

## MOLDOVA: GENDER TASK FORCE MEETING

Meeting Details	
Date	20 October 2022
Time	11:30 – 13:00
Venue	Zoom
Chair/ co-chair	Dominika Stojanoska (UN Women), Nina Lozinschi (Platform for Gender Equality)
Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates from the Refugee Coordination Forum</li> <li>• RRP project submissions</li> <li>• Report on RRP2023 consultations with local women CSOs</li> <li>• Women Voices: La Strada report on grassroots projects</li> <li>• AOB</li> </ul>	

Participants			
#	Name	Organization	Function
1	Nina Lozinschi	Gender Equality Platform	General Secretary
2	Daniela David-Cimpoies	UN Women	Manager
3	Evghenia Hiora	UN Women	Project Officer
4	Daniela Dutca	UN Women	Project Officer
5	Daria Barnos	UN Women	Administrative Associate
6	Ludmila Bocsanean	UN Women	Project Associate
7	Viorica Culeac	UN Women	Programme Officer
8	Catalina Sampaio	UNHCR	Associate Inter Agency Coordination Officer

9	Catalina Birsanu	UNHCR	Protection Associate
10	Suenanica de Rozario	UNHCR	
11	Martina BOGDEVA	UNHCR	GBV, Anti-trafficking Specialist
12	Fatima Wahaidy	UNFPA	GBV Program Specialist
13	Olesea Perean	UNDP	Programme Specialist
14	Gianna Zoukidou	OHCHR's sub-team in Moldova	Junior Human Rights Officer
15	Khatuna Murgulia	OHCHR's sub-team in Moldova	
16	Mariana Iorga	National Agency for Social Protection	Head of Social Assistance and Rehabilitation Department
17	Eugeniu Martin	ICRC	
18	Valentina Bodrug-Lung	Gender-Centru	President
19	Liliana Istrate	La Strada	Project Manager
20	Doina Cazacu	La Strada	
21	Iulia Macarenco	National Coalition "Life Without Violence" NGO "Women Law Center"	Grant Manager
22	Svetlana Georghieva	AO „BiazGul" Regional Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Family Violence	Director
23	Alina Belobra	Internews	
24	Stefania Martello	ACTED Moldova	Protection Project Manager
25	Olesea Bodean-Vozian		
26	Gabriela Iordan		

### Summary of discussions and agreements/ action items

Agenda/Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evghenia Hiora</b> (UN Women) welcomed participants, introduced the agenda of the meeting and invited the new members to present themselves.</li> </ul>	<p>To check if translation in Russian is</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alina Belobra</b> (Internews), <b>Iulia Macarenco</b> (National Coalition Life Without Violence), <b>Svetlana Georgieva</b> (BiazGul) presented themselves.</li> </ul>	<p>necessary</p>
<p><b>Update from the Refugee Coordination Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Suenanica de Roziro</b> (UNHCR) provided updates on the Decree on Temporary Protection. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Bureau for Migration and Asylum has been working on the draft decree. The decree will allow the rights for employment, freedom of movement, legal residency, medical care, state welfare benefits and access to education for school aged children for Ukrainians and third country Nationals fleeing the war in Ukraine. The draft is expected to be shared with UNHCR and will be further disseminated among working groups this week. The publication is expected by the end of the third week of November, accompanied by an information campaign.</li> </ul>	<p>The draft to be shared with GTF. GTF will have a week to provide the inputs.</p>
<p><b>RRP project submissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Catalina Birsanu</b> (UNHCR) shared information on the local consultations conducted in 9 localities. Among the positive findings – refugees accepted by the local population, among negative – discontinuity of provided assistance, lack of information on available assistance (especially for those residing outside RACs), lack of information on documents required to stay in Moldova, lack of employment opportunities and duplicated aid efforts. Also, good practice to follow was indicated in Causeni – meetings to discuss problems. Report on the consultations will be disseminated.</li> <li>• <b>Svetlana Georgieva</b> (BiazGul) flagged that there are very few CSOs in Gagauzia that provide localized services to refugees. Small communities with substantive numbers of refugees are currently out of reach of humanitarian actors, including local CSOs. Most of assistance is concentrated around Chisinau and Balti, while in Gagauzia there are needs that remain unmet.</li> <li>• <b>Catalina Birsanu</b> (UNHCR) informed on the available mobile teams for registration for cash assistance and shared hotline number for contact.</li> <li>• <b>Svetlana Georgieva</b> (BiazGul) flagged that refugee in Gagauzia face barriers related to the registration for cash assistance, specifically multiple trips to Chisinau implying high travel costs are needed for the registration procedure. It is unfortunate that cash registration point in Cahul has been closed.</li> <li>• <b>Iulia Macarenco</b> (National Coalition Against Violence) confirmed that the above issue is common for Transnistria as well.</li> <li>• <b>Catalina Sampaio</b> (UNHCR) confirmed that the local consultations have revealed these problems as well, they are currently being examined for solutions by the Cash WG. Updates will follow in due</li> </ul>	<p>UNHCR hotline-080080011</p>

time. Local consultations have provided rich material for the planning of the RRP 2023 and highlighted increasing tensions among refugees and host communities with regards to cash assistance, lack of resource with unified information on available assistance and limited possibilities of local CSOs to cover utility costs. These issues are planned to be addressed with proper interventions in 2023, including for Transnistria region. Local consultations were found to be very useful and will be repeated throughout the year to inform humanitarian actors on local issues.

- **Valentina Bodrug-Lungu** (Cender Centru) flagged that it is important to constantly monitor the emerging needs, as the situation is very fluid. CSOs need flexible funding to be able to effectively address these needs. There are also issues with medical services in the regions – they are not provided free of charge as in Chisinau. An effective Complain and Feedback Mechanism is necessary to report violations of refugee rights.
- **Svetlana Georgieva** (BiazGul) flagged that in Gagauzia there is lack of specialized doctors and oftentimes refugees are referred to Chisinau. There is also lack of drugs and drugs vouchers are not available.
- **Valentina Bodrug-Lungu** (Cender Centru) mentioned that provision of drugs vouchers and mobile teams of doctors could be a solution for the above issues.
- **Alina Belobra** (Internews) asked about the main barriers in accessing information.
- **Catalina Sampaio** (UNHCR) informed that the language is not the main barrier and noted the following barriers: limited information on all actors involved, not enough consolidation of information on services provided and not enough coordination. Currently there at least 90 organizations working in the country.
- **Catalina Birsanu** (UNHCR) explained the RRP project submissions process and informed that UN agencies, INGOs, local CSOs and other stakeholders with operational capacities are expected to submit their projects of humanitarian assistance and medium-term refugee response. Project submission does not guarantee financial support but assures visibility and coordination. Project submissions form was shared with humanitarian actors on 17 October 2022 with the submission deadline of 23 October 2022. It will be transferred to the Regional Office for review on 26 October 2022. An online platform with the project data, Activity Info, will be made available in November, and the project data may be adjusted. Catalina provided detailed guidance on the project submissions form and the submission process as per attached presentation and answered questions.

<p><b>Report on RRP2023 consultations with local women CSOs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evghenia Hiora</b> (UN Women) has briefly presented the report on consultations with women-led and women rights organisations in the context of RRP 2023. The event was organized by the Gender Task Force in collaboration with the Refugee Coordination Forum on 7 October 2022 and gathered circa 40 participants from 23 organisations. The consultations highlighted the following main issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ War creates premises for loss of gender equality gains.</li> <li>▪ Localization of refugee response is of utmost important. Collaboration between humanitarian actors, local CSOs and LPAs needs to be strengthened and intensified.</li> <li>▪ To provide efficient, life-saving refugee response at the local level CSOs need flexible funding.</li> <li>▪ Protection risks remain a concern – risk of human beings trafficking associated with landlords and employers, GBV, SEA, online protection risks for children and women.</li> <li>▪ Health issues remain a concern – limited or no access to specific drugs (for diabetes, heart diseases, cancer, etc.), dental care, medical analyses, assistive equipment and devices (walkers, wheelchairs, hearing devices) at the local level. There is lack of clear information on reproductive health services for women and youth, including contraceptives and intentional abortion.</li> <li>▪ Information management and coordination remain an issue – lack or limited information on services available to refugee in the regions, especially in rural areas.</li> <li>▪ For more information, please consult the <a href="#">full report</a>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Women Voices: La Strada report on grassroots projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Doina Cazacu</b> (La Strada) reported on the results of the project “Protection of Women and Girls from GBV in the Context of Humanitarian Crisis” implemented by “La Strada” with the financial support of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 local CSOs received small grants to implement community-based interventions under this project: Consens in the north of Moldova, Fiecare Contribuie pentru Schimbare in the center of Moldova, Raza Increderei in the south of Moldova, BiazGul in Gagauzia.</li> <li>▪ Project objectives: prevention of GBV and sexual violence against refugee women and girls from Ukraine through information campaigns on GBV services and integration of refugee women and girls from Ukraine.</li> <li>▪ Fiecare Contribuie pentru Schimbare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carried out a survey on violence against refugee women that revealed that displaced women and girls are more likely to experience violence.</li> <li>- Organized Information campaigns on GBV, domestic violence and services available.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deployed mobile teams of experts offering legal and psychosocial support services.</li> <li>- Organized meetings with authorities, partners, and beneficiaries on GBV prevention.</li> <li>▪ Consens: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided immediate humanitarian assistance, provided legal and social assistance services on GBV for 225 women.</li> <li>- Organized 18 meetings in 18 communities in Moldova.</li> <li>- Informed 270 women on course of action in case of domestic violence.</li> <li>- Provided psychosocial art therapy sessions for 222 refugee children.</li> <li>- Organized 5 webinars for 15 youth specialists in social assistance on domestic violence.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Raza Increderii: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided legal assistance to 38 refugees.</li> <li>- Provided psychosocial support to 15 refugees.</li> <li>- Organized 8 group meetings of 112 participants on prevention of GBV and sexual violence in Gradinita, Zaim, Tanatari, Hagimus, Taraclia, Ucrainca and Chircaiesti.</li> <li>- Organized art workshops for 80 children and summer camp for 75 children.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ BiazGul: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided psychologic, legal, social and informational support to 232 refugees.</li> <li>- Provided cash assistance, food supplies, dignity kits and cloth vouchers to 80 refugees from Tomai, Beshgioz, Baurchi, Kazaklia, Gaidars, Ceadir-Lunga and Kopchak.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Issues identified: decrease of empathy towards refugees in the local communities, language and communication issues, lack of activities for women with children and lack of humanitarian assistance.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evghenia Hiora</b> (UN Women) suggested the next meeting to take place on 15 November 2022, 11:30-13:00. Members agreed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Material shared</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Report on CSOs consultations</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Temporary Protection draft</a></li> </ul>	