

**COUNTRY CHAPTER**

# HUNGARY



# > At a Glance

## Hungary Planned Response (January-December 2023)



**200,000**

targeted refugee population



**\$62.7 M**

total financial requirements in USD



**37**

partners involved



# HUNGARY

## Part 1: Current Situation

### Situation Overview

Since the escalation of the conflict, Hungary has committed to keeping its borders open to people fleeing the war in Ukraine. As of end December 2022, the number of border crossings from Ukraine reported by the Hungarian Border Police totalled over 3.9 million, with 2 million crossings directly from Ukraine and 1.9 million crossings through the Romanian border.<sup>1</sup> While the vast majority chose to move onward, some 33,200 individuals have registered for temporary protection in Hungary.<sup>2</sup> People who have fled Ukraine due to the war remain in Hungary through different legal statuses, including temporary protection, residence permits and various visa schemes. Pendular movements between Ukraine and Hungary for family visits, retrieving documents, and checking on properties are taking place. It is expected that refugee flows into Hungary will continue in 2023 due to the ongoing conflict. In addition, millions of Ukrainians, uprooted by the war, are facing winter in displacement or are living in damaged homes ill-suited to protect them from the cold, a situation foreshadowing potential additional pressure on neighbouring countries throughout the winter period. Any further significant escalation of the conflict would likely bring on a significant additional influx.

The Government, including local municipalities, host communities and humanitarian actors, in particular charities, local NGOs, and refugee-led organizations, have been engaged in the response from the escalation of the crisis, rapidly scaling up reception capacity to meet the immediate needs of those arriving at border entry and registration points. The initial response was heavily supported by volunteers and the solidarity of the host community.

Almost one year into the crisis, the influx of refugees from Ukraine is putting pressure on the national system, while solidarity efforts are impacted by price inflation, rising utility costs and cost of living, affecting host communities and refugees alike. In this context, RRP partners will focus their efforts on ensuring a safe and protective environment for vulnerable refugees and their families, in close cooperation with the Hungarian Government, ensuring equitable access to basic assistance and protection of all refugee women, girls, men, boys and persons with specific needs, including Roma refugees. This includes supporting refugee inclusion into national systems and promoting their active participation in the labour market, while ensuring adequate safeguard and

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<sup>1</sup> [UNHCR Data Portal/Hungary](#), reporting official numbers of the Hungarian Border Police. The numbers include multiple crossings by the same person and multiple nationalities.

<sup>2</sup> [UNHCR Data Portal/Hungary](#), reporting information from the National Directorate-General of Aliens Policing of Hungary.

protection measures are in place to support those with specific needs and facing heightened protection risks.

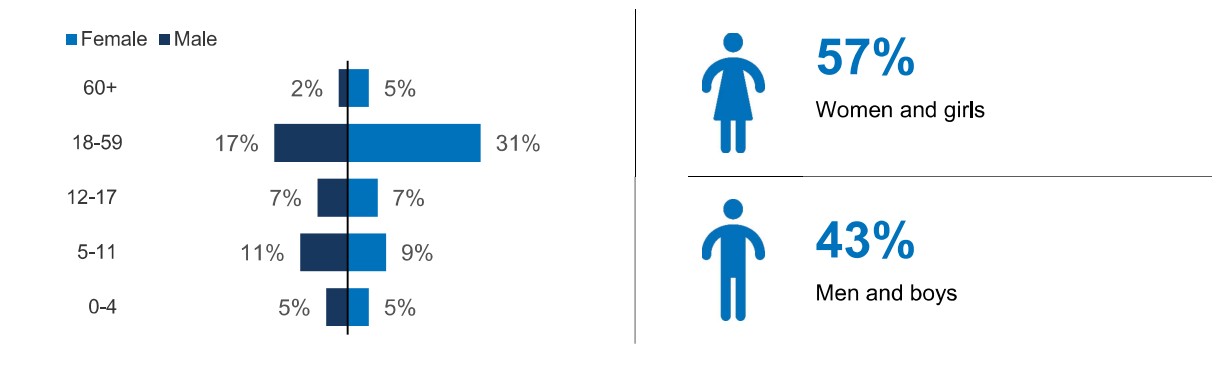
The temporary protection status, in principle, allows refugees to access social services, health care and the right to work; however, challenges remain in practice, rendering medium to longer-term solutions for refugees from Ukraine difficult, especially in rural areas.<sup>3</sup> In particular, the lack of access to information and language barriers limit refugees' ability to attain education, employment, and social protection. Challenges relating to the lack of a permanent address, lack of childcare options, and the inability to provide documents also affect social protection, including the regular provision of subsidies from the government. Issues such as the need for psychosocial support and access to subsidized housing have also become pressing.

While targeting refugees, third-country nationals (TCNs) in need of protection, as well as people who are stateless or at risk of statelessness who directly fled the war in Ukraine, the RRP strategy in Hungary also seeks to highlight the significant impact of the war on the host community. Partners pay particular attention to the importance of expanding community resources and services that may be under pressure, with a focus on institutions, services, and facilities used by refugees and members of host communities, to ensure community safety nets can be maintained. Supporting the capacity of communities to extend services and assistance to refugees is essential to maintain continued support and ensure refugees can continue to seek safety in Hungary.

## Population planning figures

Hungary	Refugees registered for Temporary Protection as of end Dec 2022 <sup>4</sup>	Targeted Population in 2023
Refugee Population	33,273	200,000

## Age and gender breakdown<sup>5</sup>



<sup>3</sup> UNHCR, [The implementation of the Temporary protection directive: Six months on](#), October 2022.

<sup>4</sup> This figure may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons, or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe. The number does not reflect the actual in-country refugee population, as individuals who have fled Ukraine due to the war remain in Hungary through different legal statuses, including temporary protection, residence permits, and various visa schemes, for which disaggregated data by nationality are not available.

<sup>5</sup> Calculations based on the [Hungary - Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

## Country Protection Needs, Vulnerabilities and Risks

The Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and UNHCR protection monitoring and profiling have highlighted the protection needs, vulnerability, and exposure to risk for refugees who fled Ukraine due to the war and are currently hosted in Hungary.<sup>6</sup>

Many households have one or more members with specific vulnerabilities and profiles at heightened protection risks, including persons with disability (13 per cent of households), older persons aged 60 and above (8 per cent of households), children (44 per cent), and single women-headed households (84 per cent).<sup>7</sup> Large-scale family separation is one of the defining aspects of this crisis, with over half of the refugee families separated from their immediate family members due to the war and military conscription. Family separation in the context of displacement often exacerbates specific protection risks, including gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, exploitation (including sexual exploitation and abuse), violence, and leads to isolation, and further psychosocial effects, particularly for persons with specific needs, such as unaccompanied and separated children, older persons, and persons with disabilities. Refugees from the Roma minority face specific constraints to accessing protection services and socio-economic inclusion, in particular education.<sup>8</sup> Some refugees have also faced psychological, physical, or sexual violence before fleeing to Hungary and need specialized, culturally adapted and community-based psychosocial support. Persons with disabilities, including children, face challenges accessing services, partly due to the limited availability of dedicated services and the lack of identification procedures enabling timely referral to social protection measures, including dedicated benefits. Among the various services, people with disabilities notably struggle to access health care and social protection, in addition to accommodation, as facilities often lack the proper accessibility conditions suited to their needs.

Barriers to accessing livelihood and employment are hindering social inclusion and affecting the sustainability of the response. Unemployment among refugees in Hungary remains very high, with seven out of ten refugees in Hungary currently not working due to language barriers, mismatching of skills/previous job experience, or the lack of childcare services.<sup>9</sup> Also, refugees with work in Hungary are often under-employed, performing a job below their skills level due to language barriers, administrative hurdles in skills recognition and lack of information about the local labour market. As a result, four out of ten refugee households face challenges in meeting their basic needs. Refugees are therefore relying on their savings, borrowing money, or are forced to reduce essential expenditures. Four per cent reported resorting to harmful coping mechanisms, such as high-risk informal jobs, begging, and child labour. Two out of ten refugee households also reported difficulties with access to food.<sup>10</sup>

Price inflation, rising costs of living, and utility costs are affecting the financial resources of refugees, their savings and accommodation arrangements, and increasingly so during the winter

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<sup>6</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022; and UNHCR, [Hungary: Protection Profiling & Monitoring Factsheet](#), 30 August 2022.

<sup>7</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

<sup>8</sup> Romaversitas, "[The Situation of Transcarpathian Romani Families Fleeing from Ukraine to Hungary](#)", 2022.

<sup>9</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sector Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

<sup>10</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sector Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

months.<sup>11</sup> Likewise, local governments are also struggling to maintain refugee accommodation centres due to the sharp increase of utilities costs. As a result, refugees are at heightened risk of eviction or substandard housing conditions, which will impact school enrolment and exacerbate vulnerabilities, power imbalances, and gender inequalities, hence, risks of sexual exploitation and abuse. Medium-term housing solutions is of particular concern for many, with 45 per cent of refugees interviewed in the MSNA having identified housing solutions for less than six months, among whom 15 per cent have solutions for less than one month; this in turn risks increasing vulnerabilities.

According to national legislation, it is mandatory to enrol children between the ages of 3 and 16 into formal school in Hungary. Yet, one in three refugee children from the households surveyed in the MSNA is currently not enrolled in school, mainly because they are enrolled online in Ukrainian schools, are attending community-run schools in Hungary (58 per cent), because of language barriers (28 per cent), and/or because of lack of places in nearby schools (18 per cent). Enrolment rates are even lower among Roma refugee children due to a combination of administrative barriers, lack of information on where and how to enrol children in school, and pre-existing educational gaps.<sup>12</sup> Children who are enrolled need additional support to access accelerated learning programmes and to catch up due to prolonged absence from school, uneven quality of online education and language barriers. Also, refugees with temporary protection status are entitled to health coverage, free emergency health care, testing for Covid-19, and vaccination.<sup>13</sup> While refugees seem to be generally aware of their entitlements, access to timely health care, particularly outside the urban centre, is more complicated due to language barriers. In the long term, the capacity of the health care system could be overloaded in specific areas such as paediatric services, mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS), expensive treatments for chronic non-communicable diseases, as well as tuberculosis or HIV.

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<sup>11</sup> Although refugees in collective accommodations have food and rent costs usually covered by the government or humanitarian organizations, shelter management also have to cope with inflation and its impacts on the sustainability of the accommodation offered. Refugees covering their own rental costs directly, for example in private accommodations, will have stretched financial resources to address rental and utility fees, including the heightened costs of heating during the winter months.

<sup>12</sup> Romaversitas, "[The Situation of Transcarpathian Romani Families Fleeing from Ukraine to Hungary](#)", 2022, page 39.

<sup>13</sup> From the onset of the emergency, the government issued a ministerial directive ensuring access to primary and secondary health care services for refugees through the national networks of hospitals and primary clinics.

## Part 2: Country Protection and Solutions Strategy

The response in Hungary will work to address the urgent needs of refugees, stateless individuals, and TCNs in the country, including at-risk groups and individuals with specific protection needs, by means of improved protection monitoring and strengthened inclusion and social cohesion.

RRP partners will support existing government efforts through a multisectoral humanitarian response, reinforcing reception standards, strengthening the national protection systems and their workforce, building the capacity of frontline professionals, and improving information-sharing. Partners will aim at strengthening national authorities' response at border crossings and collection/help points in Budapest, urban areas and the rest of the country.

Community consultations through a participatory approach will be central to programme design, in line with Accountability to Affected People (AAP) principles, to continuously identify the changing needs of the population and ensure the response meets the needs of those it seeks to serve. Moreover, the response aims to ensure strong engagement to prevent and respond to protection risks, including with regard to sexual and labour exploitation, abuse, and harassment. Focus will also be placed on child protection risks linked to parental absence, given the high prevalence of family separation.

The protection strategy for Hungary is linked to the Sustainable Development Goals by promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. In particular, and in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), partners aspire to enhance refugee self-reliance and the sustainability of the response by actively working toward social inclusion and social cohesion of refugees in Hungary.<sup>14</sup> Pending durable solutions, the strategy supports the protection of fundamental freedoms, the maintenance of good relations, and peaceful coexistence between communities by strengthening relevant national institutions as a key modality for achieving the result.

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<sup>14</sup> In particular, building up on the recommendations of the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), the strategy will pursue the objective of placing refugees at the centre of the response, enabling a more systematic, inclusive, and meaningful refugee participation in Hungary; promoting access to funding for refugee-led organizations ; addressing barriers to refugee engagement, including through equal partnership approaches; fostering amicable and mutually beneficial relationships with host communities; involving refugees in efforts to increase educational pathways and employment opportunities; and considering the specific needs, priorities, and capacities of different members of refugee populations through the age, gender, diversity approach to make interventions more effective and sustainable. See Recommendation #6, [UNHCR - 2023 Global Refugee Forum - Proposed Concept Note](#)

## Country Strategic Objectives

The response will be guided by the following strategic objectives (SO), firmly rooted in the Regional RRP Strategic Objectives:

### **SO1: Ensure refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, including the rights associated with temporary protection or similar legal status in Hungary.**

- Strengthen the protection of refugee women, girls, men and boys in Hungary by supporting national and local systems for registration, identification, service provision and referral of persons with protection risks, including unaccompanied and separated children, older persons, and persons with disabilities, through centres providing humanitarian assistance, national and local institutional/governmental service providers, community centres, and information hubs, 'Blue Dot' hubs for refugees and TCNs.<sup>15</sup>
- Strengthen reception capacity and monitoring of arrivals to ensure access to rights and services on a non-discriminatory basis for all refugees to enable early identification, referral, and assistance to persons with specific needs, including children.
- Support national and local authorities to strengthen child protection systems to ensure quality; safe; age-, gender- and diversity-sensitive; and equitable child protection services and support for refugee children in Hungary, with a focus on unaccompanied and separated children and children at risk.
- Strengthen mechanisms for responding to GBV, including health, legal and MHPSS services; develop and disseminate clear GBV referral pathways and entry points for disclosure, in line with guidance developed by the Protection Working Group, and work closely with communities, such as local women-led organizations, and other sectors to ensure the incorporation of concrete measures to mitigate and reduce GBV risks in all elements of the response; partners will strengthen the access to sexual and reproductive health rights, in particular for women and girls.
- Support national anti-trafficking systems to ensure safe and unconditional access for refugee adults and children to identify cases and ensure quality multi-sectoral response measures and protection for victims of trafficking and to contribute to the reduction of risks by addressing key contributing factors, including by ensuring timely access to quality information, safe accommodation, and legal employment.
- Prioritize protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), including strengthening inter-agency networks and PSEA coordination mechanisms and systems at the national level, supporting prevention efforts and efforts to integrate the survivor- and victim-centred approach as an overarching principle throughout RRP partners programming.
- Work with communities to collaboratively create, update and share messaging and key information on how to access services through trusted channels and accessible formats, including community-based and social media networks.

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<sup>15</sup> The centres will provide information, two-way communication, counselling, psychosocial support, response to feedback, safe spaces for children and women, protection case management, and referrals, using, where appropriate and necessary, remote assistance for refugees and third-country nationals in need of protection support.



- Mainstream protection across all the sectors, particularly among non-specialized actors.

**SO2: Ensure that refugees with specific needs continue to have access to targeted support and assistance while also engaging with and strengthening community-level protective mechanisms.**

- Include systematic procedures to identify persons at heightened risk as part of registration procedures for temporary protection and other forms of legal stay, as well as procedures to renew residency and other associated documentation to enable the identification of vulnerable groups.
- Ensure that vulnerable refugees with specific needs continue to have access to targeted support and assistance for basic needs, including health, housing, food, and non-food items, while strengthening community-level protection mechanisms and promoting the outreach of humanitarian actors to the refugee community, in particular outside of Budapest and the urban centres.
- Ensure an age, gender, diversity (AGD) approach to refugee meaningful inclusion, in particular for persons with disability, older persons, children and youth, and match the identification of individuals at heightened risk with upscaling specialized services, including early intervention services with adequate capacity and resources.
- Integrate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) across the sectors, especially Protection, Education, and Health, to strengthen the mental health and psychosocial well-being of refugees and TCNs.

**SO3: Pave the way toward solutions and expand access to social and economic opportunities to facilitate the inclusion of refugees in Hungary through a whole-of-society approach and in line with the Global Compact on Refugees, recognizing, in particular, the critical role played by national and local actors, including non-governmental, women-led and refugee-led organizations.**

- Facilitate access to sustainable and safe medium to long-term housing opportunities for vulnerable refugees and TCNs ensuring that identified solutions are designed to mitigate protection risks and promote dignified accommodation arrangements for refugees in Budapest and across the country.
- Expand safe and practical access of refugees to livelihood and economic opportunities in Hungary, minimizing protection-related risks such as labour exploitation, trafficking, family separation and any form of violence, by engaging enterprises and employers in expanding work opportunities for refugees, by supporting refugees' legal right to employment and removing administrative, legal or practical barriers to legal employment (including through skills recognition and upskilling, job-matching and information provision on the labour market, provision of childcare and language learning for adults) and by enhancing collaboration with local institutions that provide tailored and contextualized livelihoods initiatives.
- Ensure that pathways to national education opportunities are functional and accessible for refugees of different backgrounds. In particular, help Hungarian schools to welcome refugee

children including through the provision of dedicated support, accelerated learning programmes, language classes and mainstreaming of key protection and MHPSS principles.

- Strengthen trust between refugees and national authorities by leveraging the potential of refugees, refugee-led and Ukrainian and other diaspora organizations to help solve some barriers in accessing rights under the temporary protection scheme, including bureaucratic and language barriers.
- Provide evidence-based research to support best practices in refugee inclusion and foster knowledge exchange and lessons-learned schemes to champion the promotion of innovative and effective solutions.

#### **SO4: Advance social cohesion between refugees and host communities through targeted interventions.**

- Scale up innovative approaches, strengthen partnerships and capacitate local civil society to enhance social cohesion and socio-economic inclusion of refugees. In line with Recommendation 12 of the Outcomes of the High-Level Officials Meeting,<sup>16</sup> support refugee and host community youth to develop capacities and skills. Engage and support universities to promote refugee education and access work opportunities.
- Scale up initiatives that tackle racism and xenophobia by realizing the potential of sports, summer schools, and joint initiatives between the host community, refugees, and Ukrainian and other diaspora groups in Hungary, to promote inclusion and protection. Draw on local-level knowledge and expertise in refugee-hosting areas and organizations working with Roma minorities to ensure the promotion of inclusive practices.
- Support activities that provide mutual benefits to both host community members and refugees acknowledging the importance of inclusive systems which may benefit all populations regardless of status. Promote joint initiatives and common programming where partners provide regular, non-refugee programming.

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<sup>16</sup> UNHCR, [Outcomes of the High-Level Officials Meeting](#), December 2021.

### Active involvement of Refugee-led Organizations

Refugee-led Organizations (RLOs) have been actively supporting the Ukraine crisis response from the beginning, with a focus on direct assistance of families in need and social cohesion activities. Some are supported by Ukrainians who have lived in Hungary for years already and can provide information and support to newly arrived refugees in Hungary. While their overarching aim is to support refugees in their basic needs, accessing services and providing them with mental and psychosocial support, they also emphasize the importance of community building. [HunHelp](#) focuses on fundraising and distributing food vouchers to families across the country. [Lexis](#) organizes community events, information sessions, and language classes in the capital, as well as distributing food and non-food items to the most vulnerable. [Unity](#) facilitates Hungarian language courses, daycare, and supplemental schooling in Budapest. The [Foundation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church](#) in Budapest focuses on education activities and daycare for children, besides offering spiritual support and organizing events for integration.

## Sectoral Responses

### PROTECTION



To ensure a safe and inclusive response, protection will be reflected in the humanitarian strategy by promoting the centrality of protection, strengthening the formal protection systems and mainstreaming protection principles across all sectors, jointly with capacity-building initiatives on core protection principles of frontline organizations and volunteers, promotion and sharing of good practices through the key coordination bodies.

In 2023, RRP partners will continue to support Hungarian authorities at all levels to strengthen the protection environment for all refugees, TCNs and stateless individuals and to safeguard access to territory, legal status, and rights. This will include protection monitoring and consultations with refugees and other stakeholders to identify challenges in access to rights and services so that these can be addressed collectively. Particular attention will be paid to arrivals (both at the border/ key entry points and within the country) and those who need support in inclusion and accessing their rights while living in Hungary – promoting effective inclusion as a protection tool. To this end, partners will work closely with frontline officials and the broader range of local stakeholders throughout Hungary to support the identification of vulnerabilities and needs (including unaccompanied and separated children, GBV survivors, persons at risk and victims of trafficking, older persons, persons with disabilities, refugees with specific mental health and psychosocial needs, stateless persons, and vulnerable TCNs), appropriate referrals to special procedures and reception conditions, and inclusion in the national system where possible or referral to other available services.

Partners will continue to provide information and legal advice to new arrivals and refugees in the country on status, including on procedures to access temporary protection and support to access rights and services, in particular, to enhance protection for persons at heightened risk – i.e., minority groups, older persons, persons with disabilities, single women and children.

To address the risk of trafficking and exploitation, specific prevention activities targeting refugees, humanitarian organizations, employers, and private companies will be put in place to reinforce coordinated prevention and response mechanisms. At the same time, cooperation with law enforcement authorities will be strengthened.

### Sub-Sector: Child Protection



Children constitute approximately half of the applicants for temporary protection in Hungary. Often children are separated from at least one parent or travel with other (non)related adults and are psychologically impacted by the war.<sup>17</sup> The sub-sector will work with the National Child Protection systems (e.g., case management/best interests procedure, guardianship and law enforcement), as the first and foremost respondent, by advocating for the inclusion of the TP holders into the National Child Protection Act and related protection mechanisms of the national system, capacity development, and promotion of joint referral mechanisms. While many refugees live in Budapest and most service providers are located there, enhancing capacities outside the capital and in rural areas remains a high priority, in particular for sports clubs hosting refugees and children in collective sites.

The Child Protection sub-sector will continue to provide and support complex social work services, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services and capacity building of frontline responders in close cooperation with national and local child protection actors and service providers. In parallel, community-based child protection mechanisms will be supported and strengthened to provide parental support and prevent family separation. Dedicated age-specific interventions targeting children and adolescents will continue to mitigate protection risks in various activities, such as afterschool psychosocial programmes, weekend activities and summer camps.

Child-friendly awareness-raising initiatives on child protection, including the risk of trafficking, risk of abuse and exploitation and SEA will be conducted to inform about available services and other relevant information, including on sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents, in coordination with the interagency working groups.

The offer of general and specialized parenting support programmes and services will be strengthened and extended to rural areas where refugees are hosted, including through the identification and capacity building of new potential service providers. Private legal guardians and caregivers of unaccompanied and separated children will constitute a priority target.

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<sup>17</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sector Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

### Sub-sector: Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



GBV remains a protection priority for the response in Hungary. Reporting remains very limited however, in particular considering the refugee profiles in Hungary, constituted mostly of single women, head of household, and children with high levels of family separation.<sup>18</sup> Based on monitoring activities and focus group discussions conducted in 2022, various risks have been observed among refugees from Ukraine, including threats of sexual violence, intimate partner violence, sexual harassment and human trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes, in addition to a significant concern of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

The integration of GBV prevention, response, and risk mitigation measures are among the main priorities under the scope of the Protection sector. This will be operationalized through 5 different areas of focus, including:

- Strengthening the national response system jointly with the relevant actors, both governmental and non-governmental, to ensure adequate quality of GBV services are in place and are available to all survivors. Joint trainings, experience sharing, and adaptation of global guidance to the local context will be done in consultation with local actors and under the lead of the Protection Working Group to ensure an inclusive system for refugee survivors.
- Ensuring access to multisectoral survivor-centred response services and safe access to sexual and reproductive health, MHPSS services. This will also entail regular mapping of GBV services, updating of the GBV referral pathways and trainings for humanitarian workers on safe handling of disclosure and referrals of GBV survivors, in addition to regular consultation with the community through integrating GBV-related questions into various assessment exercises to have a better understanding on existing barriers to services.
- Expanding the prevention activities to ensure maximum reach, including dissemination of information on services, helplines, and platforms, awareness messaging and campaigns in various languages (Ukrainian, Russian, Hungarian and English).
- Supporting all sectors and areas of work to identify GBV risks and advocating for prompt action to be taken to mitigate these risks and integrate GBV risk mitigation measures into all work plans and strategies in line with GBV guidelines. The outcome of the GBV safety audits will be used as a guiding source to support relevant sectors in identifying GBV risks in their interventions. Under the lead of the Protection Working Group, risk mitigation trainings will be provided, GBV focal points from the sectors will be identified and be supported in drafting risk mitigation workplans.
- Strengthening the capacity of GBV and non-GBV actors to ensure a “do-no-harm” and survivor-centred approach to GBV survivors and fostering sharing of experiences, best practices, and complementarity of services.

In addition, GBV partners will ensure proper flow and sharing of information on GBV services at the country level through the Protection Working Group to ensure timely response and access to survivors. Engaging with local communities, refugee-led organizations and women-led

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<sup>18</sup> [Hungary - Multi-Sector Needs Assessment \(MSNA\)](#), November 2022.

organizations will also play an essential role in identifying gaps and barriers in the GBV response and fostering a collaborative effort to address these barriers.

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## EDUCATION



Partners will prioritize inclusion of refugee children from Ukraine in the national formal education system, in close cooperation with the government. Ensuring access to education for refugee children in Hungary will require a wide range of contextual support to children, caregivers, teachers, and their community for successful integration into the formal national education system. Refugee children from Ukraine in Hungary have diverse profiles and come from various backgrounds, rendering their education needs equally diverse.

Improving access to quality education and strengthening national systems are the identified priorities. Access to education requires multiple interventions tailored to the specific needs of refugee children from Ukraine. For those who do not speak Hungarian, access to formal education requires a preparatory language learning intervention. For children who have been out of school for longer, accelerated learning programmes can close the learning gap and facilitate integration. Partners will also focus on improving the quality of the learning environment – through provision of supplies and professional development for educators – and sensitize parents on school enrolment and access to education for children.

In addition to educational interventions for preparing children to access formal education, providing timely and accessible information on the rights and duties associated with the temporary protection status in Hungary, including steps to enrol children into formal school, is identified as an essential intervention, along with non-formal education interventions, such as catch-up classes and language classes for children and youth.

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## HEALTH AND NUTRITION



The primary and secondary health care system will be supported by WHO and other RRP health partners, increasing national authorities' ability to address the needs of both host communities and refugees. Priority will be given to strengthening emergency medical assistance and referral services, as well as monitoring refugees' access to and usage of health services. Through referrals to the strengthened national health care system, partners will ensure that refugees with pre-existing conditions, including chronic conditions, and new situations and in need of medical care, are provided with adequate assistance.

Health and nutrition interventions for early child development in close coordination with municipalities will be of paramount importance to ensure a healthy development and protective environment in the early childhood stages. The Ministry of Interior, responsible for the national health system, is supporting refugees' access to health, by offering access to local health systems and services and allocating resources for the refugee population in the country, including funding for any potential co-payments for prescription drugs. Partners will set up mobile teams stationed at border crossing points to provide medical care, screening and emergency first aid, as well as testing, hospitalization and vaccination for COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. In addition to these ongoing efforts, partners will also support information dissemination both to refugees and providers on existing policies and rights ensuring refugees know where and how to seek medical assistance.

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## LIVELIHOODS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION



As a priority for 2023, RRP partners will strengthen the economic inclusion of refugees in Hungary and access to the local labour market, by enhancing collaboration with local institutions with tailored and contextualized livelihoods initiatives. Special attention will be given to the integration of women into the labour market. RRP partners will implement programmes to prepare refugees for entering the job market and keeping them there, including counselling, CV-writing, interview-skill development and mentoring, and will operate referral mechanisms for these services, with the goal to promote refugees' employment opportunities and mitigate the risk of skills mismatch.

A focus will be placed on addressing barriers to accessing livelihoods and economic inclusion, such as the increased provision of childcare (including by increasing the capacity of local schools), and increased language learning for adults, also addressing administrative, legal or practical

barriers to accessing decent work, through skills recognition, upskilling, job-matching, and linking job availability and accommodation.<sup>19</sup>

Allowing refugees to continue their careers in Hungary and advance professionally will permit them to contribute more effectively to future recovery and reconstruction efforts in Ukraine, once conditions are conducive for returns. Building upon discussions around the good practices of 2022, partners will explore the possibility to facilitate the hiring of Ukrainian health care professionals, teaching assistants, and cultural communicators, addressing the lengthy and complicated procedures associated with the recognition of qualifications. Employment programmes offering flexible working hours for parents in collaboration with private, municipal, and state actors will also be explored.

To promote safe and legal employment and mitigate the risks of abuse and exploitation linked to employment, RRP partners will raise awareness of labour rights, work-related risks and exploitation among the refugee community, in particular through refugee-led organizations, and engagement of the business community.

Finally, RRP partners will continue to work to enhance refugees' enjoyment of a broad range of socio-economic rights, including legal access to employment, linked to temporary protection, through information campaigns, outreach, and direct support in accessing TP. The campaigns will also target employers' lack of awareness of the rights of TP holders to employment.

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## BASIC NEEDS



Partners will continue to provide short-term housing solutions and work closely with State-sponsored shelters to ensure immediate needs for emergency accommodation can be fulfilled and existing shelters are adequate for winter. In addition, as the war continues, needs for mid to long-term, affordable housing have become a priority.

Partners will broaden rent and subsidy programmes, identify alternative affordable housing models and engage in awareness campaigns on accommodation services and support available, targeting also refugees living in private accommodations through social media and broader campaigns.

Through the interagency Basic Needs Working Group, mapping of the current accommodation capacity will be ensured, to facilitate referrals among actors for accommodation solutions, in line with protection principles of safety, inclusion, and non-discrimination, in particular for TCNs, Roma minority, persons with disability and older refugees. Partners will also consider, in coordination with municipalities and local authorities, the improvements of collective sites, in particular in rural areas.

Cash-transfer and voucher programmes and in-kind donations will also remain a key priority for meeting the basic needs of newly arrived refugees, as well as the most vulnerable which may

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<sup>19</sup> Employment opportunities are also affected by the lack of stable accommodation, due to limited housing facilities near areas with more employment opportunities and a tendency by employers to not hire people without a permanent registered address, which poses a challenge for individuals living in temporary accommodation and other transitional forms of shelter.





*Ethnic Hungarian families fleeing Ukraine are hosted at the cultural center of the border town Beregsurány..*  
© UNHCR/Zsolt Balla

require specific supplementary assistance, and/or temporary support. Likewise, strengthening social protection systems, including cash schemes with local governments, will be of paramount importance to address the needs of refugee children and families. Partners will seek to ensure increased outreach in rural areas, strong safeguarding mechanisms and effective targeting. In addition, efforts will be made to support coordination across actors involved in distribution of voucher programmes to ensure effective use of resources.

Access to food by refugee families – particularly larger households or households with individuals with specific needs, such as older refugees, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women – will be integrated by partners, in Budapest and in other counties, with a focus on expenditure patterns and allocation of household resources. While partners will gradually transition out of the provision of hot meals, except in some key locations and border crossing points for new arrivals, support through vouchers or in-kind distribution to support access to nutritious food will continue. This will be done either through food parcels or via vouchers through a range of access points including through distribution centres and online platforms. In addition, where people are hosted in collective sites, the use of collective kitchens in the sites will be promoted.

## Country Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

### Accountability to Affected People (AAP)



Activities to ensure accountability to and inclusion of refugees from Ukraine will continue to be prioritized and mainstreamed throughout all sectors. Community engagement, through the age, gender, and disability-sensitive approach, will remain the backbone of the response, with RRP actors prioritizing outreach to refugees, enhancing information provision through both online and in-person channels, and working with refugee-led, community-based, and women-led organizations.

Two-way communication channels with refugees will be strengthened, considering the feedback of refugees in Hungary in terms of their preferred language (i.e. Hungarian, Ukrainian and Russian) and way of communication, including social media, telephone info lines, chatbots, online info pages (e.g. help.unhcr.org), and the Digital Blue Dot. The availability of feedback and complaint mechanisms for services provided by partners will be enhanced, including on social media and online platforms, to promote safe access to information and mitigate the risk of rumours and misinformation. The role of refugee volunteers, and community-based and refugee-led actors will continue to be reinforced. RRP partners will continue to disseminate and use tools and guidance, such as registration and vetting of volunteers, as well as community-based feedback and complaint mechanisms.

### Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)



The emergency is characterized by a number of risk factors, such as an exceptionally high incidence of family separation and of female-headed households, which are in turn compounded by increasing socio-economic vulnerabilities and reliance on external support, difficulties in accessing suitable accommodation and the overall nature of the response that has mobilized a wide range of actors. Capacity development of such actors is critical, as oftentimes organizations active in the humanitarian response lack experience or training for their own staff and volunteers when it comes to SEA risks. Assessments also point to important areas for strengthening linked to recruitment procedures and vetting, knowledge of expected standards of conduct, access to information for refugees (as well as staff and volunteers) on refugees' rights and entitlement and effective feedback and accountability mechanisms.

PSEA is an integral and cross-cutting component of the RRP and is mainstreamed across the response. Current efforts underscore the importance of fully implementing PSEA measures and risk mitigation across all sectors and by all actors responding to the crisis, notably in shelters and accommodations, at border, transit, and distribution points. With SEA risk reduction being a shared responsibility by all actors involved, the established PSEA Task Force will keep engaging and advising partners to ensure dynamic risk assessment, the development of protocols and standards within their operations, lessons learned and exchange and the collection of best practices in line with PSEA global commitments. The PSEA Task Force will continue to also closely engage and coordinate with GBV and Child Protection actors to ensure that comprehensive service provision is available and can be safely accessed.

## Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



MHPSS is a widely recognized priority in the response, as highlighted by the result of the multi-sector needs assessment recently completed in Hungary. It touches on a wide range of sectors, including health, protection, GBV, child protection and education, and therefore MHPSS activities have already been integrated as critical activities across the response. In 2023 this will be further strengthened through a joint interagency structured MHPSS strategy for both implementing and monitoring activities in health facilities, reception centres, educational institutions, protection and community settings, Blue Dots, and through the strengthening of MHPSS capacities of national service providers. The strategy will also aim to ensure further coordination among MHPSS actors and increase availability of evidence-based, culturally adapted, and need-oriented MHPSS programmes integrated into the overall response.

Priority interventions by MHPSS partners in Hungary will include:

- Continued investment in MHPSS situation analysis and needs assessments.
- Promotion of common understanding of the essential concepts and best practices for the provision of MHPSS.
- Awareness raising on mental health issues and availability of psychosocial support at various levels.
- Community based psychosocial support activities such as art, sports, psychodrama, cultural/spiritual, and community meetings to support/improve the well-being of individuals and communities.
- Providing focused nonspecialized/ specialized MHPSS services and making referrals to support, maintain, and improve mental health and psychosocial well-being.
- Providing capacity-building activities such as trainings, supervision, workshop, and webinars for response partners

## Partnership and Coordination

In 2022, a multistakeholder partnership among humanitarian actors, including NGOs, charities and faith-based organizations, civil society, refugee-led organizations, associations run by the Ukrainian diaspora and UN Agencies was established and functional within the context of the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF), in which over 70 different organizations were active. The RCF is coordinated by UNHCR. Under the umbrella of the RCF, a sub-coordination structure was set up among actors as part of the response, with a focus on basic needs and protection, including child protection and GBV, MHPSS, education, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. Co-chairing of key working groups was launched in 2022 and saw the participation of local NGOs (Trauma Center for the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Working Group, Next Steps for the Basic Needs Working Group) and women-led organizations (Voice for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Task Force) and UNICEF (for the Child Protection and the Education Working Groups) and will be further expanded in 2023 to interested organizations, with a focus on refugee-led organizations.

Partners involved	37
UN Agencies	5
International NGOs	6
National NGOs	14
IFRC&RC	1
Faith-based Organizations	6
Academia	1
Refugee-led organizations	4

*Note: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with implementing partners to carry out RRP activities. See 'Budget Summary by Partner' for partner breakdown per type.*

For 2023, the participation of organizations in the RRP was expanded, from 22 partners in 2022 to 37 in 2023, mobilizing new actors to the response. In line with the localization agenda, RRP partnership in Hungary heavily relies on Hungarian organizations (75 per cent of the partners), including local NGOs (18) and charities (6), as well as organizations led by refugees (4).

### Solidarity in Action

Romaversitas, a Roma-led education NGO from Hungary, witnessing the arrival of Ukrainian Roma refugees, started a programme to support the inclusion of Romani children in the Hungarian school system. The programme focused on organising thematic capacity-building events for professionals implementing projects for this group of vulnerable children, as well as leveraging crucial resources, including financing for their work. To base their interventions on the voices of refugees themselves, young Roma students from Hungary also reached out to more than 160 Romani refugee families during the summer of 2022 to map their experiences, fears and prospects and ultimately, to show solidarity with the Roma refugees.

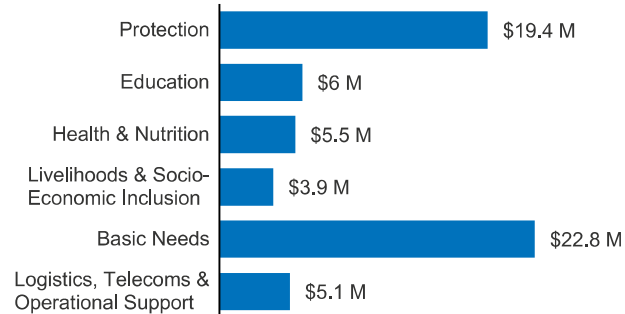
## Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

### Total financial requirements in USD



**\$62.7 M**

### By sector in million USD



Total Protection requirements	\$19,376,538
Other protection activities	\$11,532,453
GBV	\$2,594,870
Child Protection	\$5,249,215

Total Cash Assistance requirements*	\$6,589,154
Protection	\$534,000
Basic Needs	\$4,930,154
Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	\$1,125,000

\* This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance and protection in line with UNHCR's CBI Policy 2022-2026. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of the people we serve, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.

## By partner type

Partners involved	37
UN Agencies	\$40.1 M
International NGOs	\$3.1 M
National NGOs	\$8.3 M
IFRC&RC	\$0.5 M
Faith-based Organizations	\$9.7 M
Academia	\$0.1 M
Refugee-led organizations	\$1 M

## By partner

Partner / Acronym	Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	Basic Needs	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Total USD
UN Agencies							
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	1,647,000	540,000	405,000	67,500	5,265,000	405,000	8,329,500
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	3,633,000	2,513,000	1,800,000		2,002,000	1,158,000	11,106,000
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)						600,000	600,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	10,502,449			2,352,279	4,671,940		17,526,668
World Health Organization (WHO)			500,000			2,000,000	2,500,000
International NGOs							
Center for Reproductive Rights	30,000		30,000				60,000
International Rescue Committee	650,000	200,000					850,000
Jesuit Refugee Service	15,069	18,626					33,695
SOS Children's Villages	20,000				15,000		35,000
Terre des Hommes - Switzerland	800,000	180,000	540,000		120,000		1,640,000
VOICE Amplified	500,000						500,000
National NGOs							

Partner / Acronym	Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	Basic Needs	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Total USD
Budapest Methodological Social Center					3,268,527		3,268,527
Cordelia Foundation for the Rehab. of Torture Victims			150,000				150,000
Erőforrás Alapítvány United Way Hungary		166,023	15,683	30,423	147,935	177,817	537,881
Hungarian EMDR Association			15,000				15,000
Hungarian Helsinki Committee	224,900						224,900
LITERA Egyesület		37,600					37,600
MedSpot Foundation			40,000				40,000
Menedék Hungarian Association for Migrants	470,915	69,013					539,928
Menekültek Online Segítő Társasága (Refugee Help Digital Network)	30,000	25,000	25,000	10,000	25,000	2,500	117,500
Migration Aid		294,930	233,500		1,953,900		2,482,330
Next Step Hungary Association	53,785	97,180		11,690	82,815	130,800	376,270
Pszí Pont			310,000				310,000
Romaversitas Foundation		150,000					150,000
Trauma Center	20,000		20,000				40,000
IFRC & Red Cross/ Crescent Societies							
Hungarian Red Cross		500,000					500,000
Faith-Based Organizations							
Dévai Fogadó (formerly Mandák Ház)		35,000	25,000		275,000		335,000
Hungarian Baptist Aid	80,000	50,000		50,000	1,270,000		1,450,000
Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta	350,000	120,000	100,000	50,000	850,000	50,000	1,520,000
Hungarian Interchurch Aid	150,000	100,000	100,000	10,000	350,000	150,000	860,000
Hungarian Reformed Church Aid	23,000	500,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,600,000	400,000	4,923,000
Hungarian Evangelical Fellowship (MET) /		100,000			550,000		650,000

Partner / Acronym	Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	Basic Needs	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Total USD
Oltalom Charity Society (OKE)							
Academia							
American International School of Budapest	16,000	60,000					76,000
Refugee-Led Organizations							
Foundation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church		150,000					150,000
HunHelp					62,000		62,000
Lexis - Vamos Foundation	80,420	39,145	40,540		289,895		450,000
UNITY	80,000	50,000		125,000	40,000		295,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,376,538</b>	<b>\$5,995,517</b>	<b>\$5,549,723</b>	<b>\$3,906,892</b>	<b>\$22,839,012</b>	<b>\$5,074,117</b>	<b>\$62,741,799</b>



