

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES IN MOLDOVA

UNHCR – WFP

April 2022



Photo: UNHCR

UNHCR cash assistance to Ukrainian refugees in Moldova



Photo: UNHCR



100,000

Estimated refugees



MAIB

Pre-paid card



2,200 MDL

(USD 120)
Per person/month

WFP cash assistance to the host communities in Moldova



30,000

Estimated host families (100,000 individuals)



Western Union
Posta Moldovei
Bank Transfer



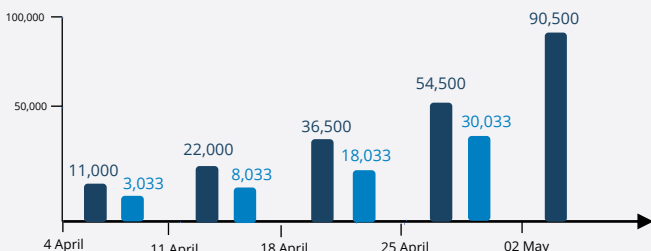
3,500 MDL

(USD 190)
One-off payment/household



Photo: WFP/ Edward Johnson

Estimated number of refugees and host families reached

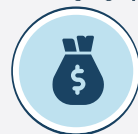


Cumulative refugees reached by UNHCR



Cumulative host households reached by WFP

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



12M

USD by 9 May

World Food Programme



8,1M

USD by 30 April

Voices from Moldova



I fled Ukraine to Moldova with my daughter, leaving my elderly parents and family behind. I can't rely on them for help because they are struggling in Ukraine, so the UNHCR cash assistance gave me hope and support as I can meet the basic needs and care for my daughter and family. It gives me peace of mind and assurance that people are there to help us.

Liudmila arrived in Chisinau on 15 March, is from Mariupol, Ukraine.



Photo: UNHCR



My gas bill is 6,000 Lei this month because I'm cooking for four extra people and heating the house. The cash has paid half that bill.

Maria is one of the first cash beneficiaries in Moldova. She has been hosting four refugees from Ukraine in her house in Stăuceni and is therefore entitled to receive 3,500 Moldovan Lei from WFP to cover her additional expenses.



Photo: WFP/ Edward Johnson

OUR PARTNERS



WFP DONORS



UNHCR DONORS



Overview of the UN cash assistance in Moldova

On 25 March 2022, in the presence of the Minister of Labor and Social Protection, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the UN World Food Programme (WFP) officially launched a cash-based assistance program in Moldova for refugees from Ukraine and Moldovan host communities.

Under the overall coordination of the Government UNHCR is offering cash assistance grants to persons who fled Ukraine, while WFP is providing one-time cash payments will be for households currently hosting refugees from Ukraine.

Who's eligible?

Refugees with the following characteristics are eligible for the monthly UNHCR grant:

- ✓ Refugees with one or more dependents
- ✓ Refugees who are a single parent
- ✓ Refugees who are below 18 years of age
- ✓ Refugees with an unaccompanied or separated child
- ✓ Refugees belonging to a household headed by an older person (above 60)
- ✓ Refugees belonging to a household with one or more persons with specific needs, including: person with a disability, pregnant woman, person with a serious medical condition, woman at risk, person with legal and physical protection needs, LGBTI.

Households who are currently hosting at least two refugees from Ukraine for a minimum period of one week are eligible for the WFP one-time transfer. WFP has limited resources and may be unable to provide assistance to all eligible households. If this is the case, WFP will work with communities, local authorities, and civil society organisations to ensure assistance is provided to households most in need.

How much is the payment?

Each eligible refugee is entitled to 2,200 MDL (USD 120) per month from UNHCR. The grant will be renewed for refugees remaining in the country.
Each eligible household will receive 3,500 MDL (USD 190), one time only from WFP.

The budgetary provisions for this programme are made by UNHCR and WFP. No budget from Government of Moldova is provided for it.

How does registration work?

Enrolment for cash assistance to refugees is done through appointments and referrals from partners. In order to get an appointment, refugees must fill in an [online form](#). Recipients will be asked to present their available **ID documents**.

WFP and its partners are working with local authorities to identify eligible people and households. Once verified, they will receive an SMS on mobile phones that contains a weblink to self-register. They will be asked to provide their **national ID number, their phone number** and **basic banking information**, if available. WFP and its partners will provide support to register if needed.

How are payments made?

For assistance to refugees and households, each will receive a **Maib prepaid card** from UNHCR. The card is distributed at UNHCR enrolment sites. Additional cash payments will be deposited on the same card.

For assistance to host communities, once validated, households will be informed by **SMS** about one of the following payment options: withdraw the cash from any **Western Union** branch, withdraw it from any post office (**Posta Moldovei**) branch, or receive it as a **transfer to their bank account**.

When will the money be transferred?

Cash assistance to refugees will be loaded **within 24-48 hours** and recipients will receive an **SMS notification** when money has been deposited in their card. The card can be used free of charge for purchases in all stores and for cash withdrawal in ATMs. It is valid in Moldova only.

For cash assistance to host communities, within **seven (7) days of successful registering** and after validation of eligibility, households will receive a **SMS** on their mobile phone alerting them that their assistance is ready for collection at Western Union, Posta Moldovei or that it has been deposited into their bank account. Households will have **15 days** to collect their assistance once they receive the SMS.

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES REGISTRATION JOURNEY

