



Regional Refugee Response Plan
For the Ukraine Situation

UKRAINE SITUATION

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

MARCH - DECEMBER 2022



CREDITS

UNHCR wishes to acknowledge the contributions of all relevant partners at regional and country level, in the preparation of this document.

MAP & STATISTICS NOTE

The map in this publication does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of UNHCR concerning the legal status of any country or territory or area, of its authorities, or the delimitation of frontiers or boundaries.

All statistics are provisional and subject to change. Except where indicated otherwise, all population figures provided in this report are as of 23 April 2022.

COVER PHOTO CONTENT

Poland. A refugee woman from Ukraine waits to register for cash assistance in Warsaw. © UNHCR/Maciej Moskwa

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Foreword



The response to the refugee exodus from Ukraine has been characterized by unprecedented solidarity, collective action and clarity of purpose. In a matter of weeks, more than five million people—predominantly women and children—have been forced to seek protection in neighbouring host countries in what now constitutes the largest and fastest growing refugee crisis in recent history. Countries in the region have kept open their borders. At local level, municipalities have made extraordinary efforts to accommodate new arrivals and include them in local services. Grassroots organization and legions of volunteers have mobilized relief items and welcomed refugees at border crossing points, temporary reception centres and transit hubs. National authorities and regional institutions moved quickly to ensure temporary protection throughout Europe, the USA, Canada, Brazil and beyond. Philanthropic organizations, civil society and private sector

companies responded quickly and with unprecedented generosity. It is, in short, an affirmation of the principles at the heart of the Global Compact on Refugees: namely, solidarity and collaboration, responsibility-sharing, and collective efforts to foster inclusion in national responses and in local host communities.

This same sense of urgency and shared endeavor is evident among the 142 actors who came together to craft this Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP). Our partners include UN agencies, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement members, national and international non-governmental organizations, faith-based institutions, local civil societies and academic institutions. It is a “whole-of-society” response to support refugees and the national authorities as we jointly mitigate the impact of houses being destroyed, families being torn apart, and the lasting trauma that displacement often creates in those who are forced to flee their homes. Creating this plan required that we quickly organize, establish coordination systems where none had previously existed, and work together to ensure a holistic, government-led response. As elsewhere, the responsibility to protect and include lies with host states. Neighbouring host countries, particularly Member States of the European Union, have existing mechanisms and strong capacities to respond. The RRP was therefore crafted to reflect the strong national architecture already in place. It is inevitable, however, that the scale of new arrivals and the breadth of their needs will require us all to step up further to mitigate the impact on existing services and national social protection systems, regardless of the remarkable hospitality of local host communities. Our task is not to substitute but to support, to advise and to complement existing services and capacities—with urgency, efficiency and innovation, and in close collaboration and in support of national and local authorities. I am confident that this plan provides a robust, multisectoral and agile framework to guide our work for the remainder of 2022.

The launch of the RRP is set against the backdrop of continued conflict in Ukraine. To date, more than seven million people have been internally displaced by fighting, with millions more impacted or at-risk. We should not forget that the conflict in Ukraine will have impacts far beyond Europe, including the increased risks to global food security and potential famine. The humanitarian needs and prospects of further forced displacement are therefore likely to grow in the weeks and months ahead—in Ukraine, in neighbouring host countries, and elsewhere. I am grateful for the financial support received so far; however robust and flexible funding towards the actors involved and the activities outlined in this plan will be crucial to sustaining the solidarity for new arrivals from Ukraine and reaffirming support for the continued protection and inclusion of refugees.

Let me conclude by expressing my sincere gratitude to all the partners represented in this RRP for their engagement and dedication. The challenges ahead of us will only be met through our collective, coordinated and joined-up action, and we will all continue to count on your steadfast commitment and support.

Pascale Moreau

Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Ukraine Situation
UNHCR, Regional Director for Europe



Regional Refugee Response Plan
For the Ukraine Situation



Regional Chapter

IMAGE: Moldova. A young refugee from Ukraine has a hot drink at the Palanca border crossing in Moldova before boarding a bus to be transferred to Romania. © UNHCR/Mihai von Eremia



At a Glance

Regional Planned Response

March-December 2022



8.3 M*

PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION



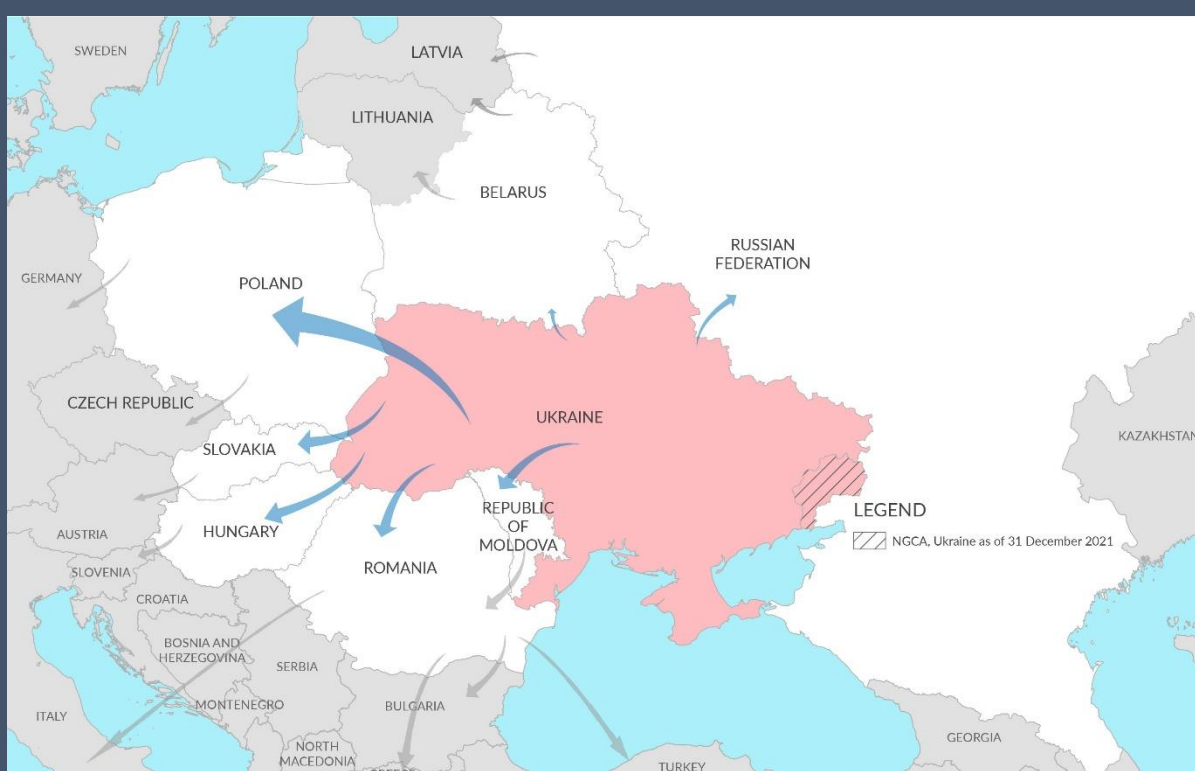
USD 1.85 B

TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS



142

PARTNERS
INVOLVED



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

COUNTRY	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN USD	PARTNERS INVOLVED
Poland	740,671,647	87
Republic of Moldova	414,194,842	40
Romania	239,858,526	23
Hungary	105,302,467	22
Slovakia	91,946,672	21
Regional (including other countries)	258,525,883	19

* The planning figure of 8.3 million refers to the total projected entries, including those remaining in their initial host countries (4.2 million), as well as those transiting on further in the region and beyond (4.1 million), by December 2022. For country projection breakdown, see the table on page 8. Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

Regional Chapter

Introduction

After eight years of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine which had left millions of people in need of humanitarian assistance, the Russian Federation launched a military offensive on the country on 24 February 2022. The war, and the intensity and nature of the fighting with indiscriminate strikes damaging or destroying civilian as well as private and communal infrastructure, have caused fear and the tragic loss of human life. It has triggered one of the fastest-growing displacement and humanitarian crises on record, pushing millions into internal displacement and abroad in search of safety. Some 5,381 civilian casualties have been recorded in Ukraine – 2,435 killed and 2,946 injured – however the actual figures may be considerably higher.¹

More than a quarter of Ukraine's population has been forced to flee since 24 February: over 5.1 million refugees – 90 per cent of whom are women and children – have fled to neighbouring countries,² with many immediately continuing their journey to other countries. An additional 7.7 million people are internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside Ukraine (60 per cent women and 40 per cent men)³ and another 13 million people have been directly affected in the hardest-hit areas across the country. Moreover, many people remain trapped in areas of escalating hostilities and are facing critical and potentially fatal shortages of food, water, medicine and emergency health care, with some areas such as Mariupol on the brink of humanitarian catastrophe.⁴ Food is one of the top three concerns of affected people, with humanitarian partners estimating that around 45 per cent of people are worried about not getting enough.⁵

The war is also exacerbating human suffering in eastern Ukraine – an area which has already experienced eight years of armed conflict, community isolation, deteriorating infrastructure, extensive landmine and unexploded ordnance-contamination, and more recently the impact of COVID-19. At the same time, the situation in the most affected areas of northern and southern Ukraine is becoming increasingly dire as active hostilities intensify in existing hotspots and expand into new areas,⁶ where older persons, persons with disabilities, children – including children living in boarding schools, institutions or other alternative care arrangements – minorities, women, and female-headed households are among the most vulnerable groups affected.

Population movements into neighbouring countries in the first month of the war have made this situation the fastest growing refugee emergency since World War II, and movements continue to be unpredictable. Governments in all countries neighbouring Ukraine have generously kept their borders open and local communities have welcomed refugees, other people of concern and third-country nationals, and continue to provide this support without discrimination. In addition to UN Agencies and NGOs, local responders including civil society organizations, faith-based institutions, refugee- and women-led organizations, academia, sport associations and the private sector, as well as private citizens, have played an important role in supporting and complementing state initiatives and efforts, at border reception points and in main urban centres. With the influx, local and national authorities have established reception facilities at border crossing points to receive new arrivals and are providing life-saving assistance, including accommodation, food, and other basic needs, as well as onward transport for those seeking to reach urban centres. At these centres information is provided on the asylum process and temporary protection, as well as on the risks of trafficking. Access to basic rights and services, such as health, has been facilitated. Steps have been taken to foster protection and inclusion into national systems, such as for health and education services. Referral services are being scaled up, focusing especially on case management and protection of unaccompanied children and those evacuated from boarding schools, institutions and other alternative care arrangements, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), victims of trafficking, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

Significantly, on 4 March, European Union (EU) Member States⁷ activated the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) for the first time.⁸ The TPD stipulates that all Member States must grant temporary protection (TP) to Ukrainians and persons with protection status in Ukraine and their family members residing in Ukraine before 24 February. In addition, EU Member States will grant either TP or a National Equivalent to third-country nationals or stateless persons with permanent residence status in Ukraine who were in Ukraine prior to 24 February and who are unable to return home. Many EU Member States have already shown great support, and RRP partners are encouraged that this show of

¹ OHCHR Ukraine: civilian casualty update 22 April 2022

² UNHCR Operational Data Portal: Ukraine Refugee Situation

³ IOM, Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY, ROUND 3, 17 APRIL 2022

⁴ OCHA Ukraine : Situation Report as of 06 April 2022

⁵ OCHA Ukraine: Situation Report as of 30 March 2022

⁶ OCHA Ukraine : Situation Report as of 06 April 2022.

⁷ All EU Member States except Denmark.

⁸ Set up in the aftermath of the Yugoslav war, the TPD, an EU-led Directive, was designed to be used in the event of a "mass influx or imminent mass influx" of people coming into an EU state. It is a form of temporary protection aimed at offering immediate help by granting large groups of people a form of collective protection status. It means people would have a protection status for up to a year (with a possibility for extensions of up to 3 years), without going through individual asylum claims, and allowing access to housing and other benefits (e.g. education, health, social welfare, residency permits). The Directive also lays down criteria for the reunification of separated families in the case that one or several relatives enjoy temporary protection but others do not. Once reunited, all members have to be granted residence permits to stay in the host country.

solidarity will continue. The humanitarian response is in support of Member States' efforts, with the refugee hosting countries in the lead. With the tremendous support being provided by hosting countries, national reception capacities and services are increasingly coming under strain, raising concerns over future provision of basic needs. These countries themselves may also soon face a range of social and economic impacts due to the war in Ukraine making access to areas such as education and socioeconomic inclusion in the longer-term crucial areas of focus, which is why, in the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), including the principle of responsibility-sharing, the international community must step up its support to host countries. Meanwhile, humanitarian partners continue to strengthen the coordinated response, though the ability to ramp up inter-agency interventions is greatly dependent on the availability, and timely delivery of the resource requirements outlined in this plan.

Inter-Agency Response



This updated **inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for the Ukraine refugee situation**, developed in accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), builds on the initial RRP launched on 1 March,⁹ and has been further detailed at country level.

This Plan is an extension of the initial one issued on 1 March and now covers activities from March through December 2022. It outlines the multi-partner, multi-sector response strategy and financial requirements of 142 partners supporting the host Governments of Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, and other countries, including Belarus, Bulgaria, and the Czech Republic, to provide protection services and urgent humanitarian assistance to refugees from Ukraine, third-country nationals – including those in need of international protection and others who want to return to their countries of origin – other persons in need, and impacted host communities.

The Plan also lays the groundwork to put in place mid- to long-term opportunities for refugees' socioeconomic inclusion and support to host communities, which will be aligned with other relevant sustainable development plans, where in place.

RRP partners – including UN agencies, the IFRC and national societies, national and international non-governmental organizations, faith-based institutions, civil society and academia – developed this joint response plan in tandem with concerned host governments.

It builds on the collective and coordinated work already being done in these countries, including with the support of volunteer groups and other local responders, and promotes an area- and needs-based approach.

In light of the very fluid and volatile situation, **the RRP will continue to be revised and complemented with further activities and additional partners** to scale up and/or adapt the inter-agency response depending on developments in the context and needs.

A Whole-Of-Society Approach

In the spirit of the GCR, civil society and in particular volunteer groups have shown their solidarity and generosity with those who were forced to flee their homes. They have often joined efforts with state authorities and humanitarian partners and massively responded to the needs of the affected populations in neighbouring countries to Ukraine, and throughout Europe. Hometown associations of volunteers have joined national campaigns in many receiving countries to provide needed assistance to refugees, at border entry points and in urban areas, including with distributing food and hygiene items, identifying temporary accommodation, providing interpretation services, and facilitating contact with relatives abroad and with the Ukrainian diaspora. Individuals and organized groups of volunteers have been mobilized in line with instructions from state authorities, aiming at registering all responders at national or local level.

At the same time, the sporting world has been mobilized by the situation in Ukraine, calling for everyone to stand together as one team and support people driven to seek protection in neighbouring countries. Local, national, regional and global sport-based organizations have begun working collectively to support refugees at scale to provide assistance and psychosocial support to those fleeing the Ukraine situation. Strengthening existing sport systems to ensure refugees access to inclusive and safe sport will have sustainable benefits for both refugee and host communities.

The response from private sector actors has been as unprecedented as the situation. The level of financial contributions received from individuals, companies, foundations and philanthropists has been critical to meet immediate needs on the ground. In addition, many private sector actors have offered in-kind and service support, contributing to innovative ways of responding.

⁹ To mobilize immediate humanitarian partner support to government-led assistance to refugees in countries neighbouring Ukraine, UNHCR coordinated and prepared an [initial inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#). It was jointly launched with the Flash Appeal for the situation inside Ukraine on 1 March 2022. The first RRP brought together 12 humanitarian partners at regional level, outlining a joint response for the first six months of the emergency (March-August 2022) to support countries to protect and assist refugees coming from Ukraine. It has a multisectoral approach focusing on protection, reception/accommodation/housing, core relief items (CRIs) and in-kind contributions, as well as cash assistance for the most vulnerable groups and for persons with specific needs.

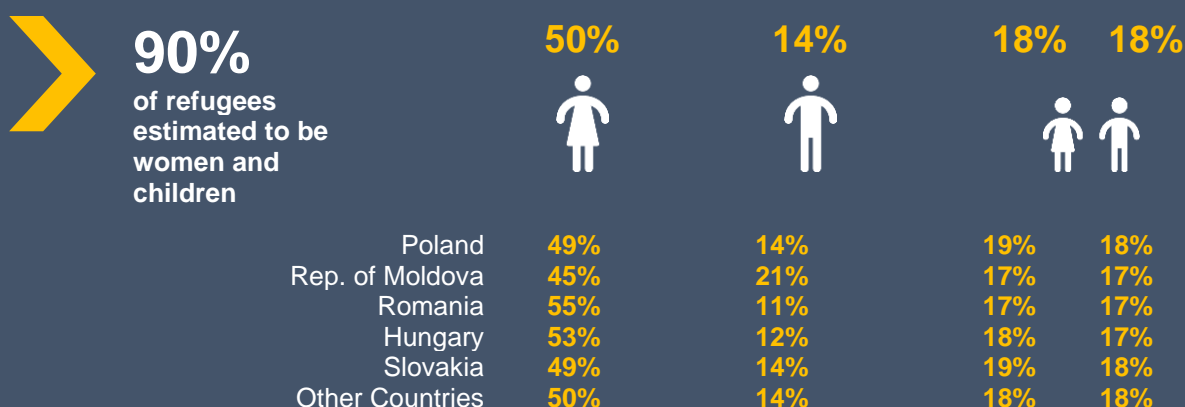
Beneficiary Population

The RRP population figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs) not in need of international protection. Figures for host communities are not included, but the RRP addresses the needs of impacted host communities, especially in terms of access to common services.

These population figures are estimates based on current trends. The projected planning figures are also based on assumptions, taking into account refugees' intentions to remain in countries of arrival or to transit further to other countries or to go back home. These figures allow for planning, programming and budgeting.

There are reports of people moving back into Ukraine, however, it is too premature to draw conclusions on definitive trends, as these movements can be pendular. As the situation remains highly volatile and unpredictable, such movements do not necessarily indicate sustainable returns.

	Entries as of 23 April 2022	Projected refugee population entering by December 2022	Projected refugee population remaining by December 2022
Refugee Population			
Poland	2,899,713	4,300,000	2,600,000
Republic of Moldova	433,214	1,000,000	250,000
Romania	774,094	1,250,000	350,000
Hungary	489,754	1,000,000	250,000
Slovakia	354,329	750,000	200,000
Other Countries in the Region	602,339	800,000	550,000
Total	5,186,744*	8,350,000*	4,200,000
Other Countries beyond the Region	**	n/a	4,150,000
Total			8,350,000
<i>*The accumulated data in this table is higher than the total number of refugees fleeing Ukraine presented above since it also takes into account people crossing the border between Romania and Moldova.</i> <i>**An estimated 2.1 million people have moved beyond the region (UNHCR collation of official sources).</i>			



These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).

Regional Objectives

RRP partners will support government-led efforts to address the immediate needs of refugees, TCNs – including those in need of international protection and others who want to return to their countries of origin, and other persons of concern, and will be driven by the following regional objectives:

1

Support host countries¹⁰ to ensure that all refugees from Ukraine have access to safety and international protection, in line with their situation, and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement;

2

Support host countries to provide timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance to refugees fleeing Ukraine and third-country nationals having left Ukraine, of whom a sizeable number would need international protection, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable women, girls, boys and men;

3

Facilitate the identification of appropriate solutions for all and the promotion of social and economic opportunities while ensuring conducive and equal conditions for the refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine from the onset through a whole-of-society approach; and

4

Ensure effective coordination of partners at country and regional level in support of hosting countries' efforts.

Regional Protection Framework

Regional Protection Framework

Protection interventions will ensure that arrivals from Ukraine, including TCNs, have access to safety and international protection. Providing support to hosting states and communities will be crucial in maintaining protection space for current and future refugee arrivals. Priority will be on supporting and complementing national protection and public services, with specific attention on persons with specific needs and non-discrimination in access to protection and services. Due to the demographic profile of refugees from Ukraine, child protection, prevention of and response to gender-based violence and trafficking, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse will form central pillars of the overall protection response.

Whilst the initial protection response focuses on providing immediate access to support, and vetted and verified information and assistance on arrival, protection interventions should seek to create conducive conditions for the rapid integration and inclusion of all refugees (Ukrainians and others) in national social and economic systems, while at the same time supporting third-country nationals who would like to go back to their countries of origin. Protection actors will also monitor the potential for rising tensions between refugee and host communities and work with national authorities and partners in support of peaceful coexistence

The following are priority activities within the overall protection framework:

1. Monitor the ability of arrivals from Ukraine to access territory, protection, and the enjoyment of rights without discrimination, in line with their situation and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.
2. Bolster state capacity to rapidly register arrivals from Ukraine; identify persons with specific needs, including but not limited to single women, female-headed households, unaccompanied and separated children, older persons, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and other (LGBTIQ+) persons, people with serious medical conditions and persons living with disabilities and refer them to services adapted to their needs; and build the capacity of and provide technical support to national protection mechanisms to identify persons with specific needs and provide services.
3. Conduct protection monitoring to rapidly identify emerging protection risks and gaps in the response and engage with authorities at the national and EU level to address them, conduct evidence-based protection advocacy and increase outreach in communities to identify persons with specific needs.

¹⁰ Host country support covers from the institutional/systems-level to individual communities and their members, in line with government-led coordination structures.

4. Reinforce accountability to affected people through communication with communities and a community-based approach, increasing access to information and awareness raising for refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine on their rights and access to assistance and services. Ensure information is available in languages spoken by refugees (including through trained interpreters), and accessible to persons with disabilities and older persons. This includes through the establishment of Blue Dots (see highlight box for more info) at border crossing points, reception centres, cash enrolment sites and other strategic locations in collaboration with UNHCR, UNICEF and other partners. Community outreach will also be sought through Ukrainian diaspora, refugee- and women-led organizations, and other community-based organizations.

Blue Dot Information and Support Hubs

Blue Dots are one-stop-shops and safe spaces which provide children, families and people with specific needs with a rest stop where they can access critical services. They are being set up in key locations like border crossing points and train stations in Poland, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and other countries.

When people see a Blue Dot, they know that they can access referrals to specialist advice, legal aid and family-friendly spaces for nursing and play. Refugees with mental health conditions or in distress can have access to psychological first aid and focused support from trained mental health staff, while mothers can access group activities and parenting support from social workers.

Together with UNHCR and UNICEF, multiple NGOs and national services work within the Blue Dots to provide consolidated and reliable support to people forced to flee their homes.

5. Monitor reception and accommodation facilities in countries of asylum, supporting national authorities and civil society actors to provide safe and accessible conditions for all arrivals, including advocacy and advice on safety and accessibility needs and systems to vet and ensure the appropriateness of private accommodation arrangements, as well as to expand the availability of family and community-based accommodation options for unaccompanied children. Ensure safe spaces and reception standards are guaranteed, including by providing technical support and advice on protection-sensitive onward transfers, nationally or internationally, in coordination with national and international actors.
6. With relevant development partners, create conducive conditions for the rapid integration and inclusion of refugees and others in need of international protection fleeing Ukraine in national social and economic systems, including through gaps analyses of access to national services and benefits; advocacy on reducing barriers to access social protection schemes and public services; and supporting refugees' and TCNs fleeing Ukraine' access to information, legal and social counselling and assistance.
7. Ensure protection is mainstreamed throughout the response by empowering refugees and arranging their meaningful access to impartial and non-discriminatory assistance and services, applying the do-no-harm principle and fostering meaningful participation.

Child Protection

Children comprise approximately 40 per cent of the refugees. Many have been exposed to traumatic events and family separation during flight and require specialized child protection and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services.

The response will focus on supporting governments through complementing and strengthening national child protection systems. Clear coordination with government agencies, local authorities and key stakeholders, including in establishing referral pathways and other initiatives to bolster capacity and effectiveness in addressing refugee children's needs will be key, in particular for children with special needs and disabilities. Within the immediate response, partners will provide support to government child protection structures to identify and refer unaccompanied and separated children and other children at risk to appropriate services and support, including family and community-based care arrangements and guardianship for unaccompanied children.

Given the refugee arrivals' profile, case management work including Best Interests Procedures, resulting in formalization of existing or identification of new care arrangements with further effective access to family tracing and reunification support will be prioritized, in line with the best interests of the child. Children from childcare institutions from Ukraine will also need to have their care arrangements reviewed and formalized in countries of asylum, in line with their best interests.

Many of the services for children-at-risk and other refugees will be made available through the Blue Dot approach, which is linked to national child protection systems. Longer-term strategies to ensure the integration of children into national social and protection systems, and their swift inclusion into equitable quality education in national systems without creating parallel systems, will be developed. The joint UNHCR-UNICEF Agenda for Action for Children Displaced from Ukraine will serve as an overall framework for the child protection response.

Prevention, Risk Mitigation of and Response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

The existing prevention and response systems for GBV will be reinforced and supported, including through: GBV safety audits and assessments; development of capacity-building programmes for authorities, civil society, frontline workers and volunteers; dissemination of key messages to refugees at border crossing points, accommodation centres and other key areas; and the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for inter-agency multisectoral GBV response, including confidential complaints and referral mechanisms. Importantly, within this approach, Blue Dots will serve as safe spaces for LGBTIQ+ persons, including survivors of GBV, to facilitate survivor-centred disclosure and referral for appropriate services.

Prevention, Risk Mitigation of and Response to Human Trafficking

National authorities' efforts to prevent and respond to human trafficking will be complemented and supported, including through the improvement of data on the risk and occurrence of human trafficking; the development of capacity-building programmes for authorities, civil society, frontline workers and volunteers; and the reinforcement of existing capacities to provide case management and specialized support, such as MHPSS, shelters, legal counselling and aid for victims of trafficking, and access to justice.

The self-protection capacities of refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine will be enhanced through the dissemination of key messages on human trafficking at border crossing points, reception and accommodation centres and other key areas. The Blue Dots will serve as safe space for persons at risk, including those at risk of human trafficking, and facilitate referral for appropriate services. Anti-trafficking measures will be put in place to reduce the risks of trafficking (including for the purpose of labour exploitation) jointly with government authorities, national and regional organizations.

Other Key Response Areas

The profile of refugee and other arrivals from Ukraine has progressively shifted, with newer arrivals presenting with fewer resources and higher needs for immediate support. Basic needs, such as food, temporary accommodation and housing, health and nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene are significant, especially at entry points and in reception centres. With many refugees currently residing with host communities in all countries in the region and additional refugee flows expected, host communities have reduced capacity to cope.

Partners are working to ensure that urgent needs are met by:

- Supporting host governments to strengthen reception facilities, facilitate accommodation options, provide core relief items (CRIs) and facilitate access to services, with medical assistance a prime example. This includes offering support to the ongoing COVID-19 response by securing vaccines, namely for persons with specific needs and persons with disabilities, as well as vaccines to prevent measles and polio outbreaks, due to low vaccination rates and the current polio outbreak in Ukraine. Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services are essential, especially at border points. Water provision; distributing critical hygiene and dignity products, in particular for women and children; and supporting infection prevention and hygiene promotion are areas of focus.
- Providing education and recreational supplies for children and adolescents and facilitating access to temporary learning, recreational and early childhood development activities, while supporting inclusion in the national education systems to avoid the creation of parallel mechanisms.
- Providing immediate, emergency food assistance to refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine at borders, transit and reception areas, and urban settings, as well as the continued provision of hot meals at designated facilities. Additionally, providing emergency multipurpose cash assistance and facilitating inclusion of refugees fleeing Ukraine in existing social protection programmes is crucial.
- Supporting logistics, telecommunications and supply infrastructure, including transportation from border points to urban areas and even onward to other countries in the context of the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD).

Regional Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

Accountability to Affected People (AAP)

Priority activities to ensure accountability to affected people and inclusion will include: i) communication and transparency, including two-way communication and feedback mechanisms; ii) feedback and response; iii) meaningful participation and inclusion; and iv) learning and adaptation. This will be accomplished by supporting the capacity of local and community-based actors, including refugee- and women led organizations. This will also include coordinating AAP initiatives and implementing collective approaches on AAP, such as the development of joint and standardized products, tools and guidance to support risk communication, information and communication needs assessments, and SOPs for

complaints and feedback mechanisms. Moreover, this entails using the feedback of affected populations to adjust the response, where needed. Participatory methodologies using an age, gender and diversity lens will be used throughout the response to engage with affected populations in all phases of the RRP's implementation. Two-way communication and feedback mechanisms through channels that are safe, trusted and preferred by refugees will be reinforced, including through the UNHCR HELP pages, Digital Blue Dot, a regional call centre, and social media channels, as well as through collaboration with refugee and local volunteers and outreach workers.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Protecting affected populations from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) is a key priority. PSEA is an integral and cross-cutting component of the RRP and mainstreamed across the response for refugees from Ukraine. SEA is recognized as a specific form of GBV and an egregious breach of humanitarian actors' accountability to affected populations.. The increased risk for refugees from Ukraine, owing to the high prevalence of women including single female-headed households, children, and older persons, coupled with their high mobility and the range of actors engaged in the response rapidly expanding their staff and volunteer capacity, exacerbate the risk of SEA, requiring robust and coordinated organizational and collective prevention and response measures. A dedicated PSEA Network composed of different actors has been established to promote collective in-country responses at both technical and strategic levels. The Network will further develop an inter-agency and inter-sectoral PSEA strategy in line with a survivor-centred approach, which will be the common reference for all PSEA-related activities under the RRP. Coherence will be ensured with PSEA global commitments and developments across relevant sectors within the response.

Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)

To ensure an effective and inclusive refugee response, the RRP is guided by UNHCR's and other actors' focus on age, gender, diversity and disability inclusion (thereafter referred to as AGD approach). Through this AGD approach, partners seek to make sure that all people of concern fully participate in decisions that affect them, and that they enjoy their rights on an equal footing with others. The AGD approach can be achieved by using participatory methodologies to incorporate the capacities and priorities of women, men, girls and boys of diverse backgrounds into protection, assistance and solutions programmes. It also encompasses the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by age, sex and disability, and diversity where contextually appropriate and possible, to inform programme design, monitoring and reporting and to ensure gender disparities are met.

The humanitarian community as a whole will work rapidly together to ensure greater commitments and actions to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Policy and Accountability Framework for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls so that women and girls' voices and needs are met and prioritized within the RRP. To achieve this, partners, in cooperation with local authorities and host communities, will advocate and implement targeted, gender-sensitive coordination, programming and financing within responses in particular for those groups which are facing complex challenges, threats, and barriers, and often experience discrimination, abuse, and violence including youth, persons with disabilities and women, as well as LGBTIQ+ persons.

Gender Mainstreaming

Partners will ensure integration of gender equality measures, as well as age and diversity dimensions, into the cross-sectoral refugee response effort by ensuring that women, girls, boys and men — particularly those most at heightened risk of exclusion and marginalized — have equitable access to and benefit from relief, services and information.

Gender mainstreaming will also be advanced by facilitating the participation and leadership of women's organizations across coordination and decision-making structures and processes.

Partners will ensure that the principles of gender equality, which affirms that women, men, girls and boys should enjoy rights, responsibilities and opportunities on equal terms, is fully respected and that AGD is mainstreamed across all technical sectors including assessing barriers that different AGD groups face in accessing services and opportunities to thrive.

Partners will also provide high-level technical advisory services, data and evidence, and direct programming support towards deepening and targeting the response to the differentiated needs of women, girls and other vulnerable groups in neighbouring countries. Efforts will also be made to establish safe, accessible and responsive systems for collecting and responding to feedback, with specific care to include women and girls and other potentially marginalized groups. Furthermore, identifying, analysing and providing training where needed for community networks that include and facilitate women's participation in both refugee and local communities can support programmes to enable gender-inclusive outreach initiatives.

Older Persons and Persons Living with Disabilities

Providing targeted support to older persons and persons with disabilities is a priority across all sectors. The sectors will ensure accessibility of services, information and accommodation, capitalizing on AGD data and analysis, and that the participation of older persons and persons with disabilities is included in decision-making processes. Persons with disabilities have the same basic needs as other refugees but often face barriers to having these needs met and therefore require specific attention and targeted interventions. RRP partners will engage based on the key principles of disability

inclusion: (i) non-discrimination; (ii) awareness; (iii) participation; and (iv) accessibility. Close cooperation will also be sought with national and local organizations working with persons with disabilities.

Cash Assistance and Other Assistance Modalities

Cash-based interventions (CBIs) have been successfully implemented in refugee responses, and in particular during emergency situations. As the modality of choice of persons of concern and given the capacity of local markets and strong financial systems (following coordinated feasibility studies) in hosting countries, CBIs will be the primary modality in this response to meet immediate basic needs. UNHCR and partners have set up transitional safety nets, linked to the governments' social protection systems. The transitional safety net will serve as a complement to the national social protection systems and social assistance in receiving countries with the aim to phase out after a few months as possible.

This said, a modality – cash or in-kind – can replace the other, or be combined, to ensure the response is the most effective, as well as protection- and gender-sensitive. Partners will pay attention to the most vulnerable, among whom unaccompanied children are likely to need specific assistance beyond cash assistance, including through a case management approach. At border points, the modality for initial support will be in-kind, as refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine often arrive with few belongings and need immediate material help including for clothes to shield themselves against harsh weather conditions, shelter, food, and core relief items.

Post-distribution monitoring, together with feedback and complaints mechanisms, which are developed in consultation with refugees, and especially women and girls, to also reduce the risk of SEA/GBV incidents, will be expanded to inform cash assistance design. In line with the UN Common Cash Statement, implementing common cash arrangements accessible to all humanitarian partners and stakeholders will be explored to improve reach, cost-efficiency and avoid duplication.

Social Protection, Livelihoods and Inclusion

While the legal framework is rather favourable in the region, with the TPD enabling access to social welfare, each EU Member State defines how the TPD is applied in National Law. In addition, de facto barriers to accessing social protection schemes existed before the crisis and may be exacerbated. They are linked to limited registration capacity and resources and pre-existing barriers such as documentation requirements; proof of residence requirements; financial inclusion; limited access to services, information and multilingual procedures; lack of awareness and discrimination. The response will thus include close monitoring of access gaps to inform advocacy efforts; providing assistance to refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine to access services through information provision, counselling and accompaniment; and offering technical support to governments to address barriers for inclusion, capacity constraints and other impacts linked to the decreased value of benefits in the context of price increases.

The primary focus is on the emergency response, but for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens is essential from the start to facilitate access to services, identify barriers and gaps, coordinate support and advocate for rapid inclusion in the market system through decent work and financial services. A good understanding of refugees' social and economic profiles, market opportunities and key stakeholders is vital to facilitate refugees' inclusion in a country's socioeconomic ecosystem and enable them to protect their assets, adapt to local market needs and contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment.

This will enable the development of targeted responses that build on existing systems, services and programmes. This will also require bringing together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves, including by facilitating an enabling environment and opportunities for skills assessment/recognition, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and upskilling, based on market needs, as well as providing support to employers and services, considering the direct links to decent work.

Moving forward, joint and joined-up analyses of the impact of the Ukraine refugee situation on societies, economies and vulnerable groups in affected host countries will be critical to assess the viability of inclusion policies and measures to adequately address protection, humanitarian and socioeconomic inclusion/developmental needs of refugees, TCNs fleeing Ukraine and host communities, as well as to maintain social cohesion and the commensurate capacities and resources required at the national and local levels. Without understanding the necessary socioeconomic responses required alongside humanitarian action, economies and services might be strained, jeopardizing livelihoods and social cohesion for years to come. The regional development trajectories in the long-term will be affected by the choices countries make now and the support they receive.



NEXUS

In line with the GCR, humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors should work hand in hand from the outset of this refugee crisis. Effective coordination with development partners facilitates the search for solutions for the refugees fleeing Ukraine and fosters self-reliance and socioeconomic inclusion of refugees by easing the pressure on host communities and supporting host governments in their response. Potential areas of support include development needs assessment; expansion of education and health services and vocational training; and capacity building for local governments and municipalities. Development partners can take advantage of their existing knowledge and experience working with those countries, potentially expanding their support to existing programmes to refugees.

- **International Financial Institutions (IFIs):** In the context of the Ukraine refugee situation, IFIs can and do play a crucial role in supporting high- and middle-income countries in hosting Ukrainian refugees, alleviating the pressure on their national/local systems and creating mid- and long-term solutions for refugees. RRP partners are working with multilateral development banks operating in Europe – notably the World Bank (WB), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) – to explore existing and new modalities of support to ensure refugees' access to national services, social insurance schemes, cash assistance, housing and the labour market. IFI support to refugee-hosting countries extends from immediate support to mid- to long-term support, such as, but not limited to, concessional financing and technical assistance to strengthen host governments' capacity.
- **Bilateral actors:** Since the adoption of the GCR, several bilateral development actors have also been reinforcing their engagement in support of refugees and host communities. With regards to the Ukraine situation, many bilateral development actors already made pledges and announcements to provide financial and technical support to refugee hosting countries and Ukrainian refugees – sometimes building on longstanding engagement and experience working with the respective country in the past.
- **UN Agencies:** The benefits of a comprehensive approach that considers the multidimensional nature of the crisis and its long-term socioeconomic impact at regional and country levels is without measure. The development of an integrated regional response should be based on the comparative advantages of humanitarian and development partners and on the capacities, resources and technologies of the various countries directly affected by the crisis. This will require dedicated capacities to optimize resources, and already initiate medium-term planning, financing strategies with robust engagement of IFIs and the private sector. It will also require the reinvigoration of resilience coalitions with UN development-oriented agencies to improve cost-effectiveness and expand funding opportunities.

Partnership & Coordination

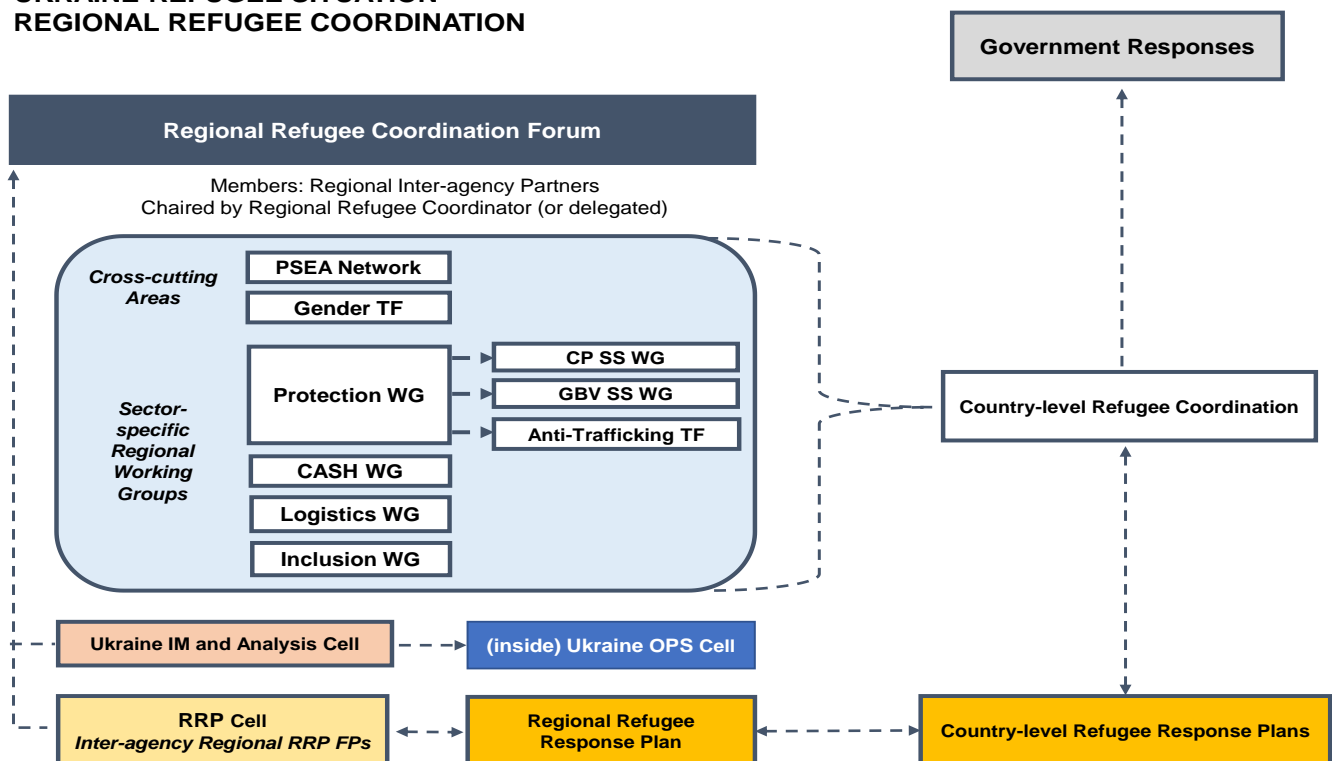
In support of the government-led responses, UNHCR leads and coordinates the implementation of the inter-agency RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) in a collaborative and consultative manner with authorities, aid agencies, civil society and with affected populations, including women and refugee-led organization. RRP partners also work closely with UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to enhance synergies and complementarities among UN sister agencies and will work to ensure the best possible outcomes as outlined in this Plan.

The RRP will broaden the scope of partnerships to mobilize resources and increase visibility for the needs of refugees from Ukraine, TCNs – including those in need of international protection and others who want to return to their countries of origin – other persons of concern, and their host communities. RRP partners and supporters will strive to ensure funding is channeled to frontline responders in a timely and efficient manner and in line with quality funding and quality partnership principles. The Global Compact on Refugees, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the UNHCR #IBelong campaign to end global statelessness by 2024 and the principle of "Leaving No One Behind" provide important frameworks for collaboration with partners.

At the regional level, RRP coordination is led by the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe (RBE). The RBE Director has been appointed as the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Ukraine Situation to lead the implementation of the RRP through inclusive and effective coordination of all partners, in line with the regional strategic objectives. An inter-agency Regional Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) has been established and specific working groups have also been activated to ensure efficient situational information management and country-specific support as required. As the UN Agency mandated by the General Assembly to lead refugee responses, UNHCR is the reference entity on refugee data, facilitating and coordinating the provision of necessary data and information to support RRP partners' response planning.

Within the framework of this RRP and building on existing country level coordination structures, inter-agency RCFs have also been established in each of the refugee-hosting countries, in support of government-led coordination mechanisms. The country level RCFs are led by the UNHCR Country Representatives and work with all partners in the response, including with relevant sector working groups. This will enable RRP partners to maximize the response and avoid duplications and parallel systems. It will also guide joint advocacy initiatives and resource mobilization efforts in support of the country level response plans. Through the RRP, UNHCR will also ensure that joint assessments, data and information management, monitoring and reporting on progress, and communication and information-sharing tools are put in place in coordination with governments and relevant stakeholders.

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION REGIONAL REFUGEE COORDINATION





142 PARTNERS INVOLVED



A21 Ukraine
Action contre la Faim
ActionAid

Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
Americanes Foundation
Ashoka

Association for Legal intervention
Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants
Association of Volunteers in International Service
Budapest Methodological Social Center
CARE International
Caritas Hungarica
Caritas Poland
Caritas Slovakia
Carpathian Foundation Slovakia

Casa Marioarei
Catholic Relief Services

Center for Citizenship Education
Center Resonance

Centre for the Research of Ethnicity and Culture
Cesvi - Participatory Foundation and NGO
Clear Global
Comenius University Bratislava
Community Organized Relief Effort
Corus International

CultureLab Foundation
Danish Refugee Council
Emergency NGO

Emergency Response Ukraine (OAKR)
Empowering Children Foundation
Evangélikus Diakónia
Fair Bnb Network

Faros Elpidas
Federation for Social Services
Federation for Women and Family Planning
Food and Agriculture Organization
Foundation for Somalia
Foundation Towards Dialogue

Fundacja ADRA Polska
Fundacja Atid
Fundacja Autonomia
Fundacja Dobrej Edukacji
Fundacja Dokładam Się
Fundacja Feminoteka
Fundacja HumanDoc
Fundacja Inna Przestrzeń
Fundacja Nativated
Fundacja Polska od Nowa

Fundacja Think Tank Miasto
Fundacja Truskawkowe Pola
Fundacja Ukraina

Fundacja Uniwersytet Dzieci
Global Ahead
Habitat for Humanity Poland

Handicap International
Happy Kids Foundation

Help.NGO

HelpAge
Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
HIAS
Hope and Homes for Children
Human Rights League
Humanosh Slawa i Izek Wolosianski Foundation
Hungarian Baptist Aid
Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta
Hungarian Civil Liberties Union
Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship (MET) and Oltalom Charity Society (OKE)
Hungarian Interchurch Aid

Hungarian Red Cross
Hungarian Reformed Church Aid
IMPACT
Information Society Development Foundation
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
International Labour Organization
International Medical Corps
International Organization for Migration

International Rescue Committee
Internews
Intersos
IsraAID

Japan Association for Aid and Relief
Jesuit Refugee Service
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
Kalejdoskop Kultur
KeyStone Moldova
Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej

La Strada
Law Center for Advocates
Libraries Without Borders
Lutheran World Federation
MAITRI Movement Association
Małopolskie Towarzystwo Oświatowe
Mareena
Medair
Mercy Corps
Migration Aid

Milan Simecka Foundation
National Youth Foundation
NORMA Europejska Fundacja na Rzecz Edukacji, Profilaktyki i Wychowania
Norwegian Refugee Council

Nota Bene
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OXFAM
Participatory Foundation and NGO

Peace Winds Japan

People in Need
Plan International
PLZ Cooperative (CoopTech Hub)
Polish Center for International Aid
Polish Humanitarian Action
Polish Migration Forum Foundation

Premiere Urgence
Project Hope

Relief International
Safe Passage International

Salam Lab | Laboratory of Peace

Samu Foundation
Save the Children
Slovak Humanitarian Council
Solidarite International
Stowarzyszenie Wspólne Podwórkó

Tech To The Rescue Foundation
Terre des Hommes
The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International
The Center for Reproductive Rights
The Center for Women's Rights
The Red Pencil International
The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
Together Nederland Stichting
Trauma Center
Ukrainian Diaspora in Slovakia
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
United Nations Population Fund
War Child
We World
World Central Kitchen
World Food Programme
World Health Organization
World Vision International
Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Hufiec Uroczysko Konstancin



A snapshot of humanitarian aid delivered *(as of 21 April 2022)*

Since the onset of the emergency situation in Ukraine, humanitarian, including UN agencies, international and local non-governmental organizations, have responded in support of government-led efforts in all neighbouring countries receiving refugees, and others in need of life-saving assistance. Local partners, as well as the civil society and groups of volunteers, have shown solidarity on an unprecedented scale and have shown extraordinary dedication in supporting the coordinated efforts.

The figures below represent a non-exhaustive list of achievements by partners.



12 'Blue Dot' hubs established as safe spaces along border crossings in neighbouring countries (Poland, Romania and Moldova) that provide children and families with critical information and services (UNICEF/UNHCR)



Over **56,700** people enrolled for **cash assistance** in Poland, Moldova, and Romania, as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs, including temporary accommodation, food and hygiene items (UNHCR)



719 third-country nationals assisted with **Voluntary Humanitarian Returns**, of whom 685 have already departed (IOM)



Over **4,000 interviews** conducted through rapid gender assessments to map the urgent needs of **refugee women** from national and local levels in Moldova and Poland (UN Women, Care International, IOM)



Over **40,000** people provided with **emergency relief items** including blankets, hygiene kits, baby kits and sleeping mats (UNHCR)



Over **97,900 hot meals** (three meals per day) provided to refugees in 68 reception centres across 33 localities/regions in Moldova (WFP)



8,000 dignity kits have been distributed in Moldova to help refugee women and girls maintain proper hygiene after being displaced (UNFPA)



Over **13,900** persons provided with **counselling**, in-person at the 8 border crossing points into Romania as well as information and counselling by phone (UNHCR)





200 Ukrainian refugee **teachers** will be employed in city schools and kindergartens in Warsaw, Poland, to help refugee children in educational centres to integrate (PCPM/CARE)



100 tablets distributed to aid **education** of some 250 refugee children in temporary learning spaces set up at schools and shelter centres in Romania (Plan International / JRS)

Financial Requirements (USD)


		Total Financial Requirements In USD	\$ 1,850,500,037
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Budget summary by country

Poland	Moldova	Romania	Hungary	Slovakia	Regional (including other countries)
\$ 740,671,647	\$ 414,194,842	\$ 239,858,526	\$ 105,302,467	\$ 91,946,672	\$ 258,525,883

Budget summary by sector at regional level







Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food Security	Health & Nutrition	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)
\$ 682,198,416	\$ 73,855,062	\$ 148,685,558	\$ 129,536,391	\$ 677,422,176
WASH	Livelihoods & Resilience	Energy & Environment	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	
\$ 36,365,017	\$ 47,390,950	\$ 585,000	\$ 54,461,467	

 *Breakdown of total Protection requirements \$ 682,198,416		
Child Protection	GBV	Other Protection activities
\$ 254,659,248	\$ 52,448,521	\$ 375,090,646

 Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 477,259,131			
Basic Needs	Protection	Food Security	Livelihoods & Resilience
\$ 403,529,042	\$ 50,179,756	\$ 21,550,333	\$ 2,000,000

This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.

Budget summary by partner type

 UN Agencies	 International NGOs	 National NGOs	 IFRC & national societies	 Faith-based Organizations	 Academia
\$ 1,350,161,199	\$ 265,566,970	\$ 166,478,058	\$ 14,206,994	\$ 53,618,516	\$ 468,300

Budget summary by partner

Organization	Acronym / Short Title	Type	Requirements in USD
Comenius University Bratislava	Comenius University Bratislava	Academia	468,300
Caritas Hungarica	Caritas Hungarica	FBO	4,205,600
Caritas Poland	Caritas Poland	FBO	542,492
Caritas Slovakia	Caritas Slovakia	FBO	1,595,000
Catholic Relief Services	CRS	FBO	26,000,000
Evangélikus Diakónia	Evangélikus Diakónia	FBO	15,000
Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship (MET) and Oltalom Charity Society (OKE)	Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship and Oltalom Charity Society	FBO	2,955,000
Hungarian Interchurch Aid	Hungarian Interchurch Aid	FBO	4,205,604
Hungarian Reformed Church Aid	Hungarian Reformed Church Aid	FBO	4,044,220
Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej	Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej	FBO	4,270,000
Lutheran World Federation	LWF	FBO	1,580,000
Hungarian Baptist Aid	Hungarian Baptist Aid	FBO	4,205,600
A21 Ukraine	A21 Ukraine	INGO	208,000
Japan Association for Aid and Relief	AAR	INGO	1,900,000
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	ACTED	INGO	14,225,260
Action contre la Faim	ACF	INGO	4,767,200
ActionAid	ActionAid	INGO	1,720,000
The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International	ADRA	INGO	2,450,000
Americanes Foundation	Americanes Foundation	INGO	5,000,000
Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants	ASAM	INGO	6,211,200
Association of Volunteers in International Service	AVSI	INGO	2,125,793
CARE International	CARE International	INGO	8,902,000
Cesvi - Participatory Foundation and NGO	Cesvi	INGO	187,770
Clear Global	Clear Global	INGO	1,580,000
Community Organized Relief Effort	CORE	INGO	1,750,000
Corus International	Corus International	INGO	2,000,000
Danish Refugee Council	DRC	INGO	3,470,000
Emergency NGO	Emergency NGO	INGO	385,000
Fair Bnb Network	Fair Bnb Network	INGO	65,000
Faros Elpidas	Faros Elpidas	INGO	11,530,000
Global Ahead	Global Ahead	INGO	97,500
Habitat for Humanity Poland	Habitat for Humanity Poland	INGO	1,800,000
Handicap International	Handicap International	INGO	1,350,000
HelpAge	HelpAge	INGO	13,130,000

HIAS	HIAS	INGO	9,302,000
Hope and Homes for Children	Hope and Homes for Children	INGO	797,500
IMPACT	IMPACT	INGO	1,700,000
International Medical Corps	IMC	INGO	2,500,000
Internews	Internews	INGO	2,425,000
Intersos	Intersos	INGO	3,900,000
International Rescue Committee	IRC	INGO	7,000,000
IsraAID	IsraAID	INGO	1,272,000
Jesuit Refugee Service	JRS	INGO	2,051,934
Medair	Medair	INGO	2,306,904
Mercy Corps	Mercy Corps	INGO	6,500,000
Norwegian Refugee Council	NRC	INGO	33,000,000
OXFAM	OXFAM	INGO	8,139,439
Peace Winds Japan	PW Japan	INGO	2,015,600
People in Need	PiN	INGO	12,992,500
Plan International	Plan International	INGO	19,515,000
Project Hope	Project Hope	INGO	3,800,000
Premiere Urgence	PUI	INGO	3,435,000
Relief International	RI	INGO	686,405
Safe Passage International	Safe Passage International	INGO	300,000
Samu Foundation	Samu Foundation	INGO	385,000
Save the Children	STC	INGO	4,400,000
Solidarités International	Solidarités International	INGO	9,900,000
Terre des Hommes	TdH	INGO	7,555,797
The Center for Reproductive Rights	The Center for Reproductive Rights	INGO	199,955
The Red Pencil International	The Red Pencil International	INGO	289,172
Together Nederland Stichting	TNS	INGO	199,000
Trauma Center	Trauma Center	INGO	117,000
War Child	War Child	INGO	416,000
We World	We World	INGO	4,981,790
World Central Kitchen	WCK	INGO	5,000,000
World Vision International	WVI	INGO	22,129,251
Ashoka	Ashoka	NGO	100,000
Association for Legal intervention	Association for Legal intervention	NGO	100,000
Budapest Methodological Social Center	BMSZKI	NGO	6,066,667
Carpathian Foundation Slovakia	Carpathian Foundation Slovakia	NGO	262,000
Casa Marioarei	Casa Marioarei	NGO	100,000
Center for Citizenship Education	CCE	NGO	1,000,000
Center Resonance	Center Resonance	NGO	203,000
Participatory Foundation and NGO	Cesvi	NGO	107,000
The Center for Women's Rights	CPK	NGO	1,800,000
CultureLab Foundation	CultureLab Foundation	NGO	450,000
Centre for the Research of Ethnicity and Culture	CVEK	NGO	66,700
Emergency Response Ukraine (OAKR)	EMEOKR	NGO	1,851,750
Empowering Children Foundation	FDDS	NGO	2,000,000
Federation for Women and Family Planning	FEDERA	NGO	45,000
Federation for Social Services	FONSS	NGO	2,757,000
Foundation for Somalia	Foundation for Somalia	NGO	900,000
Foundation Towards Dialogue	Foundation Towards Dialogue	NGO	2,500
Fundacja ADRA Polska	Fundacja ADRA Polska	NGO	37,592,000
Fundacja Atid	Fundacja Atid	NGO	32,862
Fundacja Autonomia	Fundacja Autonomia	NGO	150,000
Fundacja Dobrej Edukacji	Fundacja Dobrej Edukacji	NGO	20,900
Fundacja Dokładam Się	Fundacja Dokładam Się	NGO	322,000
Fundacja Feminoteka	Fundacja Feminoteka	NGO	50,000
Fundacja HumanDoc	Fundacja HumanDoc	NGO	500,000
Fundacja Inna Przestrzeń	Fundacja Inna Przestrzeń	NGO	750,000
Fundacja Nativated	Fundacja Nativated	NGO	140,000
Fundacja Polska od Nowa	Fundacja Polska od Nowa	NGO	166,807
Fundacja Think Tank Miasto	Fundacja Think Tank Miasto	NGO	6,000
Fundacja Truskawkowe Pola	Fundacja Truskawkowe Pola	NGO	2,250,000
Fundacja Ukraina	Fundacja Ukraina	NGO	750,000

Fundacja Uniwersytet Dzieci	Fundacja Uniwersytet Dzieci	NGO	52,000
Happy Kids Foundation	Happy Kids Foundation	NGO	9,450,000
Help.NGO	Help.NGO	NGO	14,870,000
Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	NGO	290,000
Human Rights League	Human Rights League	NGO	1,094,866
Humanosh Slawa i Izek Wolosianski Foundation	Humanosh Slawa i Izek Wolosianski Foundation	NGO	684,000
Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta	Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta	NGO	4,243,715
Hungarian Civil Liberties Union	Hungarian Civil Liberties Union	NGO	41,700
Information Society Development Foundation	Information Society Development Foundation	NGO	250,000
Kalejdoskop Kultur	Kalejdoskop Kultur	NGO	220,000
KeyStone Moldova	KeyStone Moldova	NGO	1,425,000
MAITRI Movement Association	MAITRI	NGO	92,000
	Mareena	NGO	630,000
Migration Aid	Migration Aid	NGO	744,270
Milan Simecka Foundation	Milan Simecka Foundation	NGO	62,000
National Youth Foundation	National Youth Foundation	NGO	499,000
NORMA Europejska Fundacja na Rzecz Edukacji, Profilaktyki i Wychowania	NORMA	NGO	200,000
Nota Bene	Nota Bene	NGO	25,000
Polish Humanitarian Action	PAHA	NGO	15,290,000
Polish Center for International Aid	PCPM	NGO	50,304,000
PLZ Cooperative (CoopTech Hub)	PLZH	NGO	18,000
Polish Migration Forum Foundation	Polish Migration Forum Foundation	NGO	2,000,000
Salam Lab Laboratory of Peace	Salam Lab Laboratory of Peace	NGO	452,000
Slovak Humanitarian Council	Slovak Humanitarian Council	NGO	1,568,000
Stowarzyszenie Wspólne Podwórko	Stowarzyszenie Wspólne Podwórko	NGO	150,000
Tech To The Rescue Foundation	Tech To The Rescue Foundation	NGO	500,000
Ukrainian Diaspora in Slovakia	Ukrainian Diaspora in Slovakia	NGO	128,100
Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Hufiec Uroczysko Konstancin	Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Hufiec Uroczysko Konstancin	NGO	554,221
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	IFRC	IFRC	10,000,000
Hungarian Red Cross	RC	RC	4,206,994
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	UN-AIDS	UN	228,000
Food and Agriculture Organization	UN-FAO	UN	5,000,000
International Labour Organization	UN-ILO	UN	5,343,666
International Organization for Migration	UN-IOM	UN	136,968,000
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	UN-OHCHR	UN	350,000
United Nations Development Programme	UN-UNDP	UN	17,664,750
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UN-UNESCO	UN	2,850,000
United Nations Population Fund	UN-UNFPA	UN	18,560,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	UN-UNHCR	UN	710,000,000
United Nations Children's Fund	UN-UNICEF	UN	324,702,897
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	UN-UNODC	UN	180,000
World Food Programme	UN-WFP	UN	53,230,666
World Health Organization	UN-WHO	UN	67,538,628
The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	UN-WOMEN	UN	7,544,592
Comenius University Bratislava	Comenius University Bratislava	Academia	468,300
Caritas Hungarica	Caritas Hungarica	FBO	4,205,600

Total (USD) 1,850,500,037



Poland

Country Chapter

Poland. Teenage refugee from southern Ukraine in Warsaw Central Station. © UNHCR/Maciej Moskwa



At a Glance

Poland Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

4,300,000

Projected refugee
population entering
by December 2022

2,600,000

Projected refugee
population remaining
by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

49 %



14 %



19 %



18 %

These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 740.6 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 153.8 M



\$ 84.5 M



\$ 14.3 M



\$ 364.6 M



\$ 81.7 M



\$ 19.2 M



\$ 22.6 M



87
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

7



UN
Agencies

36



International
NGOs

40



National
NGOs

IFRC



3



Faith-based
Organizations

Poland

Country Overview

Poland has welcomed all those fleeing the war in Ukraine with unprecedented generosity, hospitality and solidarity, facilitating the enjoyment of their basic rights and access to lifesaving services as well as implementing several policy measures to protect and include refugees in host communities.

By 23 April 2022, more than 2,8 million refugees from Ukraine had arrived in Poland, making it the country receiving the highest number of refugees among neighbouring countries.

New arrivals enter Poland via eight official border crossing points along its eastern border. A significant number of refugees have arrived by private vehicles or train and quickly moved onward to Poland's cities, where large Ukrainian diaspora communities have settled, or to other parts of Europe. In parallel, a significant number of refugees arrive without fixed plans, and with few options to establish themselves in host communities. New refugee arrivals in need of immediate assistance are directed to a series of transit facilities near the border crossing points, supported by a network of local and international NGOs working with municipal authorities to provide immediate relief and access to basic services, including medical and psychosocial support. Refugees are then assisted to move onward via government-supported free public transport throughout Poland.¹¹

Accommodation facilities are being established in urban areas in response to the high rate of new arrivals and lack of existing options in already overstretched housing markets. A significant emphasis of the inter-agency Refugee Response Plan in Poland is therefore focused on the medium-term urban response and seeks to support, complement and strengthen access to national protective and public services, and to increase capacities of refugees to make choices regarding how and where to temporarily settle.

A number of steps have been taken to foster protection and inclusion of refugees from Ukraine in the social and economic fabric of Poland and across Europe. The Government of Poland has amended legislation to facilitate the temporary protection of refugees from Ukraine,¹² while the European Union (EU) decision to trigger the Temporary Protection Directive, for the first time in its history, will ensure refugees have immediate access to a number of rights, including the right to work, and to national social protection networks and public services in Member States throughout the EU. Complementing state services, private sector initiatives have provided free data and telephone roaming, accommodation and transportation in Poland to those fleeing from Ukraine.¹³

The urgency to address immediate protection and basic needs as people settle is apparent, and the vulnerability of new arrivals continues to increase. The overwhelming majority of refugees are women and children, often separated from husbands and fathers who remain in Ukraine, older people (travelling alone or caring of children), persons with disabilities and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), including those from state care facilities. The protection risks facing new arrivals are inordinately high. The increased risks of all forms of human trafficking, gender-based violence (GBV) including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), as well as high levels of psychosocial distress associated with conflict, and family separation require an immediate, well-coordinated and protection-oriented response — one that builds on the remarkable solidarity demonstrated by the people of Poland. Third-country nationals (TCNs) fleeing Ukraine will also be supported to access the territory, to receive basic humanitarian assistance and to seek asylum should they wish to do so. TCNs who would wish to repatriate will be able to do so with the support of concerned states and RRP partners.

The Poland chapter of the regional RRP represents the strong commitment of 87 humanitarian partners to work jointly and through a coordinated sectoral structure on the complex challenges affecting refugees and TCNs third-country nationals fleeing from Ukraine and affected host communities.

Since the onset of the Ukraine crisis, UN agencies, international and national NGOs and civil society actors, including refugee-led and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, have complemented and strengthened the response efforts of the Polish Government, the countless volunteers and local community initiatives as well as different generous initiatives of the private sector. As the refugee numbers increase, more will need to be done and the authorities' efforts will be complemented through this coherent and consistent Response Plan.

¹¹ By 23 March, some 585,000 persons had benefitted from free public railway transport, while private vehicles from Ukraine and other humanitarian transportation are exempt from tolls on public and private roads and highways (Ministry of Infrastructure).

¹² <https://www.gov.pl/web/udsc-en/the-law-on-assistance-to-ukrainian-citizens-in-connection-with-the-armed-conflict-on-the-territory-of-the-country-has-entered-into-force>

¹³ See hereto Information on free travel options offered by European transport companies, available at: https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/eu-solidarity-ukraine/eu-assistance-ukraine/information-people-fleeing-war-ukraine_en

Coordinated through the UNHCR-led Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF), and in collaboration and consultation with host authorities, local civil society actors, refugee-led and diaspora organizations, private sector and the donor community, the RRP in Poland: (i) drives consistent advocacy and fundraising efforts to the benefit of RRP actors; (ii) ensures an informed, efficient and coordinated response; (iii) promotes positive policies and related dialogues for refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine; (iv) convenes different stakeholders, including RRP response actors, host authorities, private sector, donor community and affected refugee communities; and (v) delivers humanitarian, protection and integration-focused assistance.

Needs Overview

The population projections outlined in this RRP reflect current trends reported in the regular population updates,¹⁴ characterized by persistent outflows of thousands of refugees from Ukraine, a tendency toward urban settlement within Poland, and considerable movement of refugees to other parts of Europe.

The Poland country chapter of the RRP details the planned comprehensive response for refugees as well as a relatively modest number of TCNs arriving to Poland from Ukraine. As such, it addresses the needs of those arriving in Poland with the intention to remain, proceed to other countries or return to countries of origin, without discrimination. In addition, the RRP addresses the resulting needs of impacted host communities, i.e. the Polish population that shares the same geographical location with refugees from Ukraine and that is in need of similar assistance due to the presence of refugees from Ukraine.

By end-2022, it is estimated that Poland will host some 2.6 million refugees, given that many new arrivals have either moved beyond or are assumed to do so. This is in addition to the many hundreds of thousands who transit through Poland, en route to their intended country of destination, and who, owing to their particular needs and vulnerabilities will require assistance for the duration of their stay in Poland. In total, up to 4.3 million people fleeing Ukraine may enter Poland by the end of the year.

While further assessments, profiling and intentions surveys will be conducted throughout the lifespan of the RRP, based on currently availability of data, the needs of refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine in-transit and in-destination generally fall into three areas:

- Basic humanitarian needs, including access to essential goods and services (shelter, food, health, nutrition, core relief items).
- Protection needs, including information and counselling on rights, access and availability of services, child protection, GBV, awareness of the risk of all forms of human trafficking, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), identification and referral for persons with disabilities and older persons with additional or specialized support needs, civil documentation and regularization (especially for TCNs not in need of international protection) as well as family reunification, particularly for those with close family members not residing in EU Member States.
- Socioeconomic integration needs, such as inclusion into the labour market, access to education, and the recognition of academic degrees, titles and skills, as well as access to the social security system.

Considering the profiles and vulnerabilities of those fleeing Ukraine, it is estimated that the entire refugee population, some 2.6 million refugees from Ukraine in Poland, will need some type of assistance under the RRP¹⁵. The corresponding sectoral or multisectoral assistance of humanitarian partners, in support of government-led efforts, as captured in this RRP, reflect their operational and outreach capacities at the onset of the emergency in April 2022, including their capacities to estimate targets based on a provisional assumption of the developments in Ukraine, assessments conducted in the first weeks of the crisis, and scale-up of the response.

A successful effort to arrive at age and gender disaggregated data, as well as disaggregation at the admin-level-1,¹⁶ was made for this response planning. All figures were reviewed during a dedicated workshop with the Government of Poland.

Third-Country Nationals

In addition to the refugee population from Ukraine, nationals from other states continue to arrive in modest, but significant numbers, and will continue to give rise to complex protection issues. Such third-country nationals (TCNs), at times, face differentiated treatment from Ukrainian nationals and endure different realities in accessing services and enjoying basic

¹⁴ Available at: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

¹⁵ This does not include the number of affected host community members considered in-need.

¹⁶ Admin level 1 refers to the largest sub-national administrative unit of measure within a country. In Poland, this refers to voivodships (Polish: województwa).

rights, depending on their nationality, the extent of their family network in-country and individual specific needs. While many benefit from the EU's Temporary Protection Directive and relating national legislation in Poland, efforts to ensure systematic access to territory (noting that all people, irrespective of race or nationality, must be able to flee) and to asylum procedures for those with international protection needs continue. For those without international protection needs, RRP sectors and working groups will work to facilitate immediate and long-term solutions, in close coordination with the respective governments in countries. Given their highly exposed nature, and that they are largely left outside the national social protection system, they face increased risks including human trafficking and smuggling, various forms of exploitation and are more broadly at risk of abuse at the hands of criminal networks. Meanwhile, they also face constraints in accessing essential services and enjoying basic human rights, as well as other serious protection and health risks, especially while transiting through the region.

Response Strategy

Country Objectives

The RRP in Poland supports the operationalization of the overarching regional RRP Strategic Objectives, namely to:

- 1** Support Poland to ensure that every refugee from Ukraine has access to safety and international protection, in line with their situation, and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.
- 2** Support national and local governments throughout the country to provide timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance for refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable and considering differentiated needs based on age and gender.
- 3** Facilitate the search for solutions for the refugees from Ukraine, including systematic access to and inclusion in government services, from the onset through a whole-of-society approach.
- 4** Ensure effective coordination of partners at country and regional level in support of hosting countries' efforts.

These objectives aim to complement, strengthen and support local actors, communities and the host Government in improving the living conditions of refugees and affected host community members, and to provide a foundation for local inclusion and eventual sustainable solutions, in line with the UN Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), based on the comparative advantages and complementarity of 87 humanitarian RRP actors in Poland.

The RRP will ensure that humanitarian, protection and life-saving assistance is provided to refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine and arriving in Poland. In parallel and recognizing the regulatory framework in place for their potential integration in Poland, the RRP takes into account medium and longer-term inclusion and development dynamics.

Cross-cutting Priorities

Cash Assistance

The provision of multipurpose cash assistance provides a critical lifeline to mitigate the risk of exploitation and other protection risks, and provides a bridge to eventual enrolment in the national social protection system. A high number of refugees from Ukraine remain exposed to protection-related risks (including GBV or all forms of trafficking), which are exacerbated among children (especially the unaccompanied and separated), adolescents, women, people with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ persons and the older persons.

Cross-cutting priorities

- **Accountability to affected people (AAP)**
- **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**
- **Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)**
- **Older persons and persons living with disabilities**

Read more in the Regional Chapter pp. 12-13

Across the response in Poland, food, accommodation/rental support and stable income sources (employment) continue to be priority needs. Multipurpose cash is an appropriate modality and feasible tool to respond to these needs, minimize the use of harmful coping strategies, and act as a safety net for refugees from Ukraine, while supporting the reactivation and recovery of local markets. It is also the assistance modality preferred most by refugees, and as an assistance

modality, specifically, enables refugees to make choices about how to meet these needs, increasing dignity and flexibility of the humanitarian response.

Multipurpose cash is also an appropriate modality to use by the refugees in Poland as the country has a strong financial system and infrastructure with strong markets and a commercial sector with a wide variety of food and other basic items. Ukrainians are familiar with the use of bank cards, ATMs and cash, requiring minimal adaptation to their usual routines. Cash will also help refugees to support the generous Polish and Ukrainian host families that have taken them in with daily additional expenses, such as rent, food and utilities. The use of cash will be closely monitored to ensure safe access.

RRP partners will provide emergency cash, coupled with transitional cash through a community-based approach anchored in local structures and partners, with a strong protection component. Cash assistance builds on enrolment for assistance and the identification of specific needs, linked to protection referral and services. Cash support is temporary over a transitional period support and complements the Government and local actor support, which will gradually absorb the longer-term responsibility for the vulnerable people. Over a period of six months, the Cash Technical Working Group (CWG) - co-led by UNHCR and Polish Humanitarian Action - aims to assist 30 per cent of the arrivals from Ukraine through cash assistance.

With cash being a modality to meet basic needs and protection, the CWG is working closely with the sectors including protection (and its GBV and child protection sub-sectors), health, accommodation/housing, WASH and others.

To avoid duplication in assistance and to reach as many at-risk people as possible, enrolment for assistance will be processed using UNHCR's PRIMES system. While the initial response will focus on meeting urgent needs, the main strategy is inclusion in national systems and structures, including financial inclusion, social protection and links to the labour market. The strategy of the CWG is aligned with the cash approach in the other neighbouring countries and coordinated under a regional CWG. The CWG and its regional counterpart are also closely linked to the CWG in Ukraine to ensure a coherent and fair approach, and accountability to affected populations.

The Cash Technical Working Group has agreed on a coherent approach for cash in Poland, which aims to build on and strengthen the local response and to support the strong leadership by the Government and local actors. It is temporary in nature with a view to expire when refugees and others fleeing Ukraine are included in the national social protection system, asylum-procedures, or have moved on to other countries, as applicable.

Localization

Poland is host to a vibrant civil society and has a long tradition of volunteerism. Since the onset of the exodus of refugees from Ukraine, civil society actors, national NGOs, Ukrainian refugee- and diaspora organizations and countless volunteers from all parts of society, from within Poland and neighbouring countries, have been at the forefront of the response, welcoming those forced to flee with essential humanitarian assistance, including warm meals, clothes, blankets, psychosocial support, shelter, transportation (within Poland and onward), translation services and information on basic rights and services. These local efforts are coordinated within local communities and led by municipalities, with the support of the Government of Poland.

The RCF builds on this exceptional commitment and community leadership, recognizing also that 47 per cent of RRP actors are national actors. UN agencies and international NGOs commit to continue working in partnership with the Government as well as local structures, to follow their lead on how best to address the needs and foster the inclusion of refugees in their host communities. This engagement lies at the heart of the Refugee Coordination Forum's—and UNHCR's commitment to localization, in line with the Grand Bargain commitments.

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

National authorities will continue to have the overall responsibility for refugee protection, with the support of the Protection Sector, gathering a range of civil society actors, local NGOs and associations, INGOs, UN agencies and other international organizations. It is expected that the large number of refugee arrivals will place additional pressure on the capacity of the state to respond and on existing national protection mechanisms and resources. Strains on the wave of volunteerism that sustained the initial response to new arrivals underscore that a volunteer-driven response is not sustainable over the long-term. Moreover, refugees' enjoyment of their rights and entitlements afforded by progressive national and regional legal frameworks may be constrained by the response capacity, practical barriers and potential discriminatory practices against some segments of the refugee population, such as LGBTIQ+ persons.

Tensions with host communities may arise in some areas where refugees are perceived to be competing with the host community for scarce resources or due to differentiated treatment not equally benefitting host and refugee communities and will need to be carefully managed.

The Protection Sector will seek to closely coordinate its interventions with the Polish authorities and among the humanitarian actors and aim at strengthening the existing protection mechanism and national social services without creating parallel structures. The protection response will include a first phase of emergency response and will gradually transition to a second phase aiming at self-reliance, resilience and solutions.

The protection response will strengthen the Government of Poland's inclusion policy and institutional systems at the national, voivodeship (admin level 1), and local levels, to facilitate the access of refugees to public social services and to meet their basic needs. Partners will:

- Engage Polish authorities to organize the systematic identification and registration of the new arrivals and document their civil and legal status. Refugees, including those falling outside the scope of the Temporary Protection Directive, will be supported to access justice and legal support;
- Mainstream protection into the humanitarian response by ensuring that international standards are adhered to in all sectors and a protection-sensitive and do-no-harm approach is reflected throughout the response;
- Empower refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine by providing information on refugee rights and obligations, on available assistance and services, and how and where to access them. This will include information-sharing on protection risks for those in-transit along the routes to their respective destinations;
- Identify persons with specific needs who are isolated from community-support networks and TCNs, including to identify and refer to additional or specialized support needs and prevent and respond to protection risks;
- Adopt community-based approaches at cross-border areas, reception and accommodation areas and urban settings to share information, reach out to communities to identify those with protection or specific needs and refer them to available services and assistance schemes. This will be complemented by mobile protection teams and protection desks at reception and community centres in all settings (urban and suburban). The community and participatory approach established through the response also aims at setting the stage for refugee resilience and self-reliance and prepare them for sustainable and tailored solutions in the future;
- Strengthen identification/entry points for safe disclosure and referral mechanisms and case management of persons at risk;
- Provide institutional support to Polish agencies and ministries in charge of child protection and gender-based violence to enhance their response capacity and strengthen their technical expertise through capacity-building, sharing of good practices, and establishing/updating of SOPs and referral pathways. Capacity development of national frontline institutions and organizations will be prioritized on cross-cutting themes such as PSEA and on MHPSS;
- Promote evidence-based protection advocacy through regular engagement on protection monitoring activities. Consolidate and analyse protection information on immediate needs, protection risks, profiles and protection incidents reported, ensuring that programmatic activities are informed by regular and up to date information;
- Advocate with key stakeholders, including the donor community, human rights mechanisms, refugee-led and diaspora organizations. As part of the advocacy and coordination efforts, the Protection Sector will support host communities and positively influence the national dialogue on refugees by highlighting the most affected populations, the least supported geographical areas and the most critical protection risks;
- Promote accountability to affected people (AAP) as the centre of the Sector's response by establishing community-based mechanisms, partnering with local actors and refugee-led organizations to ensure participation and inclusion, communication and transparency, feedback and response with an age, gender and diversity approach. Critical links between the PSEA Network and the Protection Sector and GBV Sub-sector will be established to tackle protection gaps reported by refugees, service providers and authorities. Protection responses and priorities will continue to be adjusted through regular and improved protection analysis and monitoring, providing regular, ongoing and systematized information and analysis on protection needs.

Many of the above actions will be conducted through the Blue Dot initiative at border entry points, cash enrolment sites and other strategic locations, where refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine have access to services, information and legal counselling.

A dedicated Working Group will collaborate, liaise and advocate with the Polish authorities to ensure that TCNs have access to their rights and have, when required, the possibility to seek asylum in Poland while alternative solutions are being looked at for those who wish to return to their country of origin. Access to basic humanitarian assistance, including shelter should be provided upon arrival while guidance and information should be provided regarding more sustainable solutions, including seeking asylum or other protection mechanisms applicable in the EU. The response will include mitigating protection risks and ensuring equal access to protection services and assistance, including legal aid, will apply to all TCNs.

Child Protection

The high level of family separation, coupled with a sizable number of unaccompanied children, children evacuated from residential care institutions and provided with temporary care arrangements, and a high number of children at risk of violence, exploitation and abuse, including GBV and different forms of human trafficking, has created the ingredients for a significant child protection and care crisis. Moreover, the absence of systematic registration or verification of refugee children upon arrival, identification of children in need of protection or other services and referral to service providers remains a challenge. This is compounded by the lack of awareness raising, coordination and referral pathways between different stakeholders, including government agencies and local and international aid organizations. Access to information about services is limited and not available in a child-friendly format or for children with specific needs, such as children with disabilities who may require accessible formats and/or adapted language.

The national systems' capacities to provide adequate child protection and other services, such as adequate alternative care or guardianship arrangements, will be under intense pressure to absorb the additional demand and to provide adequate support to children at risk. This includes children arriving from residential care facilities in Ukraine, of which an estimated 60 per cent are children with disabilities, as well as separated children arriving with relatives, who will require best interest assessment and determination, formal guardianship procedures and child rights monitoring. Existing reception facilities are staffed by volunteers who have not benefitted from specialized training on child safeguarding, Best Interests Procedure, GBV, and Code of Conduct (CoC) and PSEA, or undergone a vetting or screening process.

Owing to the exposure to war and family separation, the need to provide MHPSS services to children is considered particularly high.

The Child Protection Sub-sector will focus on strengthening national systems as the core of its response. Priority interventions will include:

- Strengthening identification, registration and referral of unaccompanied, separated and other children at risk to child protection services, legal aid, and other services at national and local levels;
- Strengthening the Best Interests Procedure for children at heightened risk and establishing SOPs and referral pathways;
- Supporting the establishment of tracking and referral mechanisms between law enforcement institutions and service providers;
- Building the capacity of alternative care arrangements and enhancing screening of caregivers and family tracing and reunification;
- Providing technical support to frontline service providers, including the involved refugee- and diaspora-led organizations, to ensure that procedures and services are child-friendly and enhance their capacity to communicate with children;
- Disseminating child-friendly, accessible messaging on preventing family separation, child rights and available (specialized) services, including referrals;
- Ensuring timely registration of UASC by the Polish authorities, including information on the names and last known locations of parents and siblings left behind in Ukraine, to facilitate family tracing;
- Building capacity of volunteers at existing reception facilities through specialized training on child safeguarding, child protection prevention and response, GBV, and CoC and PSEA, or undergone a vetting or screening process. Training and capacity support on key child protection strategies will be delivered by child protection actors to stakeholders providing services to children, targeting municipal social workers, national and international actors as well as Ukrainian diaspora organizations;
- Promoting healthy coping and psychosocial wellbeing among refugee children and youth from Ukraine. Child- and adolescent-friendly MHPSS support will be provided, including promoting age-, gender- and disability- appropriate group activities in the Blue Dot facilities, school settings, mobile teams, and targeted outreach combined with psychosocial support to parents. Existing staff and volunteers at reception and community centres, as well as caregivers, will be trained to provide PSS to children in Polish and Ukrainian;
- Strengthening coordination and referral pathways between different service providers and Sectors, including the GBV Sub-sector and the CWG, and link to national child protection services and

infrastructure, delivered in a child-friendly manner and catering towards children at risk and children with disabilities. Support delivered through reception sites and community centres will also be established or complemented by mobile outreach to identify and refer children at risk, including in urban settings, to protection and other basic services;

- Feedback mechanisms will be made available to children in a format which is child-friendly, and accessible, including for children with disabilities, and leveraging existing community structures;
- Developing longer-term inclusion, social cohesion and integration strategies, with a special focus on including refugee children and adolescents in national education systems, in collaboration with the Education Sector, and mitigate protection risks through: (1) promotion of protective learning environments; and (2) building peer relations and fostering social cohesion, while engaging with and creating opportunities for children and adolescents to participate and develop.

Gender-Based Violence

The high level of family separation, coupled with a high proportion of women and girls among the new arrivals, has elevated the risk of gender-based violence (GBV). New arrivals entering Poland are increasingly distressed, disoriented, and without a clear onward movement plan, increasing their risk of different forms of GBV including trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and abuse immediately at the border and in their onward locations. The absence of systematic registration or verification of refugees upon arrival, limited anti-trafficking measures and law enforcement in border areas and at reception facilities, and limited national systems to respond to GBV as well as trafficking increase risks for women and girls. There is a critical need for greater awareness raising for refugees and frontline responders on GBV risks at entry points for services and support, as well as close collaboration with and capacity building for local authorities. Older women and women and girls with disabilities may be more exposed to abuse and face additional barriers to disclosure.

In particular, the national system capacity to provide adequate GBV multisectoral response services and support, such as safe accommodation, clinical care and psychosocial support, will be under intense pressure to absorb the demand. Existing reception facilities are staffed by volunteers who have not benefitted from specialized training on GBV or undergone a vetting or screening processes.

The GBV Sub-sector will focus on the strengthening national systems as the core of its response. Priority interventions will include:

- Expand awareness-raising and dissemination of communicating with communities materials on GBV, including the risks of GBV and where to receive support and services through established referral pathways. This is essential at border crossing points and relevant reception facilities, in accessible languages and diverse modalities;
- Support technical sectors to conduct regular GBV safety audits and assessments to identify and anticipate GBV risks and implement proactive action plans to mitigate against such risks;
- Strengthen and complement the capacity of existing national GBV response services, including the operation of safe shelters, survivor-centred response by law enforcement social workers, harmonization of GBV tools, provision of survivor-centred MHPSS, and staffing support to local institutions and municipal structures;
- Establish GBV referral pathways and SOPs, disseminate information on available support and services, support capacity-building, complement and strengthen local and systems. Quality, accessible and appropriate specialized services for specific groups will be established and strengthened, such as male survivors of sexual violence, women and girls with disabilities, older women and persons with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities;
- Ensure inclusion of civil society organizations, particularly refugee women-led organizations, refugee-led organizations, and responsible authorities into national GBV coordination mechanisms and strengthen inter-ministerial coordination on this cross-cutting issue;
- Reduce barriers to accessing services by increasing the availability of trained Ukrainian and Russian-speaking female interpreters, and access to online or in-person sign language interpretation;
- Collaborate with technical sectors to support joint monitoring and training activities, including on how to safely handle a disclosure of GBV and establish referrals in accordance with a survivor-centred approach.

Human Trafficking

The risks facing vulnerable refugees in Poland from human traffickers are important. Its potential reach extends far beyond unaccompanied children and includes third-country nationals, separated children, female heads of households, older persons, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ persons, adult sex workers, and homeless persons living on the streets. Barriers persist for the prevention, identification, rescue, referral, and protection of victims of human trafficking and those who experience abuse, extortion and/or violence at the hands of traffickers, especially at border locations, where mostly well-intended offers of transportation and accommodation remain unregulated and unmonitored.

There are also significant challenges due to the lack of updated data, mainly related to underreporting – given the clandestine nature of this crime.

Strengthening the identification and referral of victims of all forms of human trafficking and strengthening reporting of cases of human trafficking at the local level, in coordination with the Government of Poland including the National Consulting & Interventions Centre for Victims of Trafficking, local authorities, specialized NGOs, IOM, UNHCR and FRONTEX are therefore a key priority.

To coordinate their efforts, RRP partners will engage through a dedicated working group, within the context of the national Protection Sector, in the promotion of strategies for the prevention of human trafficking by developing the capacity of local authorities, civil society organizations and community leaders, focusing on comprehensive attention and protection of potential victims of trafficking.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) is a widely recognized priority in the response. MHPSS is a multisectoral issue which needs to be mainstreamed by a range of humanitarian responders trained in basic psychosocial skills including Psychological First Aid (PFA). MHPSS interventions will be implemented in various sectors, including health, protection and education. This requires corresponding capacity support for personnel, including frontline relief workers and volunteers, working in health facilities, reception centres, educational institutions, community settings and other contexts. Key strategies to improve mental health and psychosocial wellbeing include: i) strengthening supportive systems in families and communities; ii) providing focused support through case management and provision of scalable psychological interventions that can be provided by trained and supervised non-specialists; and iii) access to clinical mental health care for those in need.

Basic Needs

Food Security

Refugees from Ukraine started reaching Poland in the middle of winter amid sub-zero temperatures and snow, and often without the means to sustain themselves, both financially and logistically (without cooking equipment or locations where food could be prepared). Since the onset of the emergency, hot meals have been provided by a network of volunteers and organizations at pedestrian border crossing points. While notable, such initiatives are largely insufficient to address short- and medium-term food security needs. Response gaps are hence widespread, leading to risks of malnutrition if/where access to food remains constrained over longer periods, especially among vulnerable persons, children, pregnant and lactating women, and older persons.

Under the RRP in Poland, actors will focus on ensuring short- and medium-term food security by providing immediate in-kind food assistance of highly vulnerable refugees from Ukraine located at border areas, as well as in urban contexts, and to those in-transit. This will be complemented through emergency multipurpose cash assistance for vulnerable households to cover food and basic needs pending their inclusion in the national social assistance systems in Poland (providing access to school feeding, livelihoods, etc.). Response efforts will also focus on increasing access to financial services and products (including access to any Ukrainian social assistance, pensions, etc.) while in Poland.

Core Relief Items

Refugees intending to stay in Poland will need essential household items to establish themselves in homes and contribute to host family accommodation. Items include sufficient and appropriate clothing, blankets, dignity kits (including hygiene items), and household items, such as kitchen sets and mattresses and bedding needed to get set up. Thanks to the unprecedented mobilization and support by civil society across Europe, and building on the immediate response by local municipalities, local civil society actors, and the provision of emergency transitional cash assistance, some of these immediate needs are being met.

To sustain the ongoing response for refugees from Ukraine, who continue to arrive in Poland in large numbers, the scope of engagement of RRP partners will cover both capacity support to local authorities and response actors, as well as direct provision of immediate lifesaving CRIs, especially for new arrivals in Poland's border areas and urban accommodation centres, also with a view to supporting their integration.

In close coordination with local authorities, and considering the wealth of donations received, the coordinated CRI response will be adapted to weather and local conditions, and responsive to the differing needs of the diverse groups arriving in Poland (noting the needs of children, women, older people and persons with disabilities, and those in transit). GBV risk mitigation measures will be integrated into the modalities for targeting and distributing CRIs.

Shelter-Accommodation and Protection-Sensitive Site Support

Access to timely, dignified, accessible and safe accommodation is one of the most pressing needs of refugees from Ukraine, whether during transit or once settled in Poland. Many face grave and concrete risks of homelessness or are

in unsanitary, inaccessible and overcrowded conditions. In parallel, owing to the sudden onset of the crisis, coordinated and updated information on available accommodation options, both at border locations and at reception facilities is lacking, and the private hosting capacities of Polish society will soon be exhausted. Already facing inflation-driven increases, the Polish rental market is anticipated to further tighten in the wake of the large-scale arrival of refugees from Ukraine, adding additional strain on host communities and refugees alike. Rental markets are stressed, and the supply of available accommodation is nearly depleted in major urban centres.

To address these needs, the response will prioritize:

- Providing emergency and temporary accommodation in hotels and temporary accommodation centres, as a primary response towards immediate shelter solutions, prioritizing the most vulnerable and groups with additional or specific protection needs, while maintaining PSEA, anti-trafficking and GBV safeguards;
- Supporting medium- and long-term comprehensive rental support strategies¹⁷ and interventions to improve housing and community infrastructure to adapt current emergency reception facilities for continued arrivals and longer stays, all in coordination with local authorities;
- For local hosting arrangements, where Polish community members accommodate refugees from Ukraine, enhanced capacitation, screening, support and monitoring is envisaged, to mitigate PSEA, GBV and other protection risks, while ensuring sustained social cohesion.

Accommodation assistance will be complemented by the provision of household items or community infrastructure interventions. Rental support will be given through cash assistance, support with social rental programmes, as well as technical assistance to facilitate the conclusion of agreements with landlords (e.g. market-based interventions) and actions to promote security of tenure. The above will contribute to upholding the right to adequate housing. While the cash-for-rent programme will target the most vulnerable families, linking it to self-reliance activities, access to employment or inclusion in the national social safety network will also enhance its sustainability. Common criteria for the identification and prioritization of persons at heightened risk will be established. The Sector will also support national authorities to enhance local and national Sector partners and local authorities' capacities through operational support and technical guidance.



¹⁷ Including market analysis, revision of habitability standards and eligibility criteria, close collaboration with the Protection Sector on mitigation of risks associated with evictions and xenophobia, among others.

WASH

Owing to the intensity of arrivals in Poland, a significant proportion of refugees from Ukraine are likely to be sheltered in transit centres and temporary accommodations, including at border locations. Both there, as well as in border locations, access to safe, private and dignified WASH services is essential to prevent communicable disease outbreaks and mitigate GBV risks. Basic health and hygiene protocols are largely unmet with handwashing facilities and hygiene materials lacking. Available facilities are often not meeting the increased demands due to the large number of refugees residing in the area and frequently lack maintenance. Refugees are moreover likely to face barriers accessing dignity kits with hygiene articles (including menstrual hygiene items) due to lack of income and price increases.

In response to high arrival rates and overburdened reception facilities, WASH partners seek to ensure that refugees have access to quality water, sanitation, and hygiene services to enhance dignity and prevent waterborne diseases and associated morbidity and mortality. Continuous availability of water and sanitary facilities - ranging from safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, showers, maintained lavatories and waste management, availability of hygiene and sanitary items, to laundry and washing facilities - will be provided.

Priority will be given to actions to improve access to and maintenance of: i) gender-segregated toilets and private and safe bathrooms; ii) sufficient quality water for human consumption and domestic use; iii) waste management; iv) access to hygiene items and services, including Menstrual Hygiene Management, including through cash assistance; and vi) promotion messages on hand hygiene and infection prevention. These activities will be prioritized in reception facilities and transit points, in-line with recommendations and in partnership with the relevant municipalities.

Health & Nutrition

The Polish Government provides refugees from Ukraine free access to the national health system. With Poland currently being the largest host country for refugees from Ukraine, the pressure on the Polish health system is expected to be significant. Based on the most recent public health data from Ukraine, specific health needs and priorities have been identified by the Ministry of Health and the Health Sector, relating to communicable and non-communicable diseases, maternal and newborn health, as well as relating to the effect of war and displacement on the refugees' mental health. Considering the impact of COVID-19 on an already overwhelmed health workforce, a special emphasis will be placed on national surge capacities to strengthen national health care services especially with a particular focus on maternal, newborn and child health, and specialized health care.

The health and nutrition response aims to ensure refugees have access to the preventive, promotive, curative, palliative, and rehabilitative health services they need to prevent excess morbidity and mortality. Key priorities include: access to vaccination upon arrival to reduce the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks – particularly measles and polio, with a special focus on densely populated spaces hosting refugees, both at border locations and urban centres; systematic access to health screening, emergency treatment, and referral; and continuity of care, especially for tuberculosis and HIV patients and non-communicable diseases by linking them to national programmes. Regarding sexual and reproductive health, key priorities include ensuring referral of pregnant women to delivery and newborn care, continuation of contraceptive methods, and access to quality clinical services for survivors of gender-based violence. Communication with communities on health service access, emphasizing linking refugees to the national health system, will be offered through multiple means in reception, transit, and other service centres and will be included in sectoral information hubs, such as the Blue Dot initiative. Related health supplies and medicines, including personal protective equipment, rapid diagnostic testing kits, vaccines, HIV and tuberculosis treatments, etc., will remain a priority. In addition, partners will strive to ensure children and women have access to nutritious, safe, affordable and sustainable diets. They will also strengthen awareness, promotion, support and counselling for Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF).

In the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the recent polio outbreak in Ukraine as well as risks related to measles, support to the national public health system is a priority to respond to the low vaccination rates in Ukraine and Poland as is enhancing access COVID-19 diagnosis and isolation and treatment facilities. Epidemiological surveillance, emphasizing reception and transit centres, expanding the health information system linked to the standard Ministry of Health reporting system, and risk assessments systems will be supported to ensure management, coordination, and seamless information flows among health partners. This will strengthen existing surveillance systems and early warning detection systems. The Polish health sector will be supported to provide appropriate mental health services to large numbers of refugees from Ukraine having experienced war-related events, losses, and family separation. They will also need support in accessing services through community outreach activities, translations/interpretation, and case management.

A significant number of refugees are older persons; it is vital to have a life-course approach to refugee health, particularly for those in their advanced age who may be more needful of services, for example, attending co-morbidities. Additional capacity is needed to support persons with disabilities, older people, and war-impacted persons with assistive

technology (wheelchairs, prostheses, etc.), requiring training, and capacity support for local community health workers in coordination with health authorities.

The Polish Ministry of Health will be supported to transfer patients from Ukraine within Poland and other host states. Poland will serve as a model system to be established in close cooperation between the European Commission, RRP partners, the Ministry of Health in Ukraine, and other neighbouring countries.

Education

It is estimated that among refugees from Ukraine that have reached Poland, roughly half are school-aged children. To respond to this situation Poland has confirmed its readiness and willingness to accept and integrate all children fleeing the war in Ukraine in the national education system, while also supporting distance learning for those wishing to continue their schooling provided by the Ukrainian education system (at least until the end of the ongoing school year).

This commitment is in line with relevant EU legislation¹⁸ to enrol displaced learners within three months after lodging an asylum application and to provide preparatory classes (which include language tuition)¹⁹ to those displaced learners that need them prior to placement in a regular class in a school in the national school system. Even prior to the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive, this EU-wide standard was applicable to all refugee children and students.²⁰ For children up to 3 years old, communes will be supported to establish nurseries or informal childcare and refugee children will join on simplified terms.²¹

Despite the pressure that the inclusion of refugee children and youth in national education systems will bring with it, ensuring equal access to education for refugees from Ukraine, and avoiding parallel systems, will be key to the education response in Poland.

Challenges identified by RRP partners are:

- Availability of information and data on children and youth arriving in Poland to identify demand and supply across the learning continuum, as well as data on displaced learners' educational attainment and skills, and the presence of Ukrainian education professionals in Poland to support the transition and integration into the national education system (cf. teachers, school support staff, language tutors, mental health professionals);
- Polish education system capacity, including education facilities and qualified teachers and support personnel, to integrate all refugee children and applicable mechanisms on the actual integration procedures;
- Language skills to facilitate integration in the education and professional systems;
- Educator skills/knowledge gaps, specifically relating to providing integration and inclusion for foreign students not accustomed to the Polish curriculum, to MHPSS for teachers working with children suffering from emotional distress or mental health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder, and early childhood education and care services;
- Access to skills development for teachers, accessible learning materials, and replacement of lost or damaged assistive devices to ensure equal access to children with previous or war-related acquired disabilities.

In addition, learners face challenges such as a lack of education supplies like computers for distance and/or digital learning; limited access to recreation and temporary learning opportunities for pre-school children and adolescents; and obstacles to social cohesion and inclusion. Parents on the other hand require additional information and advice on education and early learning opportunities and could benefit from parenting groups to promote inclusion, mental health and contribute to language training.

The overall priority of the Education Sector is to support the provision of safe education services to refugees from Ukraine – ranging from early childhood development to higher education, formal and informal, as well as language – in an accessible and open manner to all on an equal basis. This will include:

- Supporting the development of government guidance and help with input from education stakeholders and information provision and coordination to/with stakeholders and end users;
- Recognition and validation of academic degrees and professional titles in the Polish and European context, and training on Polish language skills to facilitate integration in national labour markets;

¹⁸ See hereto: The Act on Assistance to Ukrainian Citizens in the Context of the Armed Conflict in Ukraine, as amended on 26 March 2022 (<https://www.gov.pl/web/udsc-en/the-law-on-assistance-to-ukrainian-citizens-in-connection-with-the-armed-conflict-on-the-territory-of-the-country-has-entered-into-force>), as well as Article 14 of [EU Directive 2013/33](#) of 26 June 2013 on the standards for the reception of applicants for international protection.

¹⁹ At the time of drafting of this Plan, some 20 per cent of refugee children enrolled in the Polish education system (160,000) benefitted from preparatory classes.

²⁰ <https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja-i-nauka/wsparcie-na-rzecz-ukrainy--najwazniejsze-dzialania-mein>

²¹ [The government has adopted a special act on assistance for refugees from Ukraine - Ministry of the Interior and Administration](#)

- Supporting the capacities of national education providers, particularly in the areas of: didactics and classroom management for joint education of national and scholars exposed to war, family separation and displacement (including positive peer relations, social cohesion, integration and conflict management); language skills and cultural awareness (also to prevent any discrimination among scholars); and MHPSS and psychological first aid as well as on GBV;
- Strengthening data collection and analysis, sharing and use for planning, including identifying child age and education attainment.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

To facilitate refugee inclusion in the economic ecosystem of the country from the onset, enable them to protect their assets, to adapt to local market needs and to contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment, a good understanding of their socioeconomic profiles, market opportunities and key stakeholders is vital. This will allow to develop targeted responses through a whole-of-society approach that build upon existing systems, services and programmes and bring together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves. While the primary focus is on the emergency response, for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens forms part of the process from the onset to facilitate access to services, identify barriers and gaps, coordinate support and advocate for a rapid insertion in the market system through decent work and financial services.

Logistics & Supply

National authorities and local actors will continue to lead the response for refugees from Ukraine. However, the large number of refugee arrivals and the pace of this emergency will place additional pressures on national infrastructure, resources and capacities. As a result, refugees from Ukraine face challenges in accessing different type of goods and services. Humanitarian actors under the RCF will therefore support national actors and authorities with logistics services to facilitate the implementation of their emergency response programmes under the RRP. In meeting these support actions, partners of the Logistics Sector are faced with the following challenges:

- Lack of logistics/supply capacity in affected locations where refugees are arriving; and humanitarian actors have very limited presence and capacity in Poland;
- While operating in a developed market where services are largely available, the vast scale of the refugee influx is anticipated to impact the capacities in terms of warehousing, fleet availability, and transport services;
- While recovering from the global COVID-19 pandemic, global supply chains remain severely constrained, leading to delays in production, delivery and shipments, further impacting emergency response logistics partners in responding to this large-scale emergency;
- The involvement of a large number of response actors increases the need for effective coordination to avoid duplication, competition in accessing different services and enhancing the response for refugees from Ukraine.

In response, the Logistics Sector and its members will continue to provide support to national authorities and local actors in their response and strengthen their capacities and resources. Logistics Sector partners will also provide support to humanitarian actors implementing their programmes under this Response Plan.

Priority will be given to establish the required network of logistics and supply and telecoms infrastructure including warehouses, transportation services, fleet, supplies, procurement agreements and contracts to facilitate the required capacity to respond to this crisis.

Partnership & Coordination

In Poland, the UNHCR-led RCF was created as an inclusive and accountable body to steer and monitor the operational inter-agency response under the RRP. Considering the magnitude of the response, the RCF will support the Government-led response and complement the efforts of national authorities involved through the combined expertise of national NGOs, refugee and women-led, community-based and faith-based organizations, UN Agencies and international NGOs, as well as the private sector in a robust, holistic response to the needs of refugees and host communities. It will also ensure that humanitarian principles, refugee conventions and laws, and the do-no-harm principle are respected.

The RCF builds on this exceptional commitment and community leadership, recognizing also that 47 per cent of RRP actors are national actors. UN agencies and international NGOs commit to continue working in partnership with the Government as well as local structures, to follow their lead on how best to address the needs and foster inclusion of

refugees in their host communities. This engagement lies at the heart of the Refugee Coordination Forum's and UNHCR's commitment to localization, in line with Grand Bargain commitments.

To ensure a holistic approach to the identification of needs and planned responses, sectoral groups have been established, focusing on basic needs (comprising food security, shelter/site management, core relief items and WASH), education, health (including nutrition), and protection (including sub-sectors on child protection and GBV, on human trafficking as well as TCN matters). These sectors are supported by several dedicated cross-functional technical working groups addressing information management, multipurpose cash assistance, MHPSS, PSEA and AAP. Corresponding to their thematic expertise and competence, sectoral groups are co-led by a dozen different organizations, notably national NGOs/civil society actors (8) and UN agencies (4).

Projects under the RRP will bridge the nexus between the humanitarian emergency response and the longer-term perspective to build resilience at the individual beneficiary level, community level as well as at the institutional level.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Logistics & Operational Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Cash assistance)	WASH	Total
FBO - Caritas Poland	542,492							542,492
FBO - Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej	60,000	1,000,000	150,000		3,030,000	30,000		4,270,000
FBO - Lutheran World Federation	250,000	470,000			500,000	360,000		1,580,000
IFRC - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies			1,000,000			9,000,000		10,000,000
INGO - A21 Ukraine	208,000							208,000
INGO - ACTED Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development						5,000,000		5,000,000
INGO - Action contre la Faim	35,000		150,200	200,000		162,000		547,200
INGO - Americanes Foundation	2,000,000		3,000,000					5,000,000
INGO - ASAM Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants	2,752,000	720,000	2,176,000			563,200		6,211,200
INGO - AVSI Association of Volunteers in International Service	758,335	519,930	135,582		269,625	442,321		2,125,793
INGO - CARE International	400,000		1,755,000		87,000	2,700,000		4,942,000
INGO - Clear Global	615,000							615,000
INGO - CORE Community Organized Relief Effort	150,000					1,600,000		1,750,000
INGO - Corus International						2,000,000		2,000,000
INGO - DRC Danish Refugee Council	500,000					400,000		900,000
INGO - Fair Bnb Network						65,000		65,000
INGO - Faros Elpidas	1,170,000					7,200,000		8,370,000

INGO - Global Ahead	97,500				97,500
INGO - Habitat for Humanity Poland	1,500,000				1,500,000
INGO - HIAS	2,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	5,302,000	9,302,000
INGO - IMPACT	1,700,000				1,700,000
INGO - International Medical Corps	800,000	1,500,000		200,000	2,500,000
INGO - Internews	650,000				650,000
INGO - Intersos	877,000	323,000			1,200,000
INGO - IRC International Rescue Committee	3,000,000	500,000		3,500,000	7,000,000
INGO - Libraries Without Borders	1,500,000				1,500,000
INGO - Medair	533,896	605,253		1,167,755	2,306,904
INGO - NRC Norwegian Refugee Council	4,000,000		1,000,000	15,000,000	20,000,000
INGO - OXFAM	4,139,439			3,000,000	8,139,439
INGO - Plan International	1,060,000	50,000	8,325,000	1,000,000	10,435,000
INGO - Project Hope	650,000	750,000		350,000	1,750,000
INGO - PUI Premiere Urgence	1,435,000			2,000,000	3,435,000
INGO - RI Relief International	424,505		108,900	153,000	686,405
INGO - Safe Passage International	300,000				300,000
INGO - Save the Children	1,000,000		2,400,000		3,400,000
INGO - Terre des Hommes	1,000,000			2,573,424	3,573,424
INGO - The Center for Reproductive Rights		199,955			199,955
INGO - The Red Pencil International	289,172				289,172
INGO - TNS Together Nederland Stichting	99,000	100,000			199,000
INGO - World Central Kitchen	5,000,000				5,000,000
NGO - Ashoka			100,000		100,000
NGO - Association for Legal intervention	100,000				100,000
NGO - CCE Center for Citizenship Education			1,000,000		1,000,000
NGO - CPK The Center for Women's Rights	1,800,000				1,800,000
NGO - CultureLab Foundation			30,000	420,000	450,000
NGO - FDDS Empowering Children Foundation	2,000,000				2,000,000
NGO - FEDERA		45,000			45,000

Federation for Women and Family Planning								
NGO - Foundation for Somalia	900,000							900,000
NGO - Foundation Towards Dialogue		2,500						2,500
NGO - Fundacja ADRA Polska	6,350,000	800,000		11,000,000	300,000	19,142,000		37,592,000
NGO - Fundacja Atid					32,862			32,862
NGO - Fundacja Autonomia	150,000							150,000
NGO - Fundacja Dobrej Edukacji					20,900			20,900
NGO - Fundacja Dokładam Się		60,000	50,000	212,000				322,000
NGO - Fundacja Feminoteka	50,000							50,000
NGO - Fundacja HumanDoc	320,000	80,000			50,000	50,000		500,000
NGO - Fundacja Inna Przestrzeń (FIP)			750,000					750,000
NGO - Fundacja Nativated					140,000			140,000
NGO - Fundacja Polska od Nowa	59,859		27,879	79,069				166,807
NGO - Fundacja Think Tank Miasto	6,000							6,000
NGO - Fundacja Truskawkowe Pola	250,000	400,000	350,000		250,000	1,000,000		2,250,000
NGO - Fundacja Ukraina		45,000			105,000	600,000		750,000
NGO - Fundacja Uniwersytet Dzieci					52,000			52,000
NGO - Happy Kids Foundation	2,800,000	850,000	1,400,000		1,400,000	2,300,000	700,000	9,450,000
NGO - Help.NGO	450,000		375,000	395,000	11,700,000	1,950,000		14,870,000
NGO - Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	290,000							290,000
NGO - Humanosh Slawa i Izek Wolosianski Foundation	80,000	130,000	57,000	134,000		283,000		684,000
NGO - Information Society Development Foundation					250,000			250,000
NGO - Kalejdoskop Kultur		220,000						220,000
NGO - MAITRI Movement Association					92,000			92,000
NGO - Małopolskie Towarzystwo Oświatowe					98,000			98,000
NGO - NORMA Europejska Fundacja na	200,000							200,000

Rzecz Edukacji, Profilaktyki i Wychowania NGO - PAH Polish Humanitarian Action NGO - PCPM Polish Center for International Aid NGO - PLZ Cooperative (CoopTech Hub) NGO - Polish Migration Forum Foundation NGO - Salam Lab Laboratory of Peace NGO - Stowarzyszenie Wspólne Podwórko NGO - Tech To The Rescue Foundation NGO - Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Hufiec Uroczysko Konstancin UN-IOM								
	3,170,000	1,200,000	300,000		800,000	9,170,000	650,000	15,290,000
			3,000,000			47,304,000		50,304,000
					18,000			18,000
	2,000,000							2,000,000
						452,000		452,000
			-	150,000				150,000
			500,000					500,000
			527,578	26,643				554,221
	20,000,000		4,000,000	1,000,000	15,000,000		2,000,000	42,000,000
			900,000					900,000
	150,000		150,000					300,000
17,055,556				-	192,944,444		210,000,000	
61,955,600		14,935,000		62,930,000		12,407,940	152,228,540	
3,260,133		4,890,200					8,150,333	
43,200,000							43,200,000	
Total (USD)	153,835,854	14,395,063	81,722,068	22,265,979	84,530,599	364,664,144	19,257,940	740,671,647

Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
FBO - Caritas Poland	542,492			542,492
FBO - Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej	60,000			60,000
FBO - LWF Lutheran World Federation		250,000		250,000
INGO - A21 Ukraine	208,000			208,000
INGO - Action contre la Faim	35,000			35,000
INGO - Americanes Foundation	2,000,000			2,000,000
INGO - ASAM Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants	1,600,000	472,000	680,000	2,752,000
INGO - AVSI Association of Volunteers in International Service	280,184	246,390	231,761	758,335
INGO - CARE International	400,000			400,000
INGO - Clear Global	615,000			615,000

INGO - CORE Community Organized Relief Effort	75,000	75,000	150,000
INGO - DRC Danish Refugee Council	500,000		500,000
INGO - Faros Elpidas	720,000	450,000	1,170,000
INGO - HIAS	1,000,000	700,000	800,000
INGO - International Medical Corps		700,000	100,000
INGO - Internews	650,000		650,000
INGO - Intersos	628,000	249,000	877,000
INGO - IRC International Rescue Committee	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
INGO - Libraries Without Borders	1,500,000		1,500,000
INGO - Medair	533,896		533,896
INGO - NRC Norwegian Refugee Council	4,000,000		4,000,000
INGO - OXFAM	4,139,439		4,139,439
INGO - Plan International		1,060,000	1,060,000
INGO - Project Hope	250,000	250,000	150,000
INGO - PUI Premiere Urgence	1,435,000		1,435,000
INGO - RI Relief International	235,305	189,200	424,505
INGO - Safe Passage International	300,000		300,000
INGO - Save the Children		1,000,000	1,000,000
INGO - Terre des Hommes	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
INGO - The Red Pencil International	289,172		289,172
INGO - TNS Together Nederland Stichting	33,000	33,000	33,000
NGO - Association for Legal intervention	100,000		100,000
NGO - CPK The Center for Women's Rights	800,000	1,000,000	1,800,000
NGO - FDDS Empowering Children Foundation		2,000,000	2,000,000
NGO - Foundation for Somalia	400,000	500,000	900,000
NGO - Fundacja ADRA Polska	5,750,000	600,000	6,350,000
NGO - Fundacja Autonomia		150,000	150,000
NGO - Fundacja Feminoteka		50,000	50,000
NGO - Fundacja HumanDoc	220,000	50,000	50,000
NGO - Fundacja Polska od Nowa	59,859		59,859
NGO - Fundacja Think Tank Miasto	6,000		6,000
NGO - Fundacja Truskawkowe Pola		250,000	250,000
NGO - Happy Kids Foundation		2,800,000	2,800,000
NGO - Help.NGO	275,000	175,000	450,000
NGO - Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	290,000		290,000
NGO - Humanosh Slawa i Izek Wolosianski Foundation	80,000		80,000
NGO - NORMA Europejska Fundacja na Rzecz Edukacji, Profilaktyki i Wychowania	-	200,000	200,000
NGO - PAH Polish Humanitarian Action	1,070,000	100,000	2,000,000
NGO - Polish Migration Forum Foundation	2,000,000		2,000,000
UN-IOM	18,000,000	2,000,000	20,000,000
UN-UNFPA		150,000	150,000

UN-UHCR	11,611,111	2,722,222	2,722,222	17,055,556
UN-UNICEF	18,792,000	3,130,000	40,033,600	61,955,600
Total (USD)	82,483,458	13,166,812	58,185,583	153,835,854

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 299,028,300	
Basic Needs	Protection
\$ 283,328,300	\$ 15,700,000

This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.



Republic of Moldova

Country Chapter

Moldova. Refugees wait to board buses at the Palanca border crossing in Moldova to be transferred to Romania. © UNHCR/Mihai von Eremia



At a Glance

Moldova Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

1,000,000

Projected refugee
population entering
by December 2022

250,000

Projected refugee
population remaining
by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

45 %



21 %



17 %



17 %

These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 414.1 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 167.9 M



\$ 21.9 M



\$ 36.3 M



\$ 10.5 M



\$ 32.4 M



\$ 102 M



\$ 33.6 M



\$ 9.2 M



40
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

14



UN
Agencies

22



International
NGOs

3



National
NGOs

1



Faith-based
Organizations

Republic of Moldova

Country Overview

The Republic of Moldova is one of the countries most affected by the refugee situation, and its border, migration and asylum management capacities are under significant strain. The World Bank classified it as a lower-middle-income country – despite reasonable economic performance over the past two decades – and the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as a severe drought in 2020, put further pressure on an already struggling system. With economic ties with Ukraine, the Russian Federation and neighbouring European Union (EU) countries, the war in Ukraine and refugee outflows are posing immense economic and social challenges for the Government, which is estimated to be spending EUR 900,000 per day (roughly USD 1 million) on support for refugees.

Following the outbreak of hostilities in Ukraine, the Government of the Republic of Moldova declared a state of emergency on 24 February. Authorities established a special entry and exit regime from the country, and special measures for refugee protection, as well as for protection of the country's population and institutions. The Moldovan Authorities have ensured full access to territory and those wishing to seek asylum can do so through the existing asylum procedure. Emergency policy and legal measures were adopted to allow all arrivals from Ukraine to enter, lifting documentation requirements as well as COVID-19 restrictions. The Government declared its readiness to receive refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) from Ukraine and is leading a coordinated response with the help of the UN and local and international organizations. It set up a central crisis management approach and works closely with UNHCR in coordinating the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF), which was established at the onset the emergency. It takes a multisectoral approach to the ongoing interventions, ensuring complementarity to government responses.

By 23 April 2022, more than 433,000 refugees from Ukraine have arrived in Moldova. Some 75 per cent of refugees continue towards Romania and other European countries, nonetheless the proportion that remains is straining the country's capacity. Refugees are coming mostly from southern and south-western Ukraine, including from Odesa. While Palanca in southern Moldova is the crossing point with the most entries per day, border crossings in the north (such as at Otaci) are also seeing a high level of arrivals in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

The vast majority of refugees are women and children, while older persons and people with disabilities, illnesses or other medical conditions need significant support.

Needs Overview

The vulnerability of incoming refugees is increasing, with partners considering nearly all of them in need of humanitarian assistance. A significant part of the inter-agency response will be geared to support the Government's response capacity as well as Moldovan communities that have given tremendous support in terms of hosting, providing emergency lodging and food to incoming refugees. This includes asylum-seekers and refugees of other (third-country) nationalities who require international protection.

Many people are also attempting to enter outside formal border crossings (along the so-called 'green border'), facing serious protection risks as they resort to smuggling networks. They are indeed exposed to violence, abuse, and exploitation. Many TCNs are exposed to the same risks.

The Government facilitates reception at border crossing points and transportation inland or toward neighbouring Romania for those wishing it. Civil society and volunteers have also provided massive support and solidarity. Nevertheless, there remain significant needs at crossing points, including access to basic safe accommodation, protection from cold weather and harsh elements, warm food, as well as safe access to sufficient water and sanitation facilities. There is a need to improve on-site health and medical care at border crossing points, including for those with chronic illness, disabilities and gender-based violence (GBV) survivors. Referral mechanisms to appropriate centres for those in serious medical need must also be strengthened.

In addition, arrivals urgently need accurate and verified information and counselling on asylum application procedures in Moldova or in other countries, and information on related rights, documentation and travel routes. Misinformation and disinformation, including scams targeting those fleeing Ukraine, are being reported and placing Ukrainians and other TCNs at risk of extortion, trafficking, exploitation, and abuse. Refugees, including families, children, and single parents are severely distressed, exhausted concerned about the safety of family and friends remaining in Ukraine, and are in clear need of mental health and psychosocial support. Many have been separated and require family tracing services. Many refugees bring pets which may require veterinary assistance; this is not to be neglected as they greatly contribute to mental health, especially for children.

Over 100 reception facilities have been established by local or national authorities throughout the country, many to provide temporary help during transit. Additionally, many spontaneous settlements have sprung up. Refugees are also often hosted in private accommodation, or with families and friends. Based on protection monitoring reports the needs in reception centres are the same or similar to those present at crossing points.

Children make up 47 per cent of the refugees. Separation of children from their parents and families is a key concern; it is estimated that at least 2 per cent of children are separated or unaccompanied. Identification and referral of at-risk children at the border or in accommodation centres must be reinforced. As arrivals are also largely made up by women-headed households, single women, adolescent girls, and older women, mostly entering and travelling without their spouses or other family members and placing additional pressure on them as caregivers. 83 per cent of women met in transit locations were travelling with at least one child below 18 years of age, and 62 per cent of older people reported travelling with children.

Given the demographic profile of the refugee population, there are heightened protection risks. These include sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), as well as human trafficking, including for labour exploitation. The risk of GBV increases in informal shelters, reception and transit facilities, refugee accommodation centres, and in transportation from the border to transit facilities and onward to other countries, especially transportation arranged privately. Currently available services and networks to support GBV survivors need to be reinforced. Key priorities are for targeted information, awareness raising and counselling; safe spaces for women, girls, LGBTIQ+ persons, and victims of trafficking to facilitate survivor-centred and safe disclosure; and safe access to case management and specialized services for survivors through established referral pathways, including those existing at national level. Access to specialized health care, including clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence, and psychosocial support also need to be strengthened.

Children and female caregivers have also experienced or witnessed violence, with the stress and uncertainty of displacement resulting in high levels of psychosocial distress. There is a need to ensure information is provided to children, GBV survivors and families about their rights and how to seek assistance. Children also lack recreational, life skills and educational activities, and a more predictable provision of basic needs for children in accommodation centres and transit locations is needed.

The demographic profile of refugees also creates the potential for aggravation of existing health conditions and enhanced risks for morbidity and mortality if they don't access timely and quality health services. This includes missing immunizations, uncontrolled hypertension in older persons, missed antenatal care visits for pregnant women, untreated acute respiratory infections in young children, or untreated post-traumatic stress disorder in adolescents. While some refugees may be able to navigate the above barriers and access health services, many may not be so fortunate to receive the appropriate care. The Ministry of Health developed orders and drafted a contingency plan that outlines health interventions to enable access to medical services and ensure public health measures were in place.

Host Community

The host community is welcoming and is responding to the crisis with an outpouring of sympathy and volunteer support. However, the sheer scale of the numbers is likely to outpace the host community's capacity to adjust. Even if more than 75 per cent of arrivals move on, the country will require additional support. The scale of this current crisis, the likelihood of future climate shocks and their socioeconomic impact and the uncertainty about the development of the war in Ukraine point to the critical need to support the Government's leadership in medium- to long-term responses. Partners will provide targeted support to the evolving needs of vulnerable Moldovan households given the current socioeconomic context, to ensure that they are not left behind.

Third-Country Nationals

Besides the Ukrainian refugees who are entering from Ukraine into Moldova, there are also TCNs. Some have international protection needs and need to have access to asylum procedures. Others may wish to return to their countries of origin, however, they might face challenges linked to the availability and accessibility of consular services, proper documentation, transportation means and conditions of dignified return and reintegration to their countries of origin. IOM is the lead agency supporting TCNs who do not have international protection needs, together with government counterparts and relevant RRP sectors, ensuring complementarity across the response.

Response Strategy

Country Objectives

As Moldova is both a host and transit country for refugees from Ukraine, the needs of refugees and host community populations need to be correctly addressed. The response will be guided by the following objectives:

1

Support the Republic of Moldova to ensure that all refugees from Ukraine have access to safety and international protection, in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement;

- 2** Support the Republic of Moldova to provide timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection to refugees fleeing Ukraine and TCNs having left Ukraine, of whom a sizeable number would need international protection, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable women, girls, boys and men;
- 3** Facilitate the search for solutions for all and the promotion of social and economic opportunities while ensuring conducive and equal conditions for the refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine from the onset through a whole-of-society approach; and
- 4** Ensure effective coordination of partners in support of the Republic of Moldova's efforts.

Cross-cutting Priorities

Cash Assistance

Experience and evidence highlight that cash assistance increases protection outcomes, facilitates inclusion and solutions, and improves efficiency and effectiveness in programme delivery. Cash also contributes to the local economy and fosters positive relations with host communities. Further, cash provides refugees and persons of concern with greater dignity of choice in meeting their multiple needs. Despite fragility introduced by the conflict, markets are functional, and proximity to other EU markets, as well as alternative supply routes help stabilize the availability of goods and services.

Cross-cutting priorities

- **Accountability to affected people (AAP)**
- **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**
- **Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)**
- **Older persons and persons living with disabilities**

Read more in the Regional Chapter pp. 12-13

The overall strategy for cash assistance in Moldova has been defined by the Cash Working Group in close collaboration with the Government and is two-pronged in the short- to mid-term:

- Provision of emergency multipurpose cash grants for basic needs to newly arrived refugees as well as to vulnerable host communities who have acted as early responders across the country;
- Establish a transitional safety net for vulnerable refugee households, while assistance to vulnerable host communities will continue. Specific efforts are made to ensure early alignment with the Government's social protection schemes and linkages with early recovery including with labour market interventions.

Enrolment of beneficiaries with UNHCR's systems is coordinated under the Cash Working Group. Targeting will be geared towards refugees, host communities and TCNs to streamline cash assistance. Protection will be mainstreamed throughout cash assistance to ensure protection risks, including GBV, are effectively mitigated and protection dividends maximized. Close coordination between cash and GBV actors has already been set up to ensure cash assistance is provided in a way that does not put women and girls at further risk.

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

A key priority is maintaining access to territory for refugees from Ukraine (including TCNs) who are fleeing the conflict, ensuring access to the asylum procedure and to safety by supporting the Government to strengthen processing modalities at the border and throughout the procedure. Protection interventions will seek to uphold rights for persons arriving from Ukraine through border and monitoring activities and advocacy with the authorities to address emerging gaps and risks. Partners will develop an efficient data collection system to ensure needs assessments and analysis reflect the situation of affected people. In addition, efforts will continue to strengthen identification, referral, and response mechanisms for at-risk groups and individuals including LGBTIQ+ persons, older people, as well as children and adults with disabilities and to provide counselling and psychosocial services for persons at heightened risk.

In support of national authorities, RRP partners will ensure timely, safe and effective identification of and assistance to persons with additional and/or specialized support needs, including through enhancing capacities of existing services and supporting systems at the national level. Services that will be bolstered range from psychological first aid, social

and legal support, and specialized responses to health services, accessible information and accommodation arrangements.

The capacity of border, migration and asylum management authorities' must be reinforced to ensure protection-sensitive mechanisms are in place to protect refugees, in particular the most vulnerable persons among them, and to combat trafficking. Staff training and providing on-site mentoring and technical support will focus on the concepts of fundamental rights, asylum, protection and safeguarding principles, as well as screening, identification and referral of cases in need. Partners will also ensure the early identification of victims of trafficking and referral to relevant protection services, as well as protection of unaccompanied children and protection of other vulnerable groups from abuse and exploitation. To better address needs, RRP partners will provide protection-sensitive assistance, including cash-based interventions.

Protection monitoring in transport hubs, and reception and accommodation facilities, will help national authorities and civil society actors ensure safe and accessible conditions for all arrivals. This will include advocacy and advice on the need to map and screen the safety and appropriateness of private accommodation provision as well as support for protection-sensitive onward transfers in coordination with national and international actors to safeguard protection space and reception standards.

Information and counselling on legal procedures to seek asylum in Moldova and other destination countries is another priority. This includes information on access to basic rights and services to ensure effective, harmonized and equal access to health care, education, documentation, social protection and other basic rights and services.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) is a widely recognized priority in the response. MHPSS is a multisectoral issue which needs to be mainstreamed throughout the response by a range of humanitarian responders trained in basic psychosocial skills including Psychological First Aid (PFA). MHPSS interventions will be implemented in various sectors, including protection. This requires corresponding capacity support for personnel, including frontline relief workers and volunteers, engaged in health facilities, border crossing points, accommodation centres, educational institutions, community settings and other contexts. Key strategies to improve mental health and psychosocial wellbeing include i) strengthening supportive systems in families and communities; ii) providing focused support through case management and provision of scalable psychological interventions that can be provided by trained and supervised non-specialists, and iii) access to clinical mental health care for those in need.

The RRP includes Blue Dot safe spaces for multisectoral services; these are one-stop shops for children and families in key locations to provide child and family-friendly information, legal aid, women and child-friendly spaces, as well as facilitate identification and referral.

Child Protection

To ensure children can feel safe during their journey, RRP partners are setting up child-friendly reception, identification, and Best Interests Procedures for children at risk. Blue Dots will strengthen identification, referral, and response mechanisms for children at risk and support the implementation of Best Interests Procedures, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and referral pathways in line with national standards.

For unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), partners are working to prevent separation and ensure provision of services. Risk of separation is being monitored, and advocacy and community outreach are being undertaken to reduce separation of children from their families. Partners will provide reception for UASC, strengthen family-based alternative care options in line with the national child protection system and support family tracing and reunification. This includes children arriving from residential care facilities in Ukraine, of which an estimated 60 per cent are children with disabilities, as well as separated children arriving with relatives, who will require formal guardianship procedures.

In terms of psychosocial support, community outreach and enhanced communication with communities is being expanded. Partners will provide psychosocial support to families and communities through recreational activities, life skills and parenting support. Furthermore, child-friendly information is being developed and disseminated. Community networks and volunteers are being supported to conduct community level activities, as well as identify and refer children at risk to Best Interests Procedures and multisectoral services. In line with AAP principles, feedback mechanisms are child-friendly, accessible, responsive and confidential.

Strengthening national child protection systems and services is another key part of the protection strategy. Technical assistance, human resources and capacity-building will be provided to strengthen governmental and civil society child protection capacity to respond to the increased and specific needs of refugee children. Strengthened access to social welfare, child-friendly justice and birth registration services is also a key area of intervention.

Population movements and concentration of displaced populations in crowded areas at border crossing points may increase the risk of transmission of vaccine-preventable diseases. Children are at particular risk and should be considered as a priority for Government's vaccination campaigns for diseases such as polio, measles, and diphtheria, in line with national regulations.

Gender-Based Violence

There is a significant need for life-saving specialized gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response programming. This includes the clinical management of rape, referral pathways and SOPs, safe entry points for disclosure, safe spaces and provision of psychosocial support as well as community outreach and awareness raising.

Effective GBV coordination and planning to ensure coherent and efficient multisectoral inter-agency action will be prioritized. Conducting regular gender and trends analysis will be essential to continue to monitor and anticipate the needs. Particular attention will be paid to GBV risk mitigation across all sectors, especially at border crossings, reception centres, Refugee Accommodation Centres, transit points, transport hubs and transportation, private accommodation and cash distribution sites. The provision of dignity kits and cash will be important.

Supporting existing national systems to increase available services, including through capacity development, adapting and expanding services and reducing access barriers, will be at the core of the response. Training frontline staff and service providers on safe disclosure and referrals, as well as Code of Conduct, in addition to strengthening specialized services will be essential. Working closely with local actors and in particular women-led organizations, including those led by refugee women and girls is another priority.

Human Trafficking

In continuation of longstanding efforts in Moldova, existing anti-trafficking measures will be enhanced to cater for the needs of refugees, TCNs and host communities to respond to the increased risks triggered by the crisis. Measures already in place will be strengthened to reduce the risks of trafficking (including for the purpose of sexual and labour exploitation) through prevention campaigns, awareness raising, training of partners and support to hotlines for assistance to victims will be strengthened. Protection measures and existing coordination mechanisms will also be adapted to the new context. Countertrafficking efforts will be jointly implemented by relevant government authorities, UN Agencies, national, regional and international organizations and will be aligned with existing mechanisms and programmes in place to ensure sustainability and to cope with increased risks generated by the inflows.

Anti-trafficking measures will focus on three strategic priorities: i) reducing the risks of human trafficking by changing the conditions that create risks for trafficking; ii) providing safe access to quality multisectoral response and protection for victims of trafficking including through safe disclosure and referral; and iii) raising awareness about the risk of trafficking jointly with government authorities, national and regional organizations. The response will build on existing capacities and systems, in close collaboration with key governmental actors and national organizations and is coordinated under the Protection Sector.

Basic Needs

Shelter-Accommodation and Protection-Sensitive Site Support, Transportation, Food Security, WASH and Core Relief Items

Refugees and TCNs enter Moldova during peak times and after having spent hours crossing the border, with immediate need for basic support such as hot meals and other food, places to sit and rest, access to toilet facilities, and core relief items (CRIs). Persons with additional or specialized support needs will be better served by mapping and strengthening accessible facilities, as well as referral to specialized support services. Coordination with national organizations for persons with disabilities and older age service providers will be established, in particular for targeted evacuations of institutions and bed-ridden persons.

While the initial response has relied on the authorities and private citizens, there is a need to increase accommodation and transportation capacities, to ensure refugees from Ukraine can find lodging and efficient transportation from the border, including to other locations in Europe. An Accommodation and Transportation Sector has been established, co-coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and UNHCR, to cover needs and facilitate a localized and integrated response that builds on existing capacities. Urban facilities that can function as Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs) are being looked into, in addition to the 100 RACs already accredited by the Government.

The Government and the local hosting community are exhausting their capacity to provide basic assistance in RACs, especially for those deciding to stay. There is a need for beds, CRIs, safe access to WASH facilities, hygiene items, food, dignity kits, clothes, and dedicated support to older persons, persons with disabilities and children. These centres also need basic repairs and maintenance to ensure they offer safety, dignity, privacy, accessibility and protection from cold temperatures. Access to WASH facilities for persons with reduced mobility is a problem identified in all facilities. So far, access to basic utilities (water, electricity, heating) inside the RACs have been covered by the local authorities. Partners will bolster reception capacity and ensure delivery of assistance for RACs. Building the capacity of local government counterparts will help ensure that assistance is provided in line with existing rules and policies. Meanwhile, mechanisms are being put in place to ensure assistance is delivered with an AGD lens and in a protection-sensitive manner to mitigate any risks of GBV and SEA.

As most people fleeing Ukraine are hosted through the generosity of families, those most vulnerable will also need further support through cash and in-kind assistance (the latter focusing on food and CRIs). In such an urban crisis, the current infrastructure may not cope with this sudden demographic increase (water and sewage services, solid waste management, electricity, roads/transport, etc.). Basic support to municipalities is therefore also envisaged.

Effective transport from border crossing points is crucial to ensure refugees can quickly reach their destinations, while minimizing unnecessary delays. As the local transport capacity is overstretched, there is a need to scale up this critical area of support. For this reason, the Moldovan and Romanian Governments, supported by IOM and UNHCR are transferring people who fled Ukraine, including TCNs, from the Palanca Transportation Hub in southern Moldova to Romania, a journey of some 230 kilometres. These humanitarian transfers aim to alleviate traffic at border control points, and facilitate the safe, orderly and rapid transport of persons. All passengers using ground transportation through these transfers undergo a pre-embarkation check to ensure they are fit to travel and they receive medical assistance if needed.

The European Commission has set up a solidarity platform to share information among EU member states and agencies regarding reception capacity, the number of persons enjoying temporary protection and additional support needs. Under the EU solidarity platform, UNHCR and IOM coordinate with EU for the transportation of refugees wishing to travel from Moldova to EU member states. These EU air transfers from Moldova serve as a responsibility-sharing mechanism. Under this initiative, vulnerable refugees who would like to receive specific attention to their needs or who want to unite with relatives and family members in EU members states can register for pre-screening and assistance with UNHCR and IOM.

WFP and partners have been delivering hot meals to RACs and at transit hotspots to complement the generosity of local volunteers and host community. Needs in hosting arrangements are also being assessed. While cash programmes are being scaled up, in-kind assistance may complement immediate needs particularly for the most vulnerable families.

Aligning the response to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection's overall directions will be ensured, establishing clear, standardized and structured inter-agency processes to assess and refer needs that match response priorities. Preparations to progressively refer cases to the Ministry-led programmes will take place as the response develops. Initial focus will be on advocacy to break down barriers to accessing social protection schemes and public services coupled with improving access to information, legal and social counselling, and assistance.

Health & Nutrition

Refugees from Ukraine are increasingly vulnerable and require access to a wide range of preventive and curative health interventions, while the influx is creating immense pressure on the country's health care infrastructure that also needs to support ongoing needs of the Moldovan population. Being both a transit and a host country for such a large number of arriving refugees, the health system must be well-prepared to address the acute and chronic health conditions of both refugees and host communities.

A Health Sector Working Group has been set up, co-led by WHO and the Ministry of Health, and includes health partners in the country to ensure a comprehensive response. Refugees and TCNs have access to emergency health care throughout the country.

Partners will work with the Government to support the development and operationalization of the National Health Sector Contingency Plan for refugee emergency management. Priority considerations for the response include:

1. Inclusive access to quality health services (preventative and curative);
2. Diagnosis and continuity of care and referrals for chronic diseases (non-communicable diseases (NCD) and chronic communicable diseases particularly HIV and tuberculosis);
3. Vaccination for refugees against key diseases (COVID-19, poliomyelitis, polio, measles, diphtheria), in line with national regulations;
4. Effective disease surveillance and reporting systems, public health risk assessment, early detection and outbreak investigation, case management and response capacities;
5. Provision of widespread MHPSS.

Efforts will be made for polio and measles surveillance and to increase routine immunization coverage nationally, by enhancing data collection systems for syndromic surveillance for refugees and the local population, with all refugee children under the age of 6 offered the Measles, Mumps and Rubella and poliovirus vaccines. MHPSS will be ensured as will sexual and reproductive health services, including support for life-saving emergency obstetric care and clinical care for survivors of GBV. The COVID-19 response will continue to include refugees as per the existing COVID-19 national response plans.

Emergency kits, NCD kits, trauma kits, inter-agency reproductive health kits and medical equipment will be provided. Partners will support the planning and operationalization of the measles and polio outbreak response, as well as infection prevention and control, including WASH in health care facilities and refugee accommodation areas. Plans are in place to assess health provider capacities to respond to refugee needs at points of entry and in Chisinau as well to develop

an application to screen refugees and report medical services they receive from health providers. Partners will ensure that essential refugee health service needs are assessed and addressed periodically. Also, radio communication among health care facilities involved in providing health services (mass casualties) will be strengthened. National and international Emergency Medical Teams will be deployed in refugee accommodation areas, points of entry and in health care facilities in case the situation escalates.

Access to chronic disease management and medication, and replacement for lost or damaged assistive devices for older persons, children and adults with disabilities will be coordinated with national authorities through referral mechanisms. In addition, partners will strive to ensure children and women have access to nutritious, safe, affordable and sustainable diets; they will also strengthen awareness, promotion, support and counselling for infant and young child feeding (IYCF).

Education

Parents and children affected by crisis consistently cite education as a top priority. Timely inclusion of all pre-school and school-aged refugee children into the national education system is a priority as is strengthening the capacity of the Moldovan education system to accommodate them. An Education Sector, coordinated by UNICEF and the Ministry of Education, in partnership with all local and international partners has been established.

In line with national education directives, refugee children and their families will be given access to quality, inclusive, and safe education services (formal and non-formal) for pre-school and school-aged boys and girls. Children and adolescents will have equitable access to inclusive and quality learning opportunities and to safe and secure learning environments. MHPSS for students, teachers and other education personnel will be available in learning environments. Orientation for teachers and school staff to engage with refugee children is planned, including on protection, as well as remuneration for Ukrainian teachers in Moldova ensuring the continuation of learning for refugee children in formal and informal settings. Coordination with national authorities and specialized service providers will take place to facilitate access to skills development for teachers, learning supplies, accessible learning materials, language support and replacement of lost or damaged assistive devices to ensure equal access to children with previous or war-related acquired disabilities.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

Partners will promote resilience, livelihoods, socioeconomic inclusion and social cohesion projects to assist the Government with the long-term effects of this refugee crisis. Local level services will be upgraded in urban and rural communities, given communities are expanding. Efforts will be made to foster socioeconomic inclusion of refugees by supporting the Government and urban and rural host communities with immediate to medium-term economic support and access to essential services. RRP partners will help analyse government service capacities to determine de jure versus de facto access to rights to lay out a transition action plan so that asylum-seekers and refugees can be progressively referred to government services over the medium-term. This will be done in close collaboration with international actors who are mandated to reinforce and scale up government services to absorb larger populations. Referrals to government services are being made progressively and will be carefully monitored to determine continuing complementary assistance. These actions will focus on strategic government systems such as the social protection system. Refugees will be provided with socioeconomic integration support, including job placement services, information, vocational training, validation and certification of skills, as well as in-kind micro-grants for self-employment and small businesses.

Essential services must be provided for both refugees and host communities, including improving local public infrastructure (housing, schools, health and care facilities, etc.). It is thus crucial to support local governments in both rural and urban settings as well as transit and host communities in refugee management and immediate response. Local authorities delivering social services need planning and budget support to be able to meet the needs stemming from this emergency.

Employment opportunities are limited in Moldova, which will further increase the overall vulnerability of the refugee population. Support should be provided to both the supply and demand sides of the labour market to facilitate access to the formal labour market for refugees and nationals in host communities, while taking into account the specific risks and vulnerabilities of women. Support should also be provided for entrepreneurship and financial inclusion, in collaboration with the private sector. This also includes leveraging public employment services under the social protection system, not only in terms of supporting demand-side access to employment but also to ensure proper workplace conditions as well as the opportunity to access contributory standard workplace benefits and coverage.²²

The crisis may also affect the socioeconomic fabric of the country and increase tensions between host communities and refugees. Civil society support could be needed to facilitate social integration. The enabling legal framework and

²² See [ILO 2016 Guiding principles on the access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market](#).

capacities of national human rights, justice and legal aid institutions will need to be supported to be able to respond to the needs of asylum-seekers and refugees and ensure their rights and fundamental freedoms are upheld.

Given the context in Moldova and to ensure that humanitarian-development nexus approaches are built into the response plan, the RRP will focus on livelihoods and inclusion for both refugees and host communities, as their capacity to cope is being strained. Livelihoods are vital to ensuring that host communities are more resilient and self-reliant and contribute to reducing risks and vulnerability. Addressing the challenges of lack of livelihood opportunities, employment, inclusion and social cohesion requires a combination of short and long-term solutions, and considerations of local, regional and national contexts as well as close collaboration with both central and local authorities.

A Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector has been established as part of the refugee coordination in Moldova, which is co-lead by UNDP and the Government State Chancellery, with the following goals:

- Support whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to refugee management with a focus on resilience, livelihoods and social cohesion;
- Support urban and rural communities to upgrade local level services, given the expanding size of communities;
- Ensure access to livelihoods and foster socioeconomic inclusion of refugees by supporting the Government and host urban and rural communities with immediate to medium-term economic support;
- Support social cohesion and community security within host communities, and between refugees and host communities.

Coordinated interventions will aim to reduce refugees' levels of socioeconomic vulnerability through the roll-out of livelihood activities that will help beneficiaries build self-reliance and live with dignity. Interventions will address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women refugees, as well as minorities and persons with disabilities. Promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities will also be a key priority. RRP partners will support the Government to create livelihoods opportunities and an enabling environment to foster medium to long-term inclusion of refugees in the Moldovan economy and society, while strengthening the resilience of host communities. The focus will be on access to the labour market, education and skills, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion and social protection, among others. A strong partnership with the private sector will be essential to rally for job creation and boost advocacy efforts.

Logistics, Supply & Telecoms

A Logistics and Supply Working Group, led by UNHCR and WFP, has been established in partnership with the Ministry of Interior, which is responsible for border crossing points, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, which is responsible for inland temporary placement centres. Despite the temporary discontinuation of air traffic, humanitarian supplies arrive by air to Chisinau, facilitated by UNHCR and WFP. Also, joint procurement mechanisms can be established for the UN organizations and partners as needed.

A warehousing network that will be able to handle incoming CRI shipments and other types of humanitarian aid has been established by WFP and UNHCR/ECHO. Transport arrangements and distribution capacities are being put in place to enable swift delivery of required items to various end points, such as regional warehouses or temporary placement centres. Partners will establish and coordinate mechanisms that allow real-time information exchange related to planned incoming deliveries of CRIs, warehousing and distribution modalities as well as monitoring and reporting on the available and incoming shipments.

The Refugee Emergency Telecommunications Sector (RETS) led by UNHCR seeks to reinforce multi-sector coordination by streamlining IT and communications into operational preparedness and response strategies for the delivery of assistance to refugees and other persons of concern. RETS is prioritizing the establishment of internet connectivity in reception centres and other key operational sites (such as bus terminals and train stations), and is working to deliver internet connectivity in Blue Dot hubs across the country. Partners and other sectors will be fully engaged in the assessment, planning and implementation of the RETS response.

Partnership & Coordination

A framework for dialogue and programme implementation was quickly established in Moldova, in close partnership with the Government and all stakeholders in the country. The UNHCR-led RCF and the Government Joint Crisis Management Centre for this refugee crisis provide a comprehensive and inclusive structure, which encompasses a wide range of local and international NGOs, faith-based organizations, academic institutions and UN Agencies. As new partners are coming to Moldova every week, the expectation is that this response will expand quickly, and new partners will also contribute to the Plan. Considering the structure is geared towards empowering Moldovan government institutions, the aim is to ensure that responses are sustainable and can also support Moldovan communities affected by the crisis.

To support the coordination and implementation of the response, weekly inter-sectoral meetings and sectoral groups have been set up in Protection – including the GBV and Child Protection sub-sector working groups – Accommodation and Transport, Health, Education, Logistic and Supply, Inclusion and Livelihoods as well as technical working groups for Cash and Information Management. A cross-cutting Network on PSEA has also been established and a Gender Task Force will have an important role in ensuring gender mainstreaming throughout the response.

With an already existing development community, coordination with the UN Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team partners is ongoing and will continue, ensuring nexus approaches are embedded into the response to refugees from Ukraine and that refugees are included in relevant development strategies. Furthermore, the engagement of relevant development partners in the Inclusion and Livelihoods sector ensures the refugee response in the initial emergency phase is cognizant of the need to scale up, also in terms of infrastructural strengthening and local governance capacity building.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Resilience	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)	WASH	Total
FBO - CRS Catholic Relief Services	550,000	5,600,000					16,400,000	3,450,000	26,000,000
INGO - AAR Japan Association for Aid and Relief	500,000	200,000					1,200,000		1,900,000
INGO - ACTED Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	245,000	30,000		4,800,000	937,560		3,128,700	84,000	9,225,260
INGO - ADRA The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International	415,000				300,000	470,000	1,265,000		2,450,000
INGO - Clear Global					615,000				615,000
INGO - DRC Danish Refugee Council	600,000						1,120,000	400,000	2,120,000
INGO - Emergency			385,000						385,000
INGO - Faros Elpidas	1,540,000						1,620,000		3,160,000
INGO - Handicap International	550,000		800,000						1,350,000
INGO - HelpAge	230,000	8,700,000	300,000				3,000,000	900,000	13,130,000
INGO - Internews					1,775,000				1,775,000
INGO - Intersos			2,700,000						2,700,000
INGO - IsraAID	572,000		225,000		45,000	375,000	55,000		1,272,000
INGO - NRC Norwegian Refugee Council	1,500,000					500,000	4,500,000		6,500,000
INGO - Peace Winds Japan							2,011,600	4,000	2,015,600
INGO - People in Need	626,300			189,000			11,600,000		12,415,300
INGO - Plan International	1,650,000	600,000				1,005,000	1,000,000		4,255,000
INGO - Samu Foundation			385,000						385,000
INGO - Solidarite International		1,800,000					5,700,000	2,400,000	9,900,000
INGO - TDH Foundation	1,057,474		130,000		165,084		126,989		1,479,547

INGO - War Child	416,000								416,000
INGO - We World	948,690		1,500,000		515,100	2,018,000			4,981,790
INGO - World Vision International	500,000	3,300,000		1,200,000	600,000	6,224,251			11,824,251
NGO - Casa Marioarei	100,000								100,000
NGO - Center Resonance			80,000			123,000			203,000
NGO - KeyStone Moldova	1,425,000								1,425,000
UN-AIDS		228,000							228,000
UN-FAO			3,000,000						3,000,000
UN-ILO	295,000	473,666	3,250,000		200,000	1,125,000			5,343,666
UN-IOM	3,280,000	2,565,000	3,950,000	11,625,000		15,550,000	30,000		37,000,000
UN-OHCHR	350,000								350,000
UN-UNDP			14,890,000		500,000				15,390,000
UN-UNESCO				450,000					450,000
UN-UNFPA	7,570,000	8,600,000			530,000				16,700,000
UN-UNHCR	124,750,000		-	-		24,250,000			149,000,000
UN-UNICEF	13,688,000	1,983,600	116,000	-	5,904,400		1,948,800		23,640,800
UN-UNODC		170,000				10,000			180,000
UN-WFP		15,650,000		4,830,000					20,480,000
UN-WHO		13,939,628							13,939,628
UN-WOMEN	4,610,000		1,900,000						6,510,000
Total (USD)	167,968,464	36,353,666	32,411,228	33,675,000	21,942,644	10,599,500	102,027,540	9,216,800	414,194,842

Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
FBO - CRS Catholic Relief Services	50,000		500,000	550,000
INGO - AAR Japan Association for Aid and Relief			500,000	500,000
INGO - ACTED Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	50,000		195,000	245,000
INGO - ADRA The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International	415,000			415,000
INGO - DRC Danish Refugee Council	600,000			600,000
INGO - Faros Elpidas	300,000	640,000	600,000	1,540,000
INGO - Handicap International	550,000			550,000
INGO - HelpAge	230,000			230,000
INGO - IsraAID	310,000	20,000	242,000	572,000
INGO - NRC Norwegian Refugee Council	1,500,000			1,500,000
INGO - People in Need	626,300			626,300
INGO - Plan International			1,650,000	1,650,000
INGO - TDH Foundation			1,057,474	1,057,474

INGO - War Child		416,000		416,000
INGO - We World	173,690	775,000		948,690
INGO - World Vision International		500,000		500,000
NGO - Casa Marioarei		100,000		100,000
NGO - KeyStone Moldova	1,425,000			1,425,000
UN-ILO	295,000			295,000
UN-IOM	3,280,000			3,280,000
UN-OHCHR	350,000			350,000
UN-UNFPA		7,570,000		7,570,000
UN-UNHCR	8,500,000	3,125,000	113,125,000	124,750,000
UN-UNICEF	7,134,000	600,000	5,954,000	13,688,000
UN-WOMEN	1,760,000	2,850,000		4,610,000
Total (USD)	27,548,990	14,905,000	125,514,474	167,968,464

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 60,767,232		
Basic Needs	Protection	Food Security
\$ 44,983,232	\$ 7,634,000	\$ 8,150,000

This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.



Romania

Country Chapter

Romania. A family of refugees from Ukraine has arrived in Huși in Romania, after the organized transfer from southern Moldova.© UNHCR/Mihai von Eremia



At a Glance

Romania Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

1,250,000

Projected refugee
population entering
by December 2022

350,000

Projected refugee
population remaining
by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

55 %



11 %



17 %



17 %



These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 239.8 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 137.7 M



\$ 5.4 M



\$ 6.3 M



\$ 9.5 M



\$ 7.9 M



\$ 66.6 M



\$ 3.3 M



\$ 2.9 M



23
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

7



UN
Agencies

13



International
NGOs

3



National
NGOs

Romania

Country Overview

By 23 April 2022, more than 774,000 refugees from Ukraine had arrived in Romania. Prior to this, Romania was hosting some 4,000 asylum-seekers and refugees, with 10,000 persons being the largest number to arrive in a single year. The number of refugees arriving from Ukraine is therefore at an unparalleled scale for the country. Governmental coordination structures have been activated for the emergency and protection response. The emergency response has relied and built on coordination structures established for the COVID-19 pandemic, while the protection response is structured around thematic working groups.

The Government of Romania has welcomed refugees from Ukraine with great generosity, hospitality and solidarity. The Government has ensured enjoyment of basic rights and provided access to life-saving services from the outset and is instituting legislative and policy changes to facilitate protection and inclusion within national systems. Emergency response and coordination measures were activated both at the borders and within the country, and Emergency Ordinances have been issued to facilitate access to medical assistance, the labour market, education, and other basic services to protect the rights of refugees, including unaccompanied children and persons with disabilities. A Government Decision on the establishment of conditions for the provision of temporary protection has been adopted and issuance of documentation is underway giving access to a wide range of rights and services. Border control measures have been implemented to allow access to territory, including with the introduction of visa exemptions for Ukrainian nationals and third-country nationals with long-term residency permits.

A governmental Action Plan has been drafted that comprises specific measures to guarantee access to rights and services in accordance with the above-mentioned legal framework. This Action Plan has included consultations with relevant partners who provided input.

As the Government continues to undertake a commendable response, given the unprecedented numbers being received, additional financial and technical support is required to address mid and long-term needs through sustainable interventions. New arrivals continue to enter Romania via official border crossing points along the north and eastern borders of Romania. A significant number of refugees arrived by vehicle and have moved relatively quickly beyond the country. The reception capacity and support required for those arriving even for a temporary period has been extraordinary but will require strengthening considering the continuing arrivals and uncertainty on developments in Ukraine. As refugees are better informed of their rights and services available in Romania, indications are that people will remain in Romania for a longer period. A significant emphasis of the response is therefore on the immediate and medium-term urban response and the response seeks to support, complement and strengthen access to national social protection schemes and public services.

The overwhelming majority of refugees are women and children, often separated from husbands and fathers who remained in Ukraine; older people; and significant numbers of unaccompanied children, including those from state care facilities. The protection risks facing new arrivals are high, including human trafficking, gender-based violence (GBV) and separation of children from parents and caregivers. This also encompasses the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), as well as high levels of psychosocial distress associated with conflict. A well-coordinated and protection-oriented response that complements and builds upon the remarkable solidarity demonstrated by the Government of Romania and Romanian people is therefore essential.

UNHCR coordinates the response of UN agencies and NGOs in support of the Romanian Government, with inter-agency co-leads attending government-led working groups to inform the humanitarian response in alignment with and supporting governmental agencies. The Romania chapter of the RRP represents the commitment of 23 UN agencies, international and national NGOs to work jointly and through a coordinated sectoral structure on the complex challenges affecting refugees from Ukraine and the host communities.

Since the onset of the Ukraine crisis, UN agencies, international and national NGOs and a diversity of civil society actors have complemented and strengthened the response efforts of the Government, the countless volunteers and local community initiatives, which will be pursued through this coherent and consistent response plan.

Needs Overview

The first responsibility to protect lays with states, and thus, national authorities will continue to have the overall responsibility to provide protection to refugees coming from Ukraine and stateless persons who arrive in Romania. The initial response welcoming refugees arriving from Ukraine has been overwhelming, with civil society, local and central authorities and regular citizens mobilizing to provide initial support; support is needed to help sustain the response in the medium to longer-term, especially if the conflict is prolonged.

The Government of Romania took the necessary legal steps to regulate the assistance to be provided to refugees and stateless persons coming from Ukraine because of the conflict and took steps to adjust the national legislation to grant

temporary protection in line with the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022. There is a need to continue supporting access to territory in line with the non-refoulement principle, and enjoyment of arrivals' rights without discrimination. Protection actors will work with authorities to rapidly address risks and gaps that may arise. There is a corresponding need for legal counselling and services to support access to legal status and civil documentation in Romania.

With the continuous arrival of refugees in Romania, the number of displaced children to be enrolled in the education system will likely be without precedent. Even if these numbers stabilize, the situation may pose serious capacity challenges to primary and secondary schools and higher education institutions for an extended period. This may lead to delays or uncoordinated approaches in providing access to education across the country, which should be monitored for corrective measures to be taken in a timely manner.

While refugees entering Romania are provided with accommodation and assistance at transit centres and other sites, they need longer-term accommodation options, ensuring these are dignified, accessible and safe to all, so that protection risks can be addressed proactively, including risks to human trafficking and GBV. Food, including hot meals, have continued to be provided by the authorities, local organizations and volunteers at border points, in line with the established legal framework, there is a need to facilitate the inclusion of refugees in existing social protection programmes. At the same time, refugees, largely represented by women and children as well as older people, entering Romania, arrive with very few belongings, mostly personal clothes packed in suitcases, and they are also in need of core relief items (CRIs). Regarding health, there is a need to strengthen the capacity of national systems to deliver health services to refugees and other persons in need of emergency medical assistance, including essential medicines, vaccines, mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS).

A critical aspect will be access to the labour market to provide livelihoods to refugee families. This needs to take into account refugee profiles and family composition, many will require childcare options to effectively participate in the labour market.

Response Strategy

Country Objectives

The RRP in Romania supports the operationalization of the overarching Strategic Objectives of the regional RRP, namely to:

- 1** Support Romania to ensure that all refugees from Ukraine have access to safety and international protection, in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement;
- 2** Support national systems and host community to provide timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance to refugees fleeing Ukraine and third-country nationals (TCNs) having left Ukraine, of whom a sizeable number would need international protection, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable women, girls, boys and men;
- 3** Facilitate the identification of appropriate solutions for all and the promotion of social and economic opportunities while ensuring conducive and equal conditions for the refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine from the onset through a whole-of-society approach; and
- 4** Ensure effective coordination of partners at country and regional level in support of hosting countries' efforts.

These objectives aim to complement the efforts made by the host Government, as well as to strengthen and support local actors and communities in improving the living conditions of refugees, TCNs not in need of international protection fleeing Ukraine and affected host community members, and to provide a foundation for local inclusion and eventual durable solutions, based on the comparative advantages and complementarity of 23 humanitarian RRP actors in Romania.

Reflective of the anticipated influx of refugees from Ukraine and movement dynamics, the RRP will ensure that humanitarian, protection and life-saving assistance is provided with consideration of additional and specific protection needs based on age, gender, and diversity. In parallel, and recognizing the regulatory framework in place for their potential integration in Romania, the RRP takes into account medium and longer-term inclusion in national systems.

Cross-cutting Priorities

Cash Assistance

A high proportion of refugees from Ukraine can be exposed to protection-related risks, including GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse, the separation of children and human trafficking. These risks and harmful coping mechanisms are exacerbated by the depletion of savings that refugees may have brought with them and the lack of livelihoods opportunities. While their inclusion in Romania's social protection schemes is in progress, in line with the legislative amendments announced by the

Government and the resources made available for this purpose, at-risk refugees will be provided with transitional, Multipurpose cash assistance to mitigate protection risks. Beneficiaries will include unaccompanied and separated children, single women-, older person- or child- heads of households, people with disabilities and serious medical conditions, and other persons at heightened risk or who belong to potentially marginalized groups.

Partners will frame their approach by providing:

- Emergency cash grants for at-risk persons, covering the most immediate needs;
- Monthly grants covering up to three months of basic needs;
- Following the first three months, additional cash assistance for basic needs to those not yet included under the relevant national social safety net schemes.

At the same time, RRP partners will work with national and local authorities to facilitate refugees' access to government programmes and public services through the identification of and response to any barriers and close communication with the affected refugee and host populations. Linkage will be made with the national plan to identify refugees' vulnerabilities through an assessment to be completed by the authorities when persons apply for temporary protection.

Multipurpose cash is an appropriate modality for use in Romania given that the country benefits from a well-developed financial services sector and solid banking infrastructure. Moreover, cash assistance will enable refugees to make their own decisions on how to meet their needs, while ensuring dignity and flexibility in the response. The use of cash will be closely monitored to ensure safe access.

Cross-cutting priorities

- **Accountability to affected people (AAP)**
- **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**
- **Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)**
- **Older persons and persons living with disabilities**

Read more in the Regional Chapter pp. 12-13



Public information

In addition to the dedicated 24/7 helplines, email address and the [UNHCR Help page](https://dopomoha.ro), the Romania-developed information platform (<https://dopomoha.ro>) provides updated information to reduce protection risks, and includes a possibility for communication with RRP partners for suggestions and signaling potential needs. The Blue Dots at enrolment sites, border crossing points and in locations where refugees are settling in, will serve as critical information points for refugees from Ukraine. Radio will be used to broadcast reliable information in a structured manner, with the participation of refugee journalists. Social media and digital solutions will be explored with the community to strengthen safe information sharing and meaningful participation. Communities will be informed of their rights as well as where and how to receive services and support according to their needs. They will also be advised about risks related to gender-based violence, trafficking and sexual exploitation and abuse.

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

Protection interventions will provide support, technical advice and capacity-building for central and local authorities responsible for reception, registration, initial assistance, facilitation of access to rights and identification of persons at heightened risk at an early stage and referral for specialized services and case management, where needed. The planned protection interventions are meant to cover not only Ukrainian refugees but also TCNs and stateless persons.

Protection by presence will be ensured at all arrival points to provide accurate protection information to the newly arrived and assist them in taking informed decisions and to reduce protection risks. This will include Blue Dots at border crossing points and other strategic locations, notably in areas where refugees settle and can access services, information and

legal counselling. Measures will be taken to prevent family separation at entry/transit/assembly points or while travelling to facilitate family tracing and reunion.

Protection needs and gaps in the response will be identified through ongoing monitoring and assessments of the situation such as in reception and accommodation facilities, including screening to ensure safety and appropriateness of private accommodation. Protection actors will complement national responses, in coordination with the authorities, where the capacity of local protection structures is overwhelmed. Interventions will also help ensure protection space and reception standards are guaranteed, including through providing technical support and advice on protection-sensitive onward transfers. Monitoring legislation implementing the Temporary Protection Directive and of the ability of refugees and TCNs not in need of international protection to access their rights, humanitarian assistance and social services in practice will help protection actors to work with national authorities should gaps be identified and ensure that timely remedial action is taken as needed. If required, legal counselling and assistance will be provided to help support them enjoying their rights with regards to temporary protection or having access to the national asylum procedure. As coordinated with the national asylum authorities, engagement with the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) will be ensured to support the Government response.

Reinforcing communication with communities, increasing access to information for refugees and TCNs not in need of international protection on their rights, access to assistance and services, in languages spoken by the arrivals (including through trained interpreters) will be key to reducing protection risks faced on arrival and in facilitating the integration of refugees into national protection and social systems at an early stage. Radio programmes designed for and with refugees will help address the information needs of refugees and give them a voice. Partners supported the authorities to set up the online information platform *Dopomoha.or*, a nation-wide hub for protection information, including on rights and services, and resource mobilization and available accommodation, provided in four languages. Facilitated communication by trained interpreters will increase trust in the assistance provided and thus the selection and training of interpreters will be an important part of the protection response, including trained community workers, all in an age, gender and diversity-sensitive manner (including through access to online or in-person interpretation to Ukrainian sign language for deaf persons). Community-based approaches will be promoted in locations that host higher numbers of refugees and would allow better two-way communication with NGOs. At the same time, the NGOs active in supporting refugees from Ukraine and outside of the RRP will be supported to ensure harmonization of messages and complementarity.

Anti-trafficking measures will be put in place to reduce the risks of all forms of human trafficking, such as for the purpose of sexual or labour exploitation, jointly with government authorities, national and regional organizations, including through the development and co-chairing of inter-agency crisis response countertrafficking task force

Mainstream media constitute key and trusted resources for host communities to make sense of unfolding events and take actions. As refugees increasingly interact with host communities and seek to work and integrate, pre-emptive measures are needed to help prevent misinformation, discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion caused by media. Ethical and professional journalism will be promoted to foster peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.

Child Protection

With children comprising a large part of those crossing into Romania from Ukraine, the systematic identification of children, who experienced or who are at high risk of all forms of child protection issues, including unaccompanied and separated children and children arriving from residential care facilities in Ukraine, of which an estimated 60 per cent are children with disabilities, require immediate access to child protection services and other specialized support. These time-sensitive interventions and areas of assistance are critical to adequately respond to the numerous risk factors that children may face prior to, upon arrival in and for the duration of stay in Romania. Separation of children from one or both parents or primary caregivers remains a key concern in addition to the increased risks of psychosocial distress, trafficking and exposure to violence, abuse and exploitation.

The Romania context provides for a favourable environment for refugee children in the country, in addition to recent legal measures taken to enhance the response specifically for unaccompanied children arriving from Ukraine. These include the scaling-up of staff and the creation of a multi-functional team comprised of the most relevant central and local authorities to respond to the needs of unaccompanied children. The continued arrival of children, including unaccompanied and separated children and those arriving from residential care facilities, from Ukraine will strain the current child protection system and the Government's capacities to adequately respond to the growing needs. Coupled with the lack of organized communications and information dissemination, clear coordination and referral pathways between the different stakeholders, including government agencies and local and international aid organizations, there is risk for child protection issues to be exacerbated. Therefore, there is a need for UN agencies and international and local organizations to reinforce existing systems by supporting the Government through complementing and strengthening the child protection structures already in place and addressing identified gaps. The strategy focuses on close coordination and cooperation with government agencies, local authorities and key stakeholders and includes

tailored training and other initiatives to bolster capacity and effectiveness in addressing refugee children's needs and to support provision of core child protection services.

To prevent and respond to child protection risks, child protection partners will collaborate with relevant actors to systematically identify and refer children at-risk, including unaccompanied and separated children and children arriving from residential care institutions, to appropriate services. This involves ensuring that reception, procedures and services are child-friendly, facilitating access to Best Interests Procedures, establishing standard operating procedures and referral pathways, disseminating child-friendly, accessible messaging on preventing family separation, child rights and available services, enhancing the child protection technical capacity and mainstreaming child protection into other services, including cash assistance.

For unaccompanied and separated children, child protection partners will facilitate access to family tracing and reunification services, support appropriate family and community alternative care arrangements, and access legal counselling on access to relevant services and guardianship procedures.

To support children and caregivers to cope with adverse experiences and losses, child protection partners will promote community-based activities, including gender-, age- and disability-appropriate group activities in safe spaces, parenting groups, and information dissemination. RRP partners will also ensure that feedback mechanisms are accessible for children.

Many of these services will be available in the Blue Dots, safe spaces established by UNHCR and UNICEF with the support of both international and local organizations at the main border points with Ukraine and Moldova, key transit and reception centres, and cities in Romania. Child protection-centred assistance will be delivered in a manner that guarantees child participation, respects the principle of non-discrimination, an age, gender and diversity approach and is appropriately tailored to the specific profiles of children.

Gender-Based Violence

Displacement places women and children at increased risk of gender-based violence (GBV), especially in the context of informal shelter, reception and transit facilities, private arrangements for transportation from the border to transit facilities and onward to other countries. This includes risk of trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation and abuse.

The priority is to develop clear coordinated GBV referral pathways and standard operating procedures for all GBV survivors and to ensure that entry points for disclosure and safely accessing services and support are known. Similarly, mechanisms to identify, prevent and assess GBV risks will be made available to refugees.

Dissemination of information regarding entry points for services and support, including case management is a priority. Key messages will be placed on Dopomoha.ro as the main means to pass on official and vetted information and will also be made available in all critical locations such as entry points, reception spaces and with service providers. The implementation of safe spaces, especially for women and girls, will be important to support this. The continuing numbers of new arrivals might overburden existing services and networks to support GBV survivors and support will be required to increase availability. The availability and safe access to specialized health care (including sexual and reproductive health care) and psychosocial support will need to be strengthened in accordance with minimum standards of GBV response.

The distribution of dignity kits for women and girls of reproductive age is essential and will be coupled with messaging on available services as well as safety messages. Critical activities will also include conducting a GBV assessment; supporting technical sectors to complete safety audits and creating an action plan with relevant sectors to address them especially at reception and accommodation facilities; developing and implementing a capacity-building programme for authorities, civil society, frontline workers and volunteers so that staff know how to safely handle a disclosure of GBV and how to make a referral based on the GBV Guiding Principles; capacity development for GBV actors; and continuous improvement of the quality of available services, including case management.

The provision of life-saving prevention and multisectoral response programming will be prioritized alongside ensuring proactive GBV risk mitigation, including in relation to sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers, community members and other actors, across all sector programmes and assistance. GBV risk mitigation measures will be informed by consultations with communities, including diverse women and girls and other groups at heightened risk, such as older women and women with disabilities. Strengthening of functioning GBV referral pathways in accordance with a survivor-centred approach and the GBV Minimum Standards is a priority.

Basic Needs

Food Security

Since the start of the emergency response, food, including hot meals, has continued to be provided by the authorities, local organizations and volunteers at the border points with Ukraine and Moldova and transit areas throughout the country, with the aim to cover basic needs, especially amid tough winter conditions.

In urban contexts, even though refugees will be included in Romania's national protection system, they might face inflation-driven increased food prices, while largely without the financial means to adequately provide for nutritious and regular diets.

It is envisaged that actors engaging in food security in Romania will support the authorities on the provision of immediate food assistance to refugees located at border, transit and reception areas as well as urban settings. This will be implemented largely through emergency multipurpose cash assistance, as well as the continued provision of hot meals at designated facilities and by volunteers.

Food Security partners, in coordination with other sectors, will also seek to facilitate the inclusion of refugees in existing social protection programmes (e.g. social safety net programmes, school feeding and livelihoods opportunities) through increased advocacy and by analysing entry points for food security actors. Partners will put measures in place to ensure that access to food is safe, inclusive, protective and accessible to all refugees, in particular groups or individuals face heightened protection risks.

Core Relief Items

Since the beginning of the crisis, most refugees (approximately over 80 per cent) are transiting through Romania to reach the Schengen area. The Department for Emergency Situations has established 15 transit centres close to border crossing points. As of 18 April, over 12,000 Ukrainian refugees have been accommodated in these transit centres. In support of the national authorities, civil society (local associations, local and international NGOs) have deployed their staff to assist refugees at the border. Refugees received hot/cold drinks and food when entering Romania. Hygiene items are also distributed at the border and transit centres.

Refugees intending to stay in urban areas in Romania will need essential household items, such as bedding and hygiene items, to establish themselves in homes and contribute to host family accommodation. Thanks to an unprecedented mobilization by authorities and support from civil society and building on the immediate response by local municipalities and local civil society actors, some of these immediate needs have already been met.

As preparedness for a possible sudden increase in the number of arrivals, partners – in consultation with Romanian authorities – plan to preposition CRIs and support shelter capacity for temporary accommodations in transit facilities, potentially benefitting up to 20,000 refugees, in addition to other sources that may be available in Romania.

To continue the process of integrated coordination of all efforts and assistance from authorities and civil society, and to streamline the entire support mechanism provided to refugees from Ukraine, the online platform dopomoha.ro to provides essential and up-to-date information to those fleeing the war in Ukraine, as well as those interested to help. Even if most in-kind donations are received in Romania and accounted for on the dopomoha.ro platform, several key items are needed in the mid-term as up to 350,000 refugees may stay in Romania. To complement cash-based assistance, key items such as bedding and hygiene and dignity kits will be prepositioned in warehouses in key locations such as Bucharest, Suceava, Iasi and Galati.

As the situation evolves, the need for CRIs will be addressed through the coordination mechanism to assure the needs of at-risk groups (for example, children, older people and persons with disabilities, and those in transit) are met. The Government, through the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration, has started to identify unallocated social housing built by the National Housing Agency. Based on assessments, these housing units will be adequately furnished to assure safe living conditions.

Shelter-Accommodation and Protection-Sensitive Site Support

Refugees entering Romania are provided with accommodation and assistance at the transit centres run by the Department for Emergency Situations established at the border. The current capacity of these 15 transit centres is around 4,000 beds. In case of larger-scale arrivals, the capacity of these transit centres can be increased allowing a stay of up to five days.

The Department of Emergency Situations and civil society can establish 40 new transit centres of 200 beds capacity each (total capacity: 8,000 persons). For medium stays, the Government, local authorities and other stakeholders have identified up to 400,000 beds in hotels, pensions, sport halls and other infrastructure. At the time of writing, more than 31,000 beds are available with 7,000 in use. Efforts are underway to make up to 50,000 beds available in 24 hours and to establish a border-to-accommodation transport system for refugees in urgent need of shelter.

Since becoming operational, 1,868 accommodation requests for 3,382 persons have been registered through the dopomoha.ro platform - the main source of reliable and updated information on available verified and adequate accommodations offered by individuals or institutions. As of 13 April, 7,031 beds capacity is registered, of which 817 are occupied and 6,214 are available all over the country. With the ongoing generous support from the Romanian civil society, the availability of accommodation may increase in the near future.

In addition, the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration has adopted several measures to increase the long-term accommodation options for refugees, including the use of unallocated housing built by the National

Housing Agency or through the Social and Necessity Building Programme; the provision of rental vouchers for those facing financial challenges; the rehabilitation and reconstruction of buildings to accommodate refugees for medium and long-term stay; and the construction of new housing for the medium and long-term.

WASH

At the border, temporary sanitation facilities have been rapidly established, including in transit centres. For the medium term, additional and more permanent facilities will be required to assure safe access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

The existing 15 transit centres are fully equipped with WASH facilities. In case of a large influx, the capacity of these existing centres will increase, which will require additional WASH facilities. These facilities can be developed to be used for a longer period. Audits will be conducted in the identification and or construction of WASH facilities to ensure safety and accessibility for all groups of people, including those at heightened risk of GBV. In the Government decides to establish additional transit centres to cover increased arrivals, several additional sites will be developed. Semi-permanent WASH facilities would be deployed and connected to existing sewage networks or to temporary sewage reservoirs. Agreements with local authorities on how to handle the wastewater and waste management will be put in place as needed.

Thanks to the mobilization of the authorities and civil society, most refugees will be accommodated in existing buildings and infrastructure in urban areas. WASH sector actors will continue to support local authorities in ensuring safe access to water and sanitation.

Priority will be given to improving access to and maintaining i) gender-segregated and accessible toilets and private and safe bathrooms; ii) sufficient quality water for human consumption and domestic use; iii) waste management; and iv) access to hygiene items and services, including Menstrual Hygiene Management. These activities will be prioritized in reception facilities and transit points, as well as in health centres and schools. In cooperation with the Protection Sector, RRP partners will ensure that interventions meet safety standards.

Health & Nutrition

The overall goals of the health response are to prevent excess morbidity and mortality and to support the Ministry of Health and its public health authorities to meet the diverse needs of refugee women, girls, boys and men, including those with disabilities and with medical conditions.

Some refugees might require specific health care services, from sexual and reproductive health to maternal and child health, as well as treatment for chronic conditions and MHPSS. Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV treatment might be jeopardized or discontinued altogether, as well as care for chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, renal disease and cancers. Refugees may also have acute infections as well as having incomplete vaccination status – this is of particular concern for children in relation to poliovirus, measles and rubella. COVID-19 infection is a major risk with ongoing transmission, and difficulty to implement preventive measures in transit, overcrowding and a low COVID-19 vaccine coverage rate in Ukraine (34.4%).

A WHO assessment mission, carried out to support the Ministry of Health and partners in addressing key health priorities noted the rapid response from the Government and civil society and identified areas to strengthen such as streamlining information provision to refugees on their rights and on how and where to access health services; increasing capacity for translation and interpretation services; providing adequate supplies; sensitizing health care providers; and standardizing health screening and referral mechanisms for those in need.

Partners will focus on strengthening the capacity of national health care systems. Mental health support and assistance to care givers should also be included. Access will be ensured to quality and survivor-centred services for GBV survivors, including the clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence. The health interventions will further include supporting a primary health care package that encompasses maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health, both routine immunization and COVID-19 vaccination, promotion of breastfeeding and proper feeding practices, and prevention and control of disease outbreaks. In addition, mother-baby spaces will be established and health supplies covering basic medical needs will be made available for refugees in Blue Dots as well as transit centres.

The Sector will support health screening, emergency treatment and referral ensuring continuity of care, especially for TB and HIV patients and non-communicable diseases by linking them to national programmes. Additional support to national systems may be needed including for specialized care. Support will be provided to enhance surveillance for communicable diseases including for refugees and enabling health information systems to monitor refugee population health conditions.

Persons with disabilities and older persons will be supported to safely access required services and assistive devices and medication will be given to those in need. Should the conflict intensify and potentially impact other western areas in

Ukraine, additional arrivals with traumatic and war-related injuries may require immediate and ongoing trauma care and rehabilitation interventions.

Education

To date, nearly 35 per cent of the people fleeing Ukraine and arriving in Romania are children. Many of these children and young people have likely experienced recent learning losses as a result of COVID-19 school closures and, for those originating from affected areas, internal displacement within Ukraine since 2014.

To ensure the best standards of assistance for refugees from Ukraine, the Government's Emergency Ordinance (15/2022) provides for the right to education at all levels on equal footing with Romanian nationals as well as for accommodation and food while studying. This right to education is equally applicable to unaccompanied children. While these legal provisions are in line with applicable standards, implementation needs to be monitored to ensure the best possible outcomes. Building on the efforts of the Government in this area is paramount to ensure effectiveness, quality and sustainability of interventions and building a response aimed at long-term solutions. Online classes, including those continuing the Ukrainian curriculum, can be mobilized as a temporary support measure. At the same time, children and youth need to be provided with immediate supplementary education support to address short-term and immediate education needs, among others for language learning and catch-up classes, as well as MHPSS, with a longer-term to inclusion in the national school system. Meanwhile, institutional capacities in formal education are enhanced to respond to the new realities at both central and local level.

The overall priority of RRP partners is to support the provision of education to refugees and stateless persons from Ukraine – ranging from early childhood development to higher education, formal and informal, as well as language – in an accessible and open manner to all on an equal basis. This will include:

- Supporting the development of government guidance with input from education stakeholders, and information provision and coordination to/with stakeholders and end users.
- Building the necessary capacity to accommodate large numbers of refugees and stateless persons in schools and other education institutions in Romania (which can include providing extra spaces in schools, improving school infrastructure, IT and connectivity and making teaching staff available).
- Preparing national schools and other education institutions to accommodate displaced learners through preparatory classes and other appropriate measures, providing language classes, and making standard and digital learning content available to support education programmes.
- Providing information to displaced communities on how to access education services and register for enrolment.
- Ensuring the recognition and validation of academic degrees and professional titles in Romania and the European context, and training in language skills to facilitate integration in the national labour markets.
- Supporting national education providers' capacities in the fields of MHPSS and psychological first aid.
- Strengthening data collection and analysis, sharing and use for planning, including identifying child age and education attainment, including to improve data gathered through the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

An understanding of refugees' socioeconomic profiles, the available market opportunities and the key stakeholders involved is vital to facilitating refugees' inclusion in the national economy, and enabling them to protect their assets, adapt to local market needs and contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment. This analysis will allow for the development of a targeted response through a whole-of-society approach that builds upon existing systems, services and programmes and brings together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves. While the primary focus is on the emergency response, for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens forms part of the process from the onset to facilitate access to services, identify barriers and gaps, coordinate support and advocate for rapid insertion in the market system through decent work and financial services.

Logistics, Supply & Telecoms

All RRP partners in Romania will pursue a coordinated approach regarding logistical support with the Government, which is building on the capacity put in place by the COVID-19 taskforce. However, the large number of refugee arrivals and the pace of this emergency will place additional pressures on national infrastructure, resources and capacities. Beside the current influx of refugees through various crossing points into Romania, the Government is planning to respond to a potential influx of ethnic Romanians with dual citizenship currently settled around its northern borders with

Ukraine, and of Ukrainian refugees forced to flee. In the event of such an increase in arrivals, RRP partners are ready to support national authorities by providing food, shelter, medicine and other goods and services, if needed.

While operating in a developed market where services are largely available, the vast scale of the refugee influx is anticipated to impact the capacities in terms of warehousing and transport services. Moreover, while recovering from the global COVID-19 pandemic, global supply chains remain severely constrained, leading to delays in production, delivery and shipments, further impacting emergency response logistics for partners responding to any large-scale emergency. In response, partners stand ready to support the Government, agencies and civil society in coordinating logistics and supply whenever the need arises, including through setting up an effective logistics structure; using the services of logistics partners for shipping; warehouses in Bucharest, Iasi, Suceava and Galati, in which shelter materials and infrastructure can be prepositioned for quick deployment; and transportation of refugees in close coordination with the Government.

Partnership & Coordination

In line with the Government's overall coordination approach as approved by the Prime Minister on 19 March 2022, the UNHCR-led Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) was established as an inclusive and accountable body to steer and monitor the operational inter-agency refugee response under the RRP. Considering the magnitude of the response, the RCF will support and complement the efforts of national authorities involved in the response through the combined expertise of UN agencies, national and international NGOs, in a robust, holistic response to the needs of refugees and host communities.

Romania's response has been led by a diversity of local actors including civil society actors, national NGOs, Ukrainian diaspora organizations and countless volunteers from all parts of the country. In this context, the RRP in Romania benefits from the close collaboration with local organizations and authorities. This engagement lies at the heart of the RCF, the Global Compact on Refugees and the IASC and Grand Bargain commitments towards accountability to affected populations and localization.

The inter-agency RCF will also ensure that humanitarian principles; refugee instruments at international, regional and national levels; and the do-no-harm principle are respected. Mainstreaming of protection into the humanitarian response by ensuring that international standards are adhered to in all sectors and a protection-sensitive approach will be reflected throughout the response.

UNHCR, UN agencies and national and international NGOs have collaborated to establish sectoral workings groups such as for Protection, Basic Needs, and Health, together with sub-groups on Education, Child Protection and MHPSS. These sectors are supported by dedicated cross-functional working groups addressing multipurpose cash and voucher assistance, Information Management and PSEA. Co-leads of these working groups report to the Refugee Inter-Agency Coordination group and participate in government-led working groups to ensure that the interventions of all partners support the national response and are harmonized with those of the Government.

Projects under the RRP will bridge the nexus between the humanitarian emergency response and the longer-term perspective to build resilience at the individual level as well as at the institutional level.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Resilience	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)	WASH	Total
INGO - Action contre la Faim	200,000		50,000				3,870,000	100,000	4,220,000
INGO - ActionAid	670,000					250,000	800,000		1,720,000
INGO - CARE International	2,178,000	198,000					792,000	792,000	3,960,000
INGO - DRC	450,000								450,000
INGO - Hope and Homes for Children	148,500	128,000	130,000			106,000	285,000		797,500
INGO - Jesuit Refugee Service	870,000	850,000				300,000			2,020,000

INGO - Mercy Corps	500,000						6,000,000		6,500,000
INGO - NRC	1,500,000				500,000		4,500,000		6,500,000
INGO - PLAN International	1,825,000				1,500,000		1,500,000		4,825,000
INGO - Project Hope			1,750,000					300,000	2,050,000
INGO - Save the Children	1,000,000								1,000,000
INGO - Terre des Hommes	1,101,638		194,166		725,344		481,678		2,502,826
INGO - World Vision	2,500,000		780,000	750,000	670,000	2,150,000	3,000,000	455,000	10,305,000
NGO - Cesvi – Participatory Foundation and NGO	77,000	30,000							107,000
NGO - Federation for Social Services (FONSS)	922,000	600,000	150,000	50,000		80,000	855,000	100,000	2,757,000
NGO - National Youth Foundation							499,000		499,000
UN-IOM	1,500,000		700,000	2,500,000			4,500,000	300,000	9,500,000
UN-UNESCO					600,000				600,000
UN-UNFPA	300,000								300,000
UN-UNHCR	105,470,000				-		39,530,000		145,000,000
UN-UNICEF	16,535,800		1,676,200			4,663,200		870,000	23,745,200
UN-WFP		4,500,000			3,500,000				8,000,000
UN-WHO			2,500,000						2,500,000
Total (USD)	137,747,938	6,306,000	7,930,366	3,300,000	5,495,344	9,549,200	66,612,678	2,917,000	239,858,526

Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
INGO - Action contre la Faim	100,000	100,000		200,000
INGO - ActionAid	320,000	350,000		670,000
INGO - CARE International		792,000	1,386,000	2,178,000
INGO - DRC	450,000			450,000
INGO - Hope and Homes for Children	37,500		111,000	148,500
INGO - Jesuit Refugee Service	300,000	120,000	450,000	870,000
INGO - Mercy Corps	500,000			500,000
INGO - NRC	1,500,000			1,500,000
INGO - PLAN International			1,825,000	1,825,000
INGO - Save the Children Romania			1,000,000	1,000,000
INGO - Terre des Hommes		220,328	881,310	1,101,638
INGO - World Vision	300,000	1,200,000	1,000,000	2,500,000
NGO - Cesvi – Participatory Foundation and NGO	77,000			77,000

NGO - Federation for Social Services (FONSS)	772,000	150,000		922,000
UN-IOM	1,500,000			1,500,000
UN-UNFPA	300,000			300,000
UN-UNHCR	92,070,000	9,400,000	4,000,000	105,470,000
UN-UNICEF	2,151,800	603,200	13,780,800	16,535,800
Total (USD)	100,378,300	12,785,528	24,584,110	137,747,938

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 53,655,000	<i>This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance and protection. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.</i>
Basic Needs	
\$ 53,655,000	



Hungary

Country Chapter

Hungary. Refugees from Ukraine arrive at the railway station in the Hungarian border town of Záhony. © UNHCR/Zoran Stevanovic



At a Glance

Hungary Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

1,000,000

Projected refugee
population entering
by December 2022

250,000

Projected refugee
population remaining
by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

53 %



12 %



18 %



17 %

These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 105.3 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 33.4 M



\$ 1 M



\$ 10.7 M



\$ 3.9 M



\$ 9.1 M



\$ 42.7 M



\$ 2.7 M



\$ 1.5 M



22
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

8



UN
Agencies

3



International
NGOs

4



National
NGOs

**Red
Cross**



6



Faith-based
Organizations

HUNGARY

Country Overview

Since February 2022, Hungary has observed the rapid influx of people arriving at its borders from Ukraine, many with urgent protection needs and underlying vulnerabilities including women, children and, persons with disabilities and older people. Government authorities confirmed their ability to manage the response and started building the necessary capacities to meet the immediate needs of those arriving, including access to health, education, temporary accommodation, and provision of core relief items (CRIs) at border entry and registration points. NGOs and the authorities are coordinating their efforts with support from the local population. Arrivals from Ukraine can enter Hungary, even if they lack documentation, and have the possibility to apply for temporary residency permits or temporary protection (TP). Additionally, the Ministry of Interior and Municipality of Budapest are coordinating temporary housing and accommodation in urban areas, while longer-term accommodation is being organized by the Directorate General of Disaster Management in local public facilities.

Despite a commitment to keep borders open, the rapid rate of arrival has strained available resources. Further, changes to the applicable legal framework have led to uncertainty in terms of the legal statuses available. Additionally, while medical screening and other services are being provided at multiple collection and help points along Hungary's border, there were situations in which arrivals, including older people and children, were waiting for extended periods to receive documentation, with limited provision of information on procedures due to lack of legal and social counselling. Some have difficulties reaching temporary shelter facilities located in remote areas due to limited transportation services, with a noted absence of psychosocial counselling and screening on site for persons with vulnerabilities. Comprehensive screening is required to identify those with specific protection needs, including disabilities, as well as cases involving unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Additional interpretation services are needed to ensure that new arrivals, including third-country nationals (TCNs), are fully informed about the possibility of applying for temporary protection or asylum. Given the nature of the crisis and history of the region, there are significant human trafficking risks that require urgent attention, both immediate action to address the safety risks facing people, as well as collaboration with the Government to strengthen systems for trafficking prevention.

Partners working in the response anticipate a continued high rate of arrivals and are working to ensure access to protection and assistance for all those arriving in Hungary. Information-sharing will be reinforced so that people are fully informed about the possibility and procedure for applying for TP and their access to public services, humanitarian assistance and rights in Hungary. Partners will coordinate with authorities to provide clear communication of protection standards and accurate information about channels for accessing support services, as well as effective monitoring of persons with specific protection needs for referral to protection services. Humanitarian partners will seek to reinforce State structures to ensure that essential services are available for refugees, while also reinforcing the capacity of communities generously providing support to the refugee population.

Needs Overview

Humanitarian partners are rapidly mobilizing to support the Government's efforts to deliver assistance and targeted services to refugees. Partners, including volunteers, support with provision of information, assistance in terms of food and CRIs, referrals and transportation at key areas near border crossings, including the help points and the train station at Zahony. Free accommodation is provided by volunteers/host community members, members of the private sector, and municipal authorities, in addition to that provided by the responsible governmental authorities, to meet the needs of refugees. In urban areas, food and core relief items are provided, and free transportation is available to people opting to move on from Hungary. Refugees can access critical medical services, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and the Government has committed to ensuring that those opting to remain in Hungary have access to the labour market and to education, among other rights and services.

While arrivals from Ukraine are able to enter Hungary and have the possibility to apply for temporary residency permits or TP, including those lacking documentation, further monitoring of the situation is required to ensure that persons fleeing the conflict have access to protection, assistance and can exercise their rights in practice, particularly for persons falling outside the scope of the EU Temporary Protection Directive, and for historically marginalized groups.

The profile of people arriving from Ukraine to Hungary, including refugees and TCNs, is extremely vulnerable, consisting primarily of women, children, and older people, and inclusive of persons with disabilities. Many require MHPSS due to exposure to traumatic events and distress associated with the effects of conflict. Others need urgent medical care and assessment, including persons with chronic diseases and persons with psychosocial, intellectual, sensory and physical disabilities, as well as sexual and reproductive health services. Enhancing the ability of national systems to rapidly register and identify persons with increased vulnerabilities and refer them to specialized services is a key need.

Further specialized services are required for people with heightened protection needs. Maximizing the entry points for accessing services and appropriate referrals will be a key objective, with outreach to vulnerable populations and access

to critical protection services prioritized. National protection systems require support and additional capacity to provide targeted assistance for such at-risk groups. Establishing two-way communication with the refugee population may present a challenge, with many refugees joining family members and integrating in communities across the country. Others may seek to move onward, with the intention to travel to other European Union (EU) Member States where they may have relatives or other connections. There is a corresponding need to support access to protection-sensitive and safe forms of onward travel, with safeguards implemented against risks of trafficking, abuse and exploitation.

Provision of basic and domestic items, including food and core relief items, will also be prioritized. As the majority of those fleeing Ukraine arrive with limited means, cash assistance would constitute a critical intervention to help meet the most pressing needs, prevent reliance on harmful coping mechanisms, and directly target protection-related risks, such as family separation, human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. It is expected that the arriving population will be increasingly vulnerable over time, as the conflict unfolds and access to food, medicine and other essential items becomes more difficult.

Response Strategy

Country Objectives

As the steady flow of arrivals into Hungary from Ukraine is predicted to continue, and in the short- to medium-term more refugees may settle in Hungary (especially those with less financial means and with no family connections in other European countries), RRP partners will support existing government efforts through a multisectoral humanitarian response, reinforcing reception standards and improving information-sharing capacity to ensure those arriving can access and benefit from protection.

Partners will aim at reinforcing national authorities' response at border crossings and collection/help points, as well as in urban areas, including train and bus stations, reception points and shelter facilities.

With UNHCR leading and coordinating implementation of the RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), the response in Hungary will work to identify the urgent needs of refugees, including at-risk groups and individuals with specific protection needs, with a focus on enhancing technical support to local authorities, improved protection monitoring and strengthened reception capacity. Community consultations will be central to programme design, in line with Accountability to Affected People (AAP) principles.

The response will be guided by the following strategic objectives:

1

Ensure a favourable protection environment, as well as referral to relevant services

- Strengthen reception capacity and monitoring of arrivals to ensure access to rights and services on a non-discriminatory basis, including for TCNs;
- Support national systems for registration of arrivals and identification and referral of persons with additional and specific protection risks, including UASC, older persons and persons with disabilities, including through the implementation of 'Blue Dot' hubs to provide information, two-way communication, counselling and psychosocial support, response to feedback, safe spaces for children and women, protection case management and referrals, using, where appropriate and necessary, remote assistance for new arrivals requiring protection support;
- Strengthen the child protection system's capacity to identify children at risk, as well as conduct case management and ensure provision of adequate support (including UASC and children with specific protection needs); establish and operate the Blue Dots as a key point of entry to information provision, identification of children at risk and referral to relevant service providers;
- Strengthen mechanisms for responding to gender-based violence (GBV), including MHPSS services; develop and disseminate clear referral pathways and entry points for disclosure, in line with standard operating procedures (SOPs), and work closely with community entry points, such as local women- and girl-led organizations, and by ensuring the incorporation of concrete measures to reduce GBV risks in all elements of the response;
- Prioritize prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), including strengthening inter-agency networks and PSEA coordination mechanisms and systems at the national level;
- Ensure that pathways to education opportunities are operational, while identifying opportunities for integration and inclusion within national systems;
- Work with communities to collaboratively create, update and share messaging and key information prioritized by communities on how to access services, through trusted channels and accessible formats, including community-based ones and social media;

- Support rapid integration and inclusion of refugees into national social and economic systems, including through provision of legal counselling and advice on eligibility requirements for TP; facilitate/support access to civil documentation; and advocate with national authorities to reduce barriers to inclusion in social protection systems.

2

Ensure that reception standards are guaranteed and basic needs are met

- Scale up accommodation capacity including for safe and dignified temporary housing, while supporting local authorities in identifying additional reception facilities to accommodate those with both immediate and longer-term needs;
- Ensure that basic safety, including GBV risk mitigation, and accessibility considerations are implemented and regularly monitored in accommodation and reception facilities;
- Upon request of the Government, deliver multipurpose cash assistance as a means of improving access to basic goods and services and reducing the risk of resorting to harmful coping mechanisms;
- Monitor the health service utilization of asylum-seekers in coordination with the authorities and ensuring medical first aid services, including psychological first aid, health information, linking refugees to national health services, and ensure minimum hygiene standards in the travel transit zones. In addition, strengthen the communication capacities and activities on all health-related information sources and needs;
- Establish inclusive appropriate feedback response mechanisms, in line with age, gender and diversity (AGD) principles, in collaboration with communities, with SOPs to detail response, referral and closing the feedback loop, including inter-agency referrals and collective approaches where possible. This will include how to manage sensitive disclosures made through safe and confidential channels to report sensitive complaints, including on fraud, corruption, misconduct and SEA;
- Deliver agriculture livelihood assistance to refugees and host communities in rural areas as a means to ensure access to rich, balanced and nutritious food, particularly for the most vulnerable members of the families settling in Hungary (including children, pregnant and lactating women, and older persons). Livelihoods assistance will reinforce access to jobs and employment opportunities in the agricultural sector, as well as related childcare services to facilitate refugee and host community members' ability to work.

3

Guarantee access to rights and promote social cohesion

- Support refugees to make their own decisions and actively participate in response activities by enabling participation in decision-making forums, effective gathering and response to feedback, and community-based approaches throughout programme implementation;
- Support the host country, local stakeholders, and civil society, including formal and informal grassroots organizations or initiatives to provide quality humanitarian aid by engaging them in coordination channels, sharing resources and building on their capacities to reach refugee and host communities;
- Promote dialogue, mutual understanding and social cohesion among refugees and host communities to foster a favourable protection environment which promotes resilience and nurtures a spirit of community;
- Counter and prevent misinformation, disinformation, discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion toward refugees, ensuring active participation and community-led approaches.

Cross-cutting Priorities

Cash Assistance

Based on needs, partners will make use of cash assistance as a key modality for delivery of assistance and services to those affected by the crisis. Protection will be mainstreamed throughout cash assistance, to ensure protection risks, including GBV, are effectively mitigated and protection dividends maximized.

Cross-cutting priorities

- **Accountability to affected people (AAP)**
- **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**
- **Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)**
- **Older persons and persons living with disabilities**

Read more in the Regional Chapter pp. 12-13

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

With regular presence at entry points partners will monitor arrival trends, access to appropriate information and communication channels and other support. Special focus will be on persons with specific needs, including but not limited to UASC, single-headed families with children, TCNs, survivors and persons at risk of GBV, etc. To mitigate protection risks and meet basic needs, cash assistance may be provided for vulnerable groups and those with specific needs. Information and key messages in various accessible formats appropriate for different ages, genders and abilities will be communicated through preferred channels, community networks and through in-person counselling. Referral to other service providers will be made as needed. Partners will provide refugees with protection case management and legal support and representation, including advice on temporary protection and asylum. Those opting to stay will be offered integration support at an early stage including establishing links with local communities, while those opting for voluntary return will be provided with information and assistance.

A feedback response mechanism will be in place with multiple channels whereby communities are clearly informed and promoted to gather views, suggestions and raise concerns. Feedback raised will be referred and acted upon as needed to inform future decision-making. A network of interpreters (including in sign language) will be identified and trained to provide adequate services to those requiring psychosocial support and legal aid. Partners will support the Government and other service providers to ensure that access to territory, protection services, and accommodation remains inclusive, accessible and safe. Community-based approaches and engagement with local organizations will be used to enhance reach and sustainability of initiatives and build on networks already present or being established by host and refugee communities.

Analysis of challenges in accessing services and exercising rights will inform advocacy on reducing barriers to access social protection schemes and public services. This will be coupled with facilitation of access to information, legal and social counselling and advice on navigating government administrative procedures.

Child Protection

The high rate of arrivals at border crossing points (BCPs) has complicated efforts to proactively identify children who may not be traveling with a parent or guardian. Further efforts are required to verify family relationships, and to refer children who may be traveling alone or with adults who are not their legal guardians to Child Protective Services for appropriate care arrangements to be put in place and to provide support as needed. In addition, many children have been exposed to distressing events, thus provision of MHPSS to children and their caregivers is essential to improve their well-being, participate in their own recovery and regain a sense of normality. In the immediate term, support is necessary to provide children with spaces where they can play, learn, and socialize with peers.

Protection and services will be offered by partners through the Blue Dots at border entry points, cash enrolment sites and other strategic locations, where refugees can access MHPSS services, information and legal counselling, and social service delivery and referrals while offering child-friendly activities and safe spaces. Protection partners will undertake individual case management for UASC and facilitate access to appropriate alternative care arrangements, as well as family tracing and reunification. Alternative care systems will be strengthened by increasing the capacity of family- and community-based care (such as foster care, kinship care, or supervised independent living). Statutory social services will also be strengthened to provide support to families and children at risk, as well as children with disabilities.

MHPSS will be provided so that children and families in distress and with mental health conditions have access to psychological first aid, inclusive activities, individual/group counselling and referral to specialized support. Child- and family-friendly spaces will be created to ensure that children can have access to safe spaces to rest and engage in recreational activities, and mothers and babies/toddlers will be provided with a space for breastfeeding. Access will be provided to essential non-food items that support child and parental well-being and survival (e.g. hygiene kits, dignity kits). Partners will disseminate child-friendly, accessible messaging to prevent family separation, alert to available services and other relevant information, while ensuring that feedback mechanisms are accessible. In cooperation with the authorities and partners, efforts will continue to integrate the affected children into the educational system of nurseries, kindergartens and schools to ensure that they can return to a daily routine. Parents will be provided the opportunity to build a social network with other parents and teachers within the community, making it easier for them to find employment and seek assistance.

Gender-Based Violence

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a key protection concern in every humanitarian emergency and the current crisis presents significant concerns, including the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by humanitarian workers, community members and other actors. Ensuring access to multisectoral GBV response services is another critical priority, with urgent emphasis on health and psychosocial response services. Reducing these risks requires ensuring immediate basic needs are met – such as health, safe access to accommodation and food – and taking proactive action

to implement all interventions in a way that minimizes access barriers and addresses safety concerns for diverse women and girls.

Together with partners, response services and support will be strengthened – particularly sexual and reproductive health and psychosocial support services. Protection monitoring will be undertaken by inter-agency partners, including targeted psychosocial support and case management. Referral mechanisms will be strengthened, pathways and standard operating procedures developed and GBV response capacity included in the overall package of services for all Blue Dot locations. Support will be provided to technical sectors to ensure a do-no-harm approach and risk mitigation to service provision across sectors, assessing, integrating and monitoring concrete measures to reduce GBV-related risks across all levels of the response including – but not limited to – through the roll-out of tailored safety audits, as well as using service points as an entry for GBV prevention messaging, in line with the GBV Guidelines. Collaboration with local women- and girl-led organizations will be promoted to increase community-based protection efforts and outreach. In addition, partners will ensure that all first responders and non-specialized actors are equipped with skills to safely respond to disclosures of GBV, inform on referral pathways and refer any GBV survivors requesting support.

Basic Needs

Food Security

Partners will ensure food or cash-based interventions to cover food needs of refugees, if requested by Government, as well as the provision of common logistics services and technical assistance to authorities. Depending on the profile of those refugees who will remain in the country, refugee and host households in rural communities will be supported with agriculture livelihood assistance to enable production of backyard vegetables and small animal products as a source of vitamin and protein rich food for household consumption. This will also ensure a peaceful coexistence between the two population groups.

Core Relief Items

Partners will ensure that CRIs will be provided, also in cooperation with the authorities. Distribution of relief items, including blankets and hygiene kits, will be ensured in reception facilities, at border crossing points, at points of disembarkation from buses and trains and other urban areas, including in temporary and permanent accommodation settings. Partners will focus on advocacy so that every crisis-affected person facing a similar set of challenges receives the necessary, and appropriate, in-kind support, with a special attention to the most vulnerable and their specific needs, such as women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Shelter-Accommodation and Protection-Sensitive Site Support and WASH

Refugees will be provided with information on access to safe and dignified accommodation, while partners will work with authorities to ensure suitable reception standards for those requiring short-term accommodation in government-arranged facilities. Municipal authorities in Budapest and NGO partners are providing temporary and longer-term shelter and accommodation for refugees across some 109 accommodation facilities, with food and core relief items provided and ensuring WASH standards are met, including for water, toilets, and hygiene products, and authorities arranging associated transportation to the facilities from BCPs, reception and help centres, and train and bus stations. Where possible, psychosocial care and health screenings are provided on site, including counselling and childcare services. Local NGO partners and volunteers will identify additional accommodation facilities for refugees in Budapest and surrounding areas.

Regular and thorough monitoring is needed for hosting individuals/companies/centres offering accommodation. A network of social workers is needed in this regard, with families matched to designated workers whom they could contact directly should they require support or emergency assistance, and who would frequently check on their welfare to monitor and reduce exposure to protection risks including GBV. Training will be provided to social workers on GBV, including how to safely handle a disclosure and make a referral.

Health & Nutrition

The Government is working to meet the urgent health needs of refugees arriving from Ukraine, many of whom require specialized care and treatment for existing illnesses. Health authorities confirmed the inclusion of refugees arriving from Ukraine into local health systems and services and are dedicating sufficient capacities for the first wave of arrivals, including coverage for any potential co-payments for medicine. Health providers in Hungary already offered services to more than 100 patients in hospitals across the county, while mobile teams are being deployed to registration points along the border to provide medical care, screening, emergency first aid, as well as testing, hospitalization and vaccination for COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.

WHO and RRP health partners will reinforce both primary and secondary health services, while building capacities of national authorities to respond to the health needs of both refugee and host communities. Monitoring refugees' access

to and use of health services will be a priority, as well as the provision of medical first aid and referral services. Under the guidance of an inter-agency mental health coordinator, partners will step up both short- and longer-term MHPSS interventions, including for TCNs. Further health support is needed for those not opting to apply for asylum at transition travel centres through provision of first aid assistance, health information and public hygiene measures.

In that regard, information on health and hygiene measures will be also provided for all refugees in travel transit zones. Partners will work to strengthen the communication capacities on all potential health information and support the effective prevention and treatment of priority communicable diseases such as COVID-19, measles, polio, tuberculosis and HIV as well as non-communicable diseases with emphasis on ensuring a continuum of care and linking patients to national systems. Proper nutrition will be supported through hot meals where required for newly arriving refugees, and mothers with young children will receive support for appropriate feeding practices. RRP partners will also support local health responses through the provision of medicine and health supplies. Further advocacy will be required to ensure refugees in possession of non-standard residence permits confirming their temporary protection status are recognized by local health providers and can facilitate access to services.

Education

With women and children comprising the majority of arrivals, the number of displaced children to be enrolled in the education system in Hungary will likely be unprecedented. Even if these numbers stabilize, the situation may pose serious capacity challenges to primary and secondary schools and higher education institutions for an extended period.

Timely inclusion of displaced learners into the national school system and ensuring access to education at all levels in Hungary – while avoiding reliance on parallel systems of school, where possible – will be key to the education response to avoid learning losses and long-term negative effects on displaced learners. Partners will support refugee children arriving from Ukraine with integration into local primary education, including through specialized learning and language support programmes.

The overall education response aims to build the capacity of the national education system to accommodate displaced learners, in line with relevant international standards, as well as EU and national legislation for all persons of concern. As required by European Directive 2013/33 Art. 14, displaced learners should be enrolled in education within three months after lodging a request for international protection and be provided with preparatory classes (which should include language tuition) to those displaced learners that require them, prior to placement in a regular class in a school in the national school system. Divergence between the requirements for access to education between those receiving temporary protection status and asylum-seekers should be avoided.

The Government is also working to ensure conditions for continuous learning at the university level through national grant scholarships benefitting some 1,000 refugee students. Within the framework of the Stipendium Hungaricum programme, a sub-programme titled “Students at Risk” has been announced to allow refugee students the opportunity to continue their studies at the tertiary level.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

To facilitate early inclusion of refugees in the economic landscape of the host country, enable them to protect their assets, adapt to local market needs and contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment, a thorough understanding of their socioeconomic profiles, market opportunities and key stakeholders is vital. This will allow development of targeted responses through a whole-of-society approach, that builds upon existing systems, services and programmes and brings together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves. While the primary focus is on the emergency response, for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens remains vital to facilitating access to services, identifying barriers and gaps, coordinating support and advocating for a rapid inclusion in the market system through decent work and financial services.

Logistics, Supply & Telecoms

To ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance, partners will provide logistics services in support of the Government and the wider humanitarian community. Partners will provide transportation support and identify CRI distribution centres and warehouse facilities. In addition, partners will promote the Radio-in-a-Box broadcasting system, an integrated mobile broadcasting system based on digital technologies and with activities will focus on enhancing Hungarian media organizations' capacities for conflict-sensitive reporting, solutions journalism and ethical coverage of refugee flows and matters, including interaction with refugees.

Partnership & Coordination

The emergency response by RRP inter-agency partners in Hungary under UNHCR's lead coordination role supports government and institutional efforts in rapidly responding to the needs of refugees arriving from Ukraine, ensuring identification of urgent needs and protection risks, and delivery of targeted assistance and services. Effective coordination aims at ensuring a harmonized response within existing government structures, as well as cooperation with local/municipal authorities, humanitarian partners, volunteers and other relevant stakeholders that centres around the evolving needs of those fleeing the conflict.

In terms of coordination, a Refugee Coordination Forum has been established as a key entry point to identify common challenges and avoid duplication. Technical issues and sector-specific challenges are tackled through sectoral working groups and sub-working groups (including Refugee Protection, Basic Needs, Health, and Child Protection), and two cross-cutting task forces (PSEA, MHPSS). Partners include counterparts from government ministries, regional municipalities, and local departments, UN Agencies, international and national NGOs and volunteer groups, who convene through regular coordination meetings to review areas of humanitarian intervention and strengthen coordination and response at both BCPs, reception points and in urban areas.

Additional joint advocacy initiatives and resource mobilization activities will be carried out to ensure effective delivery of services benefiting those most in need. Regular reporting through a common 5W will help to ensure that identified gaps in the provision of assistance and services are addressed and the risk of duplication is minimized.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Resilience	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)	WASH	Total
FBO - Caritas Hungarica							4,205,600		4,205,600
FBO - Evangélikus Diakónia							15,000		15,000
FBO - Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship (MET) and Oltalom Charity Society (OKE)							2,955,000		2,955,000
FBO - Hungarian Interchurch Aid							4,205,604		4,205,604
FBO - Hungarian Reformed Church Aid							4,044,220		4,044,220
FBO - Hungarian Baptist Aid							4,205,600		4,205,600
INGO - Cesvi – Participatory Foundation and NGO							187,770		187,770
INGO - Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)						17,473	14,461		31,934
INGO - Trauma Center			117,000						117,000
NGO - Budapest Methodological Social Center (BMSZKI)							6,066,667		6,066,667
NGO - Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta							4,243,715		4,243,715
NGO - Hungarian Civil Liberties Union	41,700								41,700
NGO - Migration Aid							744,270		744,270
RC - Hungarian Red Cross							4,206,994		4,206,994
UN-FAO				2,000,000					2,000,000

UN-IOM	2,500,000	1,000,000	750,000	450,000		3,400,000	200,000	8,300,000
UN-UNESCO				600,000				600,000
UN-UNFPA	150,000	150,000						300,000
UN-UNHCR	15,725,000					4,275,000		20,000,000
UN-UNICEF	14,988,320	5,405,600			3,895,600		1,341,540	25,631,060
UN-WFP		10,750,333						10,750,333
UN-WHO			2,450,000					2,450,000
Total (USD)	33,405,020	10,750,333	9,122,600	2,750,000	1,050,000	3,913,073	42,769,901	105,302,467

Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
UN-UNHCR	13,950,000	887,500	887,500	15,725,000
UN-UNICEF	4,137,333	1,815,333	9,035,654	14,988,320
UN-UNFPA		150,000		150,000
UN-IOM	2,500,000			2,500,000
NGO - Hungarian Civil Liberties Union	41,700			41,700
Total (USD)	20,629,033	2,852,833	9,923,154	33,405,020

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 17,773,224				<p><i>This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.</i></p>
Basic Needs	Protection	Food Security	Livelihoods & Resilience	
\$ 4,623,224	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 8,150,333	\$ 2,000,000	



Slovakia

Country Chapter

Slovakia. People fleeing Ukraine cross the border into Slovakia at the Vysné Nemecke crossing point. Local communities are providing food and hygiene items, offers of free transport and accommodation and also creating temporary shelters for refugees.

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At a Glance

Slovakia Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

750,000

Projected refugee
population entering
by December 2022

200,000

Projected refugee
population remaining
by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector-specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

49 %



14 %



19 %



18 %

These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 91.9 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 49 M



\$ 1.8 M



\$ 5.2 M



\$ 8.2 M



\$ 6 M



\$ 17.2 M



\$ 2.5 M



\$ 1.5 M



21
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

7



UN
Agencies

3



International
NGOs

9



National
NGOs

1



Faith-based
Organizations

1



Academia

SLOVAKIA

Country Overview

Like other countries neighbouring Ukraine, Slovakia has seen a rapid flow across its borders of people fleeing hostilities. By 23 April 2022, more than 354,000 refugees from Ukraine had arrived in Slovakia. Border authorities continue to process new arrivals, providing information on temporary residence, asylum and temporary protection, with onward transport provided for those seeking to reach urban centres. Information is provided at all border crossing points (BCPs), alerting refugees to available services including accommodation, food, work opportunities and health care. Temporary protection (TP) status is accessible to refugees arriving from Ukraine and their families until the end of the year, including those arriving without documentation. This temporary protection regime aligned Slovakia's reception of refugees from Ukraine with the broader, EU-wide application of the Temporary Protection Directive by EU Member States.

Local responders have rapidly mobilized to process the high number of arrivals. The Border and Aliens Police and Fire Rescue Service have prepared reception centres and temporary hosting sites to accommodate those staying in Slovakia for short periods. Local communities have taken a welcoming stance, with humanitarian actors, civil society and community volunteers providing significant support at border reception points, including advice on temporary housing, transportation, and legal counselling services.

Despite the favourable protection environment, stronger communication and legal counselling is needed to ensure arrivals are fully informed about procedures for and implications of applying for temporary protection or asylum. Additionally, gaps have been observed in the screening of persons with protection needs—notably older people, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ persons and minority groups such as Roma. The identification and referral of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) also requires closer monitoring, including for children arriving from residential care facilities in Ukraine, of which an estimated 60 per cent have disabilities, as well as separated children arriving with relatives, who will require formal guardianship procedures. Further capacity is required to prevent and address the threat of illegal activity along border crossing points, in transit locations and temporary accommodation facilities, including human trafficking and exploitation, particularly given that most arrivals are women and children.

The inter-agency response will continue to address any gaps in the provision of information to new arrivals from Ukraine, including advice on and support with applying for temporary protection in Slovakia, while helping reinforce the reception and monitoring capacity of local authorities including for those with additional and specific protection needs, and seeking to ensure equality of access to services including health care services according to needs. Further scaling up of short-term accommodation is needed, notably in urban and semi-urban areas where most arrivals are expected to arrive or transit in the coming weeks. Support to long-term accommodation and related services notably on legal aid and counselling will equally be crucial, as refugee populations are increasingly being received across the country, including in smaller towns and distant villages.

Needs Overview

Through the inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) for Slovakia, humanitarian partners are supporting the Government's response to the needs of refugees arriving from Ukraine. Partners on the ground, including volunteers, are notably supporting provision of information, delivery of food and non-food items, referrals, and transportation at border crossing points and registration, reception and transit centres. Host communities, the private sector, as well as municipal authorities are building on the Government's efforts to provide both temporary and longer-term accommodation to refugees. In addition, food and non-food items are provided, as well as onward transportation for those choosing to travel onward from Slovakia. The Government has extended health services to refugees including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) while facilitating access to local employment and national education, in addition to other rights and services such as the social welfare system.

The vast majority of refugees from Ukraine are women and children, including older people and/or persons with disabilities. Many arrive in Slovakia with significant ongoing vulnerabilities such as forced displacement, family separation, and trauma (both mental and physical) – after suffering limited access to basic services that may give rise to needs related to child protection, MHPSS, and gender-based violence (GBV), among others. Many are also in need of urgent medical care, including persons with chronic illnesses, injured persons and persons with mental health disorders. Obstacles to accessing necessary medication may soon become critical as they further hinder refugees' ability to manage chronic illnesses.

Information on the rights, responsibilities and implications of the various legal statuses available is vital to helping refugees make an informed decision about their future, and there are prevalent indications of gaps in such information along border entry points in Slovakia. For example, many refugee arrivals have reported a lack of clarity on asylum and temporary protection procedures. Some may simply need more time and support to process such detailed information given the stresses related to fleeing their homes and making it to the border. There is also a clear need to raise awareness of major protection risks such as human trafficking or other forms of exploitation; scams and other types of

abuse have already been reported that further complicate decision-making and refugees' ability to protect themselves. Refugees have access to verified information via channels that they trust and that facilitates two-way communication with humanitarian actors; their feedback is critical to ensuring an effective response. Further, such communication must be available before they cross the border, upon entry, and after entering the country to allow them to adapt their choices as their situation evolves.

Targeted services are required for people with heightened protection needs, including survivors of GBV, UASC, LGBTIQ+ persons, refugees from the Roma community and people with mental health disorders. Identification and entry points and feedback channels for safe and survivor-centred disclosures, safe access to specialized case management, and specialized services via appropriate referrals will be a key objective, with outreach to at-risk persons and access to critical protection services prioritized, including through Blue Dots hubs. Establishing accessible two-way communication and feedback channels with the refugee population may present a challenge, with many refugees joining family members and integrating in communities across the country. Others may seek to move onward, with the intention to travel to other EU Member States where they may have relatives or other connections.

Provision of basic and domestic items, including food and core relief items (CRIs), will also be prioritized. As most refugees fleeing Ukraine arrive with limited means, cash assistance will be critical to help them meet their most pressing needs and to provide viable alternatives to harmful coping mechanisms. It is expected that the arriving population will be increasingly vulnerable over time, as the conflict worsens and access to food, medicine and other essential items becomes more difficult. In line with the Temporary Protection Directive and subsequent national legislation, Slovakia has provided refugees with access to support through the national social protection system, although gaps are expected both in terms of adequacy of benefits and the timeline between registration and receipt of support.

Response Strategy

Country Objectives

With the unfolding security situation in Ukraine and the vulnerability of those arriving expected to increase, RRP partners will continue to support local authorities in meeting the most urgent and basic needs at border crossing points as well as in urban areas. Reception standards will be reinforced and information-sharing improved to ensure refugees from Ukraine are informed of and can access temporary protection and asylum procedures. Those with protection needs will be provided with targeted assistance and referrals to appropriate services, including women, children, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), older people, and persons with disabilities. With the high volume of women arriving – including single women and female-headed households – GBV-specialized programming will be prioritized. The establishment of safe and confidential channels and reporting mechanisms as part of the wider Feedback and Response mechanisms, including on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) complaints will set up in collaboration with communities.

In support of government-led efforts, coordination among RRP partners on the ground will be enhanced, as part of the refugee response coordination architecture to ensure comprehensive coverage and strategic delivery of activities and services, with regular coordination meetings and information-sharing forums.

UNHCR will lead and coordinate implementation of the RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), with the response for Slovakia focusing on technical support to government counterparts, enhanced protection monitoring and strengthened reception capacity, while ensuring that basic and urgent needs of refugees are met. Social cohesion, inclusion and peaceful coexistence including through regular community engagement across age, gender and diversity (AGD) groups and bringing adolescents and young people's voices from the host and refugee communities to decision-making forums, while encouraging constructive and engaged inter-community dialogue on common interests, will be central to programme design, implementation and monitoring, in line with Accountability to Affected People (AAP) principles.

The focus will remain on the following strategic objectives:

1

Inclusive community engagement on rights and available services

- 1.1 Help refugees access key services, make decisions and actively participate in the response by ensuring their access to updated information through preferred and accessible channels, feedback response mechanisms, including appropriate ones for sensitive reports, decision-making forums, and participation throughout the programme cycle;
- 1.2 Implement Blue Dot hubs to provide information, two-way communication, psychosocial support, legal aid and counselling, protection messaging in accessible formats, response to feedback, case management, child-friendly spaces, identification and referrals, including through remote assistance for new arrivals requiring protection support;
- 1.3 Support the host country and local partners in delivery of humanitarian aid through system-strengthening approaches in all sectors and service delivery approaches (notably in child

protection, education, social protection and health); and by collaborating on the development and sharing of accurate information and engaging in needed conversations through public and trusted communication channels, including formal or organic networks and forums created by refugees;

- 1.4 Strengthen the communication capacities and activities on all health-related information sources in accordance with identified needs;
- 1.5 Promote dialogue, mutual understanding and social cohesion among refugees and host communities, as a means of facilitating peaceful coexistence;
- 1.6 Counter and prevent misinformation, disinformation, discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion towards refugees, including through community-led approaches;
- 1.7 Work with communities to understand needs, concerns, barriers and suggestions to collaboratively create, update and share messaging through trusted and community-based channels, including on social media, that respond to changing context and priorities of host and displaced communities;
- 1.8 Provide information in multiple formats appropriate for different ages and through human interaction, noting that the use of digital QR codes alone to provide vital protection and response information may leave older people and other persons with low digital literacy levels uninformed and exposed to abuse and exploitation.

2

Guarantee quality support and referral to relevant services available

- 2.1. In coordination with the authorities, develop referral pathways to ensure that refugees, including refugee children, can access necessary services (including education and language and any additional needs), in accordance with their needs and preferences, including those with heightened protection needs such as GBV survivors, children with specific needs and at risk, including UASC, minorities (such as Roma people originating from Ukraine), LGBTIQ+ persons and people with mental health disorders;
- 2.2. Reinforce capacities of national authorities in rapidly registering arrivals, while assisting in identifying persons at risk, including vulnerable groups and those with protection needs;
- 2.3. Identification and protection referral of persons with additional and specific protection needs, including older people (in particular alone or with childcare responsibilities), persons with disabilities, identification and referral of children at heightened risk, including UASC and children arriving from residential care institutions, to national best interests procedures, appropriate alternative care arrangements, family tracing and reunification, and other appropriate services;
- 2.4. Prioritize specialized GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response programming, including strengthening inter-agency networks, national systems and referrals processes in accordance with the IASC GBV Minimum Standards;
- 2.5. Establish inclusive AGD appropriate feedback response mechanisms in collaboration with communities with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to detail response, referral and closing the feedback loop, including inter-agency referrals and collective approaches where possible. This will include how to manage sensitive disclosures made through any channel;
- 2.6. Ensure the feedback response mechanism includes safe and confidential channels to report sensitive complaints, including on fraud, SEA, or other kinds of abuse with adequate reporting and referral pathways communicated to all staff;
- 2.7. Ensure a community and evidence-based approach in mental health and psychosocial support services to align with MHPSS standards in emergency settings;
- 2.8. Contribute to protection monitoring, particularly on child rights monitoring.

3

Ensure reception standards are guaranteed

- 3.1. Strengthen reception capacity and conduct protection monitoring of arrivals to ensure access to territory, rights and services on a non-discriminatory basis, including for third-country nationals (TCNs);
- 3.2. Support national health response in providing timely and appropriate public health interventions, including emergency first aid response, MHPSS services, information on accessing local health systems and informing on hygiene and public health measures. Monitoring the health service utilization of refugees in coordination with the public authorities to reinforce capacities where necessary, while responding to shortages of medical staff, health facilities and supply chains. Conducting refugee population needs

- assessment and designing national health system responses aligned to the needs as they evolve;
- 3.3. Scale up accommodation capacity including for temporary safe shelter, while supporting local authorities in identifying additional reception facilities to accommodate those with both immediate and longer-term needs. Monitor reception and accommodation facilities, supporting capacity of national authorities and civil society to provide safe and accessible conditions for all arrivals, including advocacy and advice on the need for screening of the safety and appropriateness of private accommodation provision;
 - 3.4. Delivery of unrestricted cash assistance aligned with the Government's social protection system as a means of improving access to basic goods and services and reducing the risk of resorting to harmful coping mechanisms or increasing the risk of GBV and exploitation and abuse of children;
 - 3.5. Deliver agriculture livelihood assistance to refugees and host communities in rural areas to ensure access to rich, balanced and nutritious food, especially for the most vulnerable members of families settling in Slovakia (including children, pregnant and lactating women, older people, etc.). Livelihood assistance will reinforce access to jobs and employment opportunities in the agricultural sector, as well as include related childcare services to facilitate refugee and host community members' ability to work;
 - 3.6. In coordination with national institutions and counterparts, harmonizing protection response to ensure a rapid integration of refugees into national social and economic systems, including through conducting gap analyses between de jure and de facto access to government benefits and services; and undertaking advocacy to minimize barriers in accessing social protection schemes and public services, while concurrently supporting refugees with access to information, legal and social counselling, and eligibility advice in navigating governmental administrative procedures;
 - 3.7. Work with community-based organizations, civil society and informal networks established by refugees and host communities to build on their resources and capacities, and improve reach and sustainability of reception and integration initiatives;
 - 3.8. Work with the national partners and key stakeholders to strengthen capacities of the education system and key stakeholders to plan, implement and monitor access to education including, Early Childhood Development (ECD)/Early Childhood Education (ECE) services and integration of refugee children in education;
 - 3.9. Support delivery of education, including ECD/ECE services, and strengthening the network of education actors and early childhood development service providers through support to service delivery, improvement of policies, standards and professional skills for delivering integrated services including interventions programmes for children with developmental delays;
 - 3.10. Support schools in creating an environment supportive of integration of refugee children in mainstream education;
 - 3.11. Create supportive environment and psychosocial support through extracurricular activities and non-formal education (including language acquisition, etc.).

Cross-cutting Priorities

Cash Assistance

Refugees will be provided with in-kind assistance upon arrival to cover immediate needs, in temporary reception facilities, alongside temporary and permanent accommodation and in other locations as needed, with special attention to groups at heightened risk including persons with protection needs, women with children, unaccompanied children and persons with disabilities. In line with the Grand Bargain and subsequent commitments prioritizing the use of

cash transfers in emergencies to ensure dignity, choice, and coverage of basic needs, multipurpose cash assistance will also be provided by agencies in close coordination with the Government of Slovakia. Cash transfer targeting, benefit levels, and registration processes are being designed in cooperation with Slovak authorities to ensure alignment and simplified handover to government social protection systems, and to reduce the risks to social cohesion of support levels that significantly surpass those offered through national systems. Coordination and monitoring of cash activities will be conducted through regular inter-agency Cash Sub-Working Group meetings, where close monitoring by partners of the use of cash will be conducted to ensure safety, prevention of risks for children and GBV. Cash transfers will be

Cross-cutting priorities

- **Accountability to affected people (AAP)**
- **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**
- **Age, gender and diversity (AGD)**
- **Older persons and persons living with disabilities**

Read more in the Regional Chapter pp. 12-13

accompanied by referral mechanisms to facilitate access to a comprehensive set of key services, including health insurance and accommodation. A robust communication and community engagement strategy will be established to ensure clear understanding of targeting, functioning and purpose of the cash programme among host and refugee communities, with feedback mechanisms in place for people to seek clarification or raise any comments.

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

Partners will provide key protection messaging and other relevant information through preferred and accessible formats based on identified trends and diversity of access needs. This will inform refugees of available services offered by the Government and humanitarian partners and other information they need to make decisions. In addition, partners will ensure that services and assistance are available on a non-discriminatory basis with needs as the primary consideration. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) will be mainstreamed throughout the response and contribute to protection outcomes. Community engagement that recognizes inclusion and leadership among different Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) groups will be promoted through community-based approaches at all levels of response. Effective and accessible feedback and response mechanisms will be put in place and socialized with communities, with inter-agency referrals and collective approaches as needed. Identification and protection referral for persons with disabilities and older persons with additional or specific protection needs, including access to counselling, sign language interpretation, referral to medical services, replacement of lost or damaged assistive devices. Misinformation and disinformation identified through community engagement in digital and analogue channels will inform further messaging and engagement. Work in cooperation with government institutions, non-governmental organizations and other partners to reduce the risks of trafficking in human beings and provide targeted support to victims of trafficking will also be implemented.

UNHCR and partners, in cooperation with national authorities, will strengthen existing efforts to increase availability and access to specialized GBV programming and services, including entry points for receiving services, support and GBV case management and awareness-raising on key GBV issues that can emerge. Referral pathways will be established, and training will be organized for service providers, particularly in reception centres, shelters and accommodations facilities, to inform on GBV and how to safely handle disclosures and make referrals in line with a survivor-centred approach. The capacity of local service providers will be strengthened to respond to specific needs of the refugee population. Technical support will be provided to protection actors to ensure GBV risk mitigation and awareness activities are integrated across all levels of the response.

Child Protection

The high rate of arrivals at border crossings has complicated efforts to proactively identify children at risk, including children who may not be travelling with a parent or former legal or customary caregiver. Prior to the conflict, nearly 100,000 children without parental care or separated from their families were already living in institutions or boarding schools in Ukraine. Many of these institutions are evacuating children to safety in neighbouring countries or beyond. However, further efforts are needed for the identification and registration of these children as soon as they enter the country, with adequate protection and durable solutions based on their best interests. Further efforts are required to strengthen verification of family relationships, while ensuring family unity and preventing separation, and to refer children, who may be travelling unaccompanied, to child protective services for appropriate care arrangements to be provided. Additionally, measures will be put in place to prevent risks for children, and to identify and refer other children at heightened risk to child protection services. In addition, many children have been exposed to traumatic events and may require psychosocial support and counselling, tailored to their specific circumstances.

Resumption of education is a priority for all children, as return to a predictable routine will help to restore a sense of normality in the context of this extremely challenging situation of displacement. Partners will organize transition programmes for refugee children to help them integrate to Slovak curriculum and ensure continuous learning. Children previously institutionalized, among them many children with disabilities, may require formal guardianship procedures.

Protection and services will jointly be offered with UNHCR and UNICEF through the Blue Dots – Children and Family Protection Support Hubs – at strategic points including registration centres and other “hotspot” locations in collaboration with the Government and other partners, where refugees will have access to MHPSS services, information and legal counselling, identification, case management and referrals, and a safe space. RRP partners will work with the Government to improve preparedness and response coordination through systematic and targeted interventions, including dissemination of child-friendly information, case management, identification, facilitation of access to and inclusion in national Best Interests Procedures, provision of direct child protection services, and referral to specialized services through hotlines/helplines and remote Best Interests Procedures at border points and urban settings within Blue Dots and other safe spaces including for children with disabilities. UASC will be supported with family tracing and reunification and access to legal counselling on formal guardianship procedures. UASC will be supported with appropriate alternative care arrangements in their best interests, with family-based care being a priority. To support children and caregivers to cope with adversity and bereavement, MHPSS, including psychological first aid and referral

to specialized services will be provided. The Government and partners will benefit from capacity-building on child protection, prevention of trafficking, violence, exploitation and abuse.

Gender-Based Violence

With the high rate of family separation, the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), has been noted from the earliest stage of the crisis. Ensuring prompt, effective access to critical lifesaving GBV specialized support, prevention and response services is essential. A notable increase in GBV risks has been identified, especially in the context of entry points, emergency and informal shelters, including refugee accommodation facilities and private transport arrangements from border to onward movement within and outside of the country. The available services and networks to support GBV survivors are inadequate to meet the needs while specialized health care is also insufficient.

Ensuring GBV risk mitigation interventions across all aspects of the response is also a crucial priority. Strengthening GBV response services and referral mechanisms including through the Blue Dots, capacity-building of frontline responders on GBV risk mitigation and how to safely and appropriately respond to disclosure of GBV, dissemination of key messages on prevention of GBV and available response services as well as monitoring of GBV-related risks to inform risk mitigation across all programmes will also be at the core of interventions. In addition, effective GBV coordination will ensure a more coherent and efficient multisectoral inter-agency response while supporting existing national systems to enhance their capacity and available services and will remain a priority action throughout the response.

Basic Needs

Core Relief Items, WASH, Food Security, Shelter-Accommodation & Protection-Sensitive Site Support

Material support will be provided in temporary reception facilities, alongside temporary and permanent accommodation, as requested by the authorities, and distribution of relief items will be ensured in reception facilities, at border crossing points, at points of disembarkation from buses and trains and other areas to ensure appropriate service and living standards. In all shelter/accommodation areas, partners will ensure the effective use of existing referral SOPs and will develop sector-specific referral structures while updating existing tools and service mapping. It will also be crucial to advocate so that every crisis-affected person facing a similar set of challenges receives the same humanitarian support. Relevant personnel will be trained on protection, including GBV and child protection, and countertrafficking, and how to safely make referrals to services. Close collaboration with GBV and child protection actors will be essential to ensure that joint assessments and monitoring are conducted with communities and to take proactive measures to reduce risk of exposure to GBV.

WASH standards will be ensured, and transportation services will be provided at border crossing points so that refugees reach reception and transit centres. Partners will support government efforts aiming to provide both temporary and longer-term accommodation options to refugees. In addition, food and core relief items will be provided, as well as onward transportation for those choosing to travel onward from Slovakia.

Health & Nutrition

Refugees from Ukraine are at high risk of infectious diseases, as living conditions during transit or upon arrival may increase the risk of transmission and/or susceptibility to disease. They will likely have greater vulnerability due to poor shelter and overcrowded living conditions and exacerbating factors such as nutritional stress and exposure to cold weather. Outbreaks of respiratory and diarrheal infections are to be expected. The incidence of COVID-19, although decreasing, remains very high, while vaccination uptake, particularly in vulnerable populations, remains low. This, along with disruption in testing and treatment, puts those most vulnerable at increased risk of severe illness and death. Moreover, given suboptimal routine childhood vaccination coverage, the crisis and displacement will further increase existing immunity gaps and the risk of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly measles.

In the view of the above needs, RRP partners will support the national health system to provide timely and appropriate public health interventions for both the refugee and affected host population. In light of gathering and crowding at borders and in reception and transit centres, acute respiratory, tract infections, diarrheal diseases, and (vaccine-preventable) diseases, such as poliovirus, measles and rubella outbreak are a potential risk. Displaced populations are at increased risk of communicable diseases, primarily due to closer and more intense social mixing, and exacerbating factors such as stress. In cooperation with authorities, efforts will continue to strengthen surveillance and early warning mechanisms to quickly detect and respond to priority communicable diseases and vaccine preventable diseases like measles, and support maintenance of COVID-19 response operations for the host and refugee population.

As most incoming refugees are currently women and children, provision of maternal and childcare, including support to infant and young child feeding is needed. It is important to strengthen access to sexual and reproductive health, including lifesaving emergency obstetric care for refugees and survivor-centred clinical case management for survivors of gender-based violence. The provision of quality clinical care for survivors of GBV will be essential alongside specific capacity-building for the provision of health services to victims of trafficking.

Lack of continuity of care for those with noncommunicable disease (NCDs, e.g., hypertension, diabetes) is a risk due to movement and the need for ongoing access to health service and medications. Being both a transit and host country, the health system must be further supported to address the acute and chronic health conditions of both refugees and host communities. Partners will identify those with health conditions requiring ongoing treatment and link them to appropriate service to ensure the continuum of care, as well as to reinforce the establishment of effective mechanisms to intensify routine immunization in the country and among refugee populations. Access to chronic disease management and medication, and replacement of lost or damaged assistive devices for older persons, children and adults with disabilities will be coordinated with national authorities through referral mechanisms.

In addition, partners will strengthen risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and create evidence (behavioural insight assessments, focus group discussions) for effective RCCE interventions to address priority health needs and gaps.

The burden of psychological stress and trauma among Ukrainian refugees due to their recent experiences should not be underestimated. The exposure to stressors and traumatic events (violence, loss of loved ones, separation, loss of home, etc.) is expected to cause distress. In a humanitarian crisis, the prevalence of common mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety more than doubles. The population is considered at high risk of adverse mental health outcomes and there is urgent need of (continued) MHPSS services.

Partners will ensure the delivery of MHPSS services, the presence of trained staff in reception facilities, as well as the implementation of mobile MHPSS services, in cooperation with the Government, to support both refugees and local health workers. The overall goal of the MHPSS response includes a local situation analysis, to identify more precisely the greatest needs, specify priority actions and guide a socially and culturally appropriate response according to evidence-based methodology to reduce suffering and improve/support mental health and psychosocial well-being. In addition, efforts to strengthen capacity-building in psychological first aid, basic psychosocial skills will continue as the first phase of the MHPSS capacity-building plan, including for humanitarian partners, service providers and local communities.

If the conflict continues and possibly further impacts western regions of Ukraine, additional inflows of people with traumatic and war-related injuries may require immediate and ongoing trauma care and rehabilitation, including medical evacuation to other EU countries.

Education

In this period of mass integration, Slovakia needs support to address the increased need for preschool places, Early Childhood Development (ECD) services and education for older children and young adults. To meet the needs of children, pregnant women and mothers, parents, children with disabilities and young people, some solutions are related to establishing alternative processes for education, including preschool provisions to help every child fulfil their right to education as well as holistic cognitive, psychosocial, physical, mental and emotional development. To ensure sustainability, it is important to reach agreements with municipalities (in order to use municipal spaces), explore legal frameworks for alternative solutions and link to national systems (publicly funded teachers, or at least a quality assurance role). For those staying in Slovakia, the transition from online learning in Ukrainian to face-to-face learning in Slovak needs to be supported. Timely inclusion of displaced learners into the national school system and ensuring access to education at all levels in Slovakia, as well as avoiding establishing parallel systems, will be key to the education response to avoid learning losses and long-term negative effects on displaced learners.

With most refugees being women and children the number of displaced children to be enrolled in the education system in Slovakia will likely be without precedent. Even if these numbers stabilize, the situation may pose serious capacity challenges to pre-education systems, primary and secondary schools and higher education institutions for an extended period. The overall education response needs to build the capacity of the national education system to accommodate displaced learners and needs to be in line with relevant international standards, as well as EU and national legislation for all arrivals.²³ Divergence between the requirements for access to education between the Temporary Protection Directive beneficiaries and asylum-seekers should be avoided.

²³ As required by European Directive 2013/33 Art. 14, displaced learners should be enrolled in education within three months after lodging a request for international protection and be provided with preparatory classes (which should include language tuition) as needed, prior to placement in a regular class in a school in the national school system.

In line with the Government's education policy and in cooperation with academic institutions, partners will ensure access to quality education for all age groups promoting uninterrupted continuation of learning, taking care of their specific needs, providing them with sufficient help to learn a new language and get acquainted with a new environment. Delivery of Early Childhood Development/ (ECD)/Early Childhood Education (ECE) services will be supported in partnership with municipalities, and the network of early childhood development service providers strengthened through support to service delivery, improvement of policies, standards and professional skills for delivering integrated services including early childhood interventions programmes for children with developmental delays. Support to the specific needs of students and professionals in third-level education will be provided to foster an inclusive and safe learning environment for refugees to continue their studies and avoid drop out, including with scholarships and other learning activities. In addition, partners will ensure the provision of opportunities for immersive language courses, as well as mobile-accessed on-demand remote interpretation services. Access to skill development for teachers, language support, accessible learning materials, and replacement of loss or damaged assistive devices to ensure equal access to children with previous or war-related acquired disabilities.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

To facilitate inclusion of refugees in the economic landscape of the country from the onset, enable them to protect their assets, to adapt to local market needs and to contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment, a good understanding of their socioeconomic profiles, market opportunities and key stakeholders is vital. This will allow development of targeted responses through a whole-of-society approach that build upon existing systems, services and programmes and bring together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves. While the primary focus is on the emergency response, for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens forms part of the process from the onset to facilitate access to services, identify barriers and gaps, including linguistic and skills alignment barriers, coordinate support and advocate for a rapid insertion in the market system through decent work and financial services.

Logistics, Supply & Telecoms

To ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance, partners will provide logistics services in support of the Government and the rest of the humanitarian community. In addition, partners will promote the Radio-in-a-Box broadcasting system, an integrated mobile broadcasting system based on digital technologies and with activities will focus on enhancing Slovak media organizations' capacities for conflict-sensitive reporting, solutions journalism and ethical coverage of refugee flows and matters, including interaction with refugees. Transportation assistance will also be provided, depending on contextual need, from borders/registration centres to temporary accommodation as needed.

Partnership & Coordination

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) and through UNHCR's lead coordination role in support of the Government's established coordination mechanisms, RRP partners will support government response efforts through a multisectoral approach that complements current country level response mechanisms, reinforces existing activities and services, and identifies any critical gaps and needs. Coordination structures at field level will ensure that progress and challenges are monitored effectively between partners while preventing duplication. UNHCR will ensure the effective participation and involvement of relevant stakeholders, including local authorities and institutions, UN partners, NGOs, representatives of host communities, refugee communities and civil society and refugee-led initiatives to advance country level strategic objectives.

The Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) was introduced as a collaborative platform to identify gaps, address common challenges, and avoid duplication in support of local stakeholders and refugees alike. RRP partners complement the national response provided by authorities at border crossing points, registration sites, reception and transit centres, and urban areas such as train/bus stations, assistance centres and shelter facilities. These key actors and partners carry out a variety of activities, including protection monitoring, provision of information, and referral to specialized services. The broader RCF also encompasses smaller coordination groups – i.e., Sectors, Sub-Sectors, Working Groups and Task Forces – that focus on specific technical issues related to particular themes such as Refugee Protection, Child Protection, Basic Needs (e.g. shelter or non-food items), Cash, Health, MHPSS, and Information Management. Notably, some of these units – such as the Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Working Group and the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network, for example – deal with cross-cutting issues that affect all aspects of the response and are therefore designed to coordinate collective action on all fronts. Other needs are under review to determine whether additional coordination fora would be useful, such as for Education or GBV. Partners in this response include government counterparts from various national ministries, regional municipalities and local departments, as well as local NGOs, civil society, international NGOs, faith-based organizations, civil society and UN agencies. This multi-

faceted coordination structure holds regular meetings to monitor the humanitarian response, to identify where and how improvements can be made, and to measure achievements as well as impacts on refugee and host communities.

Coordination meetings at the national and field level will serve to identify emerging gaps and common challenges, as well as to facilitate implementation of a common strategy. Joint advocacy initiatives will be undertaken, and ongoing resource mobilization activities implemented to advance strategic objectives and ensure effective delivery of services benefiting those most in need. Regular reporting through a common 5W will help to ensure that identified gaps in the provision of assistance and services are addressed and the risk of duplication is minimized.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Resilience	Logistics, Telecoms & Operationa l Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)	WASH	Total
Academia - Comenius University Bratislava			69,000		90,300	309,000			468,300
FBO - Caritas Slovakia							1,595,000		1,595,000
INGO - Clear Global					350,000				350,000
INGO - Habitat for Humanity Poland							300,000		300,000
INGO - People in Need			577,200						577,200
NGO - Carpathian Foundation Slovakia				262,000					262,000
NGO - CVEK Centre for the Research of Ethnicity and Culture						66,700			66,700
NGO - Emergency Response Ukraine (OAKR)							1,851,750		1,851,750
NGO - Human Rights League	1,094,866								1,094,866
NGO - Mareena	630,000								630,000
NGO - Milan Simecka Foundation						62,000			62,000
NGO - Nota Bene					25,000				25,000
NGO - Slovak Humanitarian Council							1,568,000		1,568,000
NGO - Ukrainian Diaspora in Slovakia	128,100								128,100
UN-IOM	700,000		600,000	800,000	450,000		1,450,000	600,000	4,600,000
UN-UNESCO					300,000				300,000
UN-UNFPA	300,000								300,000
UN-UNHCR	12,475,000						10,525,000		23,000,000
UN-UNICEF	33,760,680		3,414,400	1,531,200		7,830,000		981,476	47,517,756
UN-WFP		5,250,000			600,000				5,850,000
UN-WHO			1,400,000						1,400,000

Total (USD)	49,088,646	5,250,000	6,060,600	2,593,200	1,815,300	8,267,700	17,289,750	1,581,476	91,946,672
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Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
NGO - Human Rights League	1,094,866			1,094,866
NGO - Mareena	630,000			630,000
NGO - Ukrainian Diaspora in Slovakia	128,100			128,100
UN-IOM	450,000		250,000	700,000
UN-UNFPA	300,000			300,000
UN-UNHCR	11,350,000	562,500	562,500	12,475,000
UN-UNICEF	17,737,600	1,770,000	14,253,080	33,760,680
Total (USD)	31,690,566	2,332,500	15,065,580	49,088,646

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements \$ 29,512,500		
Basic Needs	Protection	Food Security
\$ 9,262,500	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 5,250,000

This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.



Other Countries Summary



At a Glance

Other Countries Planned Response

March-December 2022



PROJECTED
REFUGEE
POPULATION

4,700,000

Projected refugee population entering in other countries in the region, including as a result of secondary movements, by December 2022

Planning figures include refugees, as well as third-country nationals (TCNs). Figures for host communities are not included in this table, however, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting them, considering they may have specific needs to be addressed.

50 %



14 %



18 %



18 %



These disaggregated estimates are based on quantitative and qualitative data that has been collected from multiple sources at country and regional level and refer to the total number of arrivals (including Ukrainians and TCNs).



TOTAL
FINANCIAL
REQUIREMENTS
IN USD

\$ 258.5 M

By Sector of Response

\$ 140.1 M



\$ 1.8 M



\$ 1.8 M



\$ 0.8 M



\$ 12.6 M



\$ 11.4 M



\$ 84 M



\$ 5 M



\$ 0.5 M



7
PARTNERS
INVOLVED

7



UN
Agencies

Other Countries Summary

Situation Overview

As of mid-April 2022, the inter-agency response to support countries receiving refugees from Ukraine is mainly concentrated in Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. However, many refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) not in need of international protection have moved on to other countries in the region, and beyond. Entry into other European Union (EU) countries is made possible by the right to move freely within the Schengen area, and thanks to the activation of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD), which provides refugees with immediate protection and rights in all EU countries. With this status, TPD holders can stay in EU countries for up to a year and benefit from access to public health insurance, education, the labour market and additional assistance including social benefits.

Refugees are moving to areas where they maintain family ties, social relations, and where the Ukrainian diaspora is based in the wider region. They are also moving to areas where job markets and other opportunities are open to them, including for education.

The immediate wave of solidarity in these countries, including from state administrative bodies, humanitarian organizations, NGOs and civil society, including volunteers, towards refugees from Ukraine has been extensive. New refugee arrivals are supported with food and core relief items, including hygiene items. To cover basic needs, they have access to health and WASH services, and they are offered accommodation.

However, as population movements continue, the ability to absorb and integrate the sizeable Ukrainian refugee population will be strained. The situation requires specialized technical support, adequate resources and collaboration so that protection and assistance can be delivered efficiently to these refugees and others in need. Under UNHCR's leadership, humanitarian partners in other countries in the region are ready to support governments, in cooperation with a wide range of local actors and civil society, to better respond to the current crisis.

The present chapter includes inter-agency response and financial requirements foreseen in the rest of the region, including in Belarus, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic.

Needs Overview

Currently, needs analysis in other countries receiving refugees from Ukraine is based on information and data gathered and exchanged among humanitarian partners, in cooperation with the concerned authorities as well as on existing reports and needs assessments. In some countries, more in-depth joint needs assessments in relevant sectors, including with persons of concern, are being prioritized to inform the planning process and implementation of the coordinated response.

Partners are supporting government-led efforts, including with large tents for reception and temporary accommodation mainly at border areas, food parcels, bottled water, and core relief items (CRIs) to assist refugees upon arrival. Depending on how refugee arrival figures evolve, more assistance, including specialized technical support to augment national capacities and scale up the response, undertake assessments and roll out sequenced, operational plans with the Government and partners, may be needed. While many refugees from Ukraine will be able to self-accommodate with relatives and are expected to receive support from host communities, others will need help with adequate temporary and permanent accommodation. Some new arrivals expressed a need for clothing as they travelled in a haste.

Sector Needs and Planned Response

Protection

The response will prioritize advocacy and support to governments to ensure safe access to territory for people seeking asylum. Reception capacity in countries of asylum will be increased and investments will be made so that refugees can access quality services and basic assistance along with livelihood opportunities. Under the TPD, those fleeing Ukraine will be granted temporary protection in the EU, meaning that they will be given a residence permit, and they will have access to education and to the labour market.

Partners will focus on key protection concerns including the identification and referral of persons at heightened risk, including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), older persons, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, ethnic minorities and LGBTIQ+ persons. Special attention will be placed on UASC including building national authorities' capacity to identify children at risk. Support will also be given to national systems to identify victims and potential victims of trafficking and survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) at entry points. Trainings will be organized for service providers, especially in accommodation facilities, to identify, support and refer survivors of GBV

to existing services. Local service providers will be strengthened to respond to the specific needs of the refugee population and mitigate risks across sectors. Persons identified with vulnerabilities will be provided with in-kind assistance upon arrival to cover immediate needs, particularly accommodation and CRIs.

Access to information is another identified need, in particular ensuring that refugees and others fleeing Ukraine such as TCNs, have access to verified information pertaining to accommodation, services and the legal avenues available to them. Partners will work to ensure that those arriving from Ukraine have access to information through preferred channels and feedback mechanisms.

Support will also include assisted voluntary return of TCNs not in need of international protection. Providing information will be crucial, along with a coordination mechanism that facilitates communication between TCNs, relevant consulates and IOM, as well as ensuring appropriate referral mechanisms with NGOs, governments and partners so that stranded persons can access support. Partners will ensure that TCNs are able to travel in a safe and orderly manner to their home countries by providing tickets and transportation support, including upon departure, transit and at reception. Partners will also ensure that necessary pre-embarkation health checks, referrals, required PCR tests and COVID-19 and safety measures are conducted.

Basic Needs

Food Security, Core Relief Items, Shelter-Accommodation and Protection-Sensitive Site Support, WASH

Refugees will be provided with information on access to safe and dignified accommodation, while partners will work with authorities to ensure suitable reception standards for those requiring emergency accommodation. Where possible, psychosocial support and health screenings, including counselling and childcare services, will be provided on site. Transportation assistance may be needed for refugees to access temporary and permanent accommodation sites. Provision of hot meals, and CRIs and hygiene kits will be needed at temporary accommodation and registration facilities.

Regular and thorough vetting/monitoring is required for individuals/companies/centres offering accommodation and to host refugees from Ukraine. Identification of social workers that can be matched to families who can provide support or emergency assistance as well as check on their welfare to monitor and reduce exposure to protection risks including GBV is vital. Training will be provided to these social workers on GBV, including how to safely handle a disclosure and make referrals.

While emergency needs will be met mostly through donations and financial assistance, eventual gaps will need to be filled with the procurement of core relief items (CRIs). Increased advocacy to support social welfare systems to fulfil some of the needs, as well as link persons with access to livelihood opportunities will also need to be prioritized.

Health & Nutrition

Partners will work with governments to support planning and operationalization of health service delivery and to strengthen public health systems, including through community-based service delivery mechanisms. Along these lines, periodic assessments will be critical to identify and monitor emerging health needs. Early warning systems and active surveillance mechanisms with community, civil society organizations and volunteers will be strengthened.

Technical support for needs assessments on refugee health service priorities is needed. Refugees should have access to health information through appropriate communication channels and communication means including health booklets or related documents. Procurement of emergency kits, medications, diagnostics, supplemental vaccinations, medical materials and equipment, and immunizations have already been identified as important needs in the response. Special emphasis will be placed on identifying and linking patients in need of continuous medications (e.g. HIV, tuberculosis or chronic diseases) to national services to ensure continuum of care.

Education

In support of government-led efforts, activities will focus on assessing education sector needs (including mapping of immediate and longer-term needs); strengthening inclusion of refugees into national systems and policies; and expanding coverage and quality of education at all levels. Emphasis will also be placed on transitional activities such as language support and identification of existing capacities in the refugee population. Efforts will be coordinated between UNICEF and UNHCR to ensure complementarity. Wherever possible, an inclusive approach will be used to reflect the needs and capacities of refugee children and youth.

Livelihoods & Inclusion

To facilitate early inclusion of refugees in the host countries' economic landscape and enable them to protect their assets, adapt to local market needs and contribute to local economies through wage and self-employment, a thorough understanding of their socioeconomic profiles, market opportunities and key stakeholders is vital. This will allow for development of targeted responses through a whole-of-society approach that builds on existing systems, services and programmes, and will bring together the public and the private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and refugees themselves.

While the primary focus is on the emergency response for refugees to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, an inclusion lens remains vital to facilitating access to services, identifying barriers and gaps, coordinating support and advocating for rapid inclusion in the labour market through financial services and in particular middle- to high-skilled jobs. Looking toward longer-term inclusion and solutions, support will also be provided to strengthen the identification of existing education, skills and capacities of the refugee population to channel them into appropriate labour markets and education opportunities.

Offering language and learning courses as well as an integrative approach between host communities and refugees will be critical for achieving long-term solutions. These investments in training and guidance will also aim to strengthen the human capacity and enable sustainable voluntary return and reintegration.

Partnership & Coordination

Governments in the region are leading the response to the Ukraine refugee situation. Country level Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, have been set up in Belarus, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic to support their efforts and to ensure effective inter-agency cooperation and coordination to address emergency needs and provide solutions for refugees and impacted host communities. While response interventions may vary from one country to another, depending on the context, capacities and existing government response mechanisms, partners will apply the same operational and quality standards that will ensure access to asylum and rights, to the delivery of urgent humanitarian assistance and to exploring socioeconomic solutions.

Financial Requirements (USD)

Budget by partner and sector

Organization	Protection (incl. GBV & Child Protection)*	Food security	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Resilience	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Education	Basic Needs (Accommodation / Shelter, CRIs, Transportation, Cash assistance)	Energy & Environment	WASH	Total
UN-IOM	3,330,000	800,000	2,280,000	2,658,000	1,275,000	50,000	24,200,000	360,000	615,000	35,568,000
UN-UNDP				2,049,750				225,000		2,274,750
UN-UNFPA	400,000		195,000						65,000	660,000
UN-UNHCR	104,176,429						58,823,571			163,000,000
UN-UNICEF	32,246,065		4,914,696	365,000	617,200	12,626,319			1,170,261	51,939,541
UN-WHO			4,049,000							4,049,000
UN-WOMEN							1,034,592			1,034,592
Total (USD)	140,152,494	800,000	11,438,696	5,072,750	1,892,200	12,676,319	84,058,163	585,000	1,850,261	258,525,883

Protection breakdown by partner and area of response

Organization	Protection	GBV	Child Protection	Total Protection
UN-IOM	1,690,000	755,000	885,000	3,330,000
UN-UNFPA		400,000	#	400,000
UN-UNHCR	99,707,143	492,500	3,976,786	104,176,429
UN-UNICEF	10,963,156	4,758,348	16,524,561	32,246,065
Total (USD)	112,360,299	6,405,848	21,386,347	140,152,494

Total Cash Assistance requirements breakdown by sector

Total Cash Assistance requirements USD 16,522,542		This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance, which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of persons of concern, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.
Basic Needs	Protection	
\$ 7,676,786	\$ 8,845,756	



ANNEX



Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

March-December 2022

This plan has been designed in a manner that allows it to evolve with the rapidly changing circumstances on the ground. Monitoring of the protection situation and response interventions remains a key component to ensure that protection outcomes are achieved for persons and where necessary corrective action is taken. A set of indicators across all countries and agreed with partners will help to ensure the tracking of progress toward the strategic objectives in a consistent manner. To monitor context-specific aspects, additional indicators may be used at country level to measure specific outputs and outcomes. Data on indicators will be summarized in country and regional dashboards on a regular basis to support continuous analysis of progress.

The sector working groups will also outline a monitoring framework, which will among other things delineate what information is needed to gauge deliverables, outcomes and overall impact of the response plan. Importantly, the framework will be designed to ensure that persons at risk and specific groups, such as women and persons with disabilities, are not being put at greater risk by the implementation of this response plan. It will also establish coordinated and common reporting tools, determine methods of obtaining indicators, assign responsibility for information gathering, determine timeframe and frequency of data collection and importantly establish clear mechanisms for knowledge and information-sharing. In order to maintain accountability to affected populations, feedback mechanisms will be established, allowing affected/target populations and RRP partners to regularly communicate. This is aimed at ensuring that the needs and concerns of affected people guide and adjust the response priorities based on feedback.

Sector		Indicator	Target
	Protection	# of individuals supported in accessing protection and documentation	1,840,000
	Child Protection	# of children provided with child protection services	667,255
	Child Protection	# of participants trained on child protection and children's rights	3,800
	GBV	# of persons that received information on available protection services related to GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse and trafficking	957,450
	GBV	# of trained participants who increased their GBV knowledge on prevention, response and risk mitigation measures	10,350
	Basic Needs	# of persons who received in-kind assistance for basic needs	883,879
	Cash	# of persons who received cash assistance	1,234,360
	Education	# of children benefitting from national education system	890,100
	Food security	# of persons who received food assistance	214,140
	Health	# of consultations provided for mental health and psychosocial support	828,500
	Health	Proportion of people who needed health care that received care	95 %



Regional Refugee Response Plan
For the Ukraine Situation

OPERATIONAL DATA PORTAL
UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION

UNHCR Operational Data Portal



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