

Inter-agency operational update

REFUGEE COORDINATION FORUM | MOLDOVA

104 153 Ukrainian refugees in Moldova



165 694 people reached by RCF Partners in Q2



 **854 872** Arrivals from Ukraine since February 2024

7 054 Third-Country Nationals from Ukraine in Moldova

5 263 Temporary Protection Holders

Current funding level

424.8M total pledged

160.2M (37%*) funds received
* as reported in the Refugee Funding Tracker.

Number of refugees receiving MPCA

100 862

Number of hosting family members receiving MPCA

64 649

	Received	Pledged
Basic needs (includes In-kind, Shelter, Wash, Food Security, Multi-purpose Cash)	\$ 82.13M	\$ 235.76M
Education	\$ 15.72M	\$ 15.0M
Protection (Including GBV & CP)	\$ 37.09M	\$ 82.11M
Health & Nutrition (includes MHPSS)	\$ 16.98M	\$ 28.82M
Livelihood & Socio-economic Inclusion	\$ 3.99M	\$ 65.23M
Not yet allocated / Others	\$ 4.37M	

Support to the Government

457 trained government officials

Support to Host Community

66 908 people from the host community reached

390 support to community infrastructure

People Reached by Sector

 Accomodation & Transportation
165 694

 Food Security
111 796

 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene - WASH
83 756

 Education
26 418

 Health & Nutrition
17 749

 Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion
16 495

 Protection
74 157

 Child protection
29 746

 Gender-based violence (GBV)
56 177

National Context

Since February 24, 2022, a total of **854 872** arrivals from Ukraine were recorded in the Republic of Moldova. This number was part of a **6.2 million** refugees from Ukraine recorded globally. By the end of June, the number of individual refugees from Ukraine recorded in the Republic of Moldova was **104 153**. In addition, as of 30 June, **5 263** refugees received temporary protection in Moldova.

The Refugee and Local Community Feedback Analysis, conducted in May 2023 by Laolalta and Moldova for Peace, identified increasing concerns among Ukrainian refugees regarding their dependence on financial assistance provided by RCF partners. These concerns about reliance on monthly payments from cash assistance programmes were also underscored by rental market assessment by REACH. Respondent households frequently reported a reliance on unsustainable sources of income to pay rent, including cash assistance, savings, and financial support from family and friends.

As of 15 May, based on a decision from the Commission on Exceptional Situations (CES), Ukrainian refugees in Moldova have **90** days to regularize their stay in the country (for those who arrived before 15 May, this means by 13 August) through means such as temporary protection, asylum, stateless status, or a residence permit. Individuals without legal status won't be eligible for various government services and could face fines, as well as difficulties re-entering Moldova should they undertake visits to Ukraine. It's important to note that those without legal status will still be eligible to apply for TP after 13 August. TP registration is available

at two locations in Chisinau, Cahul, Comrat, and Balti, as well as at six IGM offices along the administrative boundary with the Transnistrian region.

Proof of residence remains a significant challenge when registering for Temporary Protection. This issue has led to some protection concerns, including monetary exchanges to obtain proof of residence and an increase in rent for those refugees requesting documentation from landowners. Additionally, specific challenges related to the Transnistrian Region have impacted the access to temporary protection for refugees on the left bank. These challenges encompass uncertainties about the adequate mechanism for proving residency, limited transportation for persons with disabilities to the Right Bank to register for TP, and lack of clarity regarding the procedure to ensure that unaccompanied and separated children in the Transnistrian Region can access TP.

These issues have been validated by feedback from refugees and the host community, as well as by the Temporary Protection Monitoring exercise conducted by the Protection Working Group. According to the latest findings, **80%** of respondents have applied or plan to apply for TP. However, among those planning to apply, **36%** report that the lack of proof of residency is the primary barrier to their application. On 5 June, the Commission on Migration and Asylum, chaired by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), and with the support of UNHCR, convened a meeting with other ministries and RCF partners to review the status



@ Charity Center for Refugees

Over 40 partners from the RCF came together to celebrate World Refugee Day at Alunelul Park in Chişinău. Moldovans and refugees gathered to enjoy recreational activities offered by UN Agencies, government institutions, international, and national organizations. Visitors had the opportunity to practice yoga, paint, engage in handcrafts, dance, play board games, listen to music from all over the world, meet entrepreneurial women, play soccer, and develop skills at a STEM corner, among other activities. These activities not only fostered social interaction and raised awareness about key topics such as health, nutrition, HIV, international protection, the environment, culture, tradition, and critical thinking; but nurtured intercultural dialogue, reinforcing the sense of community. Similar activities took place across Moldova, and garnered active participation from RCF partners, donor representatives, and Government Officials, including the Moldovan President Maia Sandu who joined the World Refugee Day celebrations in Edinet.

of TP implementation. MIA convened similar meetings at the territorial level in Cahul and Balti.

On May 31, the World Bank approved a **\$40 million** financing for Moldova's Education Quality Improvement Project. Aimed at enhancing learning environments and supporting disadvantaged students, the project will also bolster the Ministry of Education's capabilities in managing the sector and assisting refugees in educational institutions. Additional funding includes **\$4.8 million** from the Global Partnership for Education Fund and others.

The second summit of the European Political Community (EPC) was held in Moldova on June 1. The summit was hosted by the Moldovan President Maia Sandu and attended by the heads of state and government of **45** countries, including all **27** EU member states. The summit focused on three main topics: joint efforts for peace and security; energy resilience and climate action; and interconnections in Europe for a better connected and more stable continent. The leaders discussed the war in Ukraine, the energy crisis, and the need to strengthen cooperation between Europe and its partners. The sum-

mit was an opportunity for European leaders to discuss the situation in Moldova, including Moldova's EU accession process. The summit ended with a declaration in which the leaders expressed their support for Moldova's European aspirations and pledged to help the country on its path to EU membership.

World Refugee Day, officially celebrated on June 20th, was commemorated in Moldova with a range of activities and events from June 17 to June 23. Key events included a grand concert in Chisinau, festivities in Alunelul Park, the inauguration of a Community Center in Causeni, the "Big Heart" photo-exhibition in Balti, and a fair in Edinet, among others. These occasions highlighted Moldova's solidarity with refugees and recognized the resilience of both the refugees and the communities that host them. The events garnered active participation from RCF partners, donor representatives, and Government Officials, including the Moldovan President Maia Sandu who joined the World Refugee Day celebrations in Edinet. During the event, Ms. Sandu conveyed a message emphasizing the day's growing importance to Moldova in light of the escalation of the conflict in Ukraine in February 2022.

Local Refugee Coordination Forums

The Local Refugee Coordination Forums (LRCFs) in Moldova, established in the key locations hosting refugees, are platforms for discussion and information sharing that engage local actors, including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and local authorities. The forums involve local authorities and representatives from CSOs, INGOs and UN Agencies operating in respective regions as well as refugee communities so that specific challenges and needs commonly shared in a region will be identified and be integrated into the overall refugee response on a national level. The forums also have an objective of creating a place for local actors and refugees themselves to actively participate in the decision-making process related to the refugee response in Moldova. As of June 2023, LRCFs have been active in the following **8** locations: Palanca, Otaci, Comrat, Cahul, Causeni, Ungheni, Balti and Tiraspol.

Since March 2023, LRCFs have continued to provide information on Temporary Protection, in collaboration with the Inspectorate General of Migration (IGM). This enables local actors to be prepared to answer basic questions raised by refugees in the field. Additionally, over the past few months, LRCFs have organized various information-sharing sessions and training programs across Moldova. These sessions covered a broad array of topics including legal status and rights, referral pathways, prevention and response to GBV (Gender-Based Violence), livelihood and employment, communication with communities, burnout prevention, and how to use and access the Service Advisor Platform.

Regular coordination has been taking place with organizations working in the Transnistrian region

to strengthen collaboration and coordination among groups providing assistance to refugees living in the area. As of August 2023, two meetings had been organized to discuss challenges and opportunities commonly shared in the region. These meetings were attended by approximately **30** organizations—including local CSOs, INGOs and UN agencies—that have an active presence in the area. Issues identified during these meetings include insufficient information on Temporary Protection, limited access to psychosocial support services, and a lack of referral pathways among actors in the region. To address these challenges, needs are communicated by the Inter-Agency Coordination Team to RCF Sector Leads and partners to ensure they are adequately addressed.



Basic Needs

50 Partners who reported activities
1200 activities in **37** regions

Leads

Basic needs working group: ACTED and UNHCR
WASH sub-working group: UNICEF
Food security sub-working group: WFP

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- ACTED
- Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim)
- ADRA Moldova
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Amici Dei Bambini Moldova
- AO Green City Lab
- CASMED
- Catholic Relief Services
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Child Community Family
- Church World Service
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Danish Refugee Council
- Dorcas
- EzzlyLink
- Gender Center
- HelpAge International
- Helvetas
- Home Care
- Institutum Virtues Civilis
- International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- INTERSOS
- IsraAID
- KeyStone Moldova
- Laolalta
- Lumos Foundation
- MOTIVATIE
- National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Oxfam
- Peace Winds Japan
- People In Need
- Solidarites International
- SPERANTA 87
- UN Women
- UNCF
- UNHCR
- WeWorld
- WFP
- Youth Media Center

Mandating Agencies:

- AAR Japan
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- ChildFund Korea
- CRS
- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- INTESA
- IRC
- Israaid
- Kerk in Actie
- ADRA Netherlands
- Kindernothilfe
- Mercy Corps
- Nachbar in Not
- OXFAM
- Peace Winds Japan
- People in Need
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- Strabag
- Terre des Homme Netherlands
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNWOMEN
- WFP
- World Vision

Throughout Q2 2023, the Basic Needs Working Group (BNWG) addressed the immediate needs of Ukrainian refugees while also striving for a sustainable long-term housing solution. The group arranged transportation for **1 231** individuals from border entry points to the designated Refugee Accommodation Centers (RACs) and another **747** to Romania.

BNWG partners continued to enhance RACs with necessary infrastructure and equipment, as well as providing site management support to the managers and families accommodated. Partners have been also working to enhance community infrastructure, focusing on enhancing community centers or expanding their capacity as a means to enhance community inclusion and participation.



@ UN Women

Both the BNWG and the PWG launched a mapping and assessment exercise of unaccredited RACs. The aim is to confirm the number of operational RACs and visit them to determine their needs and the feasibility of offering support. Over the next few months, joint visits will be organized with relevant partners.

The BNWG has been actively contributing to the Winterization Task Force, and will support two assessments: a HH survey and a Community infrastructure assessment. Relevant partners have actively contributed to the development of tools and methodologies for these assessments. The results will inform BNWG winter strategy by highlighting insulation needs in private accommodations and community facilities.

WASH partners continued to offer services at RACs and border crossing points. In Q2 2023, **47 330** refugees accessed sanitation facilities, and **15 582** received hygiene

During this period, the BNWG collaborated with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to conduct two comprehensive assessments. These assessments were intended to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and qualitative aspects of the accredited RACs. Based on the findings, the BNWG and the MLSP developed a strategy to consolidate the RACs throughout the year. This involved identifying specific RACs for potential closure over short, medium, and long-term timelines. Implementing this strategy involves collaboration with other relevant working groups, and the creation of tools and standard operational procedures. The entire process has been documented in the guideline for the RACs consolidation strategy. To ensure a people-centric approach and protection mainstreaming throughout this exercise, the BNWG is working in close coordination with the Protection Working Group (PWG).

kits. Additionally, in April 2023, **62** open accredited RACs were evaluated by BNWG partners, the WASH sub-WG, and the Disability and Age Task Force. This was done to assess the state of the WASH facilities and their accessibility for PWDs. For action, a priority list of RACs will be created based on the RACs consolidation strategy.

The food security sub-working group has ensured that Ukrainian refugees have had access to nutritious food since the crisis began in March 2022. This aid includes ready-to-eat food, hot meals, food packages, cash and voucher activities. In partnership with the Government, meals are provided at all accredited RACs in Moldova, as well as to newly-arrived refugees at border points of Otaci and Palanca. Whenever possible, support is also extended to host communities. During the reported period, partners delivered approximately **779 850** hot meals to about **2 900** refugees in **49** RACs.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

The consolidation of the RACs is prioritized for the forthcoming months. Close coordination with the MLSP, PWG, and relevant sectors is essential to develop standardized operational procedures, informational materials, and tools for the effective case management of families and the monitoring process.

Collaboration between all partners from the BNWG and PWG is crucial in addressing the unaccredited RACs. This coordinated effort ensures the prevention of task duplication and potential miscommunication with the managers and refugees residing in these centers.

Partners have highlighted challenges in providing accommodation for larger families arriving in Moldova. Additionally, concerns have arisen regarding individuals with disabilities and older persons without accompanying caregivers. Reports of discrimination against Roma refugees necessitate targeted interventions to sensitize both facility managers and the broader community. Concurrently, there is a requirement to harmonize regulations and improve the standards of shelter management throughout the RACs.



Protection

58 Partners who reported activities
1054 activities in **37** regions

Leads
Protection Working Group:
Ombudsman Office and UNHCR

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- ADRA Moldova
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- AO Biaz Gul
- AO Centrul de Drept al Avocatilor/ Law Center of Advocates
- AO Programul Educațional Pas cu Pas
- Asociația Psihologilor Tighina
- Casa Marioarei
- CASMED
- Center Resonance
- Centrul National pentru Educatie Timpurie si Informare a Familiei
- Centrul de ajutor social al femeii și familiei “Stimul”
- Centrul Național de Formare
- Asistență, Consiliere și Educație din Moldova
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Child Community Family
- Church World Service
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Danish Refugee Council
- Dorcas
- HelpAge International
- Helvetas
- Humanity and Inclusion
- IOM
- INTERSOS
- IsraAID
- KeyStone Moldova
- la Asociatia Obsteasca Interaction
- La Strada
- Laolalta
- Lumos Foundation
- MOTIVATIE
- National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova
- Non-Profit Partnership Center for Social and Legal Innovations “Women’s Initiatives”
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Oxfam
- Parteneriate Pentru Fiecare Copil
- People In Need
- Solidarites International
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
- The Ombudsman Office
- UN Women
- UNDP
- UNHCR
- WeWorld

Mandating Agencies:

- AAR Japan
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- Caritas Austria
- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- EASPD
- Hope and Homes for Children
- IOM
- IRC
- IsraAid
- Kindernothilfe
- Mercy Corps
- People in Need
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- Strabag
- Terre des Homme Netherlands
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision

The Protection Working Group (PWG), following its 2023 work plan, continued to achieve significant milestones in the second quarter of the year. Ensuring access to Temporary Protection for Ukrainian refugees was a major focus of attention of the PWG. As part of its advocacy and awareness-raising efforts, the PWG continued to inform individuals about their rights and available services, including on TP. PWG partners conducted a survey on TP intentions and experiences, noted above, the results of which were shared with the MIA. In late May,

the PWG convened a meeting with RCF partners, joined by the UN Resident Coordinator, to discuss the status of TP implementation and challenges to date. These discussions informed PWG contributions at the meeting of the Commission on Coordination of Activities in the Field of Migration and Asylum on the same issue, convened in early June. The PWG prepared comprehensive comments and recommendations on TP implementation from March-June 2023, which were submitted to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, as well as to other relevant ministries.

The PWG provided over **2 554** basic counseling consultations and benefited over **4 093** individuals through capacity-building activities, including training on Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). In a bid to promote community engagement and participation, PWG members supported **32** community-led initiatives, reaching a total of **3 914** individuals. Legal assistance was another critical area of focus, with over **15 009** individuals receiving individual support. Psychosocial support activities engaged over **23 521** participants.

Targeted protection support was extended to over **14 148** persons with specific needs. All these efforts were part of the PWG's commitment to ensure comprehensive support for refugees. Referrals of vulnerable individuals for protection services reached **2 345**.

In May, in coordination with other sectors of the RCF, PWG members organized and participated in a local referral pathways workshop in Balti. PWG and RCF members provided basic training on issues identified by local service providers as being of particular concern (e.g., child protection, GBV, livelihoods, persons with disabilities) and local service providers then identified which government agencies and NGOs would be best placed to provide support to those identified in need of help. Similar local referral pathways are now being planned in other parts of the country.

As part of its 2023 work plan, the PWG continued its series of training and information sessions for RCF members. During Q2, sessions were provided on forms of protection in Moldova (refugee status, humanitarian protection, temporary protection, stateless status), Roma history and culture, and mandatory report of abused and neglected children. All of the information/training sessions were extremely well-attended. During the reporting period, the Anti-trafficking Task

Force (AT TF) continued activities on awareness raising and capacity building with a focus on detection and referral of victims and provision of trauma centered and victim centered care. Members of the AT TF working as frontliners in the field of assistance service provision observed changing patterns of trafficking in persons in Moldova. Newly identified victims have been reported in the last quarter. Most of them came from Southern Asia who came to Moldova for work and ended up in situations of labor exploitation and lived in difficult conditions. All victims have been provided with safe and secure accommodation, mental health and psychosocial care and basic needs assistance through IOM and MLSP and in coordination with MIA and Interpol. In this sense, the AT TF has started discussion around measures and strategies on how to prevent labor exploitation and other forms of modern slavery in Moldova considering the high volume of newly arrived third-country nationals and refugees in the country.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Ensuring access to temporary protection, addressing registration difficulties, and ensuring access to basic rights associated with legal status in Moldova, particularly health care, continue to be pressing needs. Further coordination is needed amongst partners to ensure that individuals are aware of the need to apply for temporary protection or to regularize their legal status in another way. Particular attention will be focused on challenges around proof of residence and ensuring access to temporary protection for refugees, persons with disabilities, unaccompanied and separated children and refugees residing in the Transnistrian region.



Temporary Protection status is a chance to integrate into Moldovan society.

Mila and her husband, Victor*, both from Ukraine, settled in Greblești in the Republic of Moldova over 10 months ago. Despite the challenges, they embraced the opportunities given; they sign up to become massage therapists and started Romanian lessons. Applying for temporary protection was a natural next step for them. They were registered by a mobile unit from the Government. As beneficiaries of temporary protection, they can enjoy the stability found in Moldova, access rights and services, and contribute to their community. In Victor's words, "We don't know what the future will bring, but we are trying to make the most of our present."

Read the full story [here](#).

* Names changed for protection reasons.

@ UNHCR



Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

39 Partners who reported activities
623 activities in **32** regions

Leads
GBV Sub-Working Group:
UNFPA and UNHCR

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim)
- ADRA Moldova
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- AO Artemida
- AO Biaz Gul
- AO Centrul de Drept al Avocatilor/ Law Center of Advocates
- AO Programul Educațional Pas cu Pas
- Asociația Psihologilor Tighina
- Casa Marioarei
- Centrul de ajutor social al femeii și familiei “Stimul”
- Centrul Național de Formare
- Asistență
- Consiliere și Educație din Moldova
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Gender Center
- HelpAge International
- Home Care
- IFIS
- IOM
- INTERSOS
- la Asociația Obsteasca Interaction
- La Strada
- Millenium
- Non-Profit Partnership Center for Social and Legal Innovations “Women’s Initiatives”,
- Oxfam
- Pro Didactica
- SPERANTA 87
- UNAIDS
- UNDP
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UN Women
- Women Law Centre/Centrul de Drept al Femeilor
- Youth Media Center

Mandating Agencies:

- DKH
- IOM
- IRC
- Mercy Corps
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNESCO
- World Vision

The GBV Sub-Working Group trained more than **2 900** responders and programme managers on GBV Core Concepts, GBV risk mitigation, GBV minimum standards, intimate partner violence and mandatory reporting, as well as on addressing the needs of persons who engage in the sale and exchange of sex in humanitarian settings. The GBV Sub-Working Group distributed **15 901** dignity kits and menstruation hygiene items and, through this, has reached refugees and host community members with information about GBV services, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation

and Abuse (PSEA). Furthermore, awareness raising activities on GBV reached **9 027** persons.

The GBV Sub-Working Group is conducting a second GBV Safety Audit to assess GBV risks in Refugee Accommodation Centres and host communities. The safety audit will encompass aspects related to temporary protection and technology-facilitated GBV, and include groups at risk, including persons with disabilities, Roma persons and persons who engage in the sale and exchange of sex. The GBV Sub-Working Group is also conducting a



mapping exercise with a woman-led organization to assess the coordination between, accessibility and capacity of available GBV services in Moldova. A parallel study on barriers to disclosure of GBV and SEA is kicking off in partnership with a woman-led organization.

In continuation of the information-sharing campaign, the GBV Sub-Working Group is launching two radio spots targeted at raising awareness of refugee wom-

en about technology-facilitated GBV and risks around private accommodation.

Multi-sectoral services reached **15 787** survivors and persons at-risk of GBV, offering health, legal, psychosocial support, and case management services, integrating cash as a risk mitigation measure. The GBV Sub-Working Group updates monthly the six localized GBV referral pathways.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Consistent access to quality services in line with global GBV standards could be strengthened to address barriers in GBV and SEA disclosure. Capacity building, in particular for grassroots organizations, is needed to scale up entry points and safe referrals of GBV cases. GBV case management remains a gap and there is a need for establishing a system which safeguards the confidentiality of information and allows for the ethical collection of GBV information and trends to inform programming and interventions.

Mainstreaming GBV risk mitigation should continue a priority, in particular given the changes in accommodation arrangements and GBV risks as well as risks of engaging in the sale and exchange of sex as a coping mechanism. Active participation of actors implementing GBV programmes in coordination spaces should be strengthened. Continued distribution of hygiene kits and menstruation hygiene items along with information on GBV, especially for groups at risk, is necessary and life-saving.



Child-Protection

17 Partners who reported activities
182 activities in **26** regions

Leads

Child-Protection Sub-Working Group:
UNICEF and UNHCR

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- ADRA Moldova
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- AO Centrul de Drept al Avocatilor/ Law Center of Advocates
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Child Community Family
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Dorcas
- IsraAID
- KeyStone Moldova
- Laolalta
- Lumos Foundation
- Parteneriate Pentru Fiecare Copil
- People In Need
- Terre des hommes Moldova
- UN Women
- UNHCR
- WeWorld

Mandating Agencies:

- ADRA Australia
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- Childhood Foundation
- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- EASPD/UNICEF
- IRC
- IsraAid
- People in Need
- SOS Ukraine
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- Terre des Homme Netherlands
- UNHCR
- UNICEF

The Child Protection Sub Working Group (CP SWG) continues to be actively engaged in ensuring that refugee children have access to national child protection systems and that their best interests are upheld, including through active engagement with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and local authorities. During the reporting period, throughout a network of over **100** child friendly spaces ([mapping available here](#)), which includes **9** Blue Dots, over **10 500** children (**5 837** girls and **4 855** boys) received child protection services. **82** new Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) were identified by child protection partners and referred to appropriate services.

The CP SWG was active during this period in ensuring that UASC had access to Temporary Protection registration. Several partners have been engaged in providing legal, logistical, and protection support to help unaccompanied and separated children register and ensure that all families are aware of the procedures and how to seek support if needed.

Over **390** professionals, including Child Protection Specialists, Social Assistants, RAC managers, and NGO

staff were trained on a variety of child protection topics by CP SWG members. MHPSS services as well as GBV services for adolescents were provided. Partners organized Easter activities for children, as well as a wide range of summer camps.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Registration for Temporary Protection for UASC, especially children living in the Transnistrian region remains a challenge. In addition, the early identification of children and adolescents at risk could be strengthened. In regards to overlap between the Education and Child Protection sectors, a strong emphasis is needed on school enrollment to ensure children have access to education opportunities in a school based setting. Refugee children and adolescents out of school, particularly adolescent girls and children with disabilities, are at increased risk of negative coping mechanisms and exposure to violence, including GBV.



Education

31 Partners who reported activities
302 activities in **32** regions

Leads

Education Working Group: Ministry of Education and Research, UNICEF and UNHCR

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- ADRA Moldova
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Amici Dei Bambini Moldova
- AO Programul Educațional Pas cu Pas
- Asociația pentru Drepturile Omului Lex XXI
- Association of Intellectual Games
- Catholic Relief Services
- Centrul National pentru Educatie Timpurie si Informare a Familiei
- Centrul de Informare și Resurse “PRO BONO”
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Danish Refugee Council
- Dorcas
- Family Federation for World Peace and Unification from Moldova
- Fundatia “Don Bosco”
- Gender Center
- Helvetas
- IsraAID
- KeyStone Moldova
- Lumos Foundation
- MOTIVATIE
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Peace Winds Japan
- People In Need
- Pro Didactica
- Solidarites International
- SPERANTA 87
- UN Women
- UNICEF
- UNDP
- UNHCR

Mandating Agencies:

- ADRA Australia
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- IsraAid
- CRS
- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- DRC
- Mercy Corps
- OXFAM
- People in Need
- PLAN International
- SOS Ukraine
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- Terre des Homme Netherlands
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNESCO
- UNICEF
- UN WOMEN
- World Vision

According to the latest numbers provided by the Ministry of Education and Research (MER) in June 2023, **1 819** Ukrainian children are officially enrolled in schools in Moldova, of which **704** children are enrolled in pre-schools. Numbers reported by MER showed a slight decrease from May to June as some Ukrainian families returned to Ukraine for the summer break, according to MER. For the new school year 2023/2024, MER will continue to give the option for Ukrainian children to either continue online learning or officially enroll in Moldovan schools.

As the deadline for acquiring the Temporary Protection status is approaching, the Education Working Group

partners, together with MER, continue to promote school enrolment of Ukrainian and vulnerable children in Moldovan schools, while also supporting Ukrainian children continuing online schooling and ensuring their participation in non-formal education as well as extracurricular activities. During the reporting period, partners reached refugee and Moldovan children and adolescents through mainly non-formal education, including early learning activities such as language courses and catch-up classes as well as extracurricular activities including sports and summer camps and social cohesion events. Partners continue to support in providing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions in schools and providing train-



Credit: UNICEF/Moldova/2023/Pirozzi

ing for school staff on MHPPS, inclusive education and child-centered methodologies.

In an effort to increase enrollment of Ukrainian children in Moldovan schools, the Education Working Group, together with MER, is leading a Back-to-School campaign. The campaign aims to reach out to as many Ukrainian caregivers as possible regarding enrollment of their children in schools in Moldova. Updated information regarding enrollment can be found [on the MER webpage here](#). At the moment, **5 000** posters and **10 000** leaflets were printed and distributed at the border crossing points, UNHCR cash enrollment and community centers, Blue Dots, and at the bureau of General Inspection of Migration where Ukrainians are applying for Temporary Protection. Currently, an online information campaign is being launched, within refugee groups on the different social media outlets. More outreach activities targeting several communities with high Ukrainian populations will be taking place in August to intensify information sharing. The Education Working Group continues supporting setting up EduTech Labs in Moldovan schools na-

tionally to ensure access to continuous learning for Ukrainian students in a safe learning environment while engaging Ukrainian teachers to monitor and mentor the learning process. In parallel, the Tech Labs will be used for provision of Romanian bridging classes, digital skills, catch-up classes and MHPSS sessions.

In addition, the Education Working Group in close coordination with MER already rolled out an education assessment that seeks to understand the education experiences and learning conditions of refugee children ages **6-17** years following Ukrainian online schooling and in-person schooling in Moldova, from the perspectives of children, caregivers, and teachers, and provide insight into any policies to improve access to education for refugees and any current/future considerations for the education system. Findings from these interviews/consultations will inform existing and future education programming implemented by government and humanitarian actors.

Follow up on higher education opportunities and scholarships available to refugee children in Moldova was undertaken to support information sharing on this topic.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Enrollment rates of Ukrainian children in Moldovan schools are notably low, standing at approximately **4%**. There's a distinct absence of a monitoring system to track Ukrainian children continuing online education in Moldova and to evaluate their consistent attendance. Both schools and caregivers have expressed a need for more clarity on the enrollment procedure of Ukrainian children, especially concerning Temporary Protection.



Health and Nutrition

23 Partners who reported activities
416 activities in **28** regions

Leads
Health and Nutrition Working Group: Ministry of Health and WHO

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim)
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Amici Dei Bambini Moldova
- Casa Marioarei
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Church World Service
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Danish Refugee Council
- Doctors with Africa CUAMM
- Dorcas
- HelpAge International
- Home Care
- IOM
- INTERSOS
- KeyStone Moldova
- MOTIVATIE
- People In Need
- Project HOPE
- Solidarites International
- UNAIDS
- UNFPA
- UN Women
- WHO

Mandating Agencies:

- AAR Japan
- ACT Alliance
- Austrian Development Agency and Jesuit Refugee Services
- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- IOM
- Mercy Corps
- OXFAM
- Peace Winds Japan
- People in Need
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- WHO
- World Vision

The Interagency Health and Nutrition Working Group partners continue to support Moldova in improving refugees' access to essential preventive and curative health services. Due to the protracted conflict in Ukraine, many activities are transitioning from the acute response to capacity building and strengthening the host country healthcare system.

A temporary task force was formed by the Ministry of Health for issues related to health benefit package implementation under the temporary protection status. This Taskforce is currently developing communication products to raise awareness among refugees on the health services available under TP status. This second workstream is focused on information campaigns for healthcare providers, outlining the processes and services available under TP mechanisms.

In the health service delivery domain, from the beginning of the reporting period until the end of June 2023, partners have provided **66 001** people with basic health care services, including **6 957** consultations provided by the members of the Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) Coordination Cell. In total, **3** EMTs continue to support primary healthcare services in the RACs and at the community level in different administrative territories of the country.



@ UN Women

A series of capacity-building activities were conducted for the healthcare workers, reaching more than **526** professionals specialized in emergency and specialized care (mass casualty management, basic emergency care, advanced trauma life support, first aid during disaster, basic life support), immunization (false contraindications, implementation of immunization logistic information system, interpersonal communication for immunization), neonatal resuscitation and neonatal stabilization and MHPSS. In addition, **26** frontline-doctors from Ukraine were trained in trauma and emergency care, utilizing the resources of the simulation center of Chisinau Medical University. The procurement and delivery of medical devices, laboratory equipment, consumables, and medicines continues. Since March 2022, partners have collectively contributed nearly **15 million** dollars towards enhancing the health infrastructure of Moldova. Medical equipment was delivered to key national and regional hospitals

providing secondary and specialized care (patient ventilators, patient monitoring devices, surgical equipment). Primary healthcare facilities across the country benefited from the various medical devices and consumables (including Automated External Defibrillators, pulse oximetry, advanced airway management tools). In order to address information gaps about available healthcare services and improve health literacy, partners developed and distributed key messages and information and educational materials on health-related topics, including but not limited to the practicalities accessing healthcare, health promotion, nutrition, prevention of COVID-19 reaching more than **126 500** beneficiaries. To increase uptake in routine immunization, a targeted information campaign “Vaccinated=Protected” was initiated through the biggest supermarket chains in Balti, Cahul, and Comrat, reaching around **5 500** beneficiaries.



The “Vaccinated = Protected” information campaign covered **151** public grocery stores nationwide in **34** districts and municipalities to raise awareness of the importance of lifelong vaccination and protection against vaccine-preventable infectious diseases, reaching more than **5500** people, including refugees.

Public health specialists, students, and resident doctors brought messages and information about the National Vaccination Programme and its benefits during the information sessions.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Following the recent introduction of the Temporary Protection (TP) status in Moldova, there exists uncertainty among both refugees and healthcare providers about the entitlements and procedures to access services for Ukrainian refugees under TP. This uncertainty extends to those not under TP, encompassing individuals with other legal status, such as asylum seekers. To address this, the MoH and Health Working Group partners are formulating an awareness campaign and conducting targeted refugees and healthcare workers. However, Ukrainian refugees seek further clarification on the transitional measures concerning TP status acquisition. Additionally, more information is needed regarding their entitlements to healthcare services under TP.

Preliminary results from a needs assessment initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) indicate that access to medicines, specialized healthcare, assistive equipment, and social and rehabilitation services are pressing concerns for Ukrainian refugees with disabilities and older refugees. The introduction of TP is anticipated to enhance planning and resource allocation for the needs of this particular refugee group by the authorities. Health WG partners are committed to developing targeted strategies to alleviate these concerns.



Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion

24 Partners who reported activities
289 activities in **32** regions

Leads

Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion
working group: **State Chancellery and UNDP**

Partners reporting activities during Q2

Direct Implementation and Implementing Partners:

- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- AO Centrul de Drept al Avocatilor/ Law Center of Advocates
- CASMED
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Child Community Family
- Church World Service
- CONCORDIA Moldova
- Danish Refugee Council
- Dorcas
- Gender Center
- HelpAge International
- Home Care
- International Organization for Migration
- KeyStone Moldova
- Laolalta
- Lumos Foundation
- MOTIVATIE
- National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova
- National Youth Council of Moldova
- People In Need
- Project HOPE
- Solidarites International
- UN Women
- UNDP

Mandating Agencies:

- Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)
- IOM
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- Kindermission
- Kindernothilfe
- Mercy Corps
- People in Need
- Stitching Dorcas Aid International
- Strabag
- Terre des Homme Netherlands
- UNDP
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNWOMEN
- World Vision



In line with the 2023 Work Plan, the Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion Working Group conducted thematic meetings involving key government institutions and stakeholders. One of these meetings was co-organized together with the MHPSS Reference Group and the GBV Task Force, aimed at strengthening linkages between livelihoods, psychological support, and GBV prevention and response. The LIWG led a second sector coordination meeting in Bălți to discuss existing challenges to refugee employment at the local level and the north region of the country, and identify synergies between the NGOs working on livelihoods and inclusion. The LIWG also participated in other local coordination meetings to identify needs and opportunities for further support.

A Social Cohesion Workshop was organized together with the Protection Working Group, addressed to RRP partners working or interested in this area. The workshop brought together over **30** participants from **22** UN Agencies and international and local NGOs, as well as representatives of refugees and central and local Government, who discussed the state of social cohesion in refugee host communities, and identified potential risk factors of weakened social cohesion. LIWG members also participated in a training on

Market System Approach to Refugee Livelihoods Programming, aimed at promoting more systemic approaches to the economic inclusion of refugees, treating root causes, and addressing structural barriers. During Q2 2023, LIWG partners provided refugees with diverse sector-related opportunities. These included job counseling, job placement, support for self-employment, participation in skill development training and Romanian language courses, awareness raising, and social cohesion activities.



A.O. "CONCORDIA. Proiecte Sociale" Moldova

A young refugee woman from Kharkiv obtained a manicurist and pedicurist certification and secured a position as a teacher in manicure, following a professional training course supported by Concordia "Proiecte Sociale". In 2023, the organization facilitated the access of **86** refugees of different ages in vocational training courses in Chişinău.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Assessments and discussions with local NGOs continued to highlight structural barriers to refugee labor market inclusion, such as limited childcare capacities, restricted employment opportunities, and low salaries. Language proficiency in Romanian remained a challenge for refugees seeking employment.

Cash Assistance

Leads

Cash Assistance Working Group: Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and UNHCR

Partners actively participating on coordination activities in Q2

- Action Against Hunger (ACF SPAIN)
- ACTED
- ADRA
- Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR)
- HelpAge
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- IMPACT-INITIATIVES
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Moldova for Peace
- Pestalozzi
- People in Need
- Polish Red Cross
- REACH-INITIATIVE
- UN Women
- United Nations
- Population Fund
- United Nations Children's Fund
- World Food Programme
- World Vision International
- Inspectoratul General pentru Migrație
- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection

The Cash Working Group (CWG) partners have undertaken a mapping exercise to ensure a coherent and effective cash response. Under the scope of this mapping exercise, the partners' ongoing and planned CBI related activities have been identified. In line with the priorities set by the MoLSP, the partners are exploring ways to tailor their interventions towards the prioritized population.

The CWG continues to roll out a digital platform (RAIS) to improve cash activity coordination and avoid duplications as well as adapting the common cash facility approach among the partners.

The market assessment has been completed and the initial results are now available. The final report is expected to be released in early August. According to

the general findings, over the past year, market prices have risen considerably. Despite this, stores maintain a sufficient stock of both food and non-food items. Remarkably, **94%** of respondents experience no barriers accessing these markets. The stores, on average, offer around **50** distinct items ranging from bakery goods to footwear. Notably, most stores source their products from up to two main suppliers. However, amidst the current market trends, many stores anticipate further price increases in the near future.

Some CWG partners are working on developing a common PDM report by comparing different target populations for CBI. This report will enable CWG to understand if there are any trends between refugees and host communities benefiting from cash assistance.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

The current economic situation, compounded by the effects of the crisis in Ukraine, has worsened the living conditions of vulnerable Moldovans. It is important to work with development donors to support the Government to address this gap in coverage to prevent further exacerbation of social challenges within the host community. Given the current economic situation and the incomplete coverage of vulnerable Moldovans under government-run social assistance programs, it is not feasible to include vulnerable refugees under existing social assistance schemes in the short term.

Accountability to Affected People

Leads

AAP Task Force: National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova and UNHCR

During the second quarter the Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Task Force initiatives achieved significant results. Multiple organizations participated in these efforts, emphasizing transparency, inclusivity, and empowerment of affected people. Among those efforts, the establishment and continuous support of **28** Safe Spaces, including Mobile Safe Spaces, that benefited nearly **32 000** persons by providing essential information and services related to gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health.

Throughout the period, the AAP TF emphasized accountability and responsiveness, actively engaging with the affected population and adapting services based on real-time feedback received through different communication channels, like Helplines and Social Media. This includes the findings from the monthly [Refugee and Local Feedback report](#).

Efforts to provide information on Temporary Protection (TP), and related rights continue reaching **1 015 010** unique users through digital means during the reporting period,

and a total of **72 654** interactions, indicative of an active engagement from the users. Training to frontliners continue, including Roma mediators; and TP fairs have been organized in Community Centers in Chisinau, Balti and Cahul; over **75** refugees received information and individual guidance to complete their registration and schedule their appointment at IGM.

During the second quarter the Refugee Response website [Dopomoga.gov.md](#) received visits from **83 000** unique users, while the Green Line answered to **15 042** calls.

An assessment was conducted to identify relevant trends within the online community in regards to social tensions. During the observed period, social tensions arose compared to previous period due to negative attitudes towards Ukrainians and blame on refugees for social and economic issues in Moldova. Additionally, cultural frustrations were expressed in online spaces over the promotion of Ukrainian language and culture, seen as undermining national values.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Based on the feedback provided it is key to continue ensuring access to information at the local level with a focus on age, gender and diversity, and strength coordination when it comes to information provision to reduce misinformation. There is a need to improve the socialization of the feedback and complaint mechanisms and promote reporting, which entails understanding why refugees are not approaching the mechanisms. Moreover, there is still a need to build capacity on Accountability and Community Engagement across the response.

Gender in Humanitarian Action

Leads

Gender Task Force: Gender Platform and UN Women

Gender Task Force continued to advocate for the systemic collection, analysis and use of SADD in refugee response processes and reviewed from the gender perspective research questionnaires for socio-economic assessment, RAC monitoring assessment, In-Depth Educational Assessment, Area-Based Assessment, as well as Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment.

In order to unpack the gender dimensions of the refugee crisis in Moldova and its gender differentiated impacts on

women, girls, men and boys, and other groups in all their diversity, as well as to identify gender and diversity specific considerations for planning sector and intersectoral response, the Gender Task Force under the operational leadership of UN Women produced a gender assessment [Liminal lives: Gender and diversity assessment of refugees from Ukraine in Moldova after one year of forced displacement](#) to examine the distinct needs, priorities and capacities of diverse groups of refugees from Ukraine living in Moldova, one year after the start of the crisis.



Yevheniia Loytra, to the right, is one of five Ukrainian women refugees working as volunteers in civil society organizations in Moldova. In partnership with UN Volunteers (UNV), UN Women provided these job opportunities as part of a six-month UN Volunteers Community Programme pilot, that aims to support the refugees by providing a decent income and useful work experience.

© Yevheniia Loytra

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Key challenges identified include limited data disaggregation by sex, age, and disability, inadequate resources allocated to designated Gender Focal Points, insufficient funding for women-led organizations, and the limited involvement of refugee women in policy making and planning processes.

Disability and Age

Leads

Age and Disability Task Force: Keystone Moldova and OHCHR with 25 active partners

In the second quarter of 2023, the Disability & Age Task Force, in collaboration with key stakeholders and Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), has made substantial strides in promoting disability inclusion within humanitarian operations. A total of **13** capacity building sessions were conducted for humanitarian actors, both through online platforms and in-person settings. These sessions were designed to enhance understanding of the rights-based approach to Disability and Aging, while also providing comprehensive information on international standards and guidelines for integrating persons with disabilities and older persons across all phases of the humanitarian program cycle. The Task Force OPD partners such as Motivatie and CDPD (Center for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities), leveraging their expertise to offer valuable insights and perspectives during the capacity building sessions and this collaborative approach has yielded a more robust strategy for mainstreaming disability considerations.

The members of the Task Force including OPDs have supported other sectors in mainstreaming disability through their activities, such as the GBV Safety Audit, the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse PSEA Risk assessment and the Accountability Affected Population Task Force with the Temporary Protection communication materials to ensure accessibility. Finally, the Task Force members, in collaboration with the Basic Needs Working Group, supported the implementation of an Accessibility and WASH assessment, conducted in **62** Refugee Accommodation Centres that inform the planning for improvement works in the different centers.

Keystone hotline for persons with disabilities which in partnership with the government has extended its assistance to Refugees with disabilities since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine. In the Q2 of 2023, the hotline supported **110** refugees with disabilities, of which **96** living in host communities and **14** in RACs. The hotline service provided information on how to access health care services, disability determination services, guidance on temporary protection and on how to receive nutrition support, assistive equipment, adapted transportation. More than 50% of requests were referred and supported through Keystone Moldova mobile team services.



Remaining Gaps and Challenges

People with disabilities and older persons have challenges in accessing specialized health services (such as rehabilitation and other medical examinations) since they are not covered under the Temporary Protection status. Refugees with disabilities in Transnistria region with mobility limitations have difficulties in accessing the temporary protection registration process which requires an in person interview on the right side of the bank and IGM mobile unit cannot provide the home based registration.

Mental Health and Psychological Support

Leads

MHPSS Task Force: WHO, MENSANA, and Federația Familiilor pentru Unificare și Pace în Lume din Moldova

Throughout the second quarter of 2023, partners continued delivering the full range of MHPSS services to refugees and Moldovans, reaching **23 521** individuals with psychosocial support, **2 554** with basic counseling, and **1 861** with specialized MHPSS. Providers delivered face-to-face services in stationary centers and via mobile units, and remotely through on-line modalities. Capacity building initiatives continued, with training on the scalable interventions of mhGAP (suicide prevention and self-harm prevention modules) and PM+ being launched for the first time in the Republic of Moldova. Training on other topics such as burnout, stress-management, parenting, and psychosocial art also took place.

MHPSS TRG partners also organized events to commemorate various special days such as International

Roma Day (April 8) and International Refugee Day (June 20). To recognize these days and raise awareness about related issues, partners conducted puppet shows and psychosocial art activities among others.

In May and June, a series of 11 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) exploring Ukrainian perceptions about mental health and MHPSS services were conducted in **6** different communities with a total of **82** participants; findings will be released in Quarter 3. Mapping of MHPSS services was completed in Quarter 2 with a total of **27** partners reporting. To strengthen intra-group cohesion and coordination, the TRG also began planning for a MHPSS Focal Point retreat to take place in July.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Temporary Protection continues to be a major stressor for refugees lacking proper documentation. Localized referral pathways are still needed, and refugees report that there continue to be service gaps for people living with disabilities and/or in remote areas.



Victorya and her two children fled from the Ukrainian region of Dnipropetrovsk and arrived in Moldova in March 2022. While accommodated in the IOM supported Center for the rehabilitation of Victims of Family Violence in the village of Kirsova, Gagauzia region, Victorya saw the opportunity to organize art sessions for Moldovan and refugee children to help relieve stress. The IOM Livelihood and Social Cohesion teams worked directly with Victorya, providing her with technical training and the resources needed to hold the art sessions, which was made possible through collaboration with the municipality and the local school. Ultimately, the art sessions provided a positive opportunity for social interaction between Moldovans and refugees, in particular children.

“I know for sure that I will do something big and good. I’m gaining experience, and I will be able to carry out my project and my initiatives anywhere in the world, regardless of where I am. If I can in Ukraine, I will open a center where children and adults affected by war can get help through my art sessions and the love, I put into them” – Victorya.

Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Leads

PSEA Network: UNHCR

PSEA Task Force: WHO and UNICEF

During Q2, PSEA Network has trained **606** aid workers on PSEA fundamentals, totaling **876** aid workers trained during 2023. Partners also reached **3 685** individuals with awareness raising activities on PSEA. The Network has also organized the first Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) workshop in Moldova in coordination with the AAP Taskforce, which has succeeded to gather **20** humanitarian workers of several UN, NGOs and INGOs representatives involved in the Moldova RRP. The participants joined activities to promote a common understanding of key standards for the implementation of effective, safe and confidential CFMs.

With the support of CHS Alliance, the PSEA Network launched the first cohort of the Investigator Qualification Training Scheme (IQTS) on May 1st. This first cohort consists of **25** participants from organizations in Moldova, the majority of whom are women. The initiative aims to address the need to strengthen national capacities in PSEAH investigations. It is part of a broader effort to build a pool of local PSEAH investigators in Moldova to support national and local

organizations.

The Network has continued the development of the joint SEA risk assessment. During the reporting period, the network carried out primary data collection through four initiatives: a perception survey on PSEA targeting aid workers, which gathered responses from over **350** individuals; a perception survey on PSEA focusing on individuals receiving aid, which collected responses from over 110 individuals to better assess their level of satisfaction with aid and aid providers and to identify risks; an organizational leadership survey completed by **32** organizations, measuring adherence to PSEA minimum operational standards; and the Safety Assessment Observational Tool, which assessed **39** RACs to identify PSEA risks. The findings from this last initiative were used to prioritize the RAC consolidation process. Additionally, a series of Focus Group Discussions are being conducted with representatives from various groups including refugees living both inside and outside of RACs, persons with disabilities, children, adolescents, and Roma refugees. The Risk Assessment is expected to be published in October.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

As refugees increasingly rely on unsustainable income sources, such as humanitarian aid, to meet their needs, it is crucial to further support initiatives promoting self-reliance and raise awareness of existing reporting mechanisms and services for survivors of GBV, including SEA. This will help to reduce the risk of GBV and ensure that timely responses are provided to situations of violence and abuse. Additionally, it is essential to promote a culture of reporting and create a safe environment where survivors feel comfortable disclosing their experiences of GBV, including SEA.

Roma Inclusion

Leads

Roma Task Force: Intersos and Coalitia Vocea Romilor

In the second quarter the Roma Task Force (RTF) intensified its efforts in organizing information sessions regarding Temporary Protection and actively encouraging refugees of Roma ethnicity to apply for this status prior to the deadline set for the 13th of August 2023.

Additionally, the Task Force has successfully completed a mapping of the Roma refugees within the bounds of the Republic of Moldova. This comprehensive mapping covered a total of **12** significant locations, specifically **6** sectors in Chisinau, as well as Balti, Glodeni, Ungheni, Criuleni, Anenii Noi, Calarasi, and Vadul lui Voda. The refugees were identified both in privately arranged accommodations and designated accommodation centers.

The RTF has carried on its assessment of the needs and challenges faced by the Roma refugees. The gathered insights are currently guiding the TF in addressing specific concerns, such as healthcare access, education, and employment opportunities.

Moreover, the RTF plays an active role in resolving potential conflicts between the Roma refugee community and the administrations of Refugee Accommodation Centers. During the second quarter the RTF successfully intervened in **7** instances to mitigate conflicts in locations including Costesti, Criuleni, Chişinău and Anenii Noi. The cases continue to be under close observation by the co-lead of the RTF, “Coalitia Vocea Romilor”.

Remaining Gaps and Challenges

Temporary Protection remains a challenge for the refugees of Roma ethnicity who are lacking the necessary documentation. Despite the dedicated efforts invested in information campaigns, there are still notable gaps in effectively reaching out to refugees residing in rural areas.

Information Management

Leads

Information Management Working Group: REACH and UNHCR

The Information Management working group focused on the capacity building activities of its members. The group identified the areas of interest of various organizations being Excel, Power BI, Kobo, etc. The first session on the Excel for data analysis was conducted with

a couple of more training sessions to be planned over the course of the year. In May, the group kickstarted the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment, the data from which will inform the consultation for the development of the 2023 Refugee Response Plan.

Key Inter-Agency Resources



[Operational Data Portal](#)

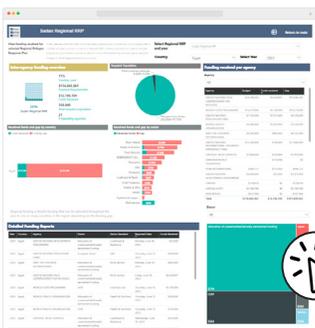
The Operational Data Portal is the primary source of information for partners on the refugee response in Moldova. It includes details on population figures, partner activities, meeting schedules, and relevant documents and assessments published by partners.



Meeting Name	Date	Location	Participants
Regional Coordination Forum (RCF) - June	10-11 June 2023	Chisinau	UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women, etc.
Sub-working group meeting	12 June 2023	Chisinau	UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women, etc.
Task force meeting	13 June 2023	Chisinau	UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women, etc.

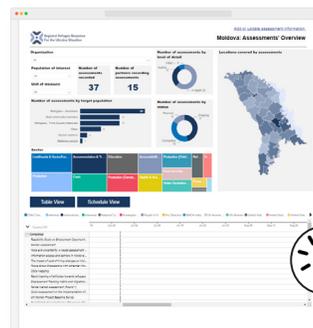
[RCF Meeting Calendar](#)

The RCF Meeting Calendar provides details on the dates and participation information for all working groups, sub-working groups, and task forces. It also includes information on Local Refugee Coordination Forum meetings.



[Refugee Funding Tracker](#)

Refugee Funding Tracker: The Refugee Funding Tracker is a comprehensive platform compiling all financial data related to refugee programs. The data available includes funding received by agencies involved in the refugee response, as well as budgets for refugee-related appeals and plans such as Country and Regional Refugee Response Plans (RRPs).



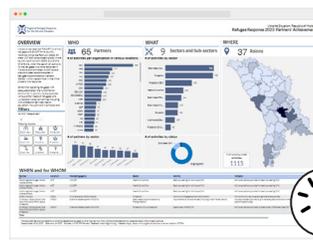
[Assessment Registry Tool](#)

The Assessment Registry Tool is a platform where partners and organizations can share and acquire information on completed, planned, and ongoing assessments in Moldova. Its objective is to enhance coordination, minimize duplication, and ensure data is collected, analyzed, and shared in a principled manner.



[Daily Population Trends Dashboard](#)

This dashboard allows partners to access up-to-date data on the numbers and profile of refugees in Moldova. The data is updated weekly.



[2023 RRP Partners' Achievements Dashboard](#)

This dashboard provides an overview of partner activities and achievements under the 2023 RRP.



For further information:

Bertrand Blanc, Senior Operations Coordinator, blanc@unhcr.org
Diego Nardi, Inter-Agency Coordination Officer, nardid@unhcr.org
Yurii Arnautov, Inter-Agency IM Officer, arnautov@unhcr.org