Child Protection Sub Working Group

30 March 2022
Agenda 30 March

• Child protection concerns identified by members
• Presentation on the Referral Pathways on child protection
• Update on cash-based interventions in child protection programs in the Ukraine response in Poland
• FAQs – feedback
• Coordination AOB (ToRs, etc.)
Coordination related

• TORs drafted inputs awaiting from members – by tomorrow – to be finalized this Friday and circulated

• Translation of resources:
  – Referrals to Family Courts
  – List of Family Courts

• Mou between GoP and GoU is finalized and was circulated – if policy changes take place – will inform
Child protection risks and concerns

- Separation of children
  - Challenges in identification and documentation of children at risk/ UASC
  - Limited awareness of support and appropriate referral pathways
- Challenges of parents and caregivers to adequately care
  - Guidance on how to support children with distress
  - Single parents with limited information on where to access support for child care
  - Limited reluctance to access services anticipating return
- Risk of trafficking of children from borders and reception sites
  - Regional approach to children on the move
  - Racking, identification and referrals and RFL
  - Potential risks of teenage boys/ young adults (18+) to return to Ukraine and being recruited/ pendular movements ongoing
- Risk of GBV against children
- High levels of distress/ MHPSS needs amongst children and caregivers
- Heightened risk of children with disability
- Limited awareness on child-friendly procedures and child protection risks at borders and of other stakeholders
  - Limited knowledge of large number of volunteers on child safeguarding and child protection
- Timely enrolment to education
  - Risk of adolescents to drop out of school
  - Limited number of teachers and infrastructure
  - Children/ adolescents accessing online education through MoE in Ukraine (need for online spaces where children access internet-based platforms)
- Risk of increasing host community tensions
Child protection needs assessment

- Limited data on number of children at risk/ UASC in Poland and locations of residence and assistance of children being hosted by family-based care
- Limited knowledge on the capacity of the national system to cater for large number of children in need of CP services
- Access to information on children with disabilities
- Need for child protection assessment evident
  - Key ask from members: any agency undertake an assessment, please inform the CP SWG co-chairs (UNHCR/UNICEF and FDDS) at the planning stage and upon finalization; outcomes to be made available for sectors
Referral Pathways for children at risk and unaccompanied or separated refugee children

• Important tool in the coordination of a response to ensure timely and efficient response to children at risk including UASC of all actors (not only CP actors)

• Development of a simple template to be used to document:
  – Overall roles and responsibilities in Poland
  – Actors activities and involvement for case management/non-case management programs
Referrals in case of abuse or inadequate care
Family and Guardianship Code

Criminal Code

Act on counteracting domestic violence

Act on social services

Act on juvenile delinquency proceedings
Suspicion of abuse by employee/volunteer
Suspicion of abuse by parent/carer
Suspicion of abuse by a minor
Anaccompanied or separated child
Crime
Criminal offence
Abuse
Inadequate behaviour
Abuse by employee or volunteer
Suspicion of abuse
suspend from contact with children

- threat of life or health
  - informing 112 or police 997

- human trafficking
  - contact with +48 664 974 or sending e-mail to: handelludzmbisk@policja.gov.pl

- other crime
  - notification of a crime to local police or prosecutor's office

- other form of abuse
  - abuse (humiliating, discrimination, corporal punishment)
  - termination of the contract
  - other one-time inadequate behaviour
    - disciplining talk
Abuse by a parent/carer
Suspicion of abuse by the parent/carer

- occasional inadequate behaviour (shouting, smacking)
- neglect/parental incapacity/repeating inadequate behaviour
- behaviour that constitutes a crime

- talk, referring to a psychologist
- informing local social service center
- informing police or prosecutor's office

lack of improvement
Abuse by a minor
Suspicion of abuse by a minor

- behaviour that does not constitute a criminal offence
  - talk with parents of the abusive child
  - safety and prevention plan

- behaviour that constitutes a criminal offence, perpetrated by a minor aged 13-17
  - talk with parents of the abusive child
  - Safety plan
  - informing local family court or police

- crime perpetrated by the minor above 17
  - talk with parents of the abusive and abused child
  - informing local police
Unaccompanied or separated children
Unaccompanied or separated minor

- Securing safety
- Catering for basic needs
- Information to the Family Court

Court appoints a temporary guardian

Team for evacuation of unaccompanied children

Tel. 532 402 575,
ewakuacjadzieci@mrips.gov.pl

Team for places for children

Tel. 666 383 956,
miejscadladzieci@mrpis.gov.pl
800 100 100 telefon dla rodziców i nauczycieli w sprawie bezpieczeństwa dzieci
contact: renata.szredzinska@fdds.pl

zdjęcia i ikony: https://pl.freepik.com/, pixabay.com i unsplash.com
Referral Pathways – Way forward

- Process of compiling generic referral pathways
- Specific referral pathways to Blue Dots and access to services
- Timeline:
  - next week initial template and generic by beginning of April
  - Blue Dots is live document as they are in process of development
UNHCR’s cash program

• Presentation of the cash/ registration program
Cash-based intervention in Child Protection

• Drafting a guidance document for Poland on cash for unaccompanied/ separated children
  – 2 pager on guidance on how to mainstream child protection in any CBI program
  – Guidance mainly around unaccompanied children:
    • Children can be included but only if linked to CM procedures
    • In line with GoP instructions, all unaccompanied and separated children require a legal guardian to be appointed by the Family Court
    • UASC should be receiving cash through the appointed caregiver
Identification for UASC at Blue Dots

• As of 30 March, 147 separated and unaccompanied children were identified (6.4% of all children registered are UASC)
  – DoA: 26 in Feb and 121 in March
  – Sex: 90 girls and 57 boys
  – Age:
    • 0-4 = 11 children
    • 5-11 = 57 children
    • 12-17 = 78 children
AOB

• Q&A