

**Unaccompanied and separated children
in Poland: children evacuated from
institutional care facilities in Ukraine**

2 365

children have been evacuated
from institutional care facilities
in Ukraine to Poland

900

children remain in Poland



2022

2024



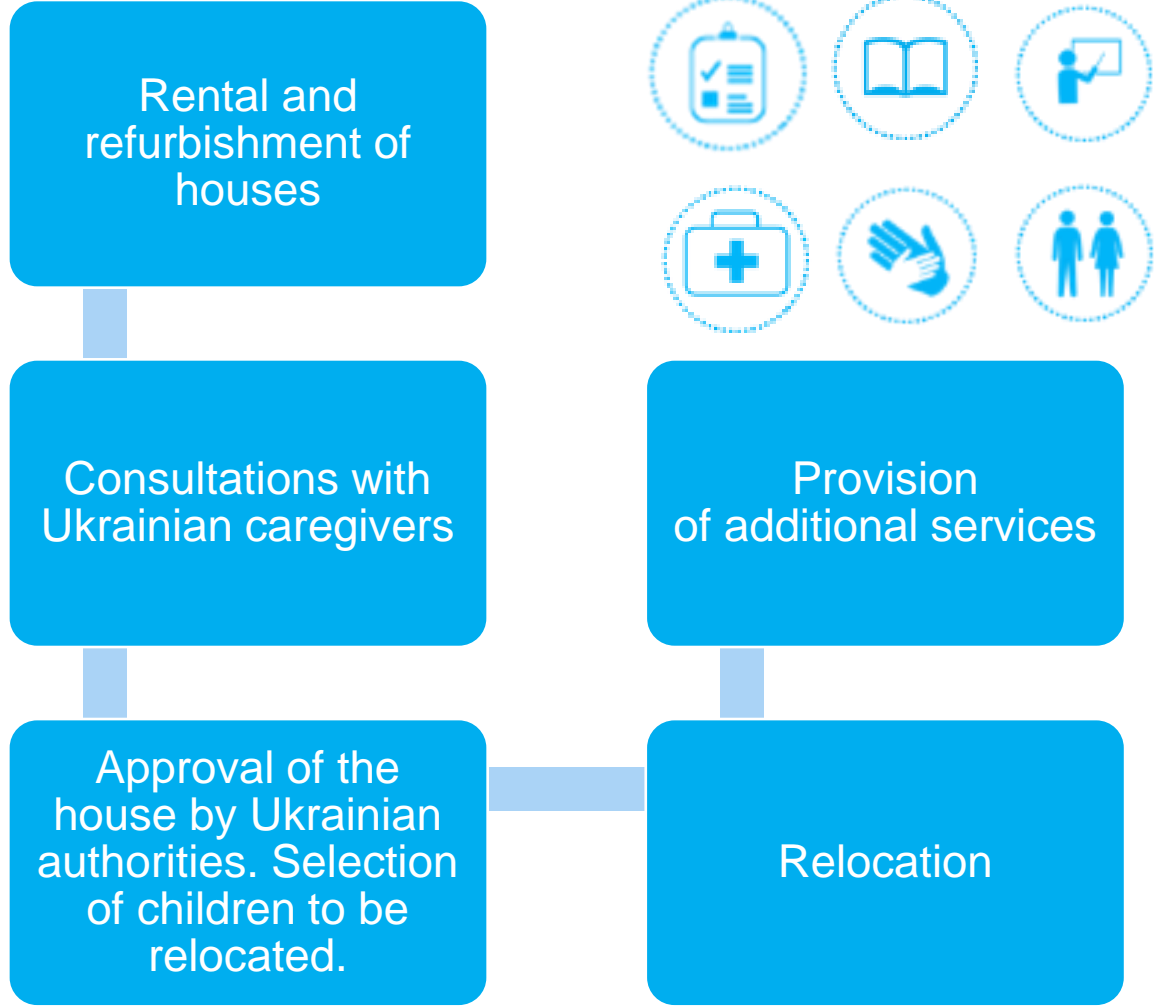
UNICEF's work

1. Supporting the **relocation of children** evacuated from institutions to small-scale family-like residential care facilities
2. Providing adequate **support, care, and protection** to evacuated children in facilities in Poland by **strengthening the existing child protection system**
3. Supporting **cross-border dialogue**

Relocation process

Location	Agreements	Progress
Hotel Ossa	Relocation of all children (involvement of EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 150 children relocated to 14 small group homes in Łódź municipality.- 28 children to 2 small group homes in Powiat Slupski.- ongoing search for municipalities
Other groups (Moryń, Garczyn)	Openness of GoU and GoP for relocations	Ongoing search for municipalities

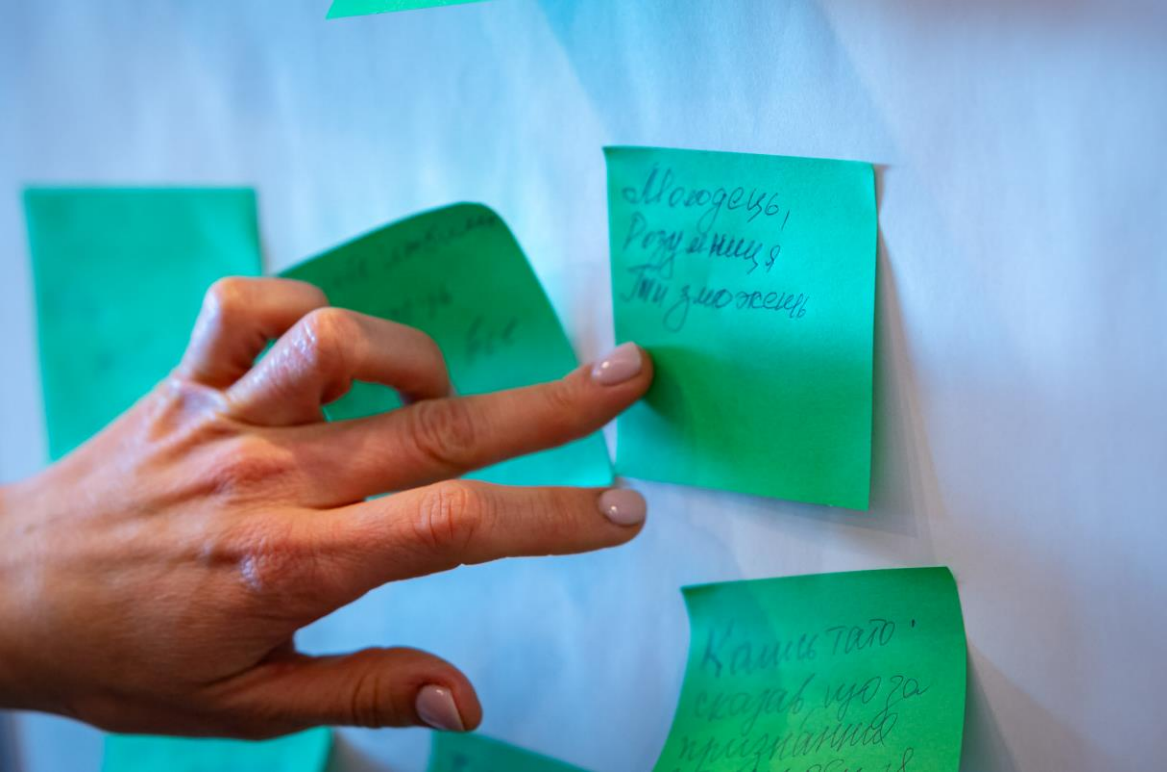
Model of Łódź: Provision of services





Challenges

- New partner municipalities to host evacuated children
- VAC
- Challenging behaviors
- HIV cases
- Support to care leavers



Individual assessment

- First assessment mission took place 06.09-13.09.2024.
- Covered 270 children (Torun, Olsztyn near Czestochowa, Garczyn, Koscierzyna).
- Main assessment were done by Ukrainian delegation (15 participants from national and local authorities). **Our concerns: assessment tool was used by Ukrainian side was initially developed (in 2018) and used for other purpose – to assess families / persons in difficult life circumstances, not for assessment of a child from residential care.**
- As per MoFLSP request, UNICEF supported the present 11 Ukrainian-speaking psychologist, were focused more on assessing and understanding children's preferences and emotional states.
- Polish authorities were represented at the facilities during the assessment days by the Ministry of Family, the Polish Child Rights Ombudsman office, and the District Family Assistance Centers.
- Potentially, the final results can be ready in 2-3 weeks (depend of Ukrainian side).

Legal Amendment

- Last week Ukraine amended the legal procedure on return, by including the conditions of having individual assessment before the decision on return/not return can be made.

Thank you

