

IMWG Meeting
29th March 2024 –All IMWG in Romania

Chaired by: Stefan-Florentin Lorint
Participation: All IMWG in Romania
Minutes by: Viktoriia Kyrychenko

The introduction of this meeting to the IMWG members was held by Stefan-Florentin Lorint. Please, find below the agenda and the minutes of the meeting.

Agenda:

- Situation Updates
- MSNA 2024
- area-based monitoring
- assessment registry
- other question

Agenda Talking Points	Updates	Presented by
Situation Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Since the last meeting (during February 2024) the population has decreased in Romania: 76. 000 refugees. ● The recent escalation of shelling in Odesa likely prompted an increase in border crossings since March 22nd, leading to a total rise in numbers by 2000 individuals. ● The number of refugees with temporary protection also increased by two thousand compared to February 2024 (153,703). ● In addition to other efforts, UNHCR is currently engaged in border monitoring to understand why refugees are leaving Romania. While UNHCR has some anecdotal and qualitative evidence on this matter, an aim is to collect more detailed qualitative data. To achieve this, UNHCR is implementing a border monitoring questionnaire for exits and has developed a dashboard for this purpose. Testing of the tool has commenced, and UNHCR is scaling up data collection to obtain meaningful insights. 	Stefan-Florentin Lorint, UNHCR
MSNA 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This year's multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA) process was lengthy, with the final report set for publication on Monday. Although it took more time than anticipated, it was a collaborative effort involving IOM, UNHCR, and CSCM. The aim for next year's 	Stefan-Florentin Lorint, UNHCR

IMWG Meeting
29th March 2024 –All IMWG in Romania

	<p>MSNA is to streamline the process, aiming for faster data collection while the school year is ongoing. The methodology will remain similar to last year, with a least-based randomized sample approach. The regional MSNA questionnaire is currently in consultation, with plans for country adaptation and sector lead input. Collaboration is open to other agencies for data collection. Training for enumerators is scheduled for the last week of April, with data collection to begin in May. The goal is to capture all of the respondents while schools are in session. Additionally, dedicated sessions with sector leads will be held to improve validation and report production based on feedback from the previous year.</p>	
<p>ABM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ABM (Area-Based Monitoring) system comprises two components: qualitative and quantitative. The qualitative component involves organizing information from focus group discussions into summaries. Last year, 33 structured focus group conversations were conducted across various sectors such as economic inclusion, healthcare, education, and youth engagement. The tool allows for easy searchability by organization, key areas, or specific conversations. It provides insights into the current situation in predefined topics and domains on a quarterly basis. ● The quantitative component involves collecting indicators from authorities related to employment, health, education, and social highlights. Data is gathered quarterly using KOBO forms, with the aim of expanding to cover counties such as Bucharest or Constanza in the future. ● For 2024, the focus will be on collecting quality information and registering it within the established methodology. Data collection will be supervised by implementing partners, aiming to cover 10 regions and involve partners and UNHCR colleagues in focus group discussions. The collected information will feed into an operational partner-level database, aiding in area-based assessments and MSNA. The project will also integrate qualitative information from focus group discussions into the MSNA. ● Possible location for tool implementation for 2024: Brasov, Bucharest, Cluj, Constanta, Galati, Iassi, Sibiu, Sucava, Timiș, and the tenth county, which is yet to be decided but may be Valčia, Baia Mare, or Maramureș. Discussions have already begun with FONSS and CNRR, and finalization is underway. The exercise is expected to commence next week, with information collection for the first quarter (January to March) from 	<p>Balazs Vegh, UNHCR</p>

IMWG Meeting
29th March 2024 –All IMWG in Romania

	<p>authorities. Currently, the Terms of Reference (TUR) and indicators are being reviewed, with adjustments still being made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
Assessment registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment registry form aims to centralize all initiatives conducted by local NGOs and international NGOs at the national level, whether quantitative or qualitative. The goal is to identify any resource gaps, areas needing additional support, and to avoid duplication of similar activities. The form serves to assess if there are any training needs in data collection and to streamline initiatives to support others effectively. Currently, there have been few responses to the form. To encourage participation, a short round of presentations on ongoing or planned initiatives is suggested, with individual follow-ups for more detailed discussions. 	Andriana Cosciug CSCM
Other question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aside from the MSNA and ABMs in Sucava and Constanta, continuous protection monitoring exercises for Ukrainian refugees and the regional protection monitoring system for asylum seekers from mixed movements are planned. Additionally, the post-distribution monitoring for cash programs and the thematic assessments planned with CSCM. 	Balazs Vegh, UNHCR