BI-WEEKLY FACTSHEET ON THE CASH FOR PROTECTION TASKFORCE (C4PTT) IN UKRAINE & NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Global Protection Cluster
Task Team on Cash for Protection
Regional Ukraine Response

23/03/2022

Purpose of this factsheet:

This Facsheet collates key updates, findings and resources as drawn from Humanitarian Impact situation Reports; minutes from the Cash Working Group (CWG), Protection cluster and sub-cluster/AoR meetings; IOM; UNHCR and other UN sources. It is produced on a bi-weekly basis for Protection and Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) specialists who are considering, planning for, or already using CVA integrated into protection programming to support protection outcomes for individuals and households inside and outside of Ukraine. Key findings are paired with "hints" wherever possible based on the current state of information and best practice resources on how CVA for Protection can be applied. This factsheet aims at adressing Cash for Protection broadly but is not representative of all findings, as it is as strong as contributions from Task Team Members as well most important updates shared within both Protection clusters and sub-clusters, as well as from the different active cash working groups.

HOT TOPICS AND QUESTIONS OF THE MOMENT

- Is the legal framework in response country enabling the provision of CVA to Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)?
- Where are markets not robust enough to allow CVA?
- Should CVA be used to support children in institutional care?
- How to estimate the value of protection top ups in CVA calculations?
- How to set up referral mechanisms between CVA and Protection teams that are safe from a data protection perspective?
- Are the amount made available to Ukrainian refugees as part of national protection schemes sufficient to meet their basic and protection needs?

Key contacts in the C4PTT

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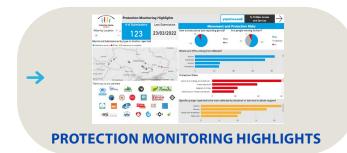
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Do not hesitate to contact us to send feedbacks, key points of interests that you would like to see included in the next factsheet!

These matrixes are filled with the help of all CVA and Protection practitioners and are used to populate the webmap. Please take some time to fill them!

Key links



- → FULL CONTACT LIST
- → C4PTT GLOBAL CLUSTER WEBSITE
- → UKRAINE CWG WEBPAGE
- → WEBMAP: CASH & CP ACTIVITIES
- → PROTECTION SERVICE MAPPING MATRIX
- NEEDS MAPPING MATRIX
- → CWG MPC PLANNING MATRIX
- ASSESSMENT MAPPING MATRIX

Key updates relevant to CVA & protection in **Ukraine**

Humanitarian access and needs: Humanitarian corridors with satisfactory security guarantees for the safe evacuation of civilians continue to be the most pressing and urgent need inside Ukraine. Over 12 million people are estimated to be stranded in affected areas or unable to leave due to heightened security risks, destruction of bridges and roads, as well as lack of resources or information on where to find safety and accommodation.

Tensions between local and evacuated citizens have been reported due to lack of resources. 1500 tons of humanitarian aid in Kyiv and 500 tons in Dnipro are waiting for opened "green corridors" to the Eastern Ukraine

Hotlines are facing a huge workload, and there is a need for a strong referral system/ better coordination between hotlines as they are getting calls from all over the country. In some cases, text is preferred.

UASC: Family separation reported on an incredibly large scale with family separations largely being planned.

Service mapping: the Protection Cluster completed its Service Mapping developed to support referral pathways to protection services => results here in Ukrainian and English; and completed webmap here. Protection Cluster partners are also delivering critical protection services, including Explosive Ordinance Risk Education (EORE) services, awareness-raising, emergency assistance, psychosocial support via hotlines, online, and face-to-face counselling. Protection Cluster partners continue to conduct monitoring visits and provide protection services to the displaced in transit and collective centres.

Rolling out of CVA: agreement of the CWG to start rolling-out CVA as soon as possible to assist people in need on a **no** regrets basis.

Cash feasibility: Co-chairs of CWG met Deputy Governor of Central Bank on 14 March. The main conclusion is that the market and banking system remains functional in a wide part of the country and CVA is feasible. Furthermore, we will need a mixed approach of cash and in-kind assistance throughout the country, but for people on the move in locations without active hostilities, MPC is one of the most adequate and effective ways to address their basic needs.

Data collection: The UN RC/HC has submitted letters ('Note Verbale') covering several issues to the government, including to confirm that humanitarian partners will carry out data collection in support of humanitarian interventions. Partners are strongly encouraged to conduct assessments in close collaboration with each other and inform RC/HC and OCHA on your plans, engaging with relevant Oblast humanitarian coordination focal points, so we align with the 'do no harm' approach and not reach out to people with numerous assessments. In all cases, please refer to the latest data and information sensitivity classification in Ukraine.

KEY FIGURES

6,5M estimated number of IDPs across Ukraine

12M affected by the conflict

CVA RECOMMENDATIONS

75USD - **2200**UAH

per person per month -

Shelter top-ups of 140USD per HH

KEY CONTACTS

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Key updates relevant to CVA & protection in **Poland**

Population profile: those fleeing are predominately women and children, but also older people – predominantly women – persons with disabilities, LGBTQI persons and third country nationals (TCNs), each with distinct needs.

Adequate accommodation is an immediate and urgent need and risk, with huge pressures on reception centres, temporary accommodation sites and, guite likely, people sleeping rough.

'A child protection crisis' – It is estimated that about 30-40% of those fleeing Ukraine are children under 14 years, many of whom are unaccompanied or separated from one or more caregivers.

After two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the additional patients will most likely put additional strain on an overstretched Polish health service. The system will require support, especially in the areas of SRH, including MNCH, and PSS" I think it needs Health is a title.

Coordination and conditions at border crossings and reception centres: there is generally a lack of organisation and coordination at the border crossing sites and reception centres, though small improvements were observed in some sites even over the course of a few days.

Beneficiary Management system: UNHCR offers the possibility for CVA implementers to use the ProGres and BIMS (biometrics) to be used for beneficiary registration in order to avoid duplication of assistance. This could also be used by partners in the other surrounding countries. Another options being discussed is to rely on the individual national Ukrainian tax number (however this wouldn't apply to minors).

Access to social protection: Ukrainian refugees will have the possibility to enroll in the Polish social protection system. This implies access to access to healthcare, benefits and allowances (notably child benefits (500PLN for each child per month). In addition, eligible Ukrainian citizens are entitled to receive a one-time payment of 300 PLN per person to cover basic expenses (food, clothing, accommodation). Ukrainian citizens are also eligible to receive payments for psychological aid. In addition, the governor (voivode) of each province, as well as local governmental units, may provide additional assistance for accommodations, food, and public transportation.

Eligibility criteria: the CWG recommends using some combination of the following proposed eligibility criteria to target those displaced persons who are vulnerable and most likely in need to rapid, temporary, assistance to cover essential expenses: Single headed HH with children or elderly, Elderly headed HH, HH with 2 or more dependents (<18, >50), Unaccompanied or separated children, HH with one or more persons with specific needs.

KEY FIGURES

1,8M refugees estimated in Poland

CVA RECOMMENDATIONS

166USD - **710**PLN/

1st person per month, and 610PLN per additional member

KEY CONTACTS

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Key updates relevant to CVA & protection in Romania

Of the total 51,261 Ukrainian refugees who are are still in Romania, 2,440 people requested a form of protection (asylum or refugee status), and over 18,000 are children (UNICEF). Although most people entering Romania are in transit (i.e., they are met at the border by family and/or friends with transportation means and are led further west towards Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland), a number have to find their own means of transportation and accommodation. Humanitarian needs assessments are ongoing by UNICEF, in close collaboration with government and civil society partners. **The key protection needs among the population arriving are protection from violence, abuse and exploitation, family-tracing, and reunification as well psycho-social care.**

Registration of UASC: the government has issued a new directive on the 17/03/2022 around the registration of UASC arriving at the border. The Border Police will be checking the documents of children vs apparent caregivers to ensure its correct. Children/caregivers without necessary paper work will be referred to the CP system at the border for an assessment.

The Romanian CP system indicated it is in the best interest of the child to have the UASC as close as possible to Ukraine.

Programmatic priorities for UASC: support for accommodation and allowance for caregivers (+ their biological family) of children who were formerly in institutional care coming into the CP system in Romania. This could be done via the offer of AirBnB as for the accommodation, as well as provision of CVA. The amount of this allowance would need to be defined or agreed by the CP system.

Formation of CWG has been endorsed by the Prime Minister Office, and all implementing agencies shall do so under the umbrella of CWG. UNHCR is to lead the coordination with the Prime Minister Office, with Romania Red Cross as Co-chair, (with the technical support of IFRC) representing national agencis; and Mercy Corps for international agencies. UNHCR will use Primes platform for enrollment (registration) and invited CWG members to partner with them.

Transfer amount – PM office suggested that CWG discuss with GII on this matter. The amount should be inline with the amount that is currently provided to asylum seekers and refugees. The distributions shall be for three rounds initially and if needed, more rounds to be provided/ supported. **Delivery mechanisms** - PM office has endorsed for 1) cash at counter; and 2) prepaid cards. PM office is not too keen on bank transfers as they would like to avoid crowds and long queues at the ATMs.

National Legislation (from central bank) around pre-paid cards and how each card needs to be linked to a participant needs lobbying, as today it is considered not feasible to open umbrella accounts and issue anonymous pre-paid cards (nenominal in Romanian). Since most of the refugees are already using credit cards, we need to find a solution around this. Refugees can only exchange grivna at BCR bank and up to 1,000 RON/refugees; only a few exchange offices accept grivna. We should advocate for more banks to offer this option for those with cash.

KEY FIGURES

89,197 refugees estimated in Romania (IOM, 21/03/2022)

89% are women and children

CVA RECOMMENDATIONS TBD

KEY CONTACTS

CWG:

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Protection cluster:

Contact info coming soon

Key updates relevant to CVA & protection in Moldova

The country has the **highest influx of refugees in proportion to its total population.** The high proportion of women creates the risk of increased gender-based violence and special protection needs for pregnant refugee women, particularly those giving birth soon.

In cooperation with the Government of Moldova, UNHCR and partners have established an inter-agency refugee response coordination structure in Moldova as part of the Refugee Plan. On Monday, March 7, UNHCR convened an inter-agency meeting to review the Refugee coordination structure and engage further in a coordinated refugee response plan. Over 120 partners attended the meeting, including the Government, local and international NGOs, and UN agencies.

The Protection Working Group (PWG) based in Chisinau was formed with 37 partners, and co-chaired by the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (Minister of Internal Affairs) and UNHCR.

Some organisations have warned of the possibility of sexual violence being used as a weapon of war, which would require countries receiving refugees to provide mental healthcare for abused women during flight. There are also reports of unaccompanied children crossing from Ukraine.

Provision of cash assistance in Moldova is a collaborative effort led by the Government (Minister of Labour and Social Affairs) and UNHCR, in close partnership with IOM, WFP, UNICEF, the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and in close partnership with NGOs. Provision of cash transfers to both refugees and the Moldovan host population, that has generously welcomed the refugees, is foreseen. UNHCR's PRIMES system will be used for the enrolment of refugees and third country nationals. It will collect biodata and fingerprints, in line with Government's practice. Enrolment will be done with CRS/Caritas (UNHCR implementing partners). The Cash Working Group co-led by the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and UNHCR is coordinating to streamline cash provision (harmonised grant size and targeting criteria).

UNDP provided **direct financial support to selected Hometown Association (HTA)** for the provision of equipment and goods required for the accommodation and catering of refugees. To-date, 25 localities have been supported to organize crowdfunding and humanitarian aid collection campaigns (from diaspora representatives / in the framework of the national "Moldova for peace" campaign.



MOLDOVA KEY FIGURES

33,931 refugees estimated in Moldova (IOM, 21/03/2022)

MOLDOVA CVA RECOMMENDATIONS

Not yet estimated.

MOLDOVA KEY CONTACTS

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Contact info coming soon