



BNWG Meeting
 Meeting Minutes

Time & Location	9 March 2022 – Online Meeting	
Agenda item	Discussion summary	
Welcome and overview of meeting agenda	Activity	
	Introduction	UNHCR
	Immediate Needs, Planning Assumptions and Priority Intervention Areas for Shelter, NFI, Wash and Food Security	All participants
	AOB	All Participants
Introduction		
SHELTER	<p>Immediate Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for coordinated and properly managed information system on the available shelter options at the Border crossing points and reception centers and other information centers for refugees. • Current solution mostly based on voluntary actions of hosting families is not sustainable and families may not have the capacity to host the refugees for longer period. Additionally, considering current and anticipated scale, this solution based on families hosting refugees soon may not be sufficient. Therefore, there is a need for cash for rental program for those who are in need of assistance, following a proper assessment. • There is a need to plan and consider emergency shelter options in coordination with the local authorities at the onset of crisis for the identified persons with specific needs. Also, there is a urgent need to plan for longer term solutions for shelter. • Ensure Third Country Nationals have access to decent shelter services and access to information on the available shelter options. • Mainstreaming Protection and GBV prevention in the planning for shelter. <p>Planning Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There might be increase in the inflation of rental fees and there is a possibility for unsuitability of shelter for people with disabilities, the elderly, and persons with special needs. • There might be lack of affordable shelter option special needs when housing market gets saturated, especially in bigger cities. 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There might be need for improvement of the conditions in reception centers if converted to temporary accommodation centers. • Hosting families might not have the capacity to host refugees for longer period of time. • Movement dynamics may continue in the following six months therefore integration into labour market and access to livelihoods opportunities are crucial in order for refugees to pay for their monthly rent fees. • There might be a need for secured safe accommodation with the mechanism that will prevent the sudden evictions. • There is a possibility of lack of financial recourses to maintain normal daily life. <p>Priority Intervention Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent assistance programs (including cash for rent); shelter solutions for vulnerable groups such as persons with special needs and unaccompanied children. • A unified registration system for assistance, in order to avoid duplication. • Mechanisms supporting the rights of tenants as well as providing a sense of stability to private property owners. • Work with the Government of Poland in an effort to improving conditions in reception centers and monitor GBV and protection issues of refugees hosted by families. • Planning for emergency shelter options in case the number of refugees in need exceeds the market availability of apartments. Monitoring of the market and inflation of rental prices.
NFI	<p>Immediate Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to basic items (Clothing, blankets, Bedding, Customized hygiene items, Household Items) at reception centers or other refugee support sites. • Distribution of menstrual health and hygiene items. • There is a need for consultative and needs based planning. <p>Planning Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to consider the needs of different groups for NFI needs in six months period such as elderly and persons with disabilities. • There should be link to government plans and national support systems. • There might be a need for regional consultations between different refugee hosting countries (Moldova, Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania) in order to have more streamlined approach. • There is a need for better cooperation and consultations with local initiatives while dealing with the special needs of



	<p>certain groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering that movement will continue, hygiene kits specifically designed for people on the move dignity kits might be considered in the coming six months period. • Current support of volunteers who provide various items, including basic hygiene items, will most likely decrease. There will be lack basic household items in the coming six months for many refugees. <p>Priority Intervention Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of basic household items to refugees. • NFIs that are suitable for those on the move. • Access to information on how to access and availability for all refugees including vulnerable groups. • Establishing efficient coordination mechanisms between local groups and civil society to ensure proper distribution of NFI and coordination with other clusters to avoid duplication of NFI provision (e.g., hygiene items, Dignity kits, etc.)
<p>WASH</p>	<p>Immediate Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to showers • Handwashing facilities at the border. • Improved access to sex segregated sanitary facilities especially at border crossing points and in reception centers. • Laundry facilities at the reception centers. • Improved maintenance of existing WASH facilities especially at border crossing points and in reception centers. • Support to authorities to enhance solid waste management in critical refugee points. (Border crossings, reception centers) • Adequate number of toilets per location to meet needs. • Immediate access to drinking water upon arrival. <p>Planning Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There might not be enough WASH facilities (toilets and showers) due to congestion. • There might be need for improvement in the WASH facilities at the reception centers and temporary shelter sites in six months period. • There might be some challenges in accessing to hot water in longer term, considering dependance on gas for water heating <p>Priority Intervention Area:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to proper maintenance of WASH facilities at border crossing and reception points. • Ensuring access to WASH facilities in the major reception centers and transit points. • Need for partner identification and cooperation on WASH issues. • Coordination with Cash Working Group (CWG) to ensure that hygiene items are considered under Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance. Need more information on plans of CWG for other WASH intervention design.
FOOD SECURITY	<p>Immediate Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of hot meals at arrival; access to resources to purchase food after initial arrival including food preparation items. (Pots, pans, etc.). • Current food assistance is not consistent and unreliable provided by the local NGOs and volunteers therefore there is a need for monitoring mechanism and establish a system to ensure that refugees have access to adequate food consumption every day. <p>Planning Assumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a possibility of not sufficient food being consumed by the individuals. • The food market is very wide in Poland however the challenge may be lack of resources of refugees to buy food. • Lack of income of refugees, especially widows which might result in issues in accessing adequate food. • Current assistance based on voluntary support therefore it is not sustainable. <p>Priority Intervention Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Multi-Purpose cash assistance. • Hot meal distributions at arrival. Initial Cash voucher assistance to cover food needs for one or two months. Future food needs can be covered by cash per Poland's social protection scheme. • Nutritious food for kids and adults. • Coordination with Cash Working Group.
AOB	N/A
Next meeting	Next ISWG meeting is scheduled to take place on 18 March 2022.