

Inter-Agency Coordination

Moldova

Meeting subject:	Moldova Protection Working Group Meeting
Time & location:	4 May 2022, Zoom
Chaired by:	Alice Farmer, Senior Protection Officer UNHCR
Participants:	IOM,OHCHR, UNFPA,UNHCR,UNICEF,UNWomen, UNAIDS, USAID OSCE,OXFAM,Palladium,Plan International,Project Hope, CCF,CDA,CRS, Caritas, ECHO, Help Page,INTERSOS, Handicap International, Keystone, ACTED, IsraAID, ICRC, Global Humanitarian, Global Medics, Medecins du Monde, OXFAM, DRC, NRC, WeWorld, PIN, Plan International, Action Aid, Help Age, Care International, Doreas Moldova, Regina Pacis, SDC,UK FCDO,Clear Global, CERI, CWS, REACH, La Strada

AGENDA

Welcome

- Task force updates:
 - Disability
 - AAP
- Standing items:
 - Trafficking
- Update from Otaci coordination group
- Update on Air Transfer program with IOM/UNHCR to the EU

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AGENDA POINT	DISCUSSION
1	<p data-bbox="352 305 730 332">Welcome and business items</p> <p data-bbox="352 370 1396 397">PWG chair welcomed the participants and presented the agenda of the meeting.</p>
2	<p data-bbox="352 500 604 527">Task Force updates</p> <ul data-bbox="499 560 667 587" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="499 560 667 587">• Disability <p data-bbox="352 597 2074 799">Keystone representative informed that Disability Task Force continue to have meetings on Thursday at 10.00 am and that received the visit of Maya Goneva, General Secretary of the European Association of Service Providers, EASP with plans to open a regional office in Moldova among other 5 countries and had meetings particularly with the NGOs in the disability field. Also a meeting with Mr Pusca, Secretary of State on the support for inclusion to refugees with disabilities. The last meeting was held with OHCHR in order to integrate disability indicators in the assessment questionnaires of refugees living in communities.</p> <p data-bbox="352 831 1627 859">To not leave behind vulnerable people needs support at the level of the society and for protection.</p> <p data-bbox="352 891 2074 967">During the last 2 months supported more than 400 persons with disabilities and trying to understand what activities need to be provided and which are the next needs.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1000 2074 1114">Keystone supported 37 families with at least 1 PWD: 11 persons benefited from support and counselling on the hot-line, 5 families benefited from nutrition packages via the mobile team, 10 families benefited from hygienic and sanitary packages and the mobile team assessed the needs of 11 persons from the RACs.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1146 2074 1304">Local NGO from Criuleni Fiecare Contribuie pentru Schimbare supported 4 families with PSS for children with autism, Motivatie supported 22 persons with nutrition and hygienic products, SOS Autism is still housing 11 families and supporting 16 children with autism with rehabilitation services . NGO Centrul de Informare a Persoanelor cu Dizabilitati informed and supported 15 PWD on the status of refugee and is monitoring the respect of PWD in shelters and work on the increase of the accesses of shelters for PWD.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1336 1816 1364">CREPOR has been closed, another Centre in Greblesti or there no intimacy as 20 persons living in the same room.</p>

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	<p>Cash assistance PWD, Keystone mobile team supported several PWD, but information is insufficient, support and assistance is needed at each stage, a big issue, a mobile team is necessary.</p> <p>Healthcare is another important issue, as PWD have access to medical services, but not to prescribed medication. Epileptically patients do not have access to medication. Adapted transportation and limited fuel, limited hygienic packages, nutrition issues, use multicook for preparing the meals, as catering meals not suitable were also reported.</p> <p>Plan International representative asked about children with disabilities, GBV, health and reproduction information. Keystone representative answered that we have children with disabilities in the country, 2 children in the hosting families, not sure about children in the RACs, next week will have the information, as the mobile team is assessing right now their needs RAC after RAC. Voinicel is providing early intervention services for children and Tony Hawks Centre for children with disabilities supported 50 refugee children. But we would like to have a better mapping of their needs.</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AAP <p>UNHCR representative reported on the Accountability to Affected People Task Force, already briefed on the green line on previous meetings, working on technical integration of the platform with the necessary details, 6500 calls received on the green line, working hours are from Monday to Sunday from 8 am to 22 pm and the range of consultation is quite wide: a lot on cash assistance, referring refugees directly to accommodation centers, working with ANAS to receive information for each center conditions of accommodation: adapted or not to PWD, children, special rules etc.</p> <p>In Ukraine is running a big hotline and can be accessed from Moldova and is ready to provide support for refugees in Moldova.</p> <p>Green Line for refugees in Moldova 080080011 (Monday-Sunday 08.00-22.00) Languages: Ukrainian, Russian, Romanian, English. UNHCR Ukraine Hotline 0800307711 (for calls inside Ukraine) and +380444998770 (for calls from outside Ukraine). Provision of primary legal assistance. Monday -Friday 9.00-18.00. Languages: Ukrainian, Russian.</p> <p>UNHCR representative answered to Clear Global representative that both lines are managed by the UNHCR teams in Moldova and Ukraine and making efforts to provide accurate information and combatting rumours.</p> <p>Clear Global representative stated that Romani, Azeri information and other is needed, more information will be provided in the future.</p> <p>For more information on AAP, reach to: Natalia Kropivka, kropivka@unhcr.org</p>

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4	<p data-bbox="352 342 653 370">Standing agenda items</p> <ul data-bbox="499 402 684 430" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="499 402 684 430">• Trafficking <p data-bbox="352 483 2074 553">UNHCR and IOM reported on anti-trafficking work, including on-going joint efforts in raising awareness about the risk of trafficking. 15000 'stay safe' flyers and some more posters were handed over to Moldova for Peace last Friday.</p> <p data-bbox="352 597 2074 667">We elaborated a new draft "Stay safe" flyer for people heading towards Romania which was sent to colleagues from IOM and La Strada for approval.</p> <p data-bbox="352 711 2074 932">Regarding recent changes in border crossing procedures regarding a ban to cross the Moldovan-Ukrainian border towards Ukraine with internal Ukrainian documents (IDs, birth certificates), it represents a significant threat concerning trafficking. People are sent back to the Ukrainian embassy/consulate to apply for a temporary travel document. The electronic system doesn't work so people cannot apply online and only should go personally to the embassy or consulate. There are huge queues there, so it takes a lot of time to get the document. People run out of money, have no accommodation and mainly these are women with small kids. Some of them go to Romania hoping to cross the Romanian-Ukrainian border with Ukrainian national documents there.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1008 2074 1078">IOM representative reported that IOM is continuing engaging with the Border Police on the trafficking in person risk factors and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1117 2074 1230">10 000 flyers were distributed to different border areas in order to disseminate the information. Discussion with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection on how to support and engage deeper on trafficking in person are continuing and are planning to have a sub working group with weekly meetings which will present the findings and dialogue to the Protection Working Group.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1268 2074 1419">UNHCR representative explained in detail the issue with the documentation to cross the border, especially to cross back the border, very often women with children and without money are turned back the authorities and referred to the Ukrainian Consulate or the electronical queue is not working, and the physical queue is big. Some people try to enter Romania and to cross the border with Ukraine and this is raising risks of trafficking.</p>

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	<p>And answered that up to the present no trafficking cases were reported.</p> <p>La Strada representative also answered that cases were not identified, but such a risk still exists. Suggest to IOM to create a special subgroup on trafficking issue. There is a need of a small group focused only on trafficking of persons.</p> <p>Another UNHCR representative pointed out that sometimes more efficient is providing more broadly and accessible services, even if specific services are needed, but also important to build the alternative to the protection approach and how the community is really engaged might be more important.</p>
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update from Otaci coordination group <p>UNHCR representative reported that a 6th Coordination meeting took place in Otaci with the IOM participation, because there is a discussion with IOM and ACTED to upgrade the site. The site planning might be presented the next week. The mayor put efforts in reorganizing the remained services, as the traffic dropped down to that before 24th February, to be sure that services provided by humanitarian organizations are still there, as some of them left the crossing point.</p> <p>Please see below the main updates discussed/agreed upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traffic through the BCP is as usual; slightly increased numbers of people exiting Moldova around Easter holidays;• 3 applications for asylum were submitted by the men of conscript age during the week;• Ocnita rayon emergency cell coordinator joined the meeting for contingency plan discussion and will participate regularly from now on;• MSF is pulling out their operations from the area, with the possibility to scale up swiftly if needed.• BRF will take over the MSF activities;• The actors have advanced with the development of the brochure about the services for refugees provided at Otaci BCP;• EUBAM requested a training for Border Police on access to asylum which UNHCR has committed to deliver;• ACTED/UNHCR will set up an information point to direct the flow of people crossing through CBP. All actors agreed on the location.• ACTED will work on the information board content and improvement of signs at the area around the BCP, to clearly mark the offered services. UNHCR will provide actual boards like in Palanca.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ACTED will deliver 1500 hygiene kits for BRF to have non-interrupted distribution, as the supplies they have from MSF are running out.• ACTED will scale up latrine maintenance near the BCP.• Blue Dot and the mayors office will agree on the Blue Dot tent presence in the square in front of the BCP.• Mayor's office will check with the pharmacy owner whether they would not object that second UNHCR/ACTED tent will be placed where MSF tent was. It would for information distribution and referrals.• Next meeting was scheduled for May 3, 14:00 at mayor's office as usual. <p>There is an increase of traffic back to Ukraine and as children detain only birth certificates, they are required to undertake a procedure that might take several days. Or the electronical queue is very long for months ahead and the physical one also takes some time. This situation raises multiple inconveniences, as refugees find out about this only on the border and is implying also financial expenses on accommodation and travel.</p> <p>Keystone representative asked on person with disabilities transiting Otaci and on the documentation of persons with disabilities and that no appropriate official information is available on requirements and procedures, as persons with disabilities are even more vulnerable. UNHCR representative answered that was not raised as a protection issue, transportation is provided especially by ACTED, concerning documentation, it affects all the refugees.</p> <p>LCA representative added that the issue with documentation is not only regarding children, but also adults. Refugees from the North of the country, trying to cross the border are directed to the Balti Ukrainian Consulate for documentation, similar with other border crossing points, even if some discussions started between the Border Police of both countries.</p> <p>If persons interested to reach to the Otaci coordination group, invited to reach out Olena Turchyn or Olga Bitca: turchyn@unhcr.org and bitca@unhcr.org</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Air Transfer program with IOM/UNHCR to the EU <p>UNHCR representative shared information on the new air transfers poster and the list of the upcoming flights.</p> <p>Call 0 800 800 11 and + 373 69 063 541 on more information on air transfers and visit the page: https://help.unhcr.org/moldova/eu-air-transfers/</p>

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Through the coordination of the EU Solidarity Platform, 15 European countries have made a total of 19,770 pledges to host Ukrainian refugees in their country. See below the status of current flights and note that Ireland is still working on confirming reception conditions/accommodations, so we are not currently coordinating flights but expect to soon:

Austria	May 13th
Bulgaria	Flights to be scheduled
France	May 11th
Germany	May 5th, next flight to be scheduled
Greece	Flights to be scheduled
Italy	Flights to be scheduled in May
Latvia	Flights to be scheduled
Lichtenstein	Flights to be scheduled
Lithuania	Flights to be scheduled
Netherlands	Flights to be scheduled in May
Norway	May 20 th
Portugal	Flights to be scheduled
Spain	May 11th
Switzerland	Flights to be scheduled in May

069063541 Green line and mobile team for air transfers at CDA.

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ACTION POINTS SUMMARY				
No.	Action	Responsible	Deadline	Status
1	Send inputs for the Joint Plan	Participants	10 Mai	5 April