The Russian Federation launched a military offensive against Ukraine on 24 February 2022. As of today, more than 4.6 million refugees have fled Ukraine, making this the fastest growing refugee crisis since World War II. A further 7.1 million people have been displaced internally within Ukraine. That is 11.7 million people forced to flee their homes in under seven weeks - more than a quarter of the population of Ukraine.

Some 13 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.

Many people who are trapped are unable to meet their basic needs including food, water and medicines. The delivery of life-saving aid remains challenging, with a lack of safe humanitarian access. We continue striving to reach hard-hit areas with life-saving assistance as part of inter-agency humanitarian convoys.

UNHCR continues to call for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, respect for international humanitarian law, and for neighbouring countries to continue keeping their borders open to those fleeing.
UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- As of 11 April, OHCHR recorded 4,335 civilian casualties in the country: 1,842 killed and 2,493 injured, although the actual figure is likely to be considerably higher.

- The UN Crisis Coordinator for Ukraine issued a statement on 8 April expressing shock at reports of a missile attack on the railway station in Kramatorsk, in northern Donetsk oblast, where at least 39 civilians were killed, including 4 children, and at least 100 injured. The UN calls for an immediate investigation and continues calling on all parties to allow safe passages, prevent attacks on essential transport for civilians, and for life-saving relief supplies to reach those unable to move or evacuate.

- Attacks continue on the cities of Kharkiv and Mariupol. Mariupol is reportedly on the brink of humanitarian catastrophe. Mariupol’s Mayor Boichenko called on the international community to help push forward evacuation processes for 130,000 people still trapped in the city.

- Shelling was also reported in Luhansk, Kharkiv, Donetsk and southern Kherson oblasts. More than 2,200 people were evacuated from Luhansk from 8 to 10 April. Evacuation from the oblast’s Hirskie and Popasna was not possible due to ongoing shelling.

- As of last week, almost 96,000 people in 30 settlements across eastern oblasts were without electricity, while water supplies have been completely cut off in Popasna, Rubizhne and Sievierodonetsk.

- The security situation in the north of the country is reportedly improving. The State Emergency Service of Ukraine has started clearing explosive ordnance in areas around Kyiv.

Key figures - UKRAINE
- 196,952 people reached with essential food and non-food items, winter clothes and shelter materials
- 52,762 people received protection assistance at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines
- 61,099 people enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance. 11,633 already received first payment.
- 18,900 people received assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard hit areas
- 60 buildings assessed with local authorities and 13 already being refurbished and supported to increase accommodation capacity

TARGETS
- 1.1 million people will receive protection assistance and information
- 847,000 NFIs to be delivered
- 200 reception and collective centres will be equipped with essential items
- 360,000 people will receive multipurpose cash assistance
UNHCR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- Since the beginning of cash enrolment in Ukraine on 17 March, 61,099 persons have been enrolled and 11,633 persons have received a first payment.

- Enrolment started in Lviv on 17 March, followed by Uzhhorod, Mukachevo, Vinnytsia, Khmelnytsky, and Dnipro, Ternopil and Chernivtsi this week. Enrolment is at over 5,000 persons per day and rising, with the aim of reaching 360,000 people with multipurpose cash assistance in the first three months.

- The Ukraine Cash Working Group, which now consists of 17 humanitarian partners, published its latest dashboard on the rollout of the multipurpose cash assistance programme as of 6 April.

Protection

- 52,762 people have received targeted protection assistance at border crossing points, online and in locations where people have fled.

- This includes protection counselling and services, including psychosocial support and legal aid. The overall figure includes more than 15,000 people who received information and counselling through hotlines; over 12,100 people who received protection support or counselling; over 5,100 people who received psychosocial support or psychological first aid; some 2,700 people who received legal counselling or assistance; more than 2,700 who received social support; in addition to over 470 protection monitoring missions.

- UNHCR continues to carry out needs assessments in transit and reception centres to increase the reception capacity for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Some 60 assessments have been carried out with local authorities, while 13 centres are currently being refurbished. This is in addition to 73 other centres which were already equipped with NFIs to increase hosting capacity.

- UNHCR and partner Proliska are providing hot meals at Dnipro railway station where evacuation buses and trains are arriving. There is an influx of evacuees in the past few days with around 1,200 people sleeping in the station per night last week.

- The Protection Cluster released an updated map of current Operational Presence of Protection Partners.

Core Relief Items

- To date, more than 196,952 people have benefitted from core relief items and food assistance across eastern, central and western Ukraine. This includes over 27,100 people who received food assistance, while the remainder received core relief items, winter clothes or emergency shelter and support.

- Access to the hardest hit areas remains challenging with continuing security risks, both for affected civilians as well as humanitarian actors. Despite this, UNHCR, as part of interagency humanitarian convoys, has reached 18,900 people in the hardest hit areas with life-saving assistance. This includes the latest inter-agency convoy on 7 April, which reached Volnovakha with more than 10 tons of humanitarian assistance including tarpaulin, household and hygiene items, food kits, baby food, bottled water and blankets.

- UNHCR has stocked CRIIs in Dnipro such as blankets, tarpaulins and sleeping bags, for approximately 34,500 people where intensified hostilities are expected. An additional 28,000 items are in the pipeline. UNHCR will deliver assistance through the State Emergency Service in 6 locations (Dobropillya, Sloviansk, Kramatorsk, Bakhmout, Konstantinovka and Pokrovsk). Items for some 9,000 people are already on the way to Bakhmout, Sloviansk and Dobropillya.
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

HUNGARY

Key figures - HUNGARY

• 35,200 core relief items pre-positioned for dispatch to Ukraine
• 1,600 people provided with protection support including legal info, counselling, psychosocial support, and information

Protection

• UNHCR is addressing protection and reception gaps, including vulnerability screenings at the Help Points and the Záhony station, and will roll out systematic psychological first aid training among all frontline workers and volunteers given the increasing mental health needs of arrivals. UNHCR continues to monitor and provide counselling to refugees at Záhony train station and has distributed information materials to new arrivals, including on temporary protection, available services and UNHCR support.

• UNHCR is working with partners on the ground to coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by refugees arriving from Ukraine. UNHCR chairs the Protection Working Group, under which GBV is a standing agenda item and meets weekly. Actor and rapid service mapping is ongoing and initial GBV referral pathways are under development.

• On 11 April, UNHCR set up a Blue Dot in the Zahony train station at the Hungary-Ukraine border, providing counselling, identification and referral of vulnerable arrivals from Ukraine to service providers. Rollout of Blue Dots is underway for other locations in Hungary, as well as in Slovakia and Czech Republic.

• In the past two weeks, UNHCR partner Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC) assisted 434 people (including 250 children) with legal information and assistance including through group sessions, while providing training and capacity building for humanitarian partners and volunteers.

UNHCR and UNICEF are jointly establishing ‘Blue Dots’ in 6 countries. Some 30 Blue Dot hubs will be established, while 10 are already operational including in Poland, Moldova and Romania.

The Blue Dots are one-stop-shops, and safe spaces which provide a minimum set of protection services for children, families and others with specific needs, in support of existing services and government efforts. They will improve accessibility and standardization of services provided, as well as predictability through a recognizable label – the ‘Blue Dot’.

‘STAY SAFE’ CAMPAIGN

UNHCR has launched a ‘Stay Safe’ campaign aimed at refugees fleeing Ukraine. The campaign raises awareness of risks related to gender-based violence and trafficking. The campaign is being rolled out across the region through the distribution of posters, leaflets, online messages and most recently through social media with information and tips for people on the move.

In the past week alone, messages reached almost 870,000 people through social media.
Throughout the month of March, UNHCR partner Menedek provided 975 persons (including 472 children) with psychological screening and psychological first aid, including through individual and group counselling, while flagging vulnerable cases for referral. Individual case management was carried out for people seeking assistance with regard to employment, education and accommodation.

UNHCR partner Next Step provided over 160 persons with basic needs assistance including warm meals, core relief items, and MHPSS support. Social counselling was provided on visa and residency procedures—including for third country nationals—as well as advice on accessing accommodation, education, and employment.

UNHCR is liaising with the national Hungarian Asylum Authority, NDGAP, and its partner organization Hungarian Helsinki Committee to facilitate the transportation of refugees staying in temporary shelters across the country to NDGAP offices for those wishing to apply for temporary protection.

Core Relief Items

UNHCR currently has the following stock prepositioned in a warehouse in Hungary for dispatch to Ukraine: 13,248 thermal blankets; 14,800 jerry cans; 2,448 solar lamps; 2,467 kitchen sets and 2,300 plastic tarpaulins.

Key figures - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

- 8,585 people have received multipurpose cash assistance so far
- 754 refugees departed to Austria, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania as part of the EU Solidarity Platform
- 3 Blue Dots operational, with 2 more under way
- 7,718 refugees transported from Palanca border crossing point in Moldova to Husi in Romania, with support of UNHCR and IOM

Protection

- So far, in the context of the Solidarity Platform, 11 Member States - including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Spain - as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland have made pledges to welcome 19,520 people transiting Moldova.
- Out of the pledges made so far, a total of 754 persons were transferred to the EU from Moldova, including to Austria, Germany, and Latvia by air and to Lithuania by bus. UNHCR provided support to the vulnerability screening process and collaborated with IOM on assistance to the organization of departure procedures, including through counselling refugees and providing luggage.

UNHCR together with UNFPA leads on the gender-based violence (GBV) response for refugees in Moldova. The GBV Sub-Working Group includes 34 partners. UNHCR and partners are working to link emergency response to existing mechanisms with clear GBV referral pathways to multi-sectoral response services as well as to cash and transfer programs.

68,000 refugees have so far been reached with trafficking awareness messages including through the distribution of flyers at border crossing points, and the use of the hotline, based on the ‘Stay Safe’ campaign initiated by UNHCR across the emergency response.

In coordination with the Government, UNHCR has launched a Communicating with Communities campaign. The UNHCR Help Page for Moldova is now live, and the government website dopomoga.gov.md synchronizes all information for new arrivals and local persons wishing to support them. There is a section of the website for the booking of onward bus travel and for information on air transfers. There is also a “Green Line” hotline (0800 800 11) where arrivals can request food and basic items. UNHCR has started a network of “community navigators,” working with members of the Ukrainian community to ensure that vulnerable refugees can connect with the web-based resources.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- So far, 8,585 refugees have received multipurpose cash assistance in Moldova since 25 March. This number continues to increase while the programme is scaled up with the Government of Moldova and WFP. So far, 5 enrolment centres are operational, with mobile teams covering other locations.

Core Relief Items

- UNHCR has handed over stocks of core relief items to the Government for onward distribution to those in need including: 15,000 sanitary napkins; 20,000 soaps; 10,000 toothbrushes and toothpaste; 7,968 blankets; 5,000 solar lamps; 3,000 baby kits; 2,500 mattresses; 1,000 plastic tarpaulins; 1,000 respiratory masks (COVID); 250 family tents and 250 winterization kits.

- UNHCR currently has a stockpile in Moldova of: 33,456 high thermal blankets, 4,852 sleeping bags, 3,322 family tents, 3,000 winterization kits, 1,536 solar lamps, 1,040 kitchen sets, 1,000 plastic tarpaulins.

- UNHCR has also provided material assistance to the Government of Moldova to increase capacities in the form of vehicles, laptops, generators and other office equipment.
Key figures - POLAND

- **14,458 refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance** as of 11 April
- **305,000 people** will benefit from core relief items dispatched to warehouses in Ukraine
- **3 Blue Dots** operating and scale up to other locations underway

Protection

- There are currently **2 UNHCR-UNICEF Blue Dot Hubs** operating at the cash enrolment centres in Warsaw and Krakow, with a ‘Light’ Blue Dot at the Medyka Border Crossing Point. Additional locations are being identified for expansion, including a Blue Dot at the Tesco reception centre in Przemysł, one of Poland’s largest reception centres.
- Blue Dot protection staff in Warsaw and Krakow are supporting the cash enrolment teams in identification of persons with specific needs for support and referral to services and communicating with refugees on cash assistance modalities, as well as other information needs.
- UNHCR is working with partners on the ground to coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by refugees. UNHCR is in touch with the national Polish NGOs that have been providing GBV-related services.
- UNHCR continues to work closely with UNICEF and the Government on child protection coordination, and further roll out of Blue Dots, as well as information management around child protection. The Child Protection Sub-Working Group unites 39 actors. **Key child protection concerns include challenges in identification and documentation of children at risk, limited identification, registration and documentation of children at risk.**
- In Warsaw, from 21 March to 7 April, **some 600 refugees (254 families) were provided with protection counselling**, with key concerns including: healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support, education, cash-related questions; child protection and social services, and employment services and opportunities.
- **UNHCR visited four accommodation sites in Krakow** and held discussions with the centre coordinators on the current situation and the needs, in order to identify areas for support. **UNHCR continues monitoring reception points, train stations and border crossing points.**
- **Anti-trafficking posters, banners, and over 50,000 leaflets have been distributed at border crossing points and reception centres.** These include banners in Ukrainian and English at border entry points into Poland to raise awareness of immediate risks for self-protection. Materials have also been circulated via Telegram and UNHCR social media.
- **The UNHCR Help Poland page** is now the most visited Help country site globally. It has exceeded 682,000 visits and 1,635,000 page views with close to 62,000 visitors from Ukraine. 45% have accessed the site directly and 23% have accessed the site via social media. 86% of users have accessed the site via a mobile device as of 11 April.
- The ‘Information for New Arrivals from Ukraine’ page on the UNHCR Help site is available in English, Polish and Ukrainian and is updated daily to include additional content on Cash, Health, anti-fraud, and links to resources for legal stay and social services.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- On 21 March, UNHCR and partners began the roll-out of the multipurpose cash assistance programme in Warsaw. **UNHCR opened its second cash enrolment centre on 7 April at the Tauron Arena in Krakow.** A total of 370 persons (178 families) were enrolled on the first day. A second centre in Warsaw will open on 13 April. From 21 March to 11 April, a total of **14,458 persons (5,971 families) were enrolled.**

Core Relief Items

- **106 trucks have travelled from Poland to Ukraine to dispatch** hundreds of thousands of core relief items to five warehouses in Chernivtsi, Dnipro, Lviv Solomovo and Uzhhorod for distribution to the increasing numbers of IDPs in need within Ukraine.
- **These include:** 137,500 high thermal blankets; 35,000 regular blankets; 28,500 sheets of tarpaulin to repair shelters; 20,880 towels; 20,000 winter clothing kits/boxes; 13,745 solar lamps; 12,000 kitchen sets; 11,700 jerry cans; 10,000 sleeping bags; 8,800 hygiene parcels; 5,720 pillows; 4,511 winter jackets; 4,312 mattresses; 1,500 quilts; 10 Rubb halls.
- **UNHCR is also working on distributing CRIs including winter clothing for men, women and children to the cities of Warsaw and Krakow.**
**ROMANIA**

**Key figures - ROMANIA**
- 369 refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance as part of pilot - as of 11 April
- Over 5,724 refugees received in-person counselling and assistance
- Some 6,758 refugees provided with information and counselling over the phone
- 7,821 refugees transported from Palanka border crossing point in Moldova to Husi in Romania, with support of UNHCR and IOM
- Over 100,000 core relief items pre-positioned for distribution in Romania and dispatch to Ukraine

**Protection**
- There are currently three Blue Dots operational in Romania including in Sighet, Siret and at Isaccea border crossing point. The Blue Dot in Sighet was expanded with an additional container for use as a Mother & Child space, as well as for counselling by the child protection authorities and UNHCR partner.
- UNHCR is working with partners to coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by the refugees. Partners are working on finalizing GBV referral pathways and preparing for capacity building of the frontline workers on core concepts and safe disclosures.
- The latest PSEA Network met on 7 April, with 14 organizations attending. Initial outcomes of the rapid risk assessment were discussed. The first draft of the report will be shared this week. UNHCR also carried out training on PSEA for partner ICAR Foundation, covering core commitments and requirements of UN and partner staff as part of partner capacity building plans around PSEA.
- UNHCR continues to provide in-person protection information and counselling as well as through hotlines. To date, over 5,724 people have received protection support and information in person, and more than 6,758 have received information and counselling through helplines. Information requested focused on accommodation, transportation, medical services, school enrolment support, job opportunities and temporary protection.
- UNHCR assisted the local Search and Rescue Team from Galati, Romania, to enter Ukraine and deliver medical supplies to a local hospital in Odesa through liaison with UNHCR Office in Dnipro and partner “The Tenth of April” in Odesa.
- Working closely with UNICEF, UNHCR has improved coordination on child protection through the first meeting of the Child Protection Sub-Working group as well as actively participating in government coordination mechanisms on child protection and youth.
**Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

- The pilot for the cash distribution and enrolment was rolled out in Bucharest on 4 April. **During the first week, 369 refugees (129 families) have been enrolled to receive cash assistance.** Over 90% of those refugees enrolled are women and children.

- The pilot programme is currently being scaled up in coordination with the Government, including establishment of enrolment centres at various locations across the country. **UNHCR aims to provide cash assistance to some 80,000 vulnerable refugees.**

- The enrolment lists have been shared with the financial service provider Rapyd for processing of payments, with the aim of making the cash available to the beneficiaries within 5 to 7 days after enrolment.

**Core Relief Items**

- UNHCR has three warehouses in Bucharest for storing core relief items. UNHCR uses its storage hub to deliver humanitarian assistance inside Ukraine and preposition for contingency needs in Romania.

- Pre-positioned stock for contingency needs in Romania currently includes: **17,581** winter jackets; **8,400** jerry cans; **5,040** sheets; **5,005** mattresses; **3,000** kitchen pots; **2,700** solar lamps; **2,646** cutlery sets; **2,340** kitchen sets; over **2,000** blankets, **1,664** bedsheets; **1,200** kitchen plates **720** tents and **65** tarpaulins.

- UNHCR also has **32,712** blankets, **8,800** jerry cans, **6,860** solar lamps and **2,025** kitchen sets which arrived by airlift last week and are prepared for dispatch to Ukraine this week.

- UNHCR is prepositioning **2,000 mattresses** donated by IKEA to the Department of Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Interior of Romania.

**SLOVAKIA**

**Protection**

- UNHCR and UNICEF are in discussions regarding a joint strategy to address gaps and challenges related to education including a lack of data, limited capacities of local schools for the enrolment of Ukrainian children, and lack of psychosocial support for children or parents.

- UNHCR conducted shelter and accommodation rapid assessment visits at the Vyšné Nemecké border crossing point, Michalovce registration centre and Choňkovce accommodation centre, as part of broader efforts to monitor shelters, enhance cooperation with authorities and provide support to enhance national hosting capacities for refugees.

- UNHCR is chairing the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Coordination Group, convened under the Protection Working Group. The group is coordinating information and communication needs assessments in collaboration with the IM Working Group.

- **UNHCR is working to scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by refugees.** Members of the Protection Working Group agreed to have a dedicated discussion forum for coordination of GBV activities. **GBV actor mapping is ongoing, and UNHCR has been able to identify several women-led organizations to support the response.**

- **UNHCR is setting up a GBV coordination structure** in order to address the needs identified in a recent rapid needs and risk assessment undertaken by the NGO VOICE, in partnership with women’s rights organisations in Slovakia. Countries assessed so far include Poland, Moldova and Romania. Initial findings highlighted that while urgent immediate needs were mainly addressed, some longer-term needs including access to healthcare, the labour market, education etc. remain unaddressed; inadequate information on rights and entitlements; and a need for empowerment and livelihoods opportunities.

**Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

- Last week, the Cash Working Group held its first meeting, chaired by the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Family and UNHCR. Discussions are ongoing regarding modalities for the rollout of the multipurpose cash assistance programme in Slovakia.

**COORDINATION**

**Ukraine**

UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters. As of 1 March, the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster was activated in Ukraine. In addition, as co-lead of the Logistics Working Group in Ukraine, UNHCR is facilitating the movement of humanitarian convoys in coordination with OCHA.

The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster has established a national coordination office in Lviv and plans to establish sub-national offices in Chernivtsi, Dnipro Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia. Both the Child Protection and GBV Sub-Clusters are similarly expanding their presence.

**Regional Refugee Response**

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures at the regional and country level, in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the government’s lead role in the response. A Regional Refugee Response Plan has been developed and is currently under adjustment; over 100 organizations will contribute for a ten-month period through the end of the year.
Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, have been established at country level in Belarus, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, to support the efforts of the concerned governments. The structures are meant to be agile and shall be adjusted as the situation evolves.

In Hungary, on 8 April, UNHCR held its regular inter-agency coordination meeting. On 24 March, UNHCR organized the first Protection Working Group meeting, led by UNHCR. This was followed on 25 March by the first PSEA Task Force meeting.

In Slovakia, on 1 April, the Cash Working Group held its first meeting, co-chaired by UNHCR and the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Family. It was attended by more than 30 humanitarian actors. On 8 April, the IM Working Group met to discuss the first Multi-Sector Needs Assessment. On 8 April, UNHCR held the third Protection Working Group meeting.

In Romania, UNHCR has set up the Refugee Coordination Model structure with several sector Working Groups co-led by UNHCR and other UN agencies, government counterparts and NGOs. The leads report to the Inter-Sector Coordination group led by UNHCR and the Government. Working group co-leads, together with national NGOs will participate in the Government-led working groups on Health, Education, Labour, Housing, the Vulnerable and Children to ensure coordination and harmonization with the assistance of humanitarian and Government actors. On 7 April, the State Counsellor responsible to coordinate in the Intra-Government response presented to UNHCR and the leads of the Inter-Agency Working Groups the draft Government Action Plan to respond to the crisis. On 11 April, UNHCR and the Inter-Agency Leads provided written comments to the draft Action Plan.

In Moldova, an Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been established with more than 100 participating members. Separate Sectoral Working Group meetings have also begun, including Protection, Child Protection and Gender-based Violence (GBV), Education, PSEA, Gender Task Force, Accommodation, Health and Nutrition, Logistics and Supply, Durable Solutions and Resilience, and Information Management. The Government of Moldova has established a Single Emergency Management Centre under the Prime Minister’s Office, where UNHCR represents the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, ensuring coordination between the two.

In Poland, UNHCR has established a Refugee Coordination Forum that includes local and international actors across eight sectors and working groups. Specifically, UNHCR is currently leading the Protection Sector, GBV Sub-Sector, Technical Cash Working Group, Basic Needs Sector and the Logistics Sector. The Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group is also chaired by UNHCR.

FINANCIAL NEEDS
Links
Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan
UN: Ukraine Flash Appeal
UNHCR: Supplementary Appeal

4,656,509
Refugees fleeing Ukraine
7.1 million
Internally displaced persons
12.65 million
people directly affected by war
Data as of 12 April 2022