



National and Field MHPSS Sub Working Group
14 June 2022
14:00 – 16:00

Meeting Agenda

	Agenda Item	Time
1.	Introductions and welcome	14:00 – 14:05
2.	Member updates	14:05 – 14:15
3.	WHO – Ensuring Quality in Psychosocial Programming (EQUIP)	14:15 – 14:40
4.	UNHCR – Update on Ukraine Situation and discussion	14:40 – 15:15
5.	Helping the Helpers	15:15 – 15:35
6.	AoB	15:35 – 15:45



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Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Sub-Working Group Meeting Minutes



14 June 2022
14:00-15:45

Agenda item	<p>The meeting started with the agenda introduction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions and welcome 2. Member updates 3. WHO – Ensuring Quality in Psychosocial Programming (EQUIP) 4. UNHCR – Update on Ukraine Situation and discussion 5. Helping the Helpers 6. AoB 	Action point/ time frame
Participants	Approximately 50 participants from a variety of agencies (meeting held virtually through Zoom with the simultaneous translation from TR to ENG)	
Welcome and introductory remarks	<p>MHPSS sWG TF Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHPSS sWG TF met for the first time and tasks that will be prioritized were identified. <p>Member Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RASAS, World Vision, IBC, WHH and ATAA were introduced and shared brief updates. 	14:00-14:10



<p>Presentations</p>	<p>EQUIP (Ensuring Quality In Psychological Support) Presentation by: James Underhill (WHO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim of EQUIP is defined as ensuring that the interventions are delivered in a quality way, effective and they do no harm. • EQUIP is a free platform and designed for supervisors, program managers and trainers to support their toolbox for psychological interventions. It is a tool for assessing observable skills and a range of resources to be used to shift the competency-based training. The idea is to adapt the training to match the desired competencies of the trainees by assessing their strengths and where the trainee needs more support. • This project started in May 2018 with expert team reviewing many training guides and treatment manuals to develop the tools. The competency-assessment tools are at the center of EQUIP and it runs on roleplays, and different competency assessment tools. The tools on the platform are applicable to most of the psychological interventions. Additionally, some tools are not MHPSS specific and can be used across different sectors ie. helping skills in healthcare setting. • The paper versions of tools can be downloaded, and a platform (https://equipcompetency.org/en-gb) is created. The Turkish version is being developed by WHO CO TUR. The platform has an e-learning page, which presents the tools, introduction, competency assessments, how to get feedback, and how to use the tools for standardization. • For further information you can contact: underhillj@who.int & EQUIP-helpdesk@unicef.org <p>Ukraine Situation: Regional Response and Arrivals in Türkiye David Bugden (UNHCR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ukraine Regional Refugee Response Plan (March-December 2022) includes regional objectives: ensuring refugees' access to safety and international protection, providing timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance, identifying solutions for all, promoting social and economic opportunities, ensuring effective coordination. • Access and Reception in Türkiye: Around 140.000 Ukrainian nationals have arrived in Türkiye. Admission of Ukrainian nationals is being facilitated together with Mol and MFA. 2000 Ukrainians are staying in dormitories (Temporary Accommodation Centers-TACs), but this decision is under review since dormitories are for 	<p>14:10 – 15:45</p>
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student accommodation. MoFSS stated that 1.380 unaccompanied, separated children from orphanages and their caregivers are being hosted.

- Legal Status: Ukrainians are staying in Türkiye as 90-days tourist exemption with limited access to services. Residence permit or IP application are needed after 90 days. Ukrainians are advised to contact PDMM at visa expiry and get information via YIMER hotline. Temporary Protection is not a consideration for now.
- Protection/Assistance Needs and Inter-Agency Response
 - Reception/Accommodation: PMM was supported in terms of TACs capacity. Ukrainians approached UNHCR and partners for support. AFAD, TRC and municipalities provided ad hoc assistance to governorates.
 - Information and Counselling: Need to keep Ukrainians informed about the situation and access to services is high and the biggest challenge for service providers is language barrier. Online information channels are present in Ukrainian, but gaps remain.
 - Psychosocial support: One of the biggest concerns in the region is the risk of GBV and trafficking of Ukrainian women and children. Specialized services in Türkiye are accessible to Ukrainians. Requests for PSS are limited but it is required for children and child-friendly spaces are needed. However, language and costs remain as barriers.
 - Access to Education: Legal status is a challenge to access public services. Turkish schools that will accommodate Ukrainian students will need language and material support post September.
 - Access to Healthcare: Legal status and language is a challenge to access public services. Ukrainians cannot benefit from health services with 90 days visa.
 - Language Support: Requests for interpreters, particularly for PSS, has been received by UNHCR and others. Recruitment process of Ukrainian speakers and translation is ongoing.
 - Strategy and Coordination among UN: 'One refugee' approach to ensure non-discriminatory access to protection and assistance in Türkiye. Supporting GoT through existing programmes, coordination and contact Ukrainians will continue. 3RP contingency plan was updated. Information sharing should be always ensured, and existing barriers should be addressed. Technical working groups are needed to address the gaps and policies. UN engaged with the Ukraine embassy to discuss the priority needs.
- For detailed statistics you can check the presentation by UNHCR and for further information you can contact David: budgen@unhcr.org



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- Büşra Boğaz from DDD stated that the organization operates in Izmir and Istanbul, and as PSS Officer, she conducts art activities with Ukrainians. The organization provides healthcare services, and the applicants can receive free-of-charge services in private hospitals. (busra.bogaz@dunyadoktorlari.org.tr)
- Dr Altin Malaj from WHO stated that the first challenge is to determining the number of Ukrainians in Turkey and other problems linked to their legal status, such as access to services. The real needs are not clear because of unspecified legal status of Ukrainians. Plan is to work closely with the MoH and necessary partners to understand needs regarding all refugees.
- Lara Özügergin from UNHCR stated that information sharing among organizations is a critical point. The Services Advisor is being translated into Ukrainian and members were asked to update on the platform their services that are open to Ukrainians.
- Hicran Akdeniz from Mersin Positive Living Association stated that they provide services to refugees who are LGBTI+, HIV+, sex workers, GBV survivors. They have been receiving applications from Ukrainians, recently. The project provides free-of-charge HIV medication for three months. In addition, they also provide support for other psychosocial needs and medical assistance. (hicran.akdeniz@pozitifyasam.org)
- Zeynep Beyza Arlı from TRC PSS Program stated that TRC provides MHPSS services in 12 community centers and Ukrainians can receive support in these centers. (zeynep.arli@kizilay.org.tr)

Türkiye Specific Program: Training and Supervision for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Service Providers for Forced Migrants/Refugees

Dr. Leyla Welkin and Nuran Kızıkan (Helping the Helpers)

- The approach is people-centered (people who are forced to migrate and/or their helpers), and the content is systems oriented. The focus is on sustainable systems for beneficiaries and helpers and to support face-to-face trainings with online supervision to increase efficacy. The turnover is high in the field due to direct trauma experienced by victims or secondary trauma of humanitarians.
- Pomegranate Connection founded on 2009 in Ankara and since then they are researched efficacy of group trauma treatments for survivors and training professionals from different backgrounds, worked about trauma and forced migration and launched Helping the Helpers programme.
- Expected outcome of the ToT is to found and build a network support training and supervision of helpers around Türkiye. Target group is the helpers who has been working with forced migrants and refugees for 2-3 years and willing to continue to work for at least 2 years. Activities include face-to-face trainings, online



	<p>supervisions, material development, presentations and evaluation. The applications will be open as soon as the program is funded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helping the Helpers is seeking non-profit partners, fiscal sponsorship and funding for 18-20 months.• For further information you can contact: n.kizilkan@gg & n.kizilkan@gmail.com	
AoB	The next MHPSS SWG meeting will take place on 9 August 2022 at 14:00, following the Health Sector Meeting	

