“Capacity for a Rights-Based Reception System for Moldova” (CareFor)

Project Description

Background

In 2021, Moldova announced the reorganisation of its migration and asylum system, as well as analysed the needs related to this reform, which were later communicated to the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)\(^1\). Based on that, the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (BMA) and ICMPD jointly developed the concept for the CareFor project. However, at the beginning of the project implementation, the nature of support was revised in light of the humanitarian crisis caused by the war in Ukraine. Despite this, the Republic of Moldova stays committed to its European integration and reform agenda. Moreover, it has initiated a sectoral *Programme on management of migration flows, asylum, and integration of foreigners*. The Moldovan Bureau for Migration and Asylum (BMA) – a key beneficiary and partner in the project – is also expected to go through a reorganisation as part of the Programme.

ICMPD has been present in Moldova since 2000 supporting actions in the sector on various aspects of migration and border management, and has been acting as both a grant-provider\(^2\), as well as projects implementer on the spot. The “Capacity for a Rights-Based Reception System for Moldova” (CareFor) project builds upon earlier projects, especially the recent “Development of a Forced-Return Monitoring System in the Republic of Moldova” (FReMM) project\(^3\). It will continue strengthening the human rights compliance and monitoring capacities, with particular attention to the well-being of foreign residents at the BMA’s Migrant Accommodation Centre and Refugee Reception Centre. At the same time, this action addresses some of the more immediate needs at BMA as a front-line response agency to the unprecedented inflow of displaced people from Ukraine. These include risk analysis and evaluation, ongoing external communication, adapting in-house IT systems, and targeted assistance to displaced people.

Duration and Budget

17 months (December 2021 – May 2023)

210 000 EUR, funded by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland

Beneficiaries

The project targets the key migration management authority in the Republic of Moldova, namely the Bureau for Migration and Asylum of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Moreover, the project targets the bodies that have the mandate to monitor human rights compliance such as the People’s Advocates Office (Ombudsman) and the NGO Law Centre of Advocates. Last but not least, the SKUMO\(^4\) consortium of Ukrainian volunteer organizations in Moldova benefit as part of their assistance to displaced persons through this project. The final beneficiaries are migrants, including displaced people and potential returnees, as well as the society at large.

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\(^3\) Funded by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland and implemented from December 2020 to February 2022.

\(^4\) World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations (SKUMO/ СКУМО – Світовий Конгрес Українських Молодіжних Організацій).
Overall objective
The overall objective of the project is to contribute to a functioning migration management system in the Republic of Moldova in compliance with human rights as enshrined in relevant international, regional, and national legislation.

Specific objectives
1) Strengthen the analytical and communication capacities at the Bureau for Migration and Asylum
2) Improve the compliance with human rights standards and capacities of relevant institutions
3) Contribute to the provision of support to displaced people from Ukraine in Moldova

Components and Activities

0) Project Management
ICMPD is responsible for the overall management of the project, including regular coordination with the stakeholders, work planning, budget expenditure, visibility and external communication, and donor reporting.

1) Analytical and Communication Capacities
Activity 1.1: To support with continuous risk analysis and evaluation
Activity 1.2: To assist with ongoing external communication
Activity 1.3: To help adapt the in-house IT systems to the humanitarian crisis

2) Human Rights Compliance
Activity 2.1: To support the human rights monitoring of the practical procedures for displaced people
Activity 2.2: To support maintenance of human rights safeguarding at BMA’s Accommodation Centers
Activity 2.3: To improve monitoring skills through piloted monitoring missions of return operations

3) Support to Displaced People
Activity 3.1: To provide assistance to displaced persons from Ukraine in Moldova

Expected Results
At the end of the project, it is expected that the Bureau for Migration and Asylum will have enhanced its analytical, communication, and technical capacities relevant to the humanitarian crisis, while having improved human rights compliance in handling the inflow of displaced people. At the same time, the other project beneficiaries - the People’s Advocates Office (Ombudsman) and the NGO Law Centre of Advocates – will have increased their human rights monitoring capacity.

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