

Food Security Working Group (FSWG) | Meeting minutes

Meeting Details	
Date and time	10.09.2024, 16:00-17:00
Chair	Grigore Guzun, Programme Officer, WFP Moldova- grigore.guzun@wfp.org
Co-chair	Alina Alexei, Programme Assistant, WFP Moldova- alina.alexei@wfp.org
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions 2. August updates from the members 3. HelpAge International's research "I go to sleep on an empty stomach" 4. AOB 	
Attendees:	Organization
Grigore Guzun	WFP
Daniele Pedretti	Helpage
Hortense Leclercq-Olhagaray	We World Moldova
Viorica Danilescu	HelpAge
Diana Taran	ACF
Shadi Seifeldine	WVI

Agenda point	Discussion	Actions
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting began with a round of introductions, allowing attendees to introduce themselves and their respective organizations. 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP: is currently providing snacks and hot meals at the Palanca and Otaci borders and delivering three hot meals per day/per person in RACs through their implementing partners, Helpage and ACF. • Helpage Moldova: In partnership with WFP, provided three hot meals daily to refugees in 30 RACs, though three RACs (ID 117, 82, and 44) were closed in the at the end of August. Out of the remaining 27 RACs, 20 received catering services, and 7 were supported through vouchers. In September, HelpAge transitioned one RAC (ID 26 in Bulboaca) to on-site cooking. The number of refugees served in September was approximately 1,687, with 42% adults, 20% elderly, and 17% children aged 5 to 11. HelpAge clarified that there where are no facilities for on-site cooking, catering services continue. For RACs with certified kitchens, food is prepared on-site according to WFP-approved menus using food products purchased with commodity cards. On-site cooking ensures fresher meals, better accountability, and more variety. Although there is a standard menu, adjustments can be made based on refugee preferences, allowing for more flexibility in the meals provided. • We World Moldova: has closed its last project in food security and does not plan to pursue further projects in this sector, • ACF: continues to provide snacks and hot meals to refugees at the Palanca and Otaci borders traveling by humanitarian buses. In August, 9 snack kits were distributed at Palanca, and 80 at Otaci, while 95 hot meals were provided at 	<p>For additional information about on-site cooking or other inquiries, please contact Grigore Grigore.guzun@wfp.org</p>

	<p>Palanca and 125 at Otaci. Palanca has fewer refugees assisted, due to only one evacuation group arriving per week, while Otaci serves both evacuees and those requesting temporary protection, leading to a higher number of people assisted. ACF is preparing for a potential increase in assistance needs during the winter months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WVI: in close coordination with WFP, followed up with beneficiaries who were unable to withdraw their assistance in Round 14, enabling 32 beneficiaries to cash out \$7,138. WVI verified 6,103 households for Round 15, with 4,000 households eligible for WFP assistance. Food voucher distribution targeted 4,883 households, while Cash-for-Work initiatives reached 58 beneficiaries, and 25 beneficiaries were engaged in cash-for-internship activities. WVI is finalizing selection and scoring criteria for the winterization project, targeting 900 households living outside RACs. Additionally, hygiene vouchers for vulnerable families are being planned, with local social assistants and the partner Ave Copi assisting in aggregating the final beneficiary list. 	
<p>3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HelpAge International's research "I go to sleep on an empty stomach" focuses on the inclusion of older people in humanitarian nutrition responses. While conducted in other countries, its findings could apply to Moldova. Key points include older people are often overlooked in nutrition interventions, facing barriers such as physical limitations and data gaps. The research emphasizes the need for better data collection and participatory methods involving older people. The report recommends using accessible communication formats and existing humanitarian inclusion standards to address these gaps. 	<p>The presentation will be sent along with the meeting minutes.</p>
<p>4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024. 	