KEY FIGURES

136,956 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

96,512 refugees present in Romania (as of 2 July 2023).

44,442 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023.

43,129 refugees assisted in 2022.

52,700 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023.

65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

3,360 refugees supported with livelihoods & employment services in 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

On 14 July, a Refugee Coordination Forum meeting was convened by the Inter-Agency Coordination platform to take mid-year stock on the implementation progress and the funding situation of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) 2023 in Romania. Nearly 60 participants of NGOs, humanitarian organizations, UN agencies and embassies attended the briefing in Bucharest. Dr. Raed Arafat, Secretary of State, Head of Department of Emergency Situations and UNHCR Representative as Inter-Agency Refugee Coordinator delivered remarks during the briefing. In 2023, 34 humanitarian actors (14 national NGOs, 14 international NGOs and 6 Agencies) appealed for US$ 153.6M for activities for the refugees from Ukraine hosted in Romania. Over the past weeks, the Inter-Agency team conducted a Programme Criticality exercise to assess urgent sectorial needs to support refugees from Ukraine in Romania. Main financial gaps are affecting activities concerning protection (such as prevention of and response to gender-based violence, counter-trafficking etc), education and health. So far in 2023, the RRP in Romania is 37 per cent funded.

The awareness campaign launched by UNHCR to sustain refugee inclusion and social cohesion in Romania has received, in its second week, significant response from the general public. Within two weeks since its launch on 3 July, the campaign messages have reached an audience of more than 1,023,000 people through various channels, including social media, billboards in major cities in Romania (Bucharest, Brasov, Constanta, Cluj, Timisoara), and radio. The awareness campaign this week has also addressed, on its landing page, myths and facts concerning refugees in Romania.

RESPONSE

From 12 to 14 July, UNHCR organized three focus group discussions with people with disability in Constanta. Nearly 50 participants attended the discussions and opened a dialogue on three key areas: access to medicine and health system, experience in disability certification / submitting documents to access social support, and access to accommodation. UNHCR will plan its response and advocacy measures based on the outcome of these discussions.

During the pilot phase of a new cash for protection programme in Romania, vulnerable refugees will be supported with four monthly instalments of 630 RON per refugee per month to help them meet the most pressing needs (food, medicines, hygiene etc). So far, UNHCR has identified and enrolled 1,969 vulnerable refugees in 583 families for the new programme. UNHCR has supported 44,442 refugees from Ukraine with cash assistance since the beginning of 2023.

On 4 July, the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network organised a day-long Training of Trainers (ToT) on PSEA in Iasi. Nearly 30 staff from 9 NGOs and UNHCR participated in the session that aimed at providing tools to create and maintain an environment that prevents SEA. UNHCR also organised an awareness raising session and a focus group discussion on "acceptable and unacceptable behaviour of humanitarian actors with refugee residing at the Nicolina Center in Iasi. So far in 2023, nearly 400 individuals have received training from UNHCR on different aspects of refugee protection.

I am studying Romanian history and culture to be able to communicate and understand people better.

-Maryna, a refugee woman from Ukraine hosted in Romania.

FUNDING SITUATION

As of 27 June 2023
$59.5 million
UNHCR's financial requirements 2023

54% funded

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus ( unhcr.org

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