

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #80

22 January 2024

Key figures

151,410 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania.

84,098 refugees present in Romania.

59,709 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023.

89,797 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023.

6,672 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2023.

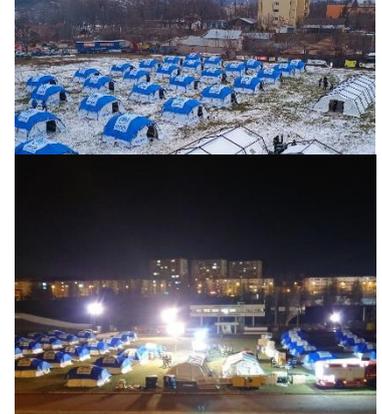
“My mother, sister and I moved to Constanta because it's close to Ukraine. We like Romania, and the Ukrainian community here is helpful. We are learning Romanian language to connect better with the host community.”

Marina, a 20-year-old refugee from Odesa, Ukraine, hosted in Romania.

Highlights

On 17 January, UNHCR, in collaboration with the Department of Emergency Situations (DSU) and under DSU's leadership, conducted a contingency drill. The focus of the drill was on transit shelter facilities located in Bacău and Galati counties. These facilities, established by DSU following UNHCR's provision of shelter and related materials such as family tents and all inside materials, interconnected tents, generators, lighting systems, and heaters. The DSU/ISU teams supported UNHCR's deployed teams from Bucharest, Suceava and Galati, successfully set up shelters on two football fields with the capacity to host 240 persons each. This drill was part of preparedness activities to ensure efficient response in emergencies, testing the capacity to set up temporary shelters.

On 19 January, a delegation from the U.S. Embassy and the U.S. Bureau of Population, Refugee, and Migration (PRM) Regional Refugee Coordinator visited the UNHCR warehouse, which stores core-relief items and humanitarian aid for refugees. The delegation briefly attended the recalibration of the vulnerability scorecard workshop and also visited Autism Voice, which supports Ukrainian and Romanian families and individuals with specific needs.



Temporary reception centre in Bacău county that was part of the contingency drill.

Response

During 17-19 January, UNHCR together with 20 local and international NGOs, IFRC, UN agencies, the Romanian Center for Comparative Migration Studies, and representatives from the municipalities of Brasov, Constanta and Timisoara participated in a workshop to recalibrate the vulnerability scorecard. The scorecard, designed by 17 partners and used by UNHCR as pilot the last months of 2023, is used by UNHCR within the cash for protection programme to identify the most vulnerable refugees. The workshop launched the Inter-Agency vulnerability scorecard that could eventually be used by multiple actors working in the refugee response to for better targeted assistance.

On 15 January, UNHCR launched its 2024 winter cash programme, designed to enhance refugees' self-reliance. The programme provides one-time cash support to UNHCR-registered refugees without prior assistance and extends aid to unregistered individuals, including newly arrived refugees. Vulnerable refugees assessed for the winter cash program will receive a one-time disbursement of 720 RON. Recent [post-distribution monitoring](#) (PDM) indicates that refugees from Ukraine predominantly use the financial aid for essentials such as food, rent, health, water, clothing, shoes, hygiene items, utilities, and household items.

UNHCR supports refugees from Ukraine throughout Romania with core-relief items. During the week, UNHCR has delivered 1,789 core-relief items (CRIs) including clothing, bedding, hygiene kits, and thermoses to 372 refugees from Ukraine in Bistrita, Galati, Constanta, and Tulcea counties. UNHCR received support for distributing CRI from local authorities and NGOs. In 2023 alone, UNHCR together with partners distributed 134,000 CRIs to refugees from Ukraine.

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 \(unhcr.org\)](#)

Funding Situation

As of 15 December 2023

\$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023

