Update: 01-30 April 2022

OVERVIEW

The UNHCR-led Refugee Emergency Telecommunications Sector (RETS) is the coordinating body for IT and communications assessment and service delivery in refugee emergencies. RETS 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.

In Romania, with the number of humanitarian partners providing services to persons of concern increasing, RETS is prioritizing the establishment of internet connectivity in reception centers and other key operational sites, and delivering internet connectivity in Blue Dot hubs across the country. Partners and other sectors are fully engaged in the assessment, planning and implementation of the RETS response, and play an active role in identifying sites where connectivity services are a core requirement for operational enhancement.
Update On Achievements
RETS Activities & Services

COORDINATION
Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR is collaborating closely with Cisco Crisis Response who is providing remote support and configuring emergency deployment kits out of their office in Romania.

CONNECTIVITY
Achievements and Impact

- RETS Wi-Fi networks have been established in two common operational sites:
  - Blue Dot, Siret
  - Blue Dot, Isaccea

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- RETS will be deploying internet connectivity services in three Blue Dot sites over the coming weeks:
  - Blue Dot, Sighet
  - Enrolment Center, Brasov CATTIA.
  - Enrolment center, Romania Expo.

SECURITY COMMUNICATIONS

- As agreed by UNDSS and all UN Agencies, the local network infrastructure is highly stable and reliable, and there are therefore no immediate requirements for a dedicated UN telecommunications system in Romania.
Achievements and Impact

- So far Cisco Crisis Response has provided 7 Deployment Kits for Romania.
- FUJITSU has made an in-kind donation of 92 laptops and Sony NL donated 50 phones for UNHCR partners in Romania
Funding

RETS is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

CONTACTS
RETS Europe
rets.europe@unhcr.org

Willy Aimable RUKUNDO, IT Emergency Coordinator, Romania.
rukundo@unhcr.org, Tel: +40 790 354 545, WhatsApp +243 830 546 070

Ernest Enock MATHIAS, ERT IT Associate, Romania.
mathias@unhcr.org, Tel: +40 790 354 543, WhatsApp +40 790 354 543

Akinalp ORHAN, Information Management Officer.
orhan@unhcr.org

LINKS
UNHCR's Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Situation
https://help.unhcr.org/romania/