

#5 Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Working Group Meeting 8th Dec

Minutes of meeting #5 Livelihood and Economic Inclusion Working Group		
Location, Date & Time	Hybrid Meeting on Teams and at the Civic Resource Center in Constanta, Thursday 8 Dec 2022, from 13:00 to 14:40	
Facilitators	Christian Renson and Victoria Moren	
Participants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ana Cosma, Save the Children 2. Anca Luhas, Eliberare 3. Angela Serban, Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) 4. Anna Kalinichenko, Pro Bono 5. Aslihan Ozcan, UN Women 6. Azam Faruque, Save the Children 7. Bogdan Mitrache, IOM 8. Cosmin Barzan, Civic Resource Center 9. Daria Badescu, European Associate for Social Innovation (EaSI) 10. Elena Balan, EaSI 11. Florentina, Novapolis 12. Gabriela Leu, UNHCR 13. Iris Alexe, Novapolis 14. Kasongo Kaparo, UNHCR Bucharest 15. Mark Ebling, IOM 16. Rebecca Acin, UN Women 17. Roxana Popa, Jons4Ukraine 18. Stephen Richardson, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) 19. Teodora Rogozea, UNHCR Galat 	
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR general updates • Tour de tablet • UN Women introduction of Regional Gender Task Force and upcoming gender analysis • Eliberare presentation on campaign on prevention of labor exploitation • UNHCR presentation on 2023 Livelihood and Economic Inclusion Coaching and Counselling Strategy • Open floor for discussion/updates 	
Main Topic	Discussion	Action Points
UNHCR general updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity Info training A few weeks ago, UNHCR hosted a webinar on how to use the Activity Info reporting tool. There are currently four livelihood indicators to report under, and these will likely be updated in 2023. If anyone has questions or needs further information regarding this, they can reach out to Christian or Victoria directly. • UNHCR procurement for language provider UNHCR's ongoing procurement for a Romanian language classes service provider has 	

	<p>experienced various delays and will not be finalized until next year. Once the procurement is finalized, the working group will receive more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event on “Scalable coaching approaches for economic inclusion programs” 8 Dec Link to recorded session here. • Event on “Financial Inclusion of Refugees in Europe” Link to recorded session here. Link to interesting resources on financial inclusion available here. 	
<p>Tour de tablet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ana Cosma - Cash and Vouchers Assistance Manager, Save the Children • Anca Luhas - Advocacy Officer, Eliberare Eliberare is a national NGO working on the prevention of human trafficking. • Anna Kalinichenko - Senior Associate, Pro Bono Anna is based in Warsaw, but coordinates Romania. In Romania, Pro Bono has various initiatives targeting Ukrainian refugees. • Aslihan Ozcan - Policy and Programme Analyst, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia • Rebecca Acin – UN Women, Regional Gender Task Force • Azam Faruque – Senior Technical Advisor, Save the Children Romania Save the Children is planning to do livelihood interventions and assessments in 2023. • Daria Badescu – Project Assistant, European Associate for Social Innovation (EaSI) EaSI is a European network and NGO based in Bucharest which has recently been developing projects targeting refugees and migrants. • Elena Balan – Project Manager, EaSI • Gabriela Leu – Communications Officer, UNHCR The communication team at UNHCR is looking for stories to share that show the impact and successes of activities targeting refugees. Anyone with stories to share can get in touch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any organizations planning to conduct assessments are encouraged to get in touch with UNHCR’s Information Management (IM) team to best be able to align with and draw upon existing data. Focal point: Stefan Lorint lorints@unhcr.org You can also subscribe to the IM Working group here, and access UNHCR’s data portal here. • Anyone wishing to share stories showing the impact/success of their activities targeting refugees can get in touch with UNHCRs Communications Officer Gabriela Leu, leu@unhcr.org

with Gabriela at leu@unhcr.org.

- **Iris Alexe – Novapolis, Coalition for the Rights of Migrants and Refugees**
Novapolis is based in Bucharest and has recently established a center in Constanta. Iris is also in charge of the advocacy work for the coalition for the rights of Migrants and Refugees, which is made up of 23 Romanian NGOs.
- **Florentina – Project Assistant, Novapolis**
Novapolis center in Constanta aims to assist 600 Ukrainian refugees, providing services such as counselling, Romanian language courses, and vouchers. The center will also have a labor market specialist who will assist refugees in the process of getting a job and mediating the relationship between job seekers and employers.
- **Angela Serban – Integration Counsellor, Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) Constanta**
CNRR offers information and counselling to Ukrainian refugees about their rights and how to access support services available.
- **Kasongo Kaparo - UNHCR Bucharest**
UNHCR is currently carrying out mobile registration in Constanta.
- **Mark Ebling - Consultant, IOM**
- **Bogdan Mitrache – IOM**
Bogdan working with anti-trafficking at IOM.
- **Teodora Rogozea – UNHCR Galat**
- **Victoria Moren – Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Associate, UNHCR**
- **Cosmin Barzan – Civil Resource Center**
The Civic Resource Center has established a community center in Constanta offering a wide range of services for Ukrainian refugees including art and craft activities for children, a call-center, MHPSS activities, Romanian and English language courses, psychological counselling, daily social activities for children and parents, Individual Protection Assistance (IPA), and medical referrals with partners from IOM.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roxana Popa – Founder and Exective Director, Jobs4Ukraine • Stephen Richardson – NRC NRC is currently conducting a youth needs assessment in Romania and Moldova. 	
<p>UN Women presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Women has a Regional Gender Task Force (RGTF) under the Regional Coordination Forum, with the main objective to ensure gender mainstreaming across the refugee response. • The RGTF provides technical support, developing gender analysis, and promoting advocacy for gender-related issues and for the participation and leadership of women’s organizations in the response. • The RGTF recently published a gender analysis, (a secondary data review focused on SRHR, women’s participation and leadership, intersectionality, and GBV) highlighting key findings to inform the refugee response from a gender perspective. Moving forward, the RGTF is planning to continue producing gender analysis in the areas not covered in this report, including the livelihood sector. • A brief which includes a list of all assessments within the different thematic areas, and regional-level recommendations, will be produced next year. Once a draft of this brief is finalized, it will be shared with the group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All those who have conducted assessments that touch upon gender equality, or who are interested in receiving support in gender-response data collection, are encouraged to get in touch with the UN Women Regional Gender Task Force (RGTF). Focal point: Rebecca Acin, rebeca.acin@unwomen.org
<p>Eliberare Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among other activites, Eliberare works to prevent labor exploitation among Ukranian refugees, offering legal assistance, information sessions and individualized safety plans. • Through their work, Eliberare found that there are many female refugees working without an employment contract, and several have reportedly not been receiving their salary. • Eliberare has developed a website providing information about labor exploitation, available here: www.robotainfo.com <p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iris Alexe – Novapolis, Coalition for the Rights of Migrants and Refugees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliberare invites everyone to visit their website www.robotainfo.com which offers information and resources on labor rights, and labor exploitation. <p>Anyone who wants more information, or who would like to partner with Eliberare and provide contributions to</p>

	<p>The Coalition for the Rights of Migrants and Refugees also has a task force on gender and migration and has carried out work in the areas of labor exploitation and anti-trafficking. Iris said that they are open for collaborations in these areas. Iris Alexe email: asociatianovapolis@gmail.com</p>	<p>their campaign/website can get in touch with Anca Luhas anca@eliberare.com</p>
<p>UNHCR presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR presented the UNHCR 2023 coaching and counselling strategy which promotes more in-depth coaching and counseling and prioritizes the value of earning first available employment while explaining how to apply this work towards achieving more advanced employment or other goals. • UNHCR aims to further develop the coaching guidance using a participatory approach whereby we engage stakeholders and invite their feedback, objections and successes either from experiences or their own beliefs/perspectives. 	