



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #68

16 April 2024

Kharkiv, Ukraine – Since January 2024, a [pilot project](#) of UNHCR and NGO partner Angels of Salvation, called “Workshop on Wheels”, has supported internally displaced people (IDPs) in war-affected areas of Kharkiv region. Five mobile teams assist families who have received construction materials to repair their war-damaged homes but who do not have the tools or skills to complete the repairs. © Angels of Salvation/Oleksii Hutnyk



PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

5,982,900*

refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 14 Mar 2024)

503,100

refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 27 Feb 2024)

6,486,000

refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 14 Mar 2024)

3,689,000**

Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (as of 15 Dec 2023) (Source: [IOM](#))

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)



Analysis of the impact of refugees from Ukraine on the economy of Poland (March 2024)

To learn more about this UNHCR-commissioned study by Deloitte, [see here](#).

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- As attacks by Russian Federation forces intensified across Ukraine, UNHCR and local NGO partners have continued to quickly respond by delivering emergency shelter kits to almost 32,000 people across the country between January - March 2024 to help people whose homes suffered damage during recent strikes, notably:
 - Over 210 people received emergency shelter kits from UNHCR and partners in [Dnipropetrovska region](#) on 12 March.
 - On 21 March in [Kyivska region](#), UNHCR and partners promptly provided legal consultations and psychosocial support to families, as well as enrolled 293 people for emergency cash assistance.
 - In [Odeska region](#), over 100 families received legal assistance on 15 March focused primarily on housing restoration and compensation for damaged property – while psychologists were also on-site to provide counselling.
 - In [Sumska region](#), 988 people were supported with emergency shelter assistance as well as 200 people with core-relief items, psychological and legal support.

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* Europe corresponds to all Europe sub-regions as identified by [Eurovoc \(European Union, Thesaurus Eurovoc, Volume 2, Subject-oriented version, Publications Office, 2005\)](#), therefore including EU and non-EU countries belonging to Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe, and Western Europe, plus Türkiye.

** There has been a significant reduction in the IDP figure in Ukraine based on the latest [IOM Internal Displacement Report](#), Internal Displacement Report, from 5.1 million in mid-2023 to 3.68 million by end-2023. It is important to note that this is not due to a significant return of IDPs, but rather primarily to a change in the methodology used in calculating the number of IDPs. The new baseline population figure used to extrapolate IDP estimates now takes into account the absence of some 6.2 million refugees from Ukraine who are no longer in the country. Baseline data is consolidated by UNFPA.

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Cash assistance:** As of end-March 2024, UNHCR distributed a total of USD 29.3 million in multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to **95,181** war-affected people and IDPs, returnees, and people with specific vulnerabilities to help cover the costs of basic items like food, medicines, clothes, accommodation and utilities. UNHCR recently disbursed the first round of financial support to more than **74,000** families currently hosting some 190,000 IDPs as part of the Prykhystok programme, managed by the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine. The programme was initially launched in March 2022 to provide housing solutions for IDPs. In agreement with the Ministry of Reintegration, UNHCR is expanding its support to the Prykhystok programme with a total of USD 15 million in 2024.
- Child protection:** On 13 March, UNHCR and local partner Rokada opened a new child-friendly integration space in the premises of a social services centre in Skvyra city, Kyivska region. In Zakarpatska region, UNHCR and Neemia also [opened](#) a new child daycare centre in Uzhhorod. In March, UNHCR and Neemia also opened three new community centres in rural areas of Zakarpatska region (i.e. [Stavne](#), [Poroshkove](#) and [Nyzhni Vorota](#)). These centres provide safe spaces for IDPs, returnees, as well as host community members to gather or visit, and will be used by state social service providers to share information, raise awareness, and foster opportunities for livelihood and skills development.
- Inter-agency convoys:** So far in 2024, UNHCR participated in eight out of 16 interagency convoys, delivering critical humanitarian assistance to people in communities near frontlines. In the last two interagency convoys on 19 March and [5 April](#), UNHCR delivered tarpaulins and plastic sheeting to Kharkivska region to help people quickly repair damage to their homes after shelling.
- Core-relief items:** UNHCR partner Rokada distributed 784 core-relief items to equip five bomb shelters in **Kyivska region**; a shelter for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV); a newly opened collective centre in **Zhytomyrska region**; as well as to support new IDPs who arrived to **Grebinky community** of Kyivska region. In **Dnipro city**, UNHCR's partner Proliska also equipped 32 bomb shelters which have a capacity for some 3,000 people with core-relief items, making the spaces more comfortable to stay while seeking shelter during air raids.

UNHCR RESPONSE & TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2024* (AS OF 11 APRIL 2024)

 455,966 people reached with assistance in 2024, out of a target of 2.7 million people are targeted for different forms of assistance in 2024**	 188,254 people reached with protection information and services***, out of a target of 1.2 million people	 109,094 people supported with essential items, out of a target of 350,000 people	 95,181 people are targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance 600,000 people	 37,132 people received emergency shelter and housing support, out of a target of 467,500 people	 26,305 people reached with safe access to multi-sectoral services in collective sites, out of a target of 130,000 people
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* Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance.

** The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.

***Also includes calls to hotlines.

Internally displaced volunteers help others at Odesa humanitarian hub



Odesa, Ukraine - Following an increase in hostilities, Ludmila, 62, and her family fled from Bakhmut, Donetsk, to Odesa in April 2022. Her daughter Anastasiia, 37, is a person with disabilities, and due to her health situation, the family had no choice but to leave Bakhmut.

After visiting the Hostynna Khata humanitarian hub in Odesa to receive support, Anastasiia and her mother both started volunteering. The hub supports more than 500 internally displaced Ukrainians with food, hygiene items, medicines, and psychosocial support.

Ludmila and her family continue to receive cash assistance from UNHCR to help meet their basic needs.

© UNHCR / Denys Kovalskyi

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES

2024 REGIONAL TARGETS*



* Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance.
 ** The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.
 *** Also includes calls to hotlines.

REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE ACROSS EUROPE (AS OF 14 APRIL 2024)



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

*Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]) Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe

More information available on the UNHCR [Ukraine operational data portal](#) page.

PROTECTION

2024 TARGET



515,000

refugees from Ukraine supported with protection information and services through UNHCR and partners.

- **Bulgaria:** UNHCR met the National Network for Children (NNC) on 5 April to explore avenues for mutual cooperation. NNC brings together 130 Bulgarian NGOs working on child protection, legal representation, child safeguarding, guardianship and education. UNHCR will collaborate with NNC in developing the agenda for child protection sessions of the Protection and Inclusion Working Group. A strategic collaboration meeting will also be organized in May.
- **Hungary:** On 20 March, UNHCR facilitated a webinar on protection from sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA) for approximately 150 staff members and associated personnel of the Order of Malta in Hungary. On 23 March, UNHCR also facilitated an in-person training on PSEA for 20 staff and partners of the Carpathian Foundation.
- **Lithuania:** On 2 April, 31 participants from state institutions and NGOs took part in a training organized by UNHCR in Vilnius on integration policies in Lithuania. Participants analysed roles and responsibilities of various local integration practitioners, focused on potential vulnerabilities and protection risks for refugees such as gender-based violence (GBV) and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and discussed the importance of participatory techniques working with and for refugees.
- **Poland:** UNHCR, IOM and INTERPOL held a Training of Trainers workshops for 30 Polish security officials across two days in March, focusing on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), specifically for the Police, the Border Guard, and the Office for Foreigners. Additionally, the Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM) in collaboration with UNHCR delivered an inclusion training on 21 - 22 March in Lublin (eastern Poland) titled “Supporting Displaced LGBTIQ+ People in Humanitarian Settings”, which was attended by 20 participants representing multiple LGBTIQ+ and humanitarian organizations, alongside UN staff and representatives of local social services.
- **Republic of Moldova:** On 25 March, as co-chair of the GBV Sub-Working Group, UNHCR facilitated a session for 25 focal PSEA focal points on how to safely handle GBV disclosures, and how to use the GBV Pocket Guide. On 22 March, UNHCR also officially inaugurated a Community Service Center in Ungheni (western Moldova), which offers various essential services ranging from child protection activities and MHPSS, to community development initiatives, GBV prevention activities, cash assistance, vocational trainings, capacity-building workshops and community events, among others.
- **Romania:** In April, UNHCR’s partner Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) conducted over 40 counselling sessions with refugees, addressing topics such as education, access to family doctors, and temporary protection. So far in 2024, CNRR has supported 2,830 refugees from Ukraine with various protection services. Meanwhile, during the reporting period, 70 representatives from various public institutions in Sibiu (central Romania) were trained by UNHCR on best-interest determination procedures and specific protection considerations for unaccompanied and separated children.
- **Russian Federation:** In March 2024, 1,196 refugees from Ukraine were counselled in-person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while 2,596 were counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. Most requests were for assistance, as well as social benefits, allowances, pensions, and acquiring citizenship. Additionally, a total of 3,160 refugees were counselled via the hotline by UNHCR and partners in February.
- **Slovakia:** On 21 March, UNHCR in cooperation with the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava organized a lecture for 11 law students on UNHCR’s mandate and principles of refugee protection. UNHCR and the representatives of the Faculty of Law agreed to further cooperate in planned educational support to Slovak students focusing on refugee law.

BASIC NEEDS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

2024 TARGET



190,000

people are targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance by UNHCR and partners.

- **Bulgaria:** So far in 2024, UNHCR and partners assisted over 1,165 refugees with mental health and psychosocial support.
- **Czech Republic:** In the context of its joint assessment with IOM for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MLSA), UNHCR conducted nine focus group discussions in collective accommodation facilities between 11 - 25 March, involving 114 refugees from Ukraine. The purpose of the discussions was to assess the situation in collective accommodation facilities, and to identify barriers to the relocation of residents to standard housing. This comes in the wake of planned legislative changes which will reduce the period of cost-free accommodation to all new arrivals—including vulnerable refugees—to 90 days (down from 150), effective 1 September 2024.

- **Georgia:** To ensure coordinated cash assistance, UNHCR organized a meeting on 2 April with World Vision, ASB, People in Need, CARE, Save the Children and Red Cross Georgia, where participants discussed post-distribution monitoring and eligibility criteria to target the most vulnerable individuals and households.
- **Hungary:** UNHCR is extending its cash assistance for refugees from Ukraine with serious disabilities by adding an additional three months to the phase-out period, with a lower monthly payment of USD 97, in line with the disability support provided in the national disability support system. As such, all beneficiaries will receive USD 320 over six months provided by UNHCR at the higher amount, and three months of reduced support. In parallel, UNHCR is continuing advocacy to have TP holders with serious disabilities included in the national support system.
- **Romania:** On 1 April, UNHCR launched a new cash assistance programme for refugees from Ukraine with specific needs across Romania, using the vulnerability scorecard adopted by 21 partners of the Inter-Agency coordination platform. So far in 2024, nearly 3,700 refugees have been enrolled for UNHCR's cash assistance programmes through five enrolment centres, as well as mobile enrolment teams. From 20 March - 8 April, UNHCR also distributed 651 core relief items (CRIs), including clothes, blankets, hygiene kits, and cooking utensils to 883 refugees from Ukraine. So far in 2024, UNHCR has provided over 24,500 CRIs to over 12,000 refugees from Ukraine in Romania.
- **Russian Federation:** So far in 2024, UNHCR partners assisted over 11,176 refugees with mental health and psychosocial support.
- **Slovakia:** On 19 March, UNHCR delivered the first of its new information sessions for refugees with partner Sme Spolu in Bratislava. Fourteen refugees from Ukraine took part, with the aim of providing information about UNHCR's communication channels and resources available for refugees on UNHCR's Help site, including available [support services](#). Participants engaged in a focus group discussion, which touched on access to accommodation, employment, healthcare, and education. These information sessions represent UNHCR's latest two-way communication with communities (CwC) channels and are scheduled to be held monthly, tailored to the information needs of both newly arriving refugees and how community members.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND LOCALIZATION

2024 TARGET



267,000

people are targeted for socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods support by UNHCR and partners

- **Bulgaria:** UNHCR partner Caritas held a job fair in Sofia on 27 March, where some 50 refugees, asylum-seekers and temporary protection holders met with local employers. Around 15 private companies from different sectors (restaurants, hotels, construction and others) participated. As of April, UNHCR's 'Refugee Employment Platform' has registered 18 employers and 350 refugee job seekers.
- **Lithuania:** On 12 March, UNHCR conducted a monitoring mission in Anykščiai district, meeting with authorities and NGOs, and visiting a collective accommodation site where 111 refugees from Ukraine are hosted. Discussions highlighted the need to continue assisting refugees with labour market integration, entrepreneurship, and MPHSS.
- **Poland:** On 26 March, UNHCR participated in Job Fairs in Poznan and Rzeszow. In total, 331 job seekers (124 men and 207 women) were counselled; among them, refugees and other displaced people comprised around 20%. Job fairs allow UNHCR to support refugees with accessing employment, while connecting them with potential employers, promoting self-reliance and integration, as well as establishing partnerships with local companies and businesses.
- **Republic of Moldova:** On 22 March, UNHCR signed a memorandum with Ungheni city (western Moldova) to strengthen coordination between local actors, and improve socio-economic and cultural inclusion of refugees and host communities. The signed memorandum was framed under the 'Cities of Solidarity' initiative, upon discussion with the Mayor of Ungheni, the Vice Mayor, and the Secretary of the Social Services Department. UNHCR is introducing the Cities of Solidarity Initiative as the framework for its localization strategy in Moldova in 2024.
- **Romania:** On 8 April, UNHCR published a call for proposals for non-profit grass-root organizations led by displaced and stateless people in Romania. The grants aim at supporting activities such as volunteering, advocacy, protection and assistance services at community level.
- **Russian Federation:** On 18 - 20 March, UNHCR visited Vladimir city (east of Moscow), where meetings with refugees from Ukraine living in and out of Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) were organized by UNHCR's partner. Most of the refugees were from Donetsk and Kharkiv regions of Ukraine, who expressed satisfaction with the services, with all working-age refugees having found employment. Meetings were also conducted with Ukrainian refugees living outside of TAPs; most reported being employed. Main concerns continue to be access to pensions, as well as registration at their place of stay. Psychosocial support is provided to refugees with the financial assistance from UNHCR.
- **Slovakia:** As part of the Job Counselling Services, UNHCR partner Mareena conducted 144 individual consultations with refugees from Ukraine, including for 75 new beneficiaries in Bratislava and 27 in Košice.

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI). The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates 18 UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 157,000 people in collective sites in 2024. The Protection Cluster consists of 166 partners, including sub-clusters, and operates three coordination hubs to reach an anticipated three million people in 2024. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 98 active partners across three coordination hubs, targeting 3.9 million people in 2024 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

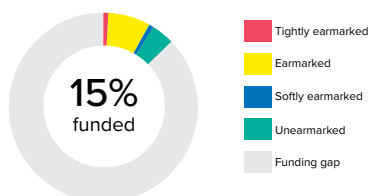
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Through the [2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#), 313 partners in Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia work towards ensuring refugees have effective access to legal status, protection and rights in their host countries and that refugees with specific needs and vulnerabilities have access to targeted support and assistance. The plan also aims at strengthening refugees' socio-economic inclusion in their host communities and increasing their self-reliance, while at the same time reinforcing social cohesion between refugees and their hosts. In support of the government-led responses across the region, UNHCR leads and coordinates the implementation of the inter-agency RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, collaborating and consulting with authorities, aid agencies, civil society, and with affected populations. To learn more about the 2023 RRP response, please [see here](#).

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR UKRAINE SITUATION FINANCIAL UPDATE 2024

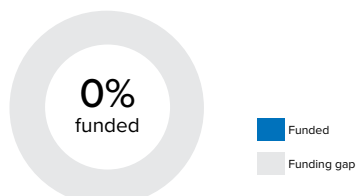
US\$ 993.3 million
required



As of 31 Mar 2024

INTER-AGENCY FINANCIAL UPDATES

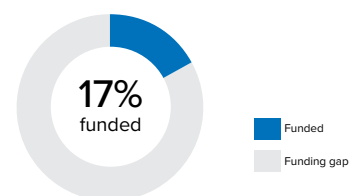
US\$ 1.08 billion
required*



*The first financial data will be available in April 2024.

[Ukraine situation: 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan](#)

US\$ 3.11 billion
required as of 15 April



[Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024](#)

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