LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION

Photo: UNDP Moldova

Ana, a refugee from Ukraine, found a job in Moldova. Others have the opportunity to do the same

"*Given the situation in Ukraine, for now we will remain here, but in the future, if the situation changes for the better, of course we will return home.*" Accompanied by her two children and her mother, Ana took refugee in March in Balti city. Soon after, she was employed at an oil production factory. Two other refugees accompanied Ana at a job fair in Balti, hoping to find a job. They had been looking for a job for several months.

More than 300 women and men, including refugees from Ukraine who are looking for work or want to gain new skills, attended the job fair organized by the National Employment Agency with support from UNDP and the European Union.

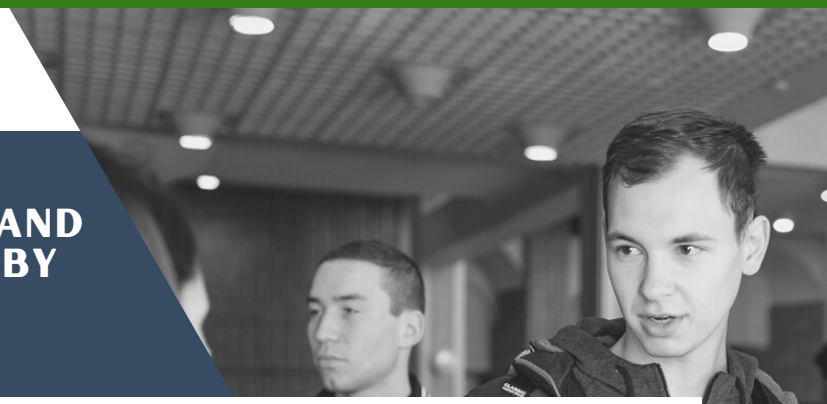
"*I consider this fair to be very important. In principle, I believe that anyone who really wants it will find a job here, in any field. The most important thing is to try hard and everything will be fine,*" said Ana.

The event programme included presentations of employers' offers, a panel discussion with employers and other relevant discussions on refugee employment, start-up business opportunities, as well as workshops on CV preparation and job interviews.

As a strategic partner of the National Employment Agency, UNDP contributes to strengthening service delivery efforts for Ukrainian refugees seeking employment through outreach activities (including job fairs), labour market counselling, referral and mediation services, and facilitating skills recognition.

The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is one of several Working Groups of the country-level refugee coordination structure set up by the Government of Moldova and UNHCR, with participation of a wide array of public and private, central and local institutions and stakeholders in the context of the Ukraine refugee crisis. The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is chaired by the State Chancellery of the Republic of Moldova and UNDP. The mandate of the Working Group is to enable a coordinated approach among partners working on livelihoods and inclusion topics, articulate and complement each other's work, and allow for a coherent response in line with the mandate of each organization. The work undertaken by the Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group is a prime example of the humanitarian–development nexus: addressing crisis response needs, while considering longer-term resilience-building priorities that benefit refugees and host communities.

UPDATES ON LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION INTERVENTIONS BY OUR MEMBERS*



- **Moldova for Peace,** in partnership with the **NGO Platforma,** the **National Congresss of Ukrainians in Moldova,** the **Danish Refugee Council,** and **UNHCR,** continued to provide necessary support for refugees to engage in the labour market in Moldova. So far, the organization provided career counciling to 80 refugees, as well as legal counciling on labour rights, and organized two trainings on CV writing and preparation for job interviews. Thanks to this support, 39 persons received a job offer, and 8 of them are already working in various sectors (Horeca, construction, IT).

- **UN Women** has developed a multi-sectoral and gender sensitive intervention that among other components provides access to livelihood opportunities, required assets, skills and opportunities to refugee women in Moldova. The intervention budgeted at $340,500 is designed for the period of October 2022 – September 2023 and is funded by the US Federal Department of State. In this context, UN Women has launched a Call for Proposal for Civil Society Organizations/Consortium to provide support to circa 350 women refugees through trainings for skill development, cash-for-work interventions, and support subsidies for childcare solutions and transportation.

- **IOM** conducted a **multi-sector survey** in Chisinau, Comrat district (including Comrat city), Ceadir-Lunga city, and Transnistria, covering 286 households with a total of 812 family members. The lists of the refugees had been coordinated with the local public authorities. The survey included questions on the situation of the family, age disaggregation, primary needs, education level, intention to seek employment, to start a business, etc.

- **Charity Centre for Refugees** offered **counselling on employment** opportunities to 26 persons, among which 7 people were successfully employed.

- **UNDP** and the European Union supported the **National Employment Agency** to organize a job fair, advertising over 2,000 job vacancies in Balti city. One of the thematic workshops at the fair focused on the connection between the education system and the labour market, the topic of vocational training and/or retraining of refugees from Ukraine to facilitate employment being also addressed.

Photo: UNDP Moldova

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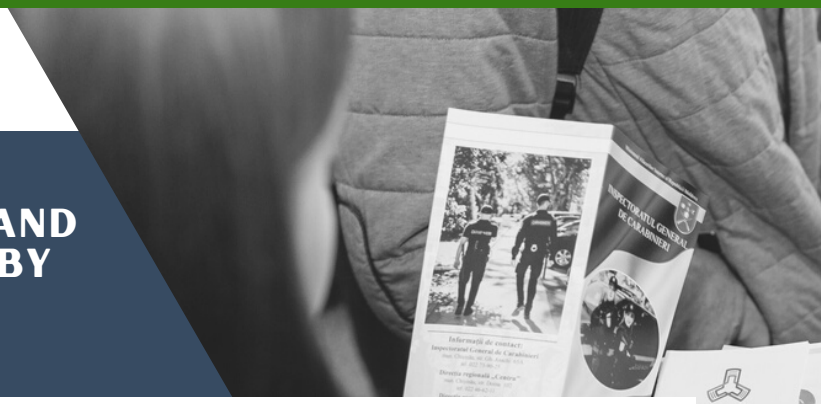

- **People in Need** initiated activities to support grassroots organizations and local public authorities increase their competencies to participate, monitor and advocate for greater social accountability. The activities, supported by the European Union, will contribute to social cohesion and improved access to public services including for refugees. The capacity building will take place in 5 districts - Cahul, Comrat, Glodeni, Fălești, Râșcani.

- **UNDP** is supporting the development of a new digital platform that looks at helping Ukrainian refugees train, find jobs, and easily integrate into the Moldovan labour market. The platform will be developed by a local IT company, using open-source technology provided by the Digital Public Good Alliance. The platform will be made available in early 2023.

- **Women Law Center** and 12 grassroots organisations from Soroca, Vulcănești, Ștefan Vodă, Vadul lui Vodă, Strășeni, Chișinău, Cimișlia, Basarabeasca, Cahul, Glodeni, Bălți and Sîngerei under the agreement with the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund and with the technical support of UN Women have implemented 20 social integration activities with involvement of 500 refugee women and 400 refugee children.

- **UNDP** launched an open call for project proposals for local public authorities from Moldova and Ukraine that would be supported to meet their immediate needs in facing the on-going crisis, while enhancing their renewal and future anticipatory capacity.

*The updates cover the months of September and October 2022.

Photo: UNDP Moldova

Contact us
The Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group meets every other Wednesday from 13:00 to 14:30, Chișinău time on Zoom: https://undp.zoom.us/j/83411777112. For any questions you may have regarding the Working Group, please reach out to Teodora Zafiu at teodora.zafiu@undp.org.

Members
Moldova State Chancellery, National Employment Agency of Moldova, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova, United Nations, UNDP, UNHCR, OHCHR, IOM, WFP, FAO, UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, WHO, ILO, ECHO, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Switzerland, HELVETAS, ACTED, People in Need, Terre des Hommes, CLEAR Global, Plan International, WeWorld, Caritas Moldova, NRC, Translators without borders, CWS Global, ICRC Global, ADRA, Keystone Moldova, Centrul Parteneriat pentru Dezvoltare, Palladium, REACH, DRC, Moldova for Peace, National Congress of Ukrainians of Moldova, Charity Centre for Refugees, Solidarite Internationale.