

MOLDOVA REFUGEE RESPONSE



LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP CONSULTATION

WORKSHOP REPORT

LIVELIHOODS AND INCLUSION WORKSHOP

12 October 2022



Photo: Livelihoods & Inclusion Working Group

OBJECTIVES:

- Clarify the scope and role of the Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group.
- Identify barriers to the socio-economic inclusion of refugees.
- Identify the strategic direction and focus of the Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group / define and agree the sector objectives, priorities, indicators, activities

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ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDING THE CONSULTATION:

National Employment Agency (ANOFM), CALM, People In Need, ACTED, Helvetas, WeWorld, Peace for Moldova/ AO Platforma, Church World Services, International Rescue Committee, HIAS, IOM, ILO, UNFPA, UNDP.

SECTOR OBJECTIVES

The Working Group members agreed on the following sector objectives:

Objective 1:

Reduce the levels of socio-economic vulnerability of refugees and members of the host communities, especially through access to the labour market, training and skills development, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, and social protection.

Objective 2:

Support national and local governments in creating an enabling environment for the socio-economic inclusion of refugees, while strengthening the resilience of host communities.

Objective 3:

Promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.



SECTOR ACTIVITIES AND INDICATORS

Sector Objectives	Sector Activities	Sector Indicators
1. Reduce the levels of socio-economic vulnerability of refugees and members of the host communities, especially through access to the labour market, training and skills development, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, and social protection.	Provide livelihood opportunities and support access to labour market.	# of individuals supported to access livelihoods and job opportunities, disaggregated by gender and age.
		# of individuals benefiting from vocational education and training, language and other (re)skilling support to access livelihood and job opportunities, disaggregated by gender and age.
	Support entrepreneurship and financial inclusion.	# of individual benefitting from support for entrepreneurship, business creation, and financial inclusion disaggregated by gender and age.
	Support access to employment-related social protection.	# local and public institutions supported to extend employment-related social protection schemes to refugees.
2. Support national and local governments in creating an enabling environment for the socio-economic inclusion of refugees, while strengthening the resilience of host communities.	Support an enabling environment for the socio-economic inclusion of refugees	# of public authorities capacitated to better address and facilitate the socio-economic inclusion of refugees in the communities.
	Support access to local public services.	# of municipalities hosting refugees implementing activities to improve infrastructure and service delivery that enhance livelihoods and inclusion.
3. Promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.	Promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.	# of interventions promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.*

**Promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities concerns all sectors. As such, a cross-cutting indicator on social cohesion has been defined at the inter-agency level.*

PRINCIPLES OF THE WORKING GROUP

In cooperation with the other RCF working groups, the Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group will strive to:

- Ensure that the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women refugees, as well as minorities and persons with disabilities are properly addressed.
- Support the participation and inclusion of refugees in national and local development priorities.
- Promote knowledge sharing and learning for increased national and local resilience to prevent and mitigate future shocks and crises.



Photo: Livelihoods & Inclusion Working Group

WORK WITH HOST COMMUNITIES



- The livelihoods and inclusion sector will have an equitable approach in its interventions, addressing the needs of both refugees and members of the host communities, as needed.
- Working group members will make sure that the local population is not negatively affected by the sector interventions, particularly the most vulnerable groups, and that the social cohesion in host communities is maintained or strengthened.
- Sector organizations will strive to have and encourage participatory planning and implementation, strengthening beneficiaries' ownership over activities and results.
- Sector organizations will use, to the extent possible, local resources, services, and goods, to support the local economy.

BARRIERS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION (1)

The following barriers and needs have been identified during the workshop:



Photo: UNDP Moldova

- Limited access to comprehensive and updated data about refugees - a unique platform for data collection would be needed.
- Uncertainty about refugees' legal status, both for the employer and those in search of a job.
- Lack of a unique mechanism for employers to report cases of employment of refugees.
- Issues with the recognition of diplomas, qualification and requalification.
- Limited childcare facilities that prevent mothers from seeking employment.
- Limited employment opportunities, especially in the rural areas and for qualified workers.
- Lack of motivation due to overall small salaries in Moldova.
- Limited employment-related data from the demand side (what are the skills required, the enablers to hire refugees, etc.)
- Limited information about employment opportunities.
- Need of facilities for remote work.

BARRIERS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION (2)



Photo: UNDP Moldova

- Limited opportunities and support for entrepreneurship and business development.
- Limited access to finance, financial services and products.
- Challenges with the access to land, especially in the agricultural sector.
- Limited capacities of Local Public Authorities to understand the needs of refugees, and how to integrate them in the community and local services.
- Need of better coordinate with and involve local action groups.
- Language barrier.
- Need for increased access to services in host communities.
- Limited knowledge of rights, access to information for refugees – documentation, validation of certification of education, follow up with administrative procedures, referral pathways.

PARTNERS

The following partners have been identified during the workshop:



- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
- National Employment Agency (ANOFM)
- Organization for Entrepreneurship Development (ODA)
- Local Public Authorities (LPAs)
- Congress of LPAs in Moldova (CALM)
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Chamber of Commerce
- Private sector entities
- Business incubators
- Civil Society Organizations
- Donor partners