ROMANIA

Weekly Update #34

17 February 2023

Key figures

115,057 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania (as of 12 February)

109,871 refugees in Romania (as of 10 February)

5,314 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023.

8,767 refugees provided with information and counselling in person or over the phone in 2023

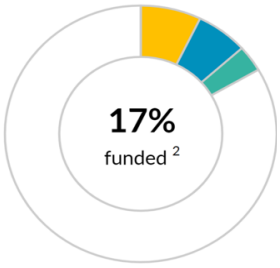
403 refugees supported with fast-track transfers from Moldova to Romania in 2023.

I came from Odesa with my two daughters in March and found safety here in Iasi. All I need now is to find schools for my children and a job to support my family.

- Svitlana, a refugee from Ukraine hosted in Romania.

Funding Situation
UNHCR in Romania
As of 7 February 2023

$59.5 million
UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



Tightly earmarked
Earmarked
Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
Unearmarked (indicative allocation)

Response

The winter season often adversely effects people with vulnerabilities. UNHCR is continuing the distribution of core relief items (CRIs) to help the refugees cope with the harsh weather conditions. On 8 February, UNHCR delivered more than 2,500 CRIs, including winter clothing, quilts, mattresses, pillows, bed-linen sets and hygiene items in Valcea. UNHCR field team in Galati delivered 973 family hygiene kits, 912 blankets, 750 bed linen sets, and 8,200 winter clothes. These CRIs were delivered to 10 distribution points including community centres and refugee accommodations in Constanța and Navodari.

On 8 February, Field Office Galați supports the unloading of CRIs at a distribution point in Navodari,

UNHCR is also supporting refugees with cash assistance to meet the heightened needs during winter. UNHCR continues registering refugees through five enrolment centres Bucharest, Brasov, Suceava, Galati and Iasi - as well as mobile enrolment teams. Recently, UNHCR carried out mobile enrolments in Constanta, Navodari and Sibiu. A total of 9,177 refugees have been enrolled for UNHCR's winter cash assistance as of 10 February 2023.

UNHCR and partners continues regular consultations with vulnerable refugee groups. Lat week, UNHCR's partner Sensiblu Foundation conducted two group discussions, in Suceava and Bucharest with participation of refugee adolescent girls and assessed their protection needs. To address the concerns expressed by the refugees, UNHCR's partners are offering psychosocial support and developing safety plans.

Coordination

On 15 February in Geneva, UNHCR jointly with, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), launched the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Ukraine and the 2023 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for neighbouring countries hosting refugees from Ukraine. In Romania, through robust coordination among 34 partners (including 6 UN Agencies, 14 National NGOs and 14 International NGOs) the Inter-Agency platform, led by UNHCR, has finalized the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for Romania in 2023. A total of 350,000 people have been targeted for a wide range of protection, health, basic needs, education and livelihoods services with a financial need of USD 153.6 million.

Livelihoods and Social Inclusion

Creating opportunities for refugees to work and earn a living with dignity is one of the most effective ways to strengthen social cohesion. UNHCR continues its support to refugees in their endeavours to develop necessary skills and explore scopes of employments. This week UNHCR's partner Ateliere Fara Frontiere (AFF) conducted 28 discussions with individuals approaching the employment services desk at RomExpo. A contract was also signed with a language learning services provider to support refugees learn Romanian. 25-30 refugees from Ukraine are registered to begin their classes soon with this UNHCR partner. UNHCR and partners are also advocating with private sector actors to promote inclusion of refugees in their respective work-forces. Three new partnership agreements have been signed between prospective employers and AFF.

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)