20 May 2022

KEY FIGURES

- 138 trucks delivered an average of 15,000kg of emergency supplies per truck from Poland to Ukraine to support over 300,000 internally displaced people in Ukraine.
- 20 warehouses set up by UNHCR to respond to the Ukraine emergency, including 2 warehouses in Poland.
- 7 UNHCR global stockpiles in Accra, Amman, Copenhagen, Douala, Dubai, Nairobi and Panama.
- 8 UNHCR supply experts deployed to Poland.

How does UNHCR deliver emergency supplies?

UNHCR's Budapest-based Supply Management Service has been responding to the emergency in Ukraine and in other neighbouring countries through a regional network of 20 warehouses – including two UNHCR warehouses in Poland, located in Grabica and Rzeszow – and UNHCR supply staff, together with a sound network of global stockpiles and suppliers. UNHCR has so far deployed 8 supply staff to Poland, including experts in procurement and logistics, and a Senior Supply Coordinator is currently on mission to coordinate UNHCR Supply Emergency Response for the whole crisis.

Thanks to the generous support of donors, replenishments for the global stockpiles continue to ensure that UNHCR can support the Government of Poland in its response and preparedness needs for the Ukraine refugee situation, as well as other emergencies around the globe.

UNHCR has successfully established a new trucking route from Pakistan to the regional network of warehouses, including Poland. This provides an additional solution to deliver life-saving items directly from the suppliers to the different countries, as well as to ease the pressure stemming from costly airlifts and slower sea freight.

“Some people say that supply is the backbone of UNHCR. We start even before the emergency. It’s part of our protection mandate, because when you give [refugees] blankets, you give them protection.”

Silva Alkebbeh, Chief of Supply Logistics with UNHCR’s Division of Emergency Security & Supply

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UNHCR’s emergency supplies for displaced people in Ukraine

Poland is a transit point to Ukraine and from the onset of the emergency, UNHCR has been delivering emergency supplies (both UNHCR and donated by governments and private sector companies) by road shipment from its logistical hub in Rzeszow through a humanitarian corridor into Ukraine. A total of 138 trucks with an average of 15,000kg of items each have been dispatched as of 20 May 2022, carrying most-needed high thermal blankets, kitchen sets, solar lamps, winter jackets, sleeping bags, mattresses, towels, clothes and other life-saving items to warehouses in Dnipro, Lviv and Uzhhorod in western and central Ukraine, for distribution to the increasing number of internally displaced people.

Support to reception centres in Poland

UNHCR is supporting the government and local authorities in Poland with emergency supplies to strengthen reception capacity. Since reception centres are an initial short-term solution for new arrivals, UNHCR’s support will reach successive groups of refugees as they pass through.