GBV sub-WG meeting - Romania
21 March 2023, 10.00 – 11.30 (held in hybrid mode - online and at the UN House – Primaverii 48A)

Participants: UNHCR, ANES, UNICEF, EEIRH, ANAIS, ESD/Impact Global, Secs, WVI, Plan International, PATRIR, UNFPA, SIC, ADIZMC

- Presentation of an update by the GoR efforts in the context of the Venus I and Venus II projects by Ms. Carmen Niculescu

Presentation of the VENUS project and what ANES is proposing in the VENUS II project proposal. Presentation of the results obtained in the project - can be found on the project website - https://proiectulvenus.ro/

Services are also available for victims of sexual violence. There are 10 centres at national level in addition to emergency hospitals that can provide assistance to victims of sexual violence.

In Bucharest in public transportation there is information about the national helpline managed by ANES and available for GBV victims. The helpline is available in Romanian, they do not have translators. There will be more such posters in other counties depending on the response of the municipalities.

Questions and proposals:
1. If women are received together with children? - the answer is yes, it depends on case by case basis and from service to service
2. Do they also offer services to women from Ukraine? - The beneficiaries can be of any nationality; the remaining problem is the language barrier. Local support is needed to provide translation. It was mentioned that there are many non-governmental organizations that can provide translation support.
3. Partners who have local training for specialists would like to have as participants specialists working in VENUS social services at local level.

- Presentation on Empowerment through Self – Defense (ESD) by Ms. Gentiana Susaj

Impact Global made a presentation and a live online demonstration of some of the techniques taught in this course. The participants were very interested in attending such trainings or having them organized for the beneficiaries they assist.

Daniela Draghici is an ESD trainer and has organized for various organizations (beneficiary and specialist) such courses.

On May 6th she is organizing such a training for women from Ukraine in Bucharest. Then there will be another training on May 7th open to humanitarian workers interested. Impact Global/ESD will share information about the 7th of May and how to register.

- Updates by the members

Daniela Draghici reported that the safe spaces for Ukrainian women and girls created by EEIRH in Bucharest, Targu Mures, Baia Mare, Brasov (psychological, individual and group support services, dignity kits, information, medical
consultations, referral and other services) are working and offer specialized services for victims of sexual and gender-based violence.

UNHCR is organizing trainings on GBV for all UNHCR staff and for local service specialists from other organisations counties. - to be completed

The PSEA Network is organizing a ToT on PSEA in May and interested staff can inform the co-leads

- **Validation of the updated GBV referral pathways for Bucharest**
  This agenda item was re-scheduled due to time constraints and to allow more time to the CRATTF to validate its part.

- **AOB**
  N/A

**Next steps**

Next meeting to be adjusted because of Easter Holidays.