

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #72

13 November 2023

Key figures

147,113 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

83,531 refugees present in Romania (as of 5 November 2023).

55,932 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

85,138 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

6,192 refugees supported with livelihoods and employment services in 2023.

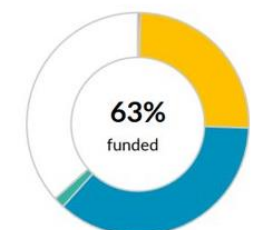
“ Here I work in a hotel as a cleaner. I plan to return to Ukraine, but when it is safe for my son. I like the attitude of the Romanian community towards us, and I am very grateful to Romania for hosting us.”
 Alla, a refugee from Ukraine hosted in Romania.

Funding Situation

As of 31 October 2023

\$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

Highlights

On 8 November, a consultation meeting for the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) 2024 with the government counterparts took place. During the meeting, the RRP sectors presented their 2024 priorities and strategic directions to the State Counsellor at the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Ms. Victoria Stoiciu, Secretary of State and Head of the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), Dr. Raed Arafat, Secretary of State for Education, Mr. Ionel-Florian Lixandru, as well as representatives from the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection as part of the consultative RRP development process. During the event, all working groups within the inter-agency mechanism in Romania were able to present their priorities and interventions for the next year. In addition, the working session enabled the 37 RRP partners to incorporate suggestions before finalisation of the 2024 RRP.

Response

So far in 2023, UNHCR in Romania provided capacity-building training in protection to 1,242 staff from NGOs and local authorities. During the week, UNHCR, together with the National Agency for Equal Opportunities (ANES), UN Women and in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF held a training of trainers workshop on case management for gender-based violence (GBV). The training counted with the participation of 29 experienced representatives from local authorities and NGOs from Braşov, Bucharest, Cluj, Constanţa, Ialomiţa, Iaşi, Sibiu, and Timișoara counties. In addition, on 2 November, UNHCR held a training session on the Age, Gender, and Diversity approach for 14 staff from partner NGOs.



This week, 29 staff from NGOs and local authorities attended the gender-based violence case management training.

Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR and partners have supported 85,138 refugees from Ukraine with protection counselling and services in persons and through dedicated hotlines. Main questions received from refugees relate to cash assistance, legal assistance, documentation, the government assistance programme, education, livelihoods, access to healthcare, and temporary protection. In addition, UNHCR is proactively disseminating information through a dedicated Telegram channel directly reaching 11,193 refugees.

In 2023, UNHCR supported nearly 6,200 refugees with livelihoods and employment services including career counselling and information provision, vocational training, and language courses provided by partners Ateliere Fără Frontiere (AFF) and HEKS EPER. More than 200 refugees have been employed with the help of UNHCR and partners. This week alone, 17 refugees from Ukraine participated in five-day intensive manicure course and hairdressing courses provided through UNHCR partner HEKS EPER.

During the week, UNHCR together with partners distributed 849 core-relief items (CRIs), including bedding, clothing, hygiene items, and thermoses to support the basic needs of over 420 vulnerable refugees in Bucharest, Galați, Iași, Sibiu, Suceava, and Timiș counties. In addition, during the week, UNHCR met with refugees, holding focus group discussions in Bistrița, Galați, and Tulcea counties, to share useful information and to listen to their challenges and needs as winter approaches.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)