unicef

LUMOS

# GENERATE EVIDENCE ON REFUGEE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO RELEVANT SERVICES BY CONDUCTING MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

**The goal:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services (education, social, health)

Planned duration:
**19 June - 19 October 2023**

Geographical coverage:
**National**

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Objectives

**Output 1** — Mapping of refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities and development of the research methodology

**Output 2** — Initial individual assessment of needs of refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities

**Output 3** — Complex assessment and identification of individual needs of children with disabilities

## Implementation period

**June 19 – July 25** | **July 25 – August 30** | **September 1 – October 19**

**Target Group -** Refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Implementation Partners

| | National level | | District level |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1<br>2. | Ministry of Labour and Social Protection<br>National Agency for Social Assistance (ANAS) | 1. | Territorial structures for social assistance |
| 3.<br>4. | Ministry of Education and Research<br>Republican Centre for Psychopedagogical Assistance (CRAP) | 2.<br>3. | Departments of education<br>Psychopedagogical assistance services (SAP) |
| 5.<br>6. | Ministry of Health<br>Republican medical institutions | 4. | Medical institutions |
| | UNHCR, OHCHR, Interagency Refugee Sub-Group on Disability | | |
| | Parents / carers, Host families, Children | | |

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Methodology and tools

1. General data regarding Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities who live on the territory of the Republic of Moldova (name of the child, city, type of disability, adress, caregiver,... ) → Social community workers

2. Assessment of individual needs of the child with disabilities (General data, Health, Child functioning and developmental difficulties, Devices/equipment needed, Housing and income ) → Education Specialists (PAS)

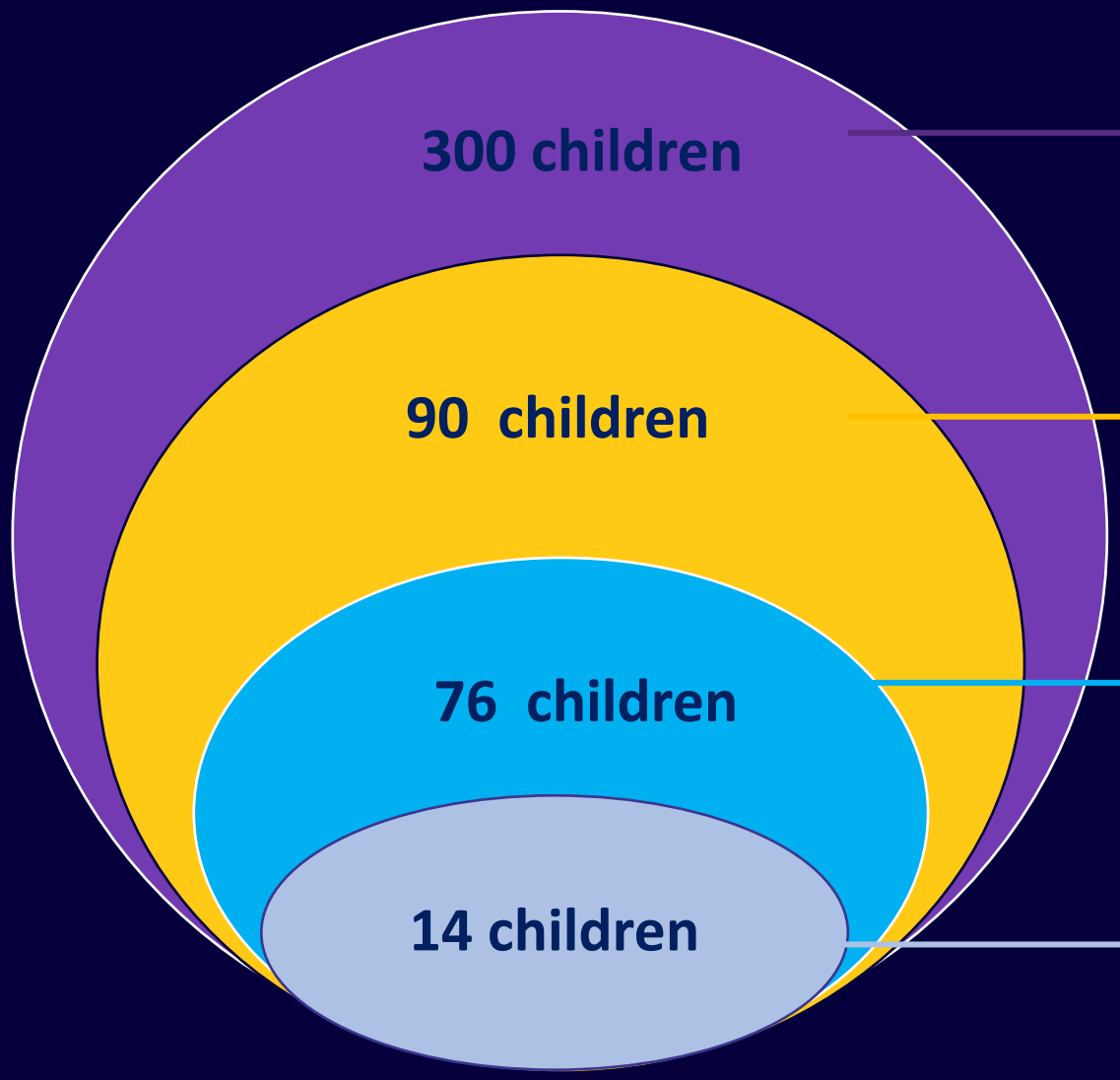
3. Assessment of individual health situation/ needs of the child with disabilities (general data of the child with disability, diagnosis, conclusions and recommendations of specialized doctors. → Specialized doctors

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

**Project:**

Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# RESULTS




Refugee Children with Disabilities (RCWD), planned for assessment out of 37 UTA

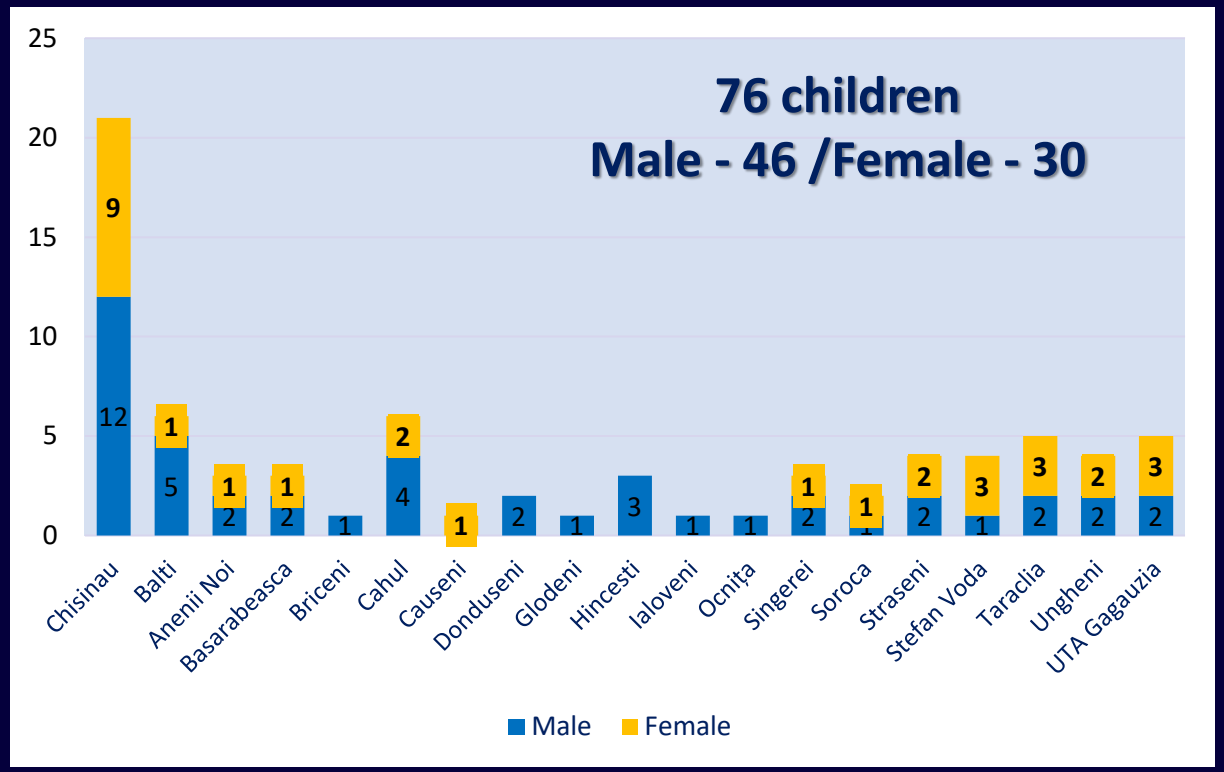
RCWD number, identified in the territory in 20 UTA

Consent for the assessment signed

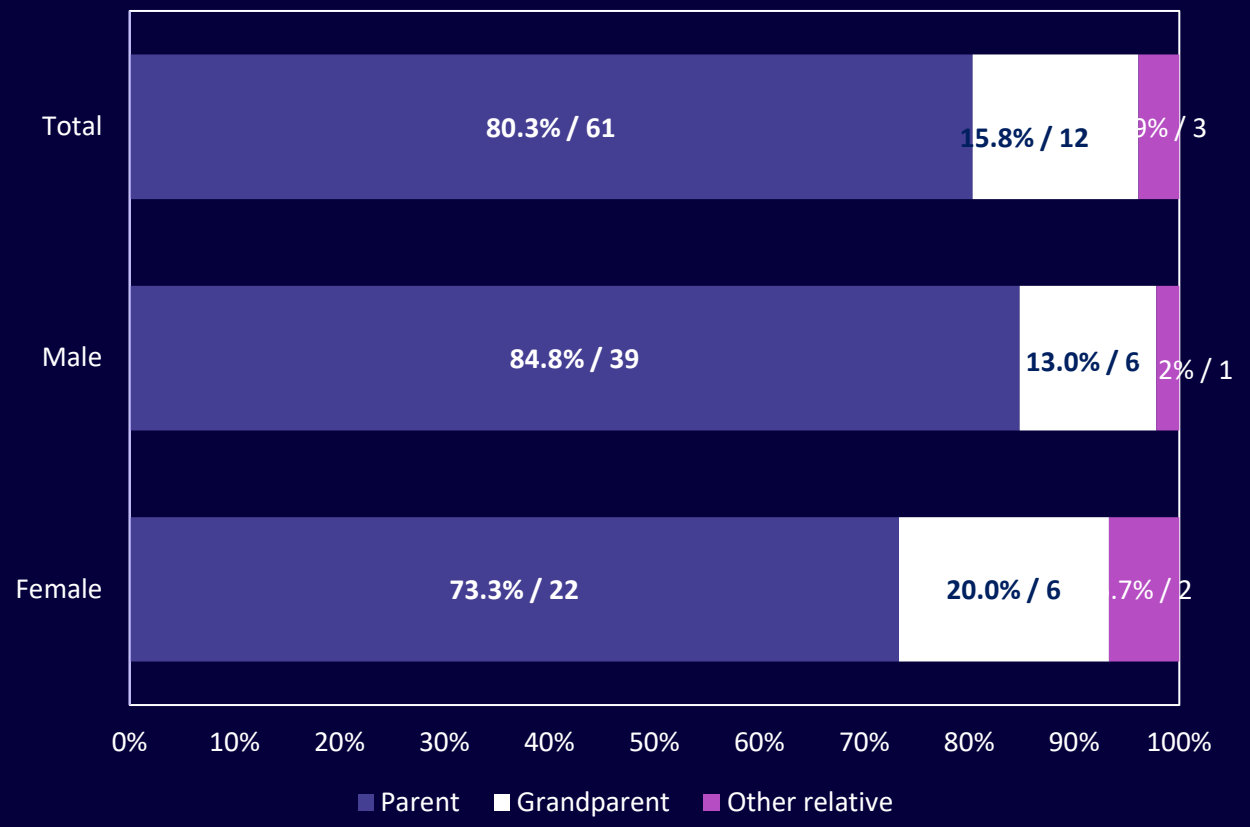
Parents/caregivers did not give the consent to the assessment

# Mapping of CWD. General data.

District, where the child lives with the family



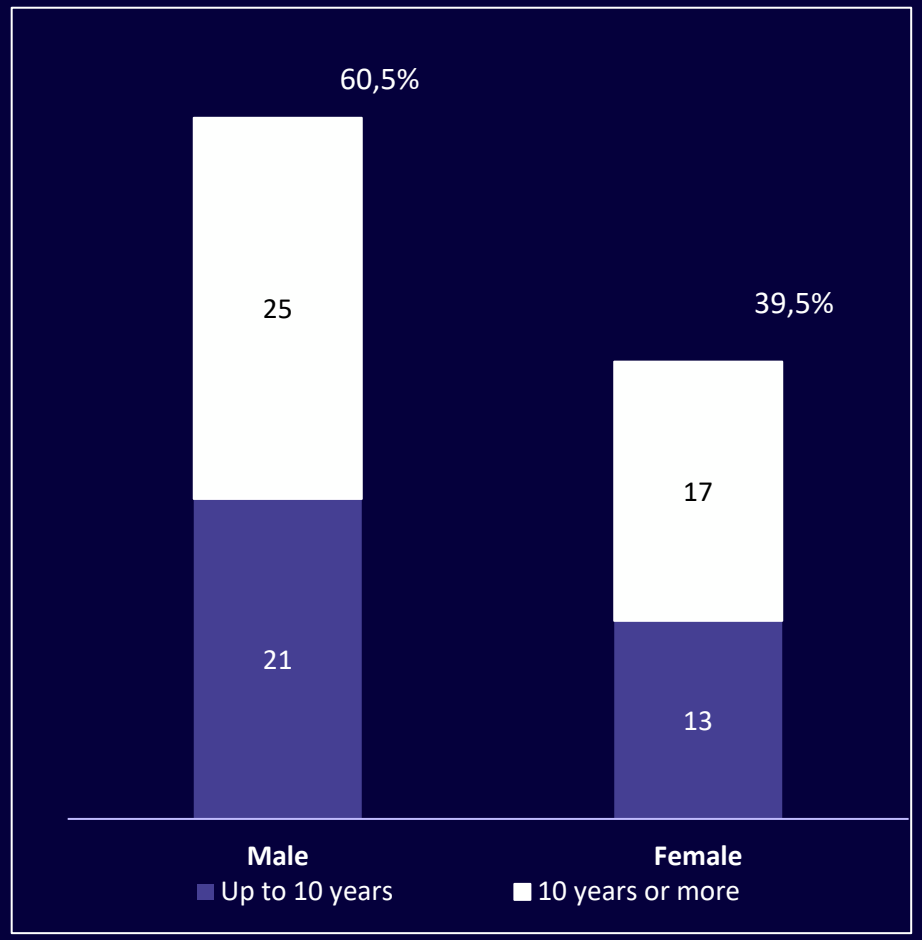

Relation of the caregivers to the child with disability



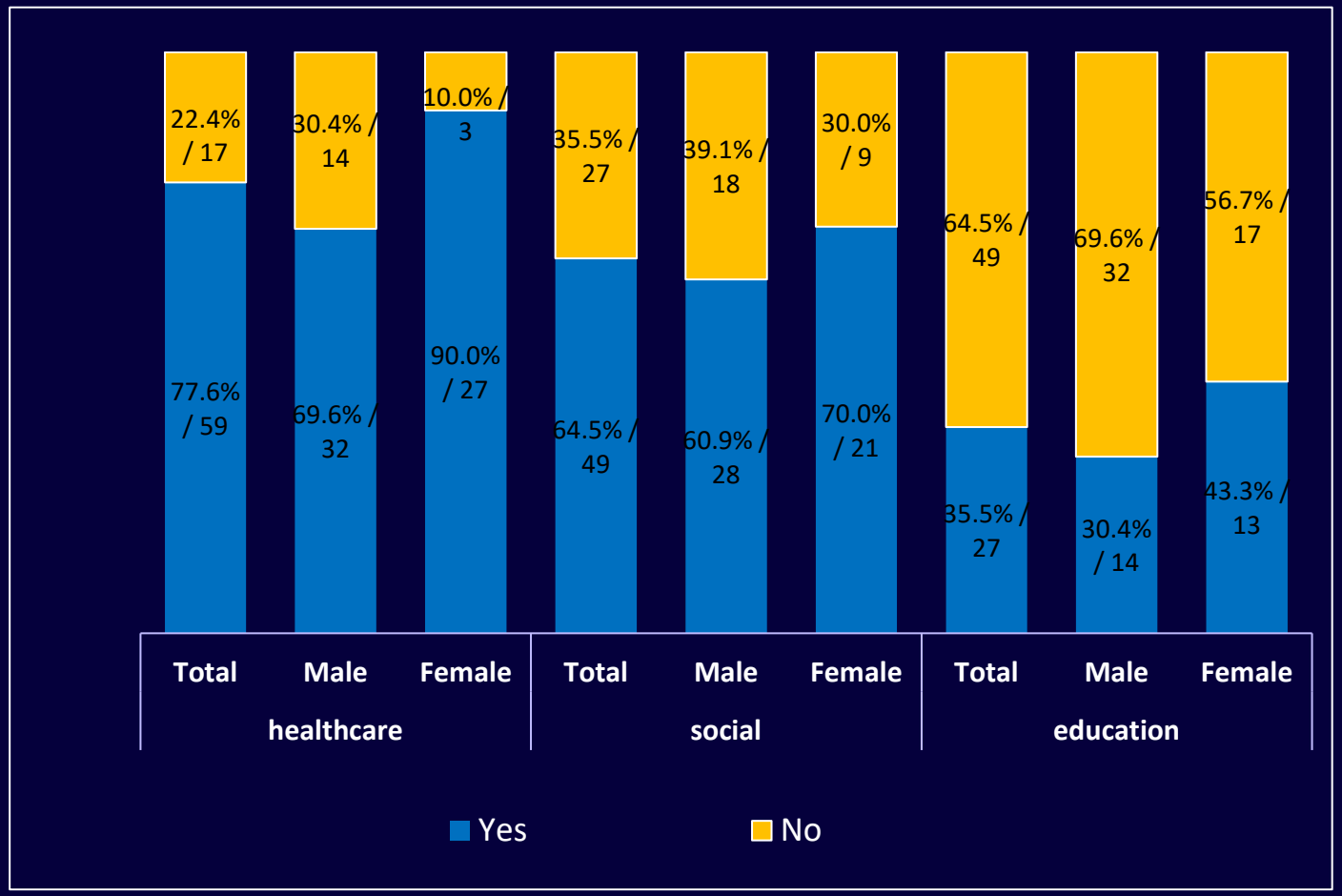

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the child. General data.

Children's age

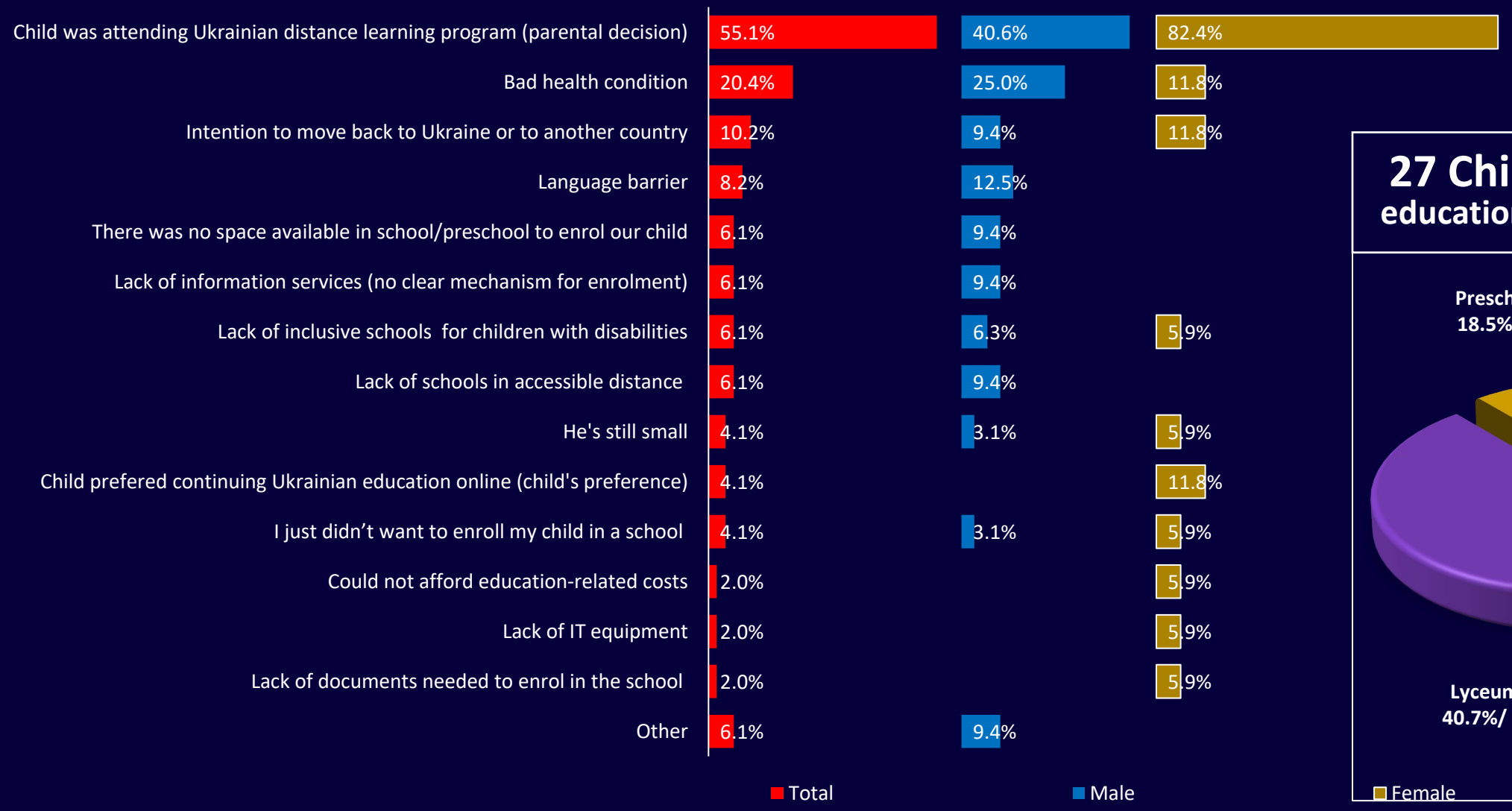


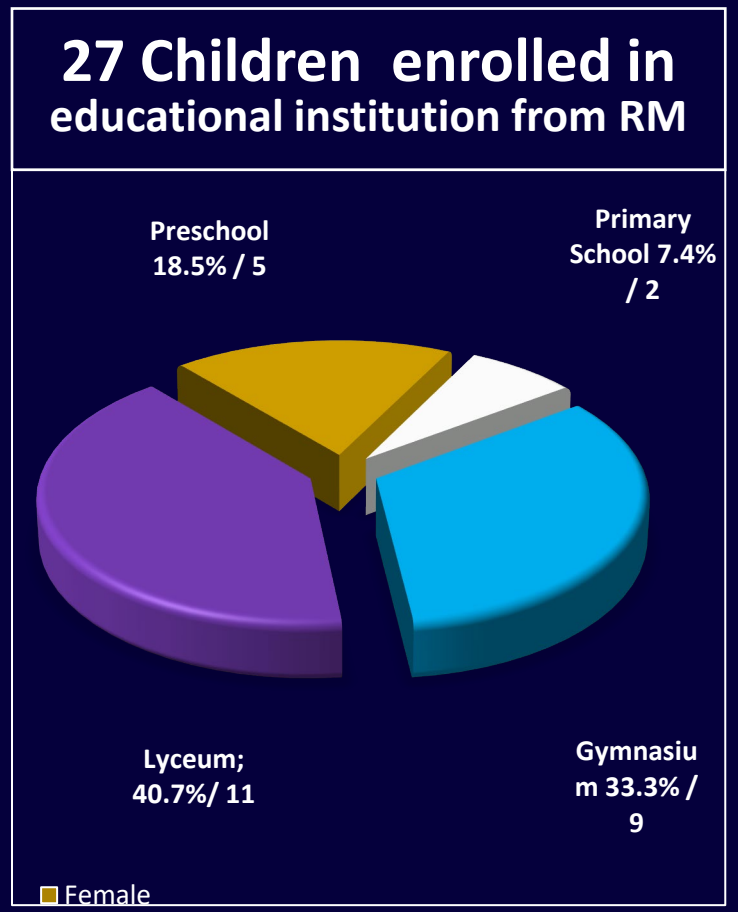

Children registered within the services from Moldova




**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# The causes of non-registration of refugee children with disabilities in the education system of the RM

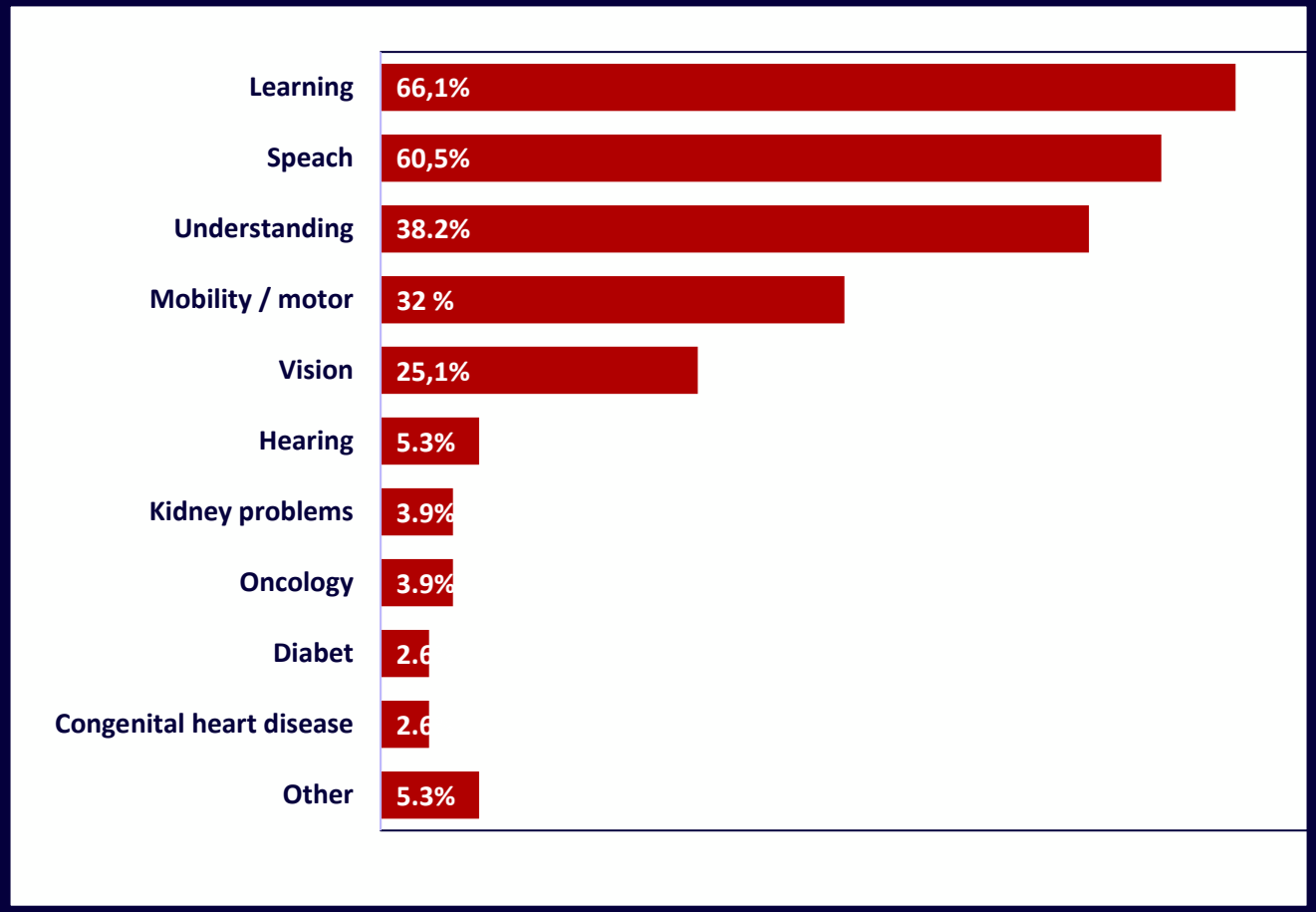


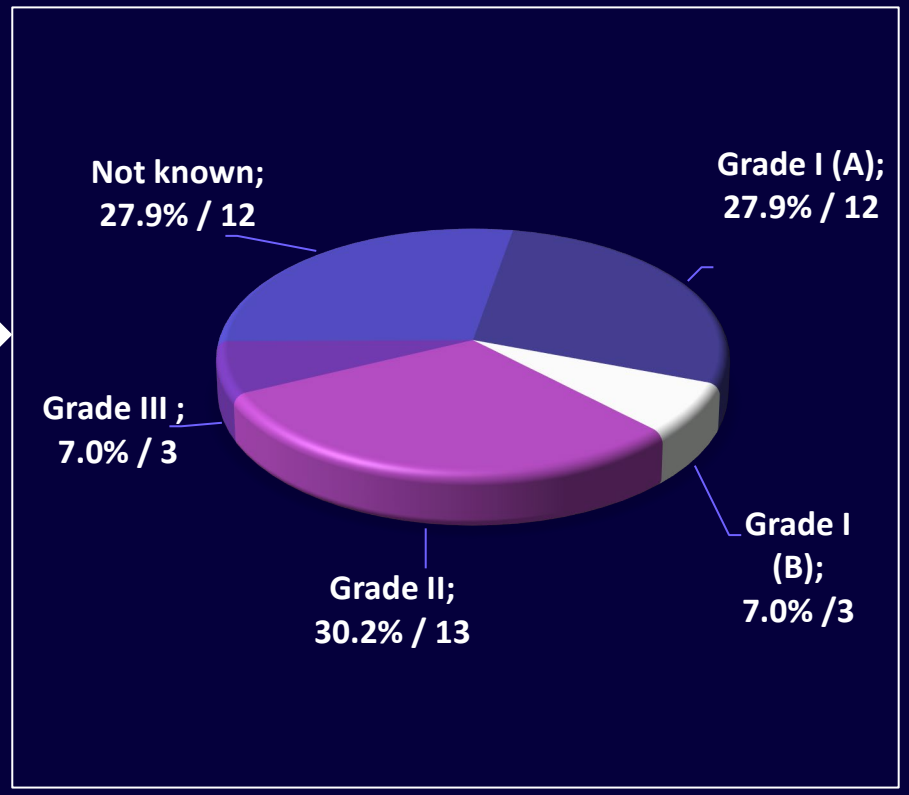

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the child. Health.

Health problems of children




Disability grade of children

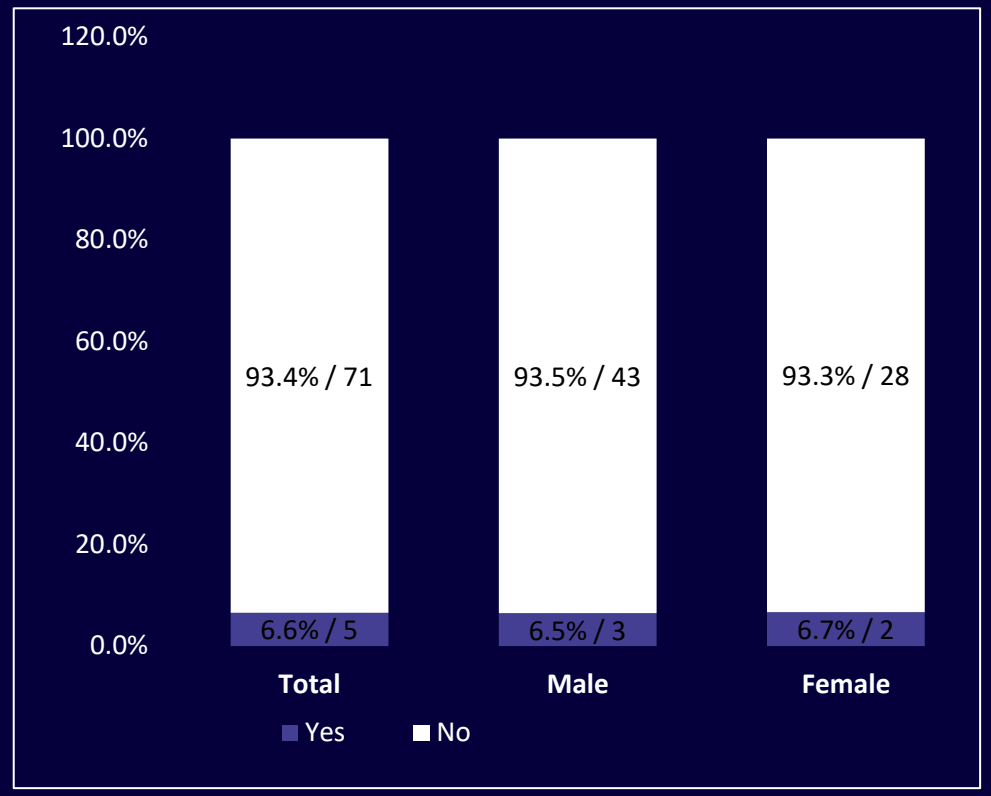



**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the child. Sensory (vision, hearing).

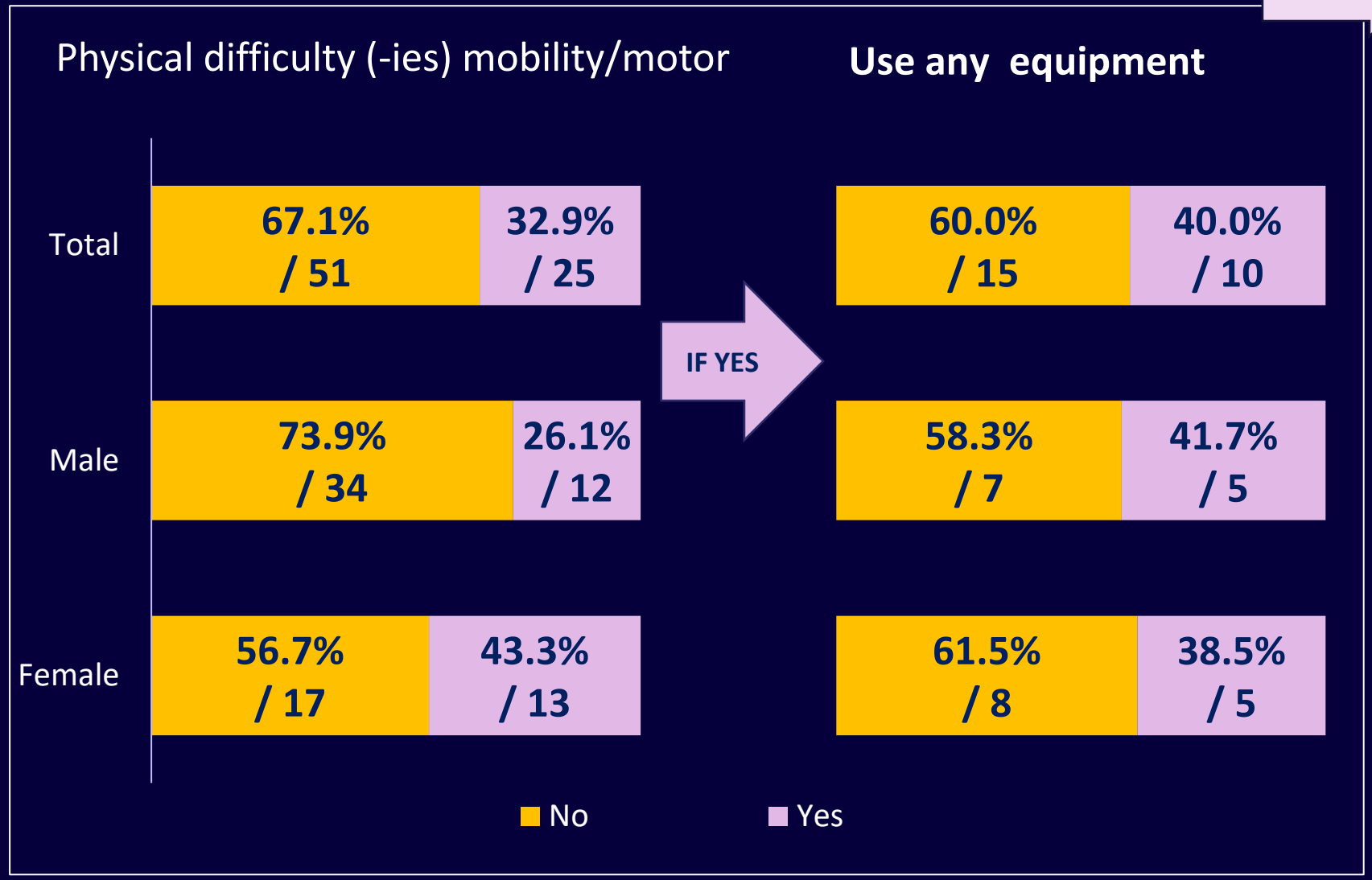
## Vision impairments

## Hearing difficulties

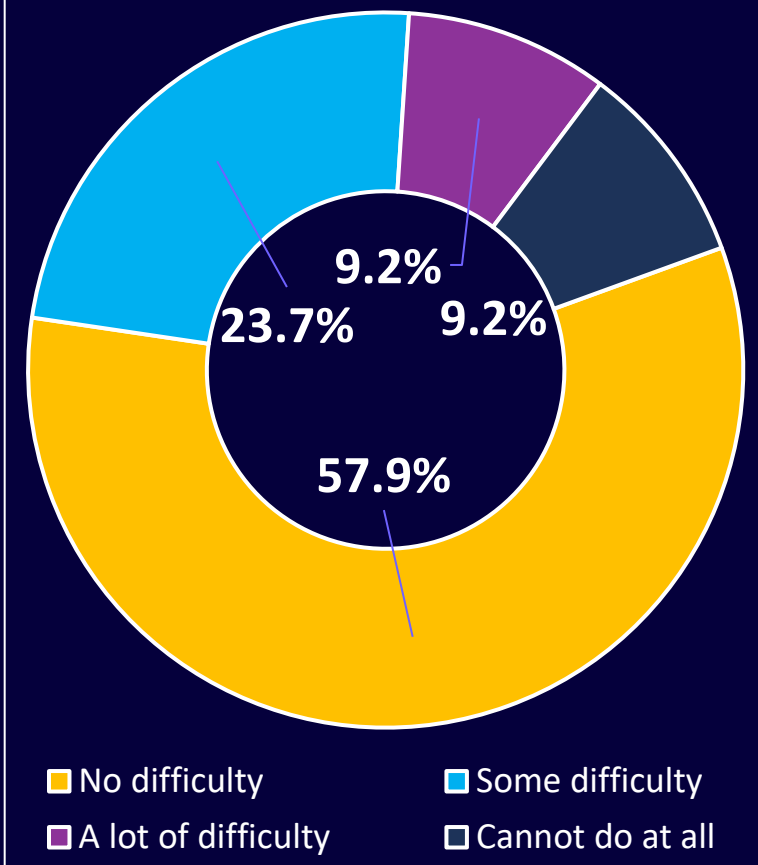



**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the child. Mobility/Motor.

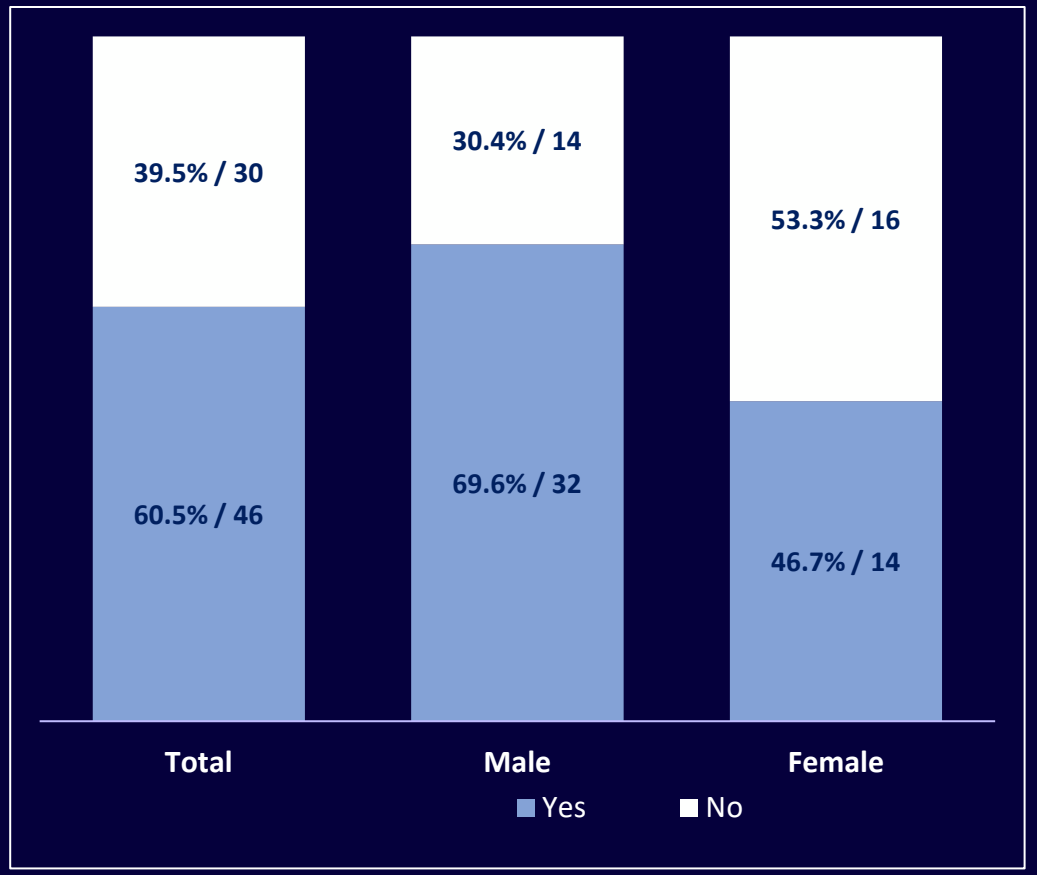



have difficulty with self-care such as feeding or dressing him/herself



# Assessment of individual needs of the child. Speech&Communication.

Children with speech difficulties

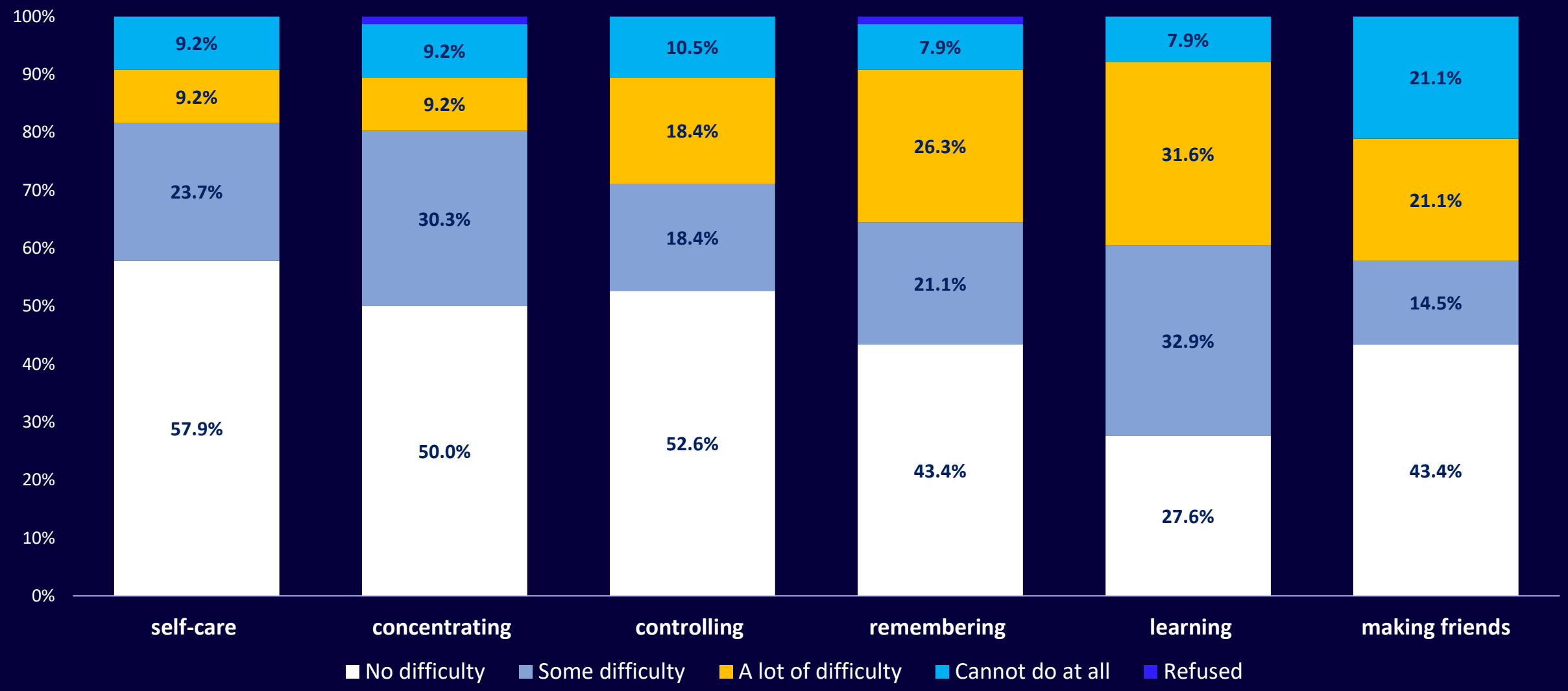



If yes

| Children have difficulty being understood by people, when they speak | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No difficulty | Some difficulty | A lot of difficulty | Cannot do at all |
| **Total** | **nr.** | **7** | **17** | **9** | **13** |
| | **%** | **15.20%** | **37.00%** | **19.60%** | **28.30%** |
| Male | nr. | 4 | 10 | 7 | 11 |
| | % | 12.50% | 31.30% | 21.90% | 34.40% |
| Female | nr. | 3 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| | % | 21.40% | 50.00% | 14.30% | 14.30% |

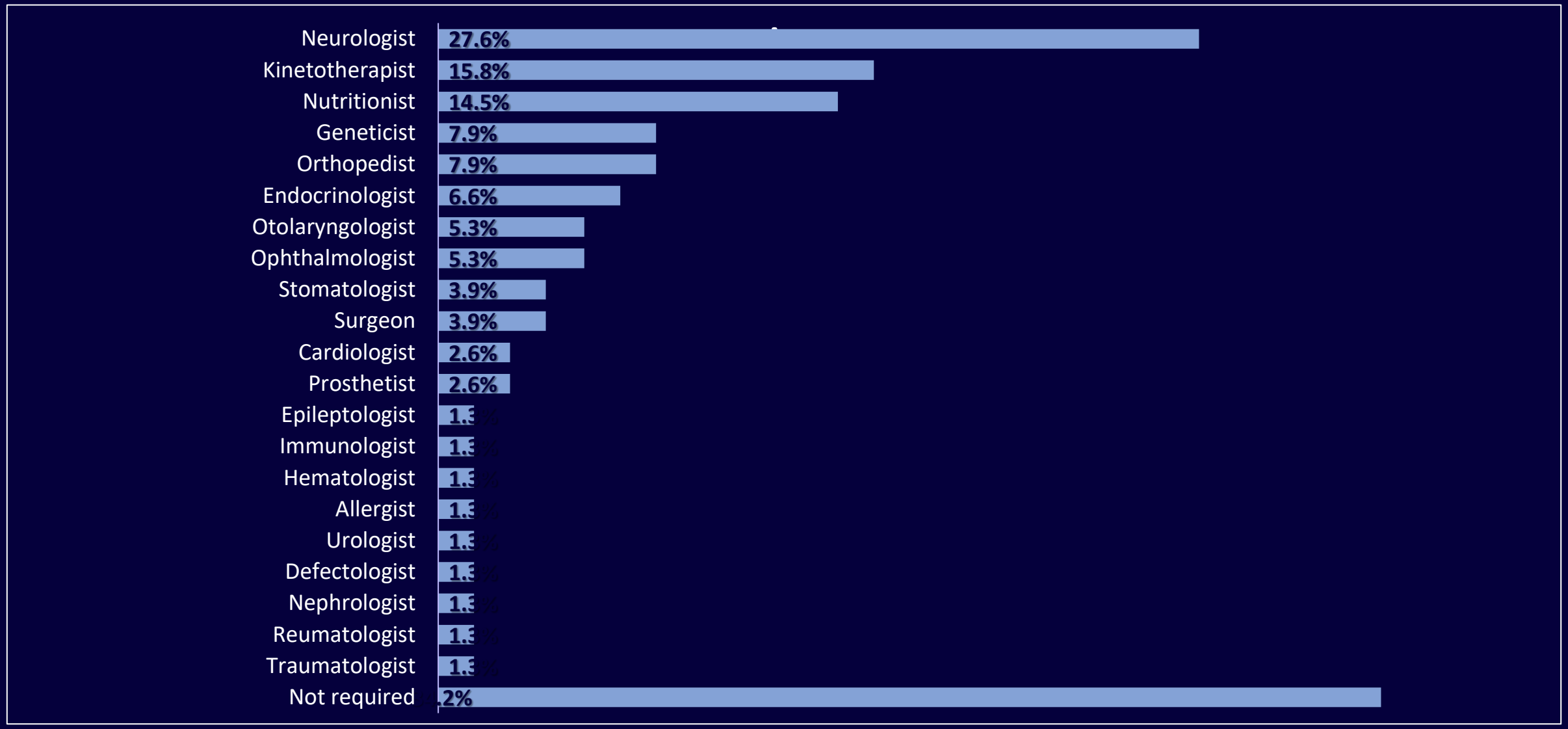
**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the children



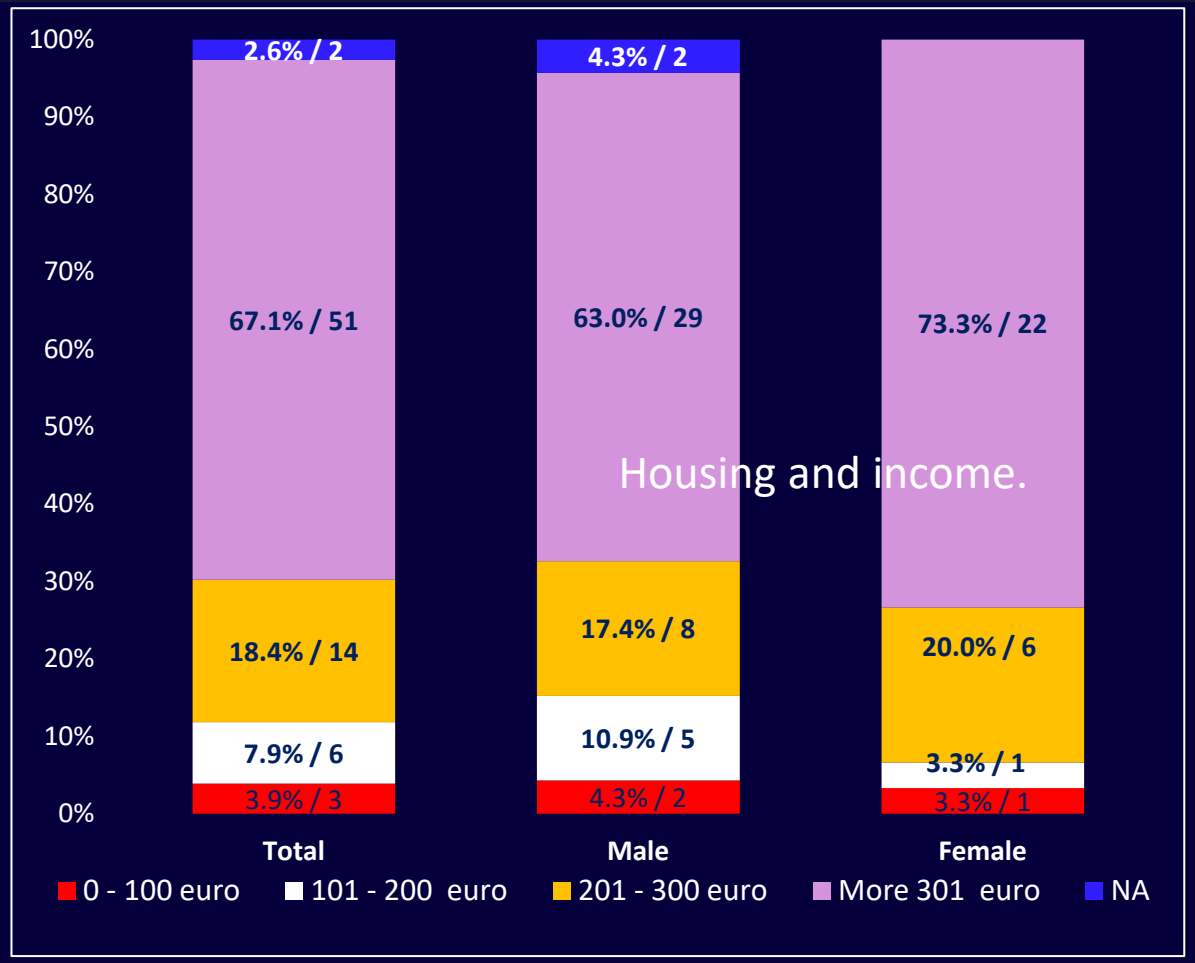

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# The type of specialists requested for consultation of CWD




**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Assessment of individual needs of the children. Housing and income.



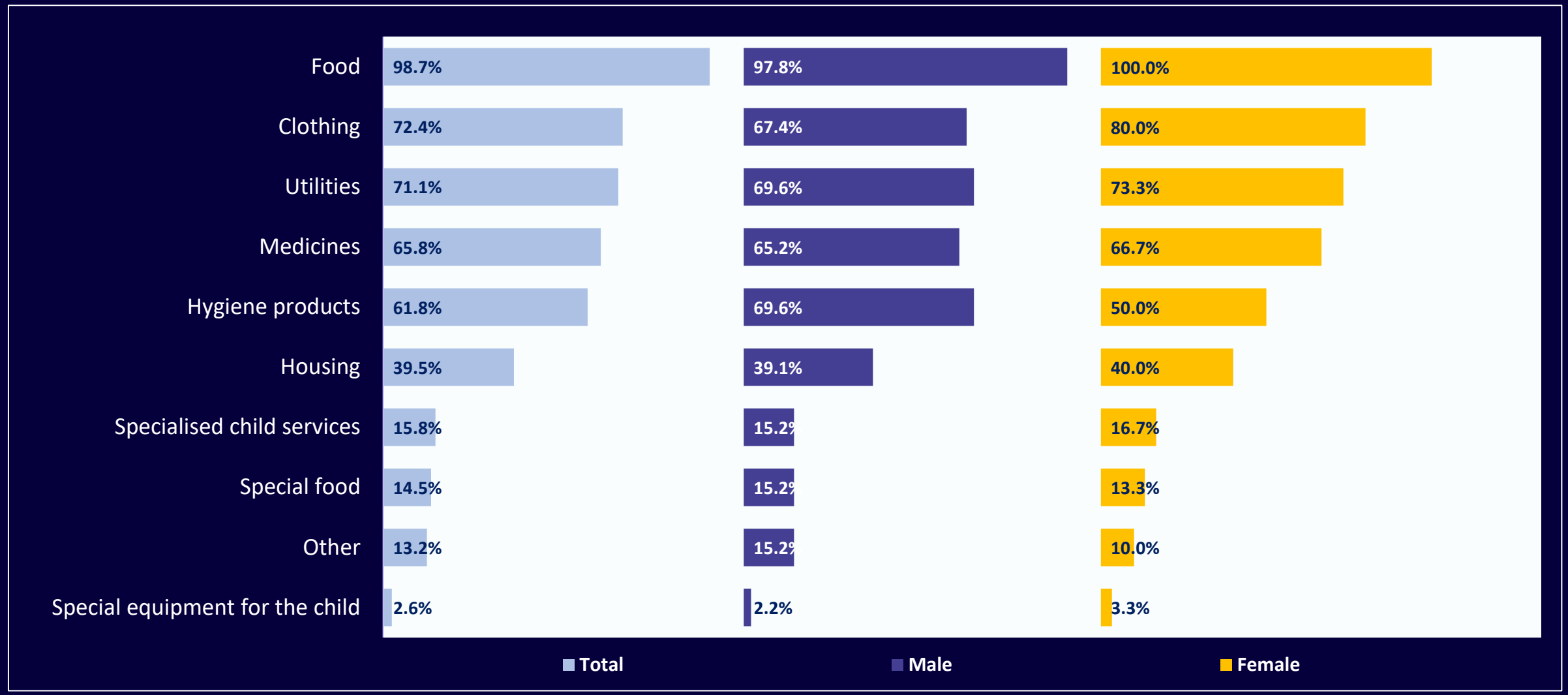

Housing and income.

Refugee family income

Source(s) of family income

**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Type of expenses of refugee families




**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Medical examination of RCWD

**76 children**

**5** Caregivers have left the territory of the Republic of Moldova

**23** Caregivers refused or didn't come to the medical examination

**48** Caregivers accepted the medical examination of CWD

| Medical specialists | Number of investigated children |
|---|---|
| Surgeon | 2 |
| Pediatrician | 3 |
| Audiologist | 1 |
| Speech therapist | 18 |
| Neurolgist | 16 |
| Dermatologist | 4 |
| Endocrinologist | 4 |
| Nephrologist | 3 |
| Cardiologist | 4 |
| Hematologist | 2 |
| Pulmonologist | 1 |
| Rheumatologist | 1 |
| Geneticist | 1 |
| Psychologist | 12 |
| Eye specialist | 6 |
| Pediatrician | 48 |
| Gastrologist | 1 |
| Neurologist | 14 |
| ENT specialist | 1 |
| Orthopedist | 18 |
| Allergist | 2 |
| Dentist | 1 |
| Gastrologist | 1 |
| Eye Specialist | 2 |

# Recommendations

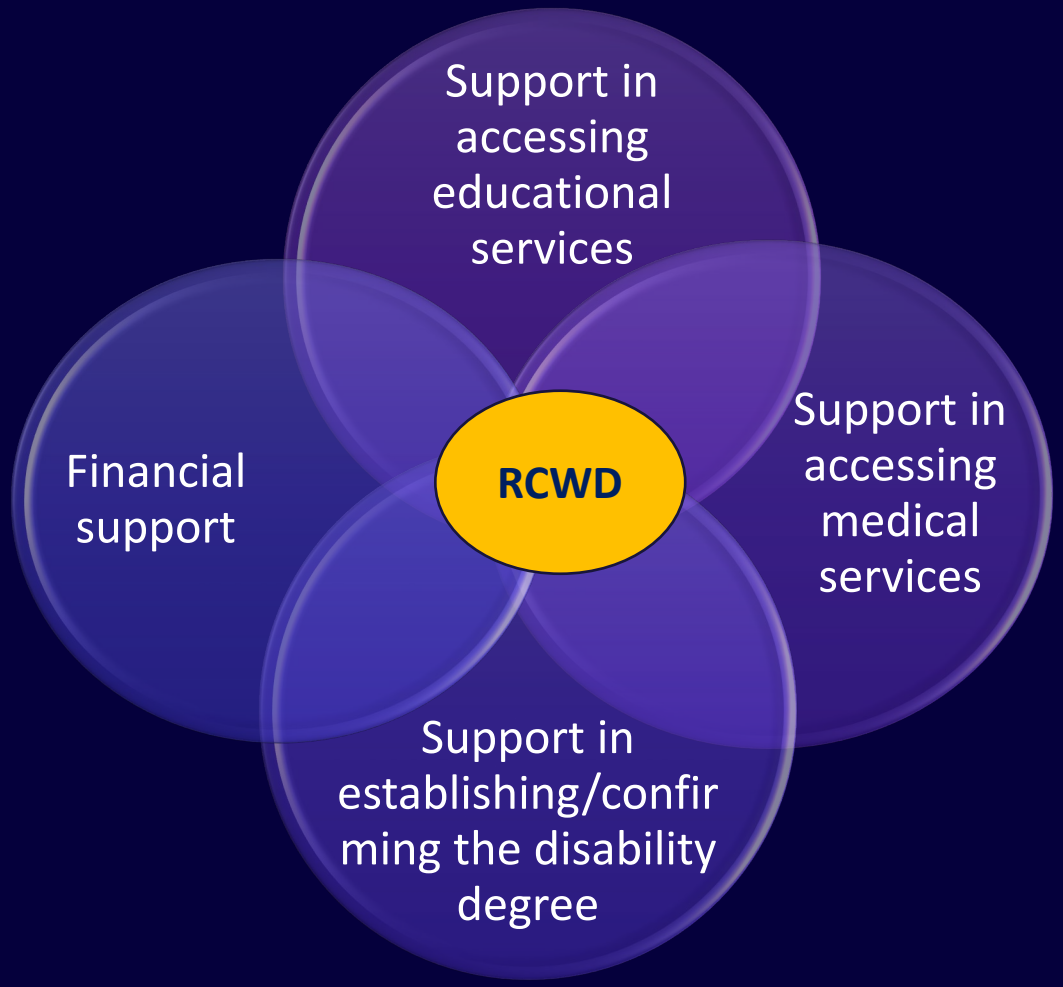
Recommendations as a result of the medical examination

**35**
- Pharmaceutical treatment

**42**
- Recovery services, therapies, trainings

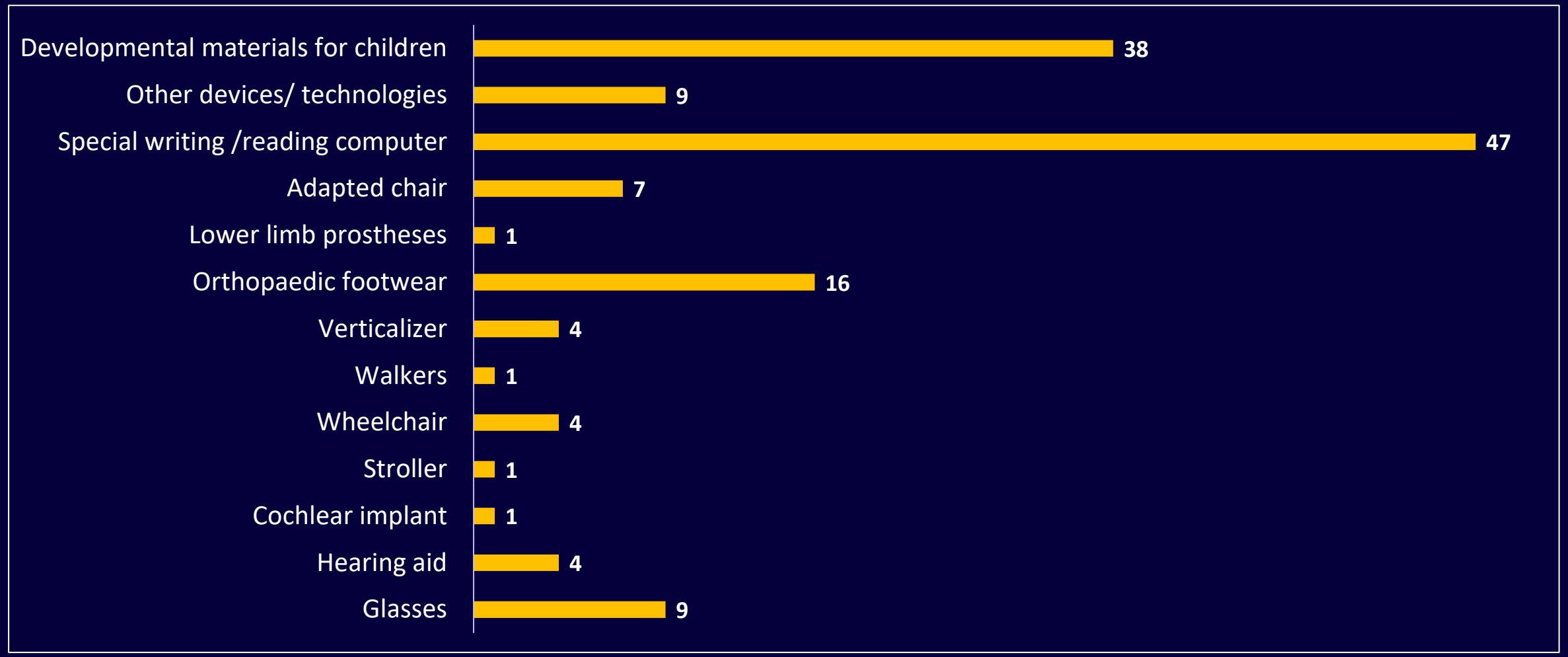
**36**
- Elaboration of an individualized educational plan

Other needs for 76 CWD and caregivers/parents




**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Type of devices/technologies that children with disabilities need (multiple choices) (76 CWD)




**Project:** Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

# Conclusions

1. The Mapping of Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities was a very difficult and arduous process.
2. Assessments at all stages have shown that the records of refugees/displaced persons, including of children with disabilities, held by the state / governmental organisations / institutions were not accurate.
3. The Mapping Process found that many families migrate from one district of Moldova to another or even leave the country. This made the data collection process very complicated, and the task of the operators became extremely difficult.
4. Throughout the Mapping process of Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities, it was found that the coordination between social assistance and education structures both at the central level and at the level of territorial administrative units was not strong, particularly in regard to the records of refugee children.
5. The evaluation highlighted the lack of a systemic approach, the lack of a single system for recording, updating, monitoring, and tracking the movement of Ukrainian refugee children within the Republic of Moldova.
6. The causes of limited access to education, social and health services are multiple, the main one being the low involvement of parents in solving these problems and the uncertainty of their situation.
7. The needs identified in the evaluation process were diverse, complex and required a cross-sector approach and the involvement of competent authorities and institutions in prioritizing and solving them.

# Recommendations (I)

1. To verify and unify the records of refugees/displaced persons, including of children with disabilities, held by the state / governmental organizations / institutions.
2. To ensure proper monitoring of the movements of refugees/ displaced families that migrates within the Republic of Moldova or leave our country.
3. To inform refugees, especially those who care for children with disabilities, and make them aware of the temporary protection status provisions available for displaced / refugee people.
4. To facilitate access to education, social and health services by stimulating involvement of parents in solving the issues faced by their children and families.

# Recommendations (II)

5. To support refugee / displaced families with children with disabilities with:
   - Development of the Individual education plans for children based on a complex evaluation by professionals from the PPAS.
   - Accessing inclusive education services within the communities where refugee children with disabilities leave.
   - Referring to rehabilitation services, providers of occupational therapy.
   - Procurement of the equipment / materials required to facilitate the inclusion of children within the community education institutions (pre-schools and schools).
6. To involve authorities and competent structures in :
   - Establishment / confirmation of the disability degree / category for children.
   - Providing family support to families with children at risk.