Terms of Reference
Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group (rev02)

Moldova
20 March 2022

Background
As a result of the military actions started on 24th February in Ukraine, Ukrainian inhabitants have fled their homes seeking safety, protection and assistance in neighboring countries.

Considering the emergency and the humanitarian needs of refugees from Ukraine, the country-level refugee coordination structure was set up by the Government of Moldova and UNHCR, with participation of Government Ministries and other entities, UN organizations, international and local NGOs.

The country-level refugee coordination structure foresees to coordinate a multi-partner response in support of refugees and Government of Moldova, and anticipates all partners to act together to maximize the response and avoid duplications and parallel systems. It also aims at guiding joint advocacy initiatives and resource mobilization efforts in support of the country-level response.

The Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group is one of several Sector Groups of the country-level refugee coordination structure set up by the Government of Moldova and UNHCR, with participation of Government Ministries and other entities, UN organizations, international and local NGOs.

Livelihoods and Inclusion Perspectives
The refugee crisis is unfolding in the context of ongoing energy crisis, economic implications of the conflict in Ukraine, with impacts on trade and value chains, agriculture sector, SME sector, etc. as well as implications of over two years of the COVID19 pandemic.

Given such context of Moldova, a dedicated focus of the refugee response should be placed on strengthening resilience of institutions and host communities, livelihoods of refugees through fostering economic inclusion and access to essential services and fostering social cohesion between refugees and host communities. Livelihoods and socio-economic inclusion play a vital role in ensuring refugees become more resilient, self-reliant and reduce risks and vulnerability. To address the challenges of livelihoods, socio-economic inclusion and social cohesion require a combination of short-term and long-term solutions and considerations of both local/regional/national contexts. It further requires close collaboration with the central and local authorities, and other partnership, such as with the private sector, to rally for job creation and support for advocacy efforts.
The Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group is firmly anchored in the understanding of the context in Moldova and will operate to support and align the efforts of the Government of Moldova in tackling the refugee crisis on the background of other crises as describe above.

**Structure**

The partners members of the Sector Group include representatives of organizations involved in the planning and implementation of the response activities, including, but not limited to government representatives, agencies of the United Nations system, international and national non-governmental organizations, civil society. The Sector Group will be chaired by UNDP and a representative of the State Chancellery.

**Responsibilities**

While the host Government is the primary duty-bearer in any refugee situation in their country, the members of the Livelihoods and Inclusion Solution Sector Group will support Government’s efforts in leading and coordinating the response in the respective sector.

Specifically, the **Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group will focus on:**

- Facilitating information exchange among partners in the field of livelihoods and inclusion;
- Implementing coordinated needs assessments to identify the most critical needs of refugees and host communities in the context of socio-economic integration in the host communities and ensuring their livelihoods;
- Support the crystallization of response to ensure its focus on livelihoods and socio-economic inclusion – for example identifying context-specific solutions to provide livelihoods for refugees through economic inclusion (access to formal labour markets and finance, entrepreneurship and economic opportunities, etc.) and social inclusion (social programmes and services) as well as social cohesion between refugees and host communities.
- Strengthen advocacy on positive impact that socio-economic inclusion can have on refugees and host communities and build partnerships for response – for example with the private sector, to rally for employment creation.

**The Sector Group Chairs share the following responsibilities:**

1. Call meetings to set strategies, monitor progress and share summary action points with all partners;
2. Promote inter-sectorial coordination between other Sector Groups;
3. Share information and experiences about needs/gaps analysis to guarantee a common understanding by all partners of the sector’s needs;
4. Encourage the use of common needs assessment;
5. Participate in all inter-sectoral inter-agency meetings and other relevant inter-agency processes to ensure that appropriate linkages are made with other sector’s objectives and strategies;

6. Facilitate the relationship with relevant Government counterparts and the donor community, and identify common advocacy messages.

7. Closely coordinate and ensure complementarity with other sector groups in addressing local/host communities needs