

## Hungary Inclusion Working Group Meeting

### Minutes of meeting (MoM)

<b>Chairperson</b>	Stephanie WOLDENBERG, UNHCR	<b>Venue</b>	In person – UNHCR Ipoly utca 5 b/c/d, Budapest, HUNGARY
<b>Co-chair</b>	n/a	<b>Date</b>	Friday, February 2024
<b>Minutes by</b>	UNHCR	<b>Time</b>	10:00-12:00
<b>Attendees:</b>	Dorcas Ministries, Nesting Play (Fonyód), Menedék Association, Next Step Association, Partners Hungary Foundation, Terre des Hommes, Hungarian Baptist Aid, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Hungarian Red Cross, Jesuit Refugee Service, Ukrainian Program at Piarista Gymnasium, Migration Aid, SOS Children’s Villages, Utcáról Lakásba Association (ULE), Lélekkel az Egészségért Alapítvány Ule, UNICEF, UNHCR		
Agenda items / Key discussion points		Action Points	
<p><b>Accommodation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative amendment on the state subsidy for accommodation: the Government will likely include caregivers of persons with disabilities in the subsidized category.</li> <li>EU standards for reception and accommodation of vulnerable individuals should apply, however, conditions are not always met, issues with access to services persist.</li> <li>Insufficient options for accommodation of individuals with disabilities (and their families) <u>in Budapest and countrywide</u></li> <li>ULE: provides rental subsidies, social counselling, and community activities for 120 families mainly in Budapest.</li> <li>SOS Children’s Villages: visit private actors-operated, state-subsidized collective shelters mainly in Pest-county to do case management and provide capacity-building for the shelter-operators, including by linking them to local authorities and service-providers. They will cease their activities by May 2024.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to strengthen IA referrals to mid/long term accommodation.</li> <li>Need to update database of available shelters. UNHCR to compile a database that would be circulated.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next Step:</b> shelter is a small component of what they do, hosting is very hectic, staff capacity was a challenge, they closed it in October, they reopened it this week. They are in need of food, NFI and MHPSS support. Their shelter can accommodate 10 persons for 3 months period ( Nagyvarad ter) and from now on they decide to accommodate only single mothers due to lack of capacities.</li> <li>• <b>HHC:</b> monitors state-allocated and subsidized shelters. Biggest challenge: refugees with disabilities and mental health issues do not have adequate accommodation and services. They are looking for a pilot case of refugees who were adversely affected by the legislative amendment concerning state-supported shelters.</li> <li>• <b>Dorcas Ministries:</b> 4-5 families managed to move out of their accommodation site mostly by buying houses in surrounding villages with mortgages.</li> <li>• <b>JRS:</b> Provide two types of housing support: 1) to around 15 HHs / month, HUF 150.000, one-off support; 2) longer-term for 3-6 months, around HUF 100.000/month to appr. 30 HHs. Cash is transferred to Hungarian bank accounts. They also provide some dormitory spaces. They accept referrals.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Health Care / MHPSS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IOM and WHO have projects related to health care in Ukraine response mainly focusing on information provision and interpretation.</li> <li>• In principle – access exists in law. Experiences in accessing health care differs by residency type (Temporary Protection, Employment-based residence permits, Dual citizens HUN/UKR)</li> <li>• Ministry of Interior circulated an Instruction in January 2024 on rights of TP holders to health care</li> <li>• Challenges in access to health care include– lack of willingness of some health care professionals to provide access – navigate the process including with Technical ID for TP holders.</li> <li>• TAJ cards have 1-year wait (a challenge for Ukrainians with Employment-based visas). Address cards continue to be an issue.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kind of complaint/feedback mechanisms exist in health care system – how to make them more accessible to UKR?</li> <li>• Request for WHO and IOM to share information on their health projects / present at an upcoming meeting.</li> <li>• TdH looking for ways to provide ‘supervision’ to UKR MHPSS providers in their programme.</li> <li>• Piarist High School flagged that there is a database of 30 UKR psychologist adult students – how to support job placement given qualifications/requirements.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite eligibility – Pharmacies do not give reduced price medicines (maybe related to doctors not indicating reduced price on prescriptions).</li> <li>• Lélekkel az Egészségért Alapítvány has a project for prevention MHPSS issues – working with 15 schools in Debrecen – and has room for 1 more (<i>unclear – if Debrecen or country wide?</i>)</li> <li>• Increase in early diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder – need for more support for UKR needing assistance.</li> <li>• Menedék has a special education teacher that can assist not only Ukrainians, but all TCNs.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Education and Non-Formal Education (including Hungarian language learning)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UNICEF:</b> Hungary has made progress in terms of enrollment, but enrollment for dual citizens is too low, and there are challenges when it comes to accessing secondary schools. Schools need support with language teaching and sensitization, and mental health support. Many UKR children are engaged in both Hungarian schooling and online UKR education in the afternoon, which is often a too heavy burden for them.</li> <li>• <b>Nesting Play (at Fonyód):</b> Primary school works well (at least in Fonyod), they have Dobbanto program for those who have catch-up needs. There are still gaps for children above 16 (the compulsory schooling age) and in access to kindergartens mainly due to lack of places. In primary education majority of students participate in a decreased curriculum and students after noon sent home (without lunch).</li> <li>• <b>Menedék:</b> At the beginning of the war people were reluctant to enroll their children to schools. Now parents are more open to doing that. Menedek’s Onboarding program: for 12 occasions they accompany the child and the parent, and mentor them, as well as the school. Volunteers offer tutoring in Math, and some other subjects. Students beyond mandatory schooling age are at risk of early school leaving. In Budapest students above 16 can be re-enrolled into Deak Diak Primary School (Budapest) or Dobbando programs.</li> <li>• <b>Dorcas:</b> Primary school program for catch-up works, but there is no such thing for kindergarten-aged kids. One nearby town’s mayor refused to accept the refugee children in their kindergarten, but then it was solved in Debrecen thanks to the municipality there. Secondary school education is a challenge, because as boys turn 16 years old they want</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TdH has a list of organizations providing free Hungarian classes, which they can share.</li> <li>• TdH event on 21 Feb, invitation to be circulated.</li> <li>• HHC to share the template letter for kindergartens and schools.</li> </ul>

<p>to start working, whereas girls want to get married and have children, especially in Roma community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TdH:</b> Hungarian language learning is a big difficulty for children who are attending Hungarian schools, and it is even harder for older children and adults. They operate community centers for children &amp; youth and their families in Budapest and Győr, and hold non-formal educational and community activities there for refugees and host community members from disadvantaged backgrounds (use of digital technologies, innovations and improving social skills). Event on 21 Feb. Invitation will be shared.</li> <li>• <b>Piarist Program:</b> They have weekly 230 refugees(half children, half parents). There is even less help for adults in terms of language classes. Their 7 Hun. classes are filled quickly. An in-person language class for adults starts soon.</li> <li>• <b>Next Step:</b> Hungarian and English language classes for children and adults. Partner with Pop-up schools. They will open a Homework center in March, where ENG/UKR/HUN speaker teachers and social workers will assist children and parents.</li> <li>• <b>HHC:</b> Has a template letter explaining the legislation on enrolling refugee children to kindergartens and schools. It was just published.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Livelihoods &amp; Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children – temporary protection holding teens under 18 working without papers</li> <li>• <b>Piarist:</b> Diploma and qualification certification is a big issue. They need to be translated by the official translating services (OFI) that costs a lot.</li> <li>• Language barrier is also a huge problem.</li> <li>• <b>Next Step:</b> They would cooperate on job fairs. They had bakery workshops.</li> <li>• <b>SOS Children’s Villages:</b> in their experience it is not always necessary to have the more expensive OFFI translation, as some private employers, and even municipal ones accept translation of qualification done by companies if those have a “stamp of credibility” attached.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion was cut short – more time to be dedicated in next WG meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Draft 2024 IWG Terms of Reference and Workplan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda item not discussed due to time constraints</li> </ul>	<p>ToR to be shared over email for discussion and endorsement in March IWG meeting</p>
<p><b>AOB – N/A</b></p>	