

UN REFUGEE RESPONSE COORDINATION IN ROMANIA

Youth & Adolescents Sub-Working Group meeting

26 September 2022, 10:00 – 11.30 am

Venue- Online (Zoom)

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Sharing expectations and outlining tasks of the WG
3. Main takeaways from last ISWGs
4. Sectorial news and updates
5. AoB

1. Tour of introductions- (UNICEF/ WHO/ FNT/ IOM/ UNHCR/ RAA/ ActionAid International/ WarChild Holland/ British Council Romania/ CNRR/ Internews/ Migrant Integration Center Brasov/Plan International)

2. Sharing expectations and outlining tasks of the WG

We have several sectoral groups where we coordinate and find different challenges and address them in different partnerships, we do address these issues in the sectoral groups, there is always room for improvement. The needs for young people are diverse, e.g., access to education, access to information, socialization, health.

As the response is becoming a little bit mature and the situation of refugee population in Romania is changing and the need for integration is becoming more prominent, our meetings are essential. We must create links with the Romanian adolescents, peer to peer approach can help. We must raise issues about adolescents and suggest best practices and projects to build up sustainable response.

Action: Internews to share the Executive Summary with participants once their report is out.

UNICEF developed and endorsed Terms of Reference (ToR) and developed and endorsed Workplan.

Q: What are you expecting from this WG?

A:

- **FNT** updated that in youth sector, the govern didn't managed to do anything, the only intervention that is happening is only by NGOs- **we need a better coordination of authorities**
- To find solutions for the areas where we have young Ukrainians all over the country- NGOs don't have interventions on this, and a solution for education component for adolescents (high school/university)

- To learn from the practices that are happening we will find out that is better to particularly address young people rather than engaging with the public sector

Action UNICEF: to disseminate a survey to map the actions and the interventions

- To develop strategy and a plan on how to target a bit better the youth sector in each specific group
- To develop the needs and after the strategy
- A short meeting with a short presentation on who does what (action: next meeting the participants to prepare short intros showing what is being done for youth)
- We have a multisectoral analysis for youth- UNICEF to share and everyone can put a description with what they do
- FNT are working also on research specific on youth needs (it will be ready in approx. 4 weeks) (14-35 years), only on Ukrainians
- More Transparency and communication needed- to build and share the common strategy
- To make a short presentation of activities in the YAD sector in 10 mins each meeting
- Plan International is piloting and Parenting and Adolescents Life Skills Package with a group in Bucharest, to share more details and resources on our next call if there is interest.
- Benoit to set up a document with all our contact details
- To use this forum as a donor coordination forum, to be able to support these activities, we are in 11 counties planning to expend
- How can we ensure that there is space for young people to develop as young leaders, we need to work directly with young people on the ground and to make sure that they are supported/ access to accountability mechanisms
- Internews to find opportunities on how we can contribute to tailor the information according to the need of youth and adolescents
- We can engage the leadership of the Romanian youth but also the Ukrainians that are coming in and need protection, we can provide them with different platforms to engage (leadership across other sectors)

3. Main takeaways from last ISWGs

Benoit presented the RRP indicators- 30% of the refugees are children under 18

This data is based on the input from partners in Activity Info. All RRP partners have been requested to report on this platform. Inter-Agency is going to organize the second training session for Activity Info soon.

4. Sectorial news and updates

FNT highlights that their activities with young Ukrainians and young Romanians are activities focused on 50-50. The endorsement done on youth people and NGOs and all the activities that had happened are considering. A special need is to involve local community also. They have English classes, they developed activities that language is not a barrier.

RAA provided information about their intercultural exchange, they created activities. Both Ukrainians and the Romanians, prepared together activities to get to know both cultures. Moreover, one of the teens was noticed by one of their team who organizes city hunts events

and they offered him to be part of their team, helping with the facilitation of the activities and eventually hire him as well if he wants.

- Physical spaces for youth were created- e.g., digital games and board games.
- We need to consider that it is a difference between integration and social cohesion, namely, social cohesion is much more reflective of the reality. Also considering that many of the Ukrainians are still hoping and planning on going back home, we should differentiate between integration for the ones who are staying long-term and social cohesion for all - host community, short-term relocation, and long-term integration; and other marginalized groups that were already present in the regions. We have seen in our programming that there is little interest in 'integration' programming from many Ukrainians. For example, many are more interested in English classes than Romanian because they do not hope to stay here long term. We should be intentional on the goals of our programming and how we are looking to make Ukrainians feel more comfortable during their time here and not make the intention to assimilate to Romanian culture.
- [British council Greece](#) did a school readiness program, this model preparing the youths to go to integrate in a school, Greek children and refugee children that were building different skills, (science, creativity, etc). [British council Romania](#) is looking for partners to explore this possibility. They have programs for refugee children running for 10 years- offering English classes together with [CNRR](#).
- We need hate speech prevention, the intervention had to be done with the local community also, [FNT](#) to share how it's done it

Coming next:

- To discuss about sustainability and long-term approach
- To include some official updates from the government
- To involve more young people in these meetings

Next meeting: 10 October 2022, 10:00-11:30 am, online (Zoom)

