

POLAND PROTECTION SECTOR MEETING
Meeting Minutes – 28 September 2023, 2 PM

Meeting subject:	Monthly Protection Sector Meeting
Time & location:	2pm, hybrid meeting
Chaired by:	UNHCR and Halina Niec
Minutes prepared by:	UNHCR
Participants:	Halina Niec Legal Aid Centre, IRC, NRC, Unbreakable Ukraine Foundation, Silent Bridge, Ukrainian House, Polish Humanitarian Action, PROFIL Foundation, CARE, Dom Kultury, Right to Protection, HIAS, Towards Dialogue Foundation, Save the Children, DRC, UNICEF, PSAR, Humanitarian Innovation Group, VOICE, PMM, Library Without Borders
Agenda:	<p>Agenda</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Introduction ii. Poland Protection RRP 2024 (UNHCR) iii. Updates on recent developments concerning collective sites (UNHCR) iv. GBV Sectorial updates & Priorities (IRC/UNHCR) v. MHPSS Sectorial updates & Priorities (WHO/UNHCR) vi. AOB
AGENDA POINT	DISCUSSION
Introductions and Overview	Participants were welcomed to the thirty-third Protection Sector meeting for the Refugee Response on Poland. The agenda was presented.
Agenda point 1	<p>Poland RRP 2024 timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 September: expression of interest by partners, with tentative 2024 budget • 20 October: partners submissions of activities, budget, target, indicators to sector coordinators • 20 November: final submission

<p>Agenda point 2</p>	<p>Updates on collective sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ad hoc meeting took place within the Protection and Shelter Sectors key actors to address recent developments following the closure of the Ptak collective site, which has led to the development of a Joint Framework for Engagement. The latter was presented to the Mazowiecki Voivodeship and the crisis management department and was brought to the attention of Ministries, where inquiries were made regarding minimum standards. • The Framework for Engagement underscores the importance of implementing humanitarian standards during relocations that guarantee the respect of refugees' rights. This includes timely provision of information, meaningful consultation, and information on rights and options, all in a format and language that is understandable and protective of refugees' needs. Relocation plans should be in place, and such relocations should be executed in a safe, dignified, and timely manner. The participation of affected individuals should be free and informed, with their consent being a central consideration. A human-rights based approach should underlie all relocation initiatives. • The Humanitarian Innovation Group has been active in Modlinska and have conducted a needs assessment survey, revealing that the majority of refugees in shelters are interested in staying in Poland until the end of the war. The main challenges observed among refugees in Modlinska, especially for older individuals and those with disabilities, revolve around pensions and disability validation. Apart from housing, the most commonly reported needs encompass medicines, medical appointments, clothing, and language classes. • Given the pressing need for organizations to combine their efforts and potentially send mobile teams to the places where refugees from Ptak were relocated, UNHCR proposed a joint effort to monitor protection risks and provide referrals and support to refugees through the joint protection monitoring tool. • Towards Dialogue requested support from other organizations in locating accommodation for refugees of Roma origin, seeking assistance from the Protection Sector in identifying suitable accommodation services.
<p>Agenda point 3</p>	<p>Activities ongoing within the CMR/IPV Taskforce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) in Tunis, Tunisia.- WHO key representatives from four health facilities in Poland: October 2023 • National Training of Trainers (ToT) for health facilities on Clinical management of rape: in Warsaw November 22nd – 25th • Baseline survey- implementation of a national survey on the preparedness and readiness of hospitals to provide care to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. • Field visit to Polish hospitals for Preparations for the pilot implementation of WHO CMR/IPV Guidelines in Polish hospitals. • GBV community level messaging testing and co- design GBV messages with refugees in Poland. • Foundation for Victims Rights working on Legal and financial framework of health facilities for survivors of rape. • Next Steps include: i) Finalize the baseline survey on health facilities in Poland; ii) Continue to work on updating GBV/SRH services mapping; iii) Plan meetings and collaborations with new partners; iv) Launching of the women and girls center in Katowice by IRC; v) Continuing Clinical, Legal, and social direct support to survivors of violence; vi) Gynecologist support to the Feminoteka One-Stop Center for rape survivors; vii) 16 days of activism against GBV.

	<p>GBV RRP Strategy 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It encompasses 4 levels of strategic objectives: i) benefit from rights (i.e. via registration: status and documentation), overall access to services and assistance; ii) expand solutions & socio-economic opportunities (i.e. livelihoods, education, social protection/assistance, childcare support); iii) access to targeted support and assistance for PSN (i.e. PSS, legal, safety, security, health) & community-based approach (i.e. participation, feedback, comms); iv) promote social cohesion & collaboration with local governance structures. • Interventions include: i) GBV prevention, including awareness on rights, services and empowerment programs, ii) risk mitigation, including mainstreaming identified sectoral GBV risks in strategies and programs, iii) response, which encompasses the strengthening of government capacity and referral pathways.
Agenda point 4	<p>MHPSS updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative updates: legal changes by the Ministry of Health include the extension of the pilot program in mental health centres until the end of next year, so far 82 out of 129 centres have been established and easier requisitions have been foreseen to access pilot program for persons who have experienced trauma. • Nostrification of diplomas: following the rejection of the law introducing the amendment, Sector actors appealed for the second time to the Polish Ombudsman. On 20th September a letter was sent to the Ministry of Interior. • Service mapping is currently being updated. • Manual on community-based MHPSS is available in Polish. • 10 September World suicide prevention day, in cooperation with MHPSS TWG in Slovakia, a meeting on prevention strategies took place. • Community based-projects are implemented in cooperation with Artolution in Wroclaw, Rzeszow, Lublin and Warsaw.

ACTION POINTS SUMMARY				
No.	Action	Responsible	Deadline	Status
1.	UNHCR to share joint protection monitoring tool to capture and monitor protections risks related to evictions and collective sites	UNHCR		Ongoing