UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #49

26 June 2023

Ukraine - UNHCR assists people whose apartments were recently damaged during ongoing hostilities, June 2023 © UNHCR/Victoria Andrievska

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation

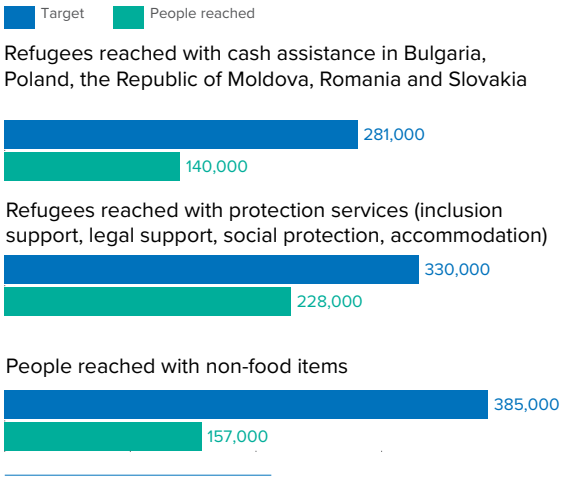
5,958,800*
Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (19 June)

344,700
Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (19 June)

6,303,500
Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (19 June)

5,088,000
Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (23 May) Internal Displacement Report

UNHCR REFUGEE RESPONSE 2023



KAKHOVKA DAM BREACH RESPONSE

- Three weeks since the destruction of Kakhovka Dam, Ukrainian authorities reported that water levels continue decreasing, with an estimated 200 houses remaining flooded in Khersonska oblast controlled by Ukraine as of 21 June, according to the Government of Ukraine. The number of people displaced has also increased to nearly 4,000 people in Khersonska and Mykolaivska oblasts. OCHA warned the destruction of the dam is affecting tens of thousands of people who had already lost access to piped water in the south of Ukraine. The reservoir — one of the largest in Europe and a source of drinking water for at least 700,000 people — has reportedly lost 70 per cent of its capacity, according to Ukrainian authorities. Large urban areas in Dnipropetrovska oblast are completely cut off from centralized water, while others have extremely limited access.
- From 9 - 17 June, UNHCR participated in 12 interagency convoys responding to Kakhovka dam, covering affected settlements in Dnipropetrovska and Khersonska oblasts, delivering over 31,000 items such as jerry cans, solar lamps, sleeping bags, matrasses, and tarpaulin. UNHCR is prepositioning 140,000 non-food items (NFIs) across the country to enhance its readiness to quickly respond to urgent and increased humanitarian needs. Additionally, over 7,300 people impacted by the dam have registered for UNHCR cash assistance, based on blanket targeting for all individuals impacted by the flood.
- You can find out more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region on the dedicated UNHCR Ukraine Emergency website.

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*As of 19 June, UNHCR's operational data portal is reflecting a lower figure of **5,958,800** refugees from Ukraine Recorded Across Europe,' down from **8,255,288**. The reason for this drop is due to a comprehensive review of the statistics, resulting in adjustments from the refugee flow figure to the refugee stock figure methodology. Additionally, EU countries began reporting the number of active beneficiaries of temporary protection, deducting cancelled or inactive applications, which affected the updated figures per country. Moreover, it was observed that many refugees from Ukraine had moved beyond Europe since February 2022. To account for this, a new category "refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe" was included in the data portal (**344,700** persons).

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Increased airstrikes and other attacks resulted in multiple deaths and injuries. On 13 June, an airstrike hit a residential building and other civilian infrastructure in Dnipropetrovska oblast, killing 11 civilians and injuring multiple others. In Odesa, an overnight strike on 14 June hit a residential building, a university, and shops, resulting in three deaths. Closer to the frontline, attacks damaged dozens of homes in Donetsk region, and gas and electricity systems on both sides of the front lines.
- On 19 June, the UN in Ukraine released its Human Impact Assessment (HIA), providing comprehensive insights into the effects of Russia's full-scale invasion on living conditions, health, access to education, livelihoods, food security, social inclusion, and gender equality. UN agencies, including UNHCR, contributed to the UNDP-led impact assessment.

UNHCR RESPONSE AND TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2023 AS OF 15 JUNE

1.41 million people reached with assistance in 2023, out of a target of **3.6 million** people, some of whom will receive several forms of support.

601,337 people reached with protection services, out of a target of **1.9 million** people.

501,809 people supported with essential items, out of a target of **1 million** people.

263,344 people supported with cash assistance, out of a target of **800,000** people.

108,290 people received shelter/housing support, out of a target of **720,000** people.

75,474 people supported with safe access to multi-sectoral services in collective sites, out of a target of **150,000** people.

UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Border Monitoring:** From 31 May - 19 June, UNHCR partners conducted 185 monitoring visits to the border crossing points with Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia. During the monitoring visits, 810 people were provided with protection counselling, 128 with legal assistance, and 14 were assisted with social accompaniment.
- **Capacity Building:** On 6 June, UNHCR FO Lviv joined the Interagency Meeting on Current Issues of Documenting Stateless Persons and Persons at Risk of Statelessness during the ongoing martial law in Ukraine, organized by implementing partner NEEKA, to build capacity of relevant actors. The meeting involved discussions by representatives of the State Migration Service, Free Legal Aid Centers, Ombudsperson's Office, and Civil Registry Offices in Lvivska oblast.
- **Child Protection:** On 14 June, Dolyna's child protection department launched a child-friendly space supported by UNHCR partner Rokada in Ivano-Frankivska oblast. Many IDP children in Dolyna and nearby communities lack integration opportunities due to online learning modality. The Child Friendly Space (CFS) equipped by Rokada will provide social cohesion activities and child protection services such as case management, awareness sessions, and training for CFS facilitators.
- **World Refugee Day:** UNHCR Ukraine marked the day with an event focused on initiatives promoting access to housing, employment and social programmes for forcibly displaced people. The event brought together over 80 local and international partners and entities, and included a key note address by Ukraine's Vice Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk.

Housing/NFIs:

- **Humanitarian convoys**: Along the frontline, UNHCR contributed to an inter-agency convoy to Avdiivka city in Donetska oblast on 14 June, bringing food, hygiene supplies, shelter materials, and other basic items for the remaining 1,700 residents.
- **Immediate emergency response:** UNHCR and partner Proliska provided emergency shelter kits, NFIs and psychosocial support to those affected by the missile attack in Dnipropetrovska oblast on 13 June, which damaged at least six apartment buildings in Kryvyi Rih city. Partner R2P responded with legal advice on damaged property and lost documents.
- **NFI assistance:** During the reporting period, partner R2P provided essential items supported to 300 internally displaced people (IDPs) within Chernihivska oblast to safer areas in the region. In joint collaboration with local authorities, UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs), such as sleeping bags, pillows, blankets and hygiene items to two bomb shelters and a local hospital in Korop town, benefitting up to 600 people.
- Find more information in the regular Ukraine country operational updates and on the UNHCR Ukraine portal page.

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

Blue Dots

35 Blue Dots Hubs are operational in:

Bulgaria	5	Moldova	10	Slovakia	4
Hungary	3	Poland	5	Slovenia	1
		Romania	7		

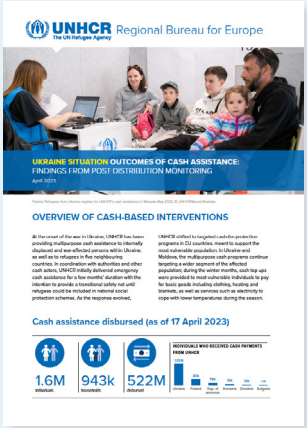
115,000

Refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia so far in 2023.

The Digital Blue Dot is a regional website that provides localized and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. The website provides a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs with information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

Ukraine Situation Outcomes of Cash Assistance: Findings from Post-Distribution Monitoring

For recent 2022 findings of post-distribution monitoring of UNHCR cash assistance in Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, please see here.


UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe

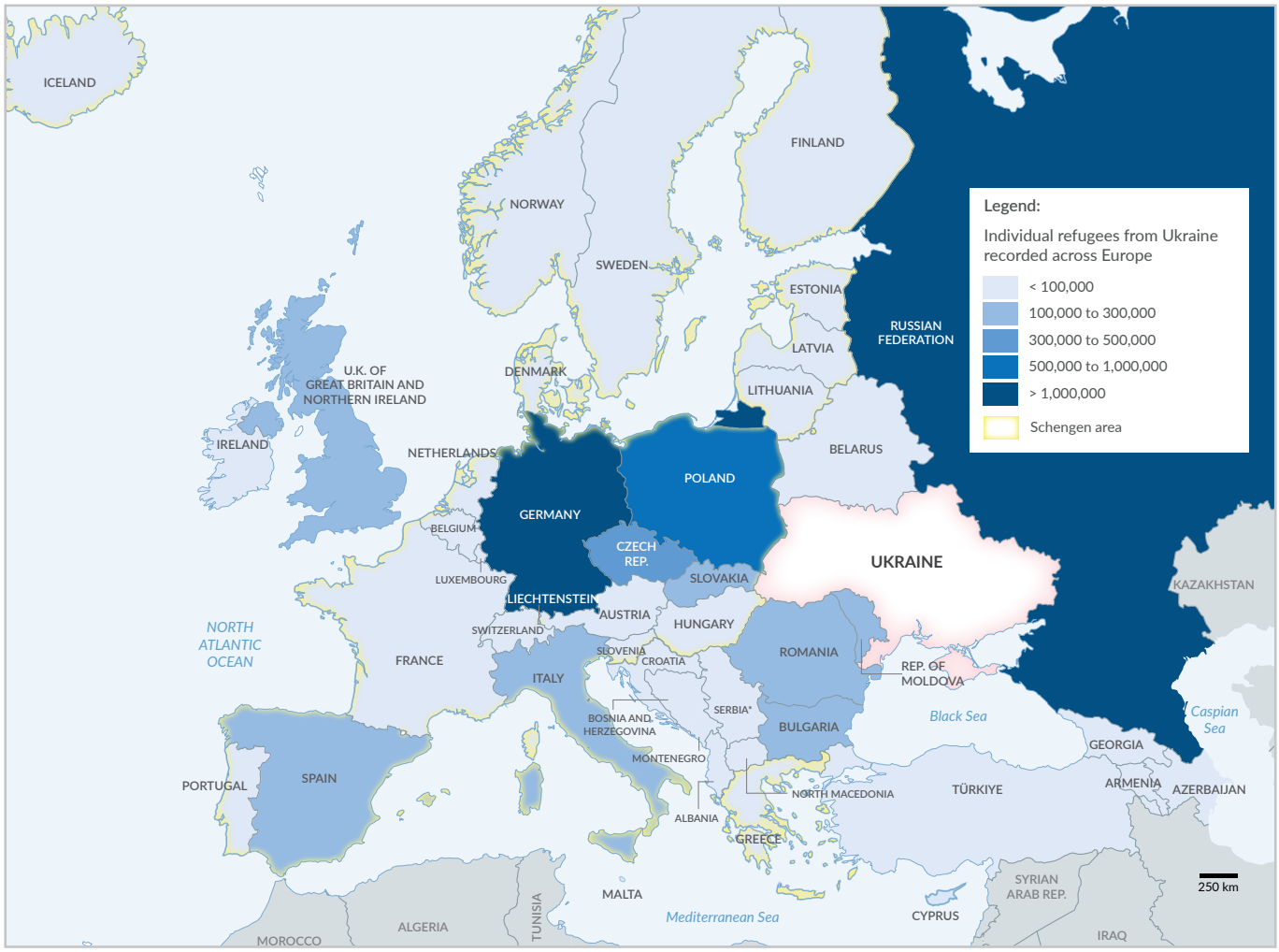
UKRAINE SITUATION OUTCOMES OF CASH ASSISTANCE: FINDINGS FROM POST DISTRIBUTION MONITORING

OVERVIEW OF CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS

Cash assistance disbursed (as of 17 April 2023)

1.6M 943k 522M

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 19 June 2023)



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

COUNTRY UPDATES

BULGARIA

160,575
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

46,395
refugees have received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

40,544
refugees have been reached through 5 Blue Dot Hubs

8,376
refugees received cash assistance

46,395
visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria Help Page

- **MHPSS**: Over **4,700 refugees** from Ukraine have been provided with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) since 1 January 2023.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** On 19 June, UNHCR and the German-Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed a Letter of Understanding to enhance economic, civil, and social resilience of refugees by enhancing access to social protection through skills and vocational training, and employment opportunities for temporary protection holders, among others.

CZECH REPUBLIC

345,880
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

6,173
refugees from Ukraine have received protection services

19,151
visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic Help Page

- **Counselling:** As of 31 May, over 6,173 people have received information, legal counselling and assistance through UNHCR partners.
- **Legal framework:** On 7 June, the Czech President signed the Asylum Act amendment, which will take effect on 1 July. UNHCR welcomed the positive changes introduced by the amendment, notably for asylum seekers and others receiving protection.

HUNGARY

52,335
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

11,213
refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners

11,093
refugees have been reached through 3 Blue Dot Hubs

32,907
visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- **Accommodation:** UNHCR partner Hungarian Red Cross supported 233 vulnerable refugees with accommodation in May. So far in 2023, 3,215 refugees from Ukraine have been supported by UNHCR partners across the country.
- **Food assistance:** 1,665 refugees received basic food packages in May from UNHCR partner Reformed Church Aid at Zahony border crossing point and in Budapest. So far in 2023, 10,127 refugees have been supported with food packages.
- **MHPSS:** So far in 2023, 829 refugees across Hungary have been provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) by UNHCR partner Cordelia, including 155 in May.

- **Refugees with disabilities:** The UNHCR-led Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF), published a list of recommendations on the inclusion of refugees with disabilities, which has been reviewed by Hungary's Department of Disability within the Ministry of Interior. Recommendations include enhancing access to information, services, and facilities; partnering with organizations assisting persons with disabilities; fostering an inclusive organizational culture; and improving data collection on refugees with disabilities.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Hungary data portal

POLAND

994,775
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

25,300	20,000	15,853	286,522
people were provided with protection support over the phone	people were counselled at the 5 Blue Dot Hubs and 6 Community Centres	refugees were reached with cash assistance	views to the UNHCR Poland Help Page

- **Community engagement:** UNHCR has signed 17 grant agreements with 12 refugee-led organizations in Poland, for a total of USD 66,000. Grants up to a maximum of USD 4,000 will support activities including education, language classes, psycho-social counselling, awareness-raising and information provision.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** Some 2,000 jobseekers including refugees from Ukraine attended a job fair from 15 - 16 June in Wrocław, jointly organized by UNHCR and authorities. UNHCR organized two panel discussions on the job market and economic inclusion.
- **World Refugee Day:** UNHCR and partners, in coordination with authorities, organized a series of activities to celebrate World Refugee Day, including workshops, conferences, photo exhibitions, and art performances.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Poland data portal

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

110,855
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

10,146	8,827	75,743	165,288
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners	refugees have been reached through 10 Blue Dot Hubs	people have received cash assistance	visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page

- **EU+ Air Transfer:** During the reporting period, 15 individuals were relocated from Moldova to EU countries through the EU+ Air Transfer, jointly administered by UNHCR and IOM. As of 21 June, 2,248 individuals have been transferred through the program since its inception in 2022.
- **GBV:** On 7 June, UNHCR completed a series of trainings for 43 staff from partner Casa Marioarei who work on GBV prevention and response activities in Causeni, Chisinau, Falesti, and Ungheni. On 8 June, UNHCR carried out a coaching session on implementing a survivor-centred approach – including for GBV cases – to ten staff and volunteers from national Roma organization Bahtalo Ker in Otaci. On 9 June, UNHCR trained 28 staff and volunteers from partner Laolalta on protection from sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA), including reporting mechanisms for SEA complaints, advice on implementing the partner's internal PSEA policy, and ensuring a victim-centered approach.
- **Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs):** UNHCR continued monitoring missions to official RACs which are scheduled to close in the coming months, providing counseling and information to residents. Regarding unofficial RACs, UNHCR is currently conducting an exercise through the Protection Working Group to map organizations currently providing services. UNHCR is also planning protection assessments in the unofficial RACs that have been mapped through the Shelter and Basic Needs Working Group.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Moldova portal page

ROMANIA

136,075
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

46,276	35,761	38,021	567
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners	refugees were reached with cash assistance	visits to the UNHCR Romania Help Page	refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

- **Coordination:** The UNHCR-led inter-agency platform continues mapping services available to refugees in Romania on the services advisor platform. Currently, the maps show over 275 services from 79 organizations in 144 locations. In the coming weeks, the inter-agency team will embark on a public outreach campaign to promote visibility of the platform among refugee communities.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** So far in 2023, UNHCR partners have assisted 452 refugees with career counselling and 509 refugees with information provision at RomExpo. So far in 2023, 427 have been enrolled in language courses by partner AFF and HEKS/EPER, and 70 refugees have received vocational training. Nearly 120 refugees have found employment through direct assistance from UNHCR and partners.
- **Word Refugee Day:** On 20 June, UNHCR and partners marked the occasion with a series of events in the presence of refugees from Ukraine and from around the world, authorities, media and humanitarian actors. Several recreational activities and events took place in Timisoara, Galați, Rădăuți, Iași, Sibiu and Bucharest.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Romania data portal.

SLOVAKIA

102,910
refugees have been recorded

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

21,559	35,313	2,532	99,972
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners as of 27 March	people been assisted at 4 Blue Dots	refugees have received cash assistance	visits to the UNHCR HELP Page

- **Coordination**: On 15 June, UNHCR and Comenius University concluded a Partnership Agreement in connection with a current joint project aimed at improving access to information and communication for refugees and asylum-seekers benefiting from services provided by public entities in Slovakia.
- **Capacity-building:** On 15 June, UNHCR delivered a one-day joint training with UNICEF for 16 staff of Slovak Humanitarian Council working at the Blue Dot Hub in Nitra city. The aim of the training was to strengthen their capacities regarding child protection, MHPSS, and working with persons at heightened risk. On 8 June, UNHCR jointly with the Council of Europe and the European Union, and with support of the Slovak Bar Association, organized a seminar for 200 lawyers on asylum to better assist Ukrainian refugees. UNHCR highlighted issues with regards to Temporary Protection documentation and freedom of movement, as well as barriers to family reunification.
- **Social cohesion:** On 16 June, UNHCR supported the celebration of Olympic Day in Nitra city, organized by the Slovak Olympic and Sports Committee. UNHCR provided visibility materials and information products about services to refugees. From 1 - 15 June, over 2,400 refugees and host community members attended a series of community events and activities in the Banská Bystrica and Žilina regions organized by UNHCR's partner People in Need.
- **World Refugee Day:** UNHCR and partners Mareena and Slovak Humanitarian Council celebrated World Refugee Day in Košice from 14 - 17 June during a community festival, and on 17 June in Bratislava.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Slovakia data portal UNHCR Slovakia data portal.

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS:

- As of 1 May**, 27,675 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Belarus.
- **Coordination:** On 8 June, UNHCR discussed cooperation with the Minsk City Bar Association (MCBA), touching on legal assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers, and the need for capacity building among lawyers to enhance their knowledge of refugee protection.
- **Field mission:** From 8 - 9 June, UNHCR and UNFPA conducted a joint mission to Vitebsk region to strengthen inter-agency coordination, and better monitor challenges faced by refugees from Ukraine. Key recommendations for inter-agency response included enhanced focus on older people and strengthening outreach.
- **Protection monitoring:** UNHCR has completed the second round of Protection Monitoring and Profiling based on interviews with 879 refugees carried out between mid-March and mid-June. The full report will be published in late June. The first round of the Protection Profiling and Monitoring was published in October 2022.

ESTONIA

- As of 5 June, **48,590 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Estonia.
- **MHPSS:** From 1 – 2 June, some 100 specialists from government and civil society attended a conference and workshop in Tallinn on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in crises organized by UNHCR, IOM and WHO. The conference will be followed by a WHO global simulation exercise on MHPSS in crises in Estonia in September 2023.

GEORGIA

- As of 9 May, **24,182 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Georgia.
- **Coordination:** On 7 June, UNHCR discussed with inter-agency partners results of recent protection monitoring and key challenges, including shelter for people with vulnerabilities, healthcare and information gaps. In view of the current developments in Ukraine, various scenarios for the coming months were discussed to ensure preparedness and complementarity among partners.
- **Mapping:** UNHCR completed a mapping exercise of civil society organizations and volunteer groups in Tbilisi to systematize information about ongoing and planned initiatives/projects, learn about emerging trends and needs with regards to refugees from Ukraine, disseminate information on UNHCR's role and activities, and identify areas for cooperation.
- **World Refugee Day:** On 18 June, the government and non-government partners, as well as various refugee communities attended a solidarity walk in Tbilisi organized by UNHCR to show support and solidarity with refugees. UNHCR also issued a Policy brief about refugees in Georgia 2023, highlighting key statistics and listing civil society organizations currently assisting refugees from Ukraine.

LATVIA

- As of 31 December 2022, **38,145 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded.
- **Counselling:** As of 12 June, UNHCR partners GPB, Latvian Centre for Human Rights and Shelter Safe House assisted 2,540 refugees from Ukraine with legal counselling and protection-related information at border crossing points and information points.
- **Coordination:** On 7 June, UNHCR organized a Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) coordination meeting in Riga to coordinate activities among RRP partners, discuss emergency funding, and other issues.

LITHUANIA

- As of 2 June, **77,545 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded.
- **Counselling:** As of 31 May, nearly 6,000 refugees from Ukraine have been assisted by UNHCR partners with legal counselling, have attended community-engagement and information sessions, as well as language classes.
- **Coordination:** On 30 - 31 May, as part of engagement with municipalities UNHCR conducted a follow-up visit in Utena district to monitor socioeconomic inclusion in coordination with authorities, NGOs, private sector and the refugee community.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, **9,341 refugees** from Ukraine have been counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while nearly 6,464 have been counselled in the border regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don, and Voronezh. Over 31,242 refugees have been counselled via the hotline by UNHCR and partners.
- **MHPSS**: So far in 2023, 13,260 refugees have received psychosocial support through partners in the Russian Federation.
- **Visit to Stavropol Krai.** From 14 - 16 June, UNHCR visited three out of six Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) in Stavropol, each hosting between 20 - 50 refugees from Ukraine. The vast majority of TAP residents arrived to Stavropol from Kherson, Kharkiv, and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. According to refugee statements, employment, education and health services are available to Ukrainian refugees hosted in TAPs, with primary obstacles including restoring documentation, accessing social benefits and housing. From 24 February 2022 - 15 June 2023, 11,080 people have arrived in the region of Stavropol Krai. As of 15 June, 1,442 were staying in TAPs. Following the visit, UNHCR shared recommendations with the Ombudsman of Stavropol Krai, including for data protection, enhanced psychological support, and information-sharing on services provided by the Russian Red Cross, such as family tracing and psycho-social support.

Slovakia - Viktoria, a psychologist working on child-inclusion and who arrived to Slovakia from Ukraine in 2018, saw the need for a safe space for Ukrainian refugees arriving since February 2022. In April 2022, she opened her centre "Happiness" for mothers and children to participate in occupational therapy activities to address mental health concerns. She says "My job is to create a space where mothers and their children can feel calm." May 2023, © UNHCR/ Caroline Bach

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items. The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates eleven UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 400,000 people in collective sites in 2023. The Protection Cluster consists of 136 partners, including sub-clusters (57 partners under General Protection) and operates through five coordination hubs to reach an anticipated 7 million people in 2023. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 97 active partners across five coordination hubs, targeting 3.3 million people in 2023 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 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

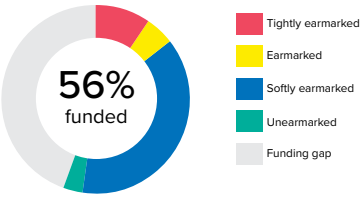
The 2023 RRP aims at ensuring refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, with a special focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. The 2023 plan places an emphasis on refugees' socio-economic inclusion, in recognition of the challenges faced by refugees due to their prolonged displacement. Support is foreseen to institutions, services and facilities used both by refugees and members of host communities, which will be crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between host and refugee communities. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs) led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, will continue working at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Ukraine Situation Financial Update

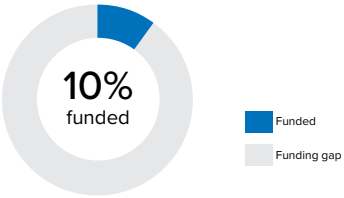
(as of 15 June 2023)

$ 1.1 billion
required (USD)



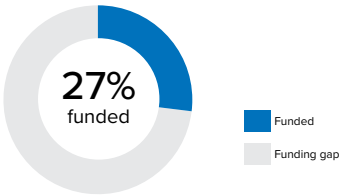
Inter-Agency Financial Updates

$ 1.68 billion
required (USD)
(as of 22 June 2023)



Revised:
Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan

$ 3.95 billion
required (USD)
(as of 22 June 2023)



Revised:
UN Flash Appeal (Ukraine)

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Faroe Islands | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America