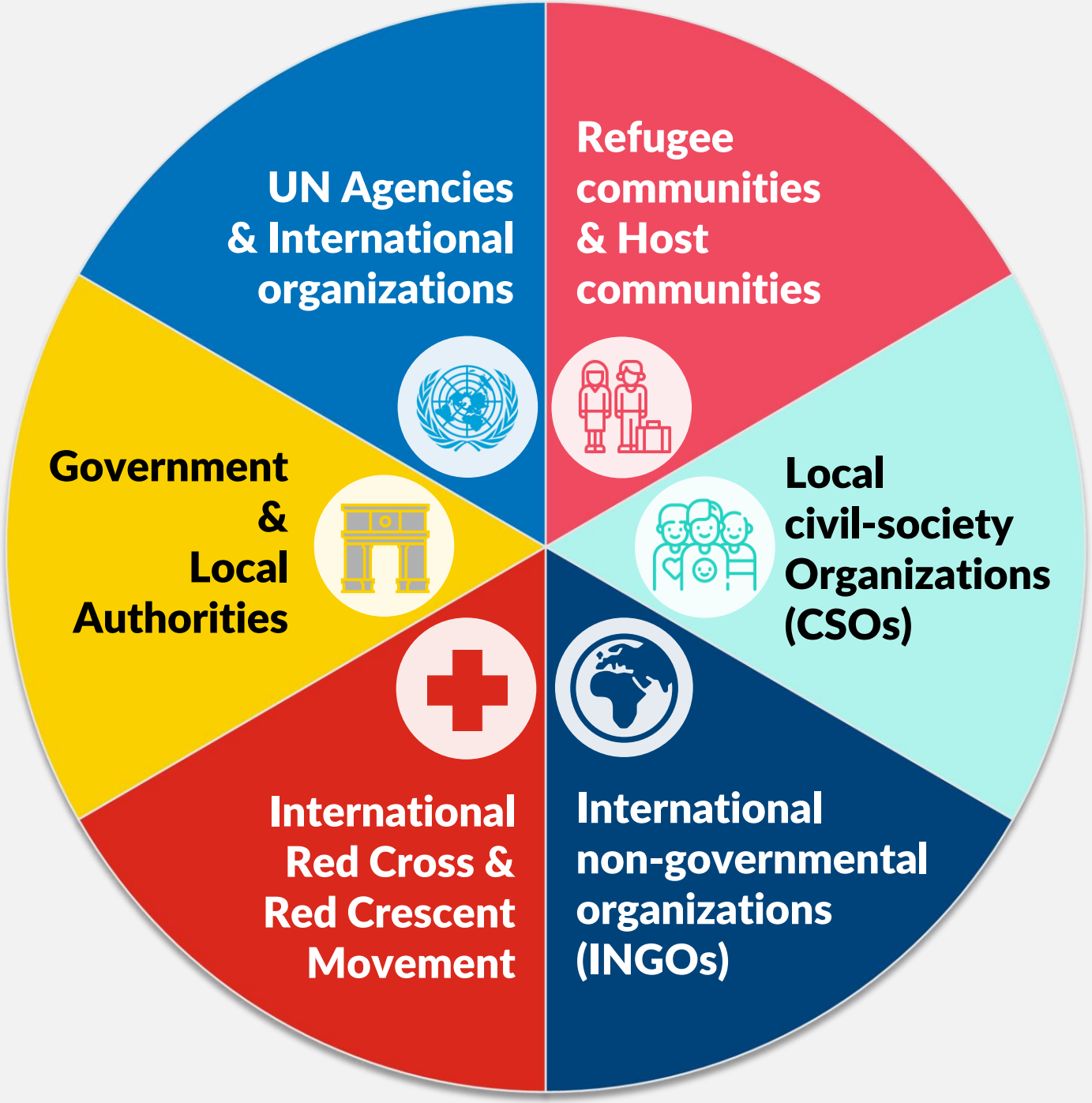
Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance

Provision of financial assistance in various forms such as cash or voucher to enable people to cover their basic needs, such as food, accommodation and health.

AAP (Accountability to Affected People)

Mechanisms to ensure that people are meaningfully involved in decision making process that directly impact their lives, including through channels for them to raise concerns and receive information and responses.

Coordination among various actors in refugee response



3 Functions and Benefits
of the Local Refugee Coordination Forums

COORDINATION

FUNCTION

- Promote **synergy in assistance to refugees and host communities** among local actors, and to ensure **quality** of the assistance.
- Serve as a linkage between local actors and **the national-level Sector Coordination mechanisms**.

BENEFIT

Organizations can get acquainted with other actors and seek for a joint planning or foster possible collaboration.

INFO SHARING

FUNCTION

- Ensure systematized **information sharing** and effective **information management** in line with international standards.
- Provide **capacity building activities** to local partners.

BENEFIT

Organizations can be informed of various beneficial opportunities, including capacity building activities or funding opportunities.

CONSULTATION

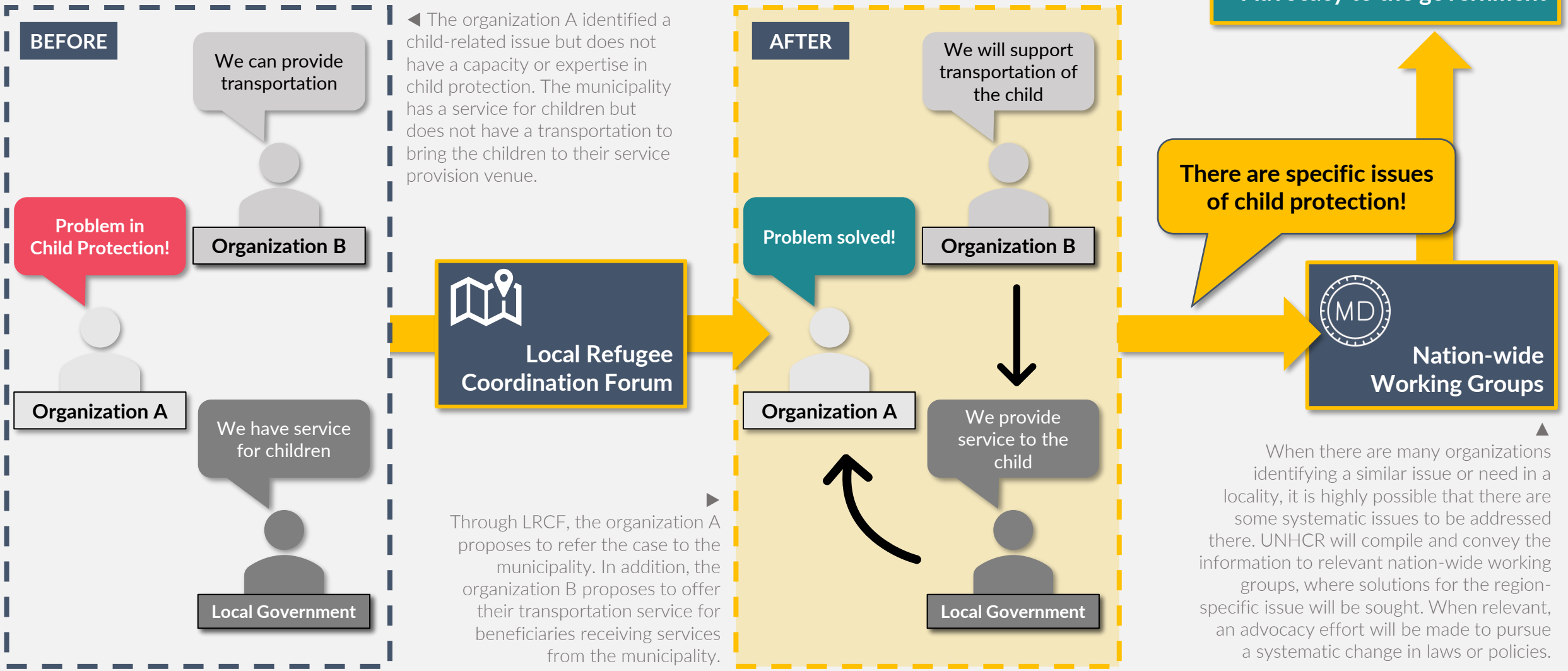
FUNCTION

- Enable **direct consultations between municipalities and local actors** to address challenges at the local level.
- **Engages with refugees and affected host communities** to ensure assistance is in line with humanitarian standards, timely and not duplicated.

BENEFIT

Organizations can raise a voice and be involved in a decision-making process by providing region-specific inputs.

For example...
A case of local coordination



◀ The organization A identified a child-related issue but does not have a capacity or expertise in child protection. The municipality has a service for children but does not have a transportation to bring the children to their service provision venue.

▶ Through LRCF, the organization A proposes to refer the case to the municipality. In addition, the organization B proposes to offer their transportation service for beneficiaries receiving services from the municipality.

▲ When there are many organizations identifying a similar issue or need in a locality, it is highly possible that there are some systematic issues to be addressed there. UNHCR will compile and convey the information to relevant nation-wide working groups, where solutions for the region-specific issue will be sought. When relevant, an advocacy effort will be made to pursue a systematic change in laws or policies.

Questions?

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UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Q1. How to join the Local Refugee Coordination Forums, including meetings?

- If you wish to attend the Coordination Forum meetings, please contact the UNHCR focal point in each location or UNHCR directly at mdachrcf@unhcr.org to be included on the participant list. An invitation will be sent to those who are on the participant list.

Q2. There is no forum in my location.

- Humanitarian actors operating in the neighboring regions are also invited to attend. If it is difficult to attend physically, please consult with UNHCR for an online participation option.
- Organizations operating in Transnistrian Region are invited to contact UNHCR at mdachrcf@unhcr.org for further information.

Q3. Who is deciding what the priorities are and what to discuss?

- Participants are invited to suggest an agenda point to be discussed by filling in the form below.

Click here to suggest agenda points

Questions?

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Q7. When participating in the Forum, what should we prepare?

- Participants are asked to share updates of their activities. When doing so, please make sure the following.
  - ❑ Please make your presentation **brief and concise** for the sake of time.
  - ❑ To provide a clear picture of the impact each actor is making, please include specific **numbers or statistics** regarding beneficiaries of your activities.
  - ❑ Please share **challenges and issues** identified during your activities so that we can jointly coordinate how to address these difficulties.

Q8. I have another question. Who to contact?

- For any other inquiries, please contact the UNHCR focal point for each location or to UNHCR at mdachrcf@unhcr.org.

Questions?

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Q4. Where can I find the meeting minutes?

- All the meeting minutes and relevant documents are available on Operational Data Portal.

Click here to go to Operational Data Portal site

Q5. Is it mandatory to join every time once I am on the list?

- No, participants can join a meeting when the topic is relevant to their activities. However, one of the objectives of the meeting is to identify duplication or absence of aid in terms of area or service. Therefore, partners are invited to share their activities once in a while.

Q6. My organization is already joining the Forum in another location. Is that enough?

- If your organization is conducting activities in several locations, you are recommended to join the Forum in a respective location since it is important to ensure coordination of activities in each location and situations and challenges are different in every location.