Weekly Update #59

14 August 2023

Key figures
139,875 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.
95,639 refugees present in Romania (as of 30 July 2023).
48,718 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023.
43,129 refugees supported in 2022.
7,025 refugees provided with legal support.
605 refugees with disabilities.

ROMANIA

Highlight
UNHCR has signed grant agreements with three refugee-led organizations, i.e. Asociatia Comunitatea Ucrainenilor din Medias (ACUM), Asociatia Ucraineni in Iasi, and Association Support for Ukrainian Community in Galati. These grant agreements aim to support refugee-led organisations in their respective initiatives and contribute to their capacity development. The programme seeks to ensure that displaced and host communities are treated as equal partners, not passive recipients of aid. With the support of the grants, these three refugee-led organisations will promote social inclusion through summer camps and facilitate access to services and livelihood opportunities through an online platform.

Response
UNHCR continues to help refugees meet their basic needs. During 1 to 4 August, UNHCR distributed core relief items (CRI) supporting nearly 2,000 refugees hosted in the outskirts of Bucharest, Constanta, Galati, Bacau, Neamt, Botosani and Prahova. The CRI included hygiene kits, bedding items, as well as potable water. UNHCR also conducted needs assessments with the refugees residing in the respective counties to plan future CRI distributions.

Before the war, I worked as a lawyer. We took the decision to leave after the attacks, keeping in mind that my daughter is a person with disabilities.
-Lana, a 39 year old refugee mother from Odesa, Ukraine hosted in Romania.

CRI Distribution and Needs Assessments in Botosani, Neamţ, Gura Humorului and Tulcea last week.

Coordination
On 3 August, UNHCR hosted a Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Working Group meeting at AIDRom’s Office in Timisoara, with in-person participation of the Employment Agency (AJOFM), IOM, Social Assistance Directorate of Timisoara Municipality (DASC), and Save the Children, as well as online participation of other partners. During the meeting, the partners identified good practices and opportunities related to the creation of refugee-led mentorship networks aimed at facilitating discussion on how to seek and earn employment in Romania.

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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