

# Poland:

## UNHCR 2024

### Programme summary



**227,500**  
refugees targeted  
for assistance



**10 partners**  
All local  
partners



**\$85 million**  
total financial  
requirement



Olena and her son Artem came to Poland from Mariupol in eastern Ukraine on 22 May 2022. Artem is attending a Ukrainian school. Olena hopes she and her family will be able to return to Ukraine. UNHCR/Anna Liminowicz

## Overview

### Overview of needs

Based on potential population movements in 2024, it is anticipated that 1.1 million refugees will reside in Poland. Women, children, and older people constitute more than 90 per cent of the total refugee population in the country. The unwavering support offered by Polish Government and society has positively impacted the lives of refugees across the country, with Temporary Protection status allowing refugees to access jobs and services. Notwithstanding this exemplary response, vulnerable refugees still require support, which has been highlighted by the findings of the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) finalized in October 2023:

- 82 per cent of households have unmet needs, with the top three priorities mentioned by them being employment/livelihoods, healthcare services, and accommodation. 61 per cent of refugee of working age in Poland report that they have some form of work – a major achievement but leaving still scope for a stronger inclusion of refugees in the labour market. The primary obstacles to securing employment include language barriers (34 per cent), limited decent job opportunities (21 per cent), and skills mismatches (16 per cent).
- Despite the vital role of the Polish social support system in assisting refugees, the MSNA data shows that 38 per cent of households can afford fewer goods than at this time a year ago, mainly due to rising costs, reduced income, and unexpected expenses.

- Beyond material needs, protection risks remain a concern: 1 out of 3 households have concerns regarding protection risks faced by girls and boys, including vulnerability to neglect, and psychological violence in the community, as well as risks of abuse and sexual violence.
- Education is a top priority: only around half of refugee children are enrolled in primary and secondary school.

### UNHCR's priorities

In support of the Government of Poland, UNHCR aims to:

1. Ensure refugees' effective access to legal status, protection, and rights.
2. Ensure that refugees with specific needs have access to targeted support and assistance.
3. Strengthen inclusion and resilience for refugees.

### Coordination

In addition, as the UN Agency mandated by the General Assembly to lead refugee responses, UNHCR coordinates the implementation of the inter-agency [Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#) in support of the government-led response.

In Poland, the RRP brings together the activities of 103 partners, the vast majority local organizations. In total, these 103 partners are requesting USD 377 million to support the estimated 1.1 million refugees in Poland in 2024.

## 2024 key activities

### Protection - \$70 million

**Protection monitoring and analysis, including in borders areas:** this will include site visits, liaising with authorities and interviews with refugees and focus group discussions to help identify protection risks, barriers impacting access to rights and needs, as well as to inform preparedness and response.

**Target:** 20,900 people interviewed

**Legal assistance,** including representation, counselling, and information for refugees and stateless people.

**Target:** 4,470 people

**Identification, referrals and provision of emergency assistance to people with specific needs,** including individuals with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ individuals, survivors of gender-based violence, children at-risk, older people and people with caring responsibilities. This may include medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance, provision of safe shelters, cash or in-kind assistance, among others.

**Target:** 75,300 people

**Capacity building** of government authorities, NGO partner staff and volunteers on protection principles.

**Target:** 2,500 people trained

**Provision of community or individual psychosocial support.**

**Target:** 10,880 people

**Training on gender-based violence prevention, response and referral mechanisms,** including on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse for law enforcement (e.g. police and border guards), Ministry of Family and Social Policies, members of the justice system and other legal actors such as bar associations, authorities responsible for housing and accommodation, NGO partner staff, as well as communities.

**Promote education of refugee children** through advocacy and policy support, information to parents and youth, and anti-bullying activities in schools to foster cohesion.

**Strengthening communication with communities** to promote access to information on rights and services (e.g. child protection and gender-based violence services), and two-way community-based complaint and feedback mechanisms. UNHCR will continue operating its hotline and use social media channels, face to face interventions, information leaflets and posters, as well as a dedicated HELP page, with child-friendly and disability-friendly modalities.

**Target:** 189,860 people

### Socio-economic inclusion - \$15 million

Working with authorities, private sector actors, and financial institutions, UNHCR will **advocate for refugees' right to work and access to financial services, affordable housing, and childcare.**

Analysis on the impact of refugee inclusion in the Polish economy will be carried out and shared with stakeholders.

**Target:** 46,500 people

UNHCR will support **solutions for refugees excluded from the job market and facing discrimination,** including youth, elderly, people with disabilities, long-term unemployed, women head of households, and ethnic minorities. This will include individualized programmes leading to employment and self-employment, as well as recruitment events, such as job fairs and talent days.

**Target:** 8,370 people

### For more information:

Read the full [UNHCR's 2024 plans and financial requirements for the Ukraine situation](#), covering needs inside Ukraine and in neighbouring countries including Poland. Our global budget, reflecting needs worldwide, is presented in our [Global Appeal 2024](#).

### Contact:

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