

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #45

5 May 2023

Key figures

130,387 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania (as of 1 May 2023)

97,592 refugees in Romania (as of 30 April 2023)

18,984 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

29,914 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted since 2022.

1,200 refugees supported with livelihoods & employment services in 2023.



My 5 children and I have been living in an accommodation centre since last year. Recently there was a shortage of drinking water, and we called UNHCR's hotline number. Thanks to UNHCR for addressing the need on the very next day in coordination with the administration of the centre.

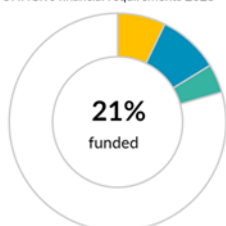
– A refugee hosted in Suceava County.

Funding Situation

As of 27 April 2023

\$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



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

Highlights

On 5 May, UNHCR and partners hosted a visit at RomExpo, Bucharest of Mr Wesley Reisser, Deputy Director of the Office of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs, from the US State Department. During the visit, the delegation engaged with the refugees from Ukraine as well as with 16 actors (such as authorities, UN Agencies and NGOs) operating within the UNHCR's integrated service hub for refugee at RomExpo. The facility is currently supporting 300 refugees on a daily basis. Most recently refugees are assisted with dedicated counselling, cash assistance and general support to access the newly adopted national assistance programme for refugees.

On 3 May, UNHCR and partners hosted a visit at RomExpo of Mr. Ichiro Aisawa, Member of the Japanese Parliament and H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Ueda, Ambassador of Japan to Romania. The delegation also visited the adjacent social store set up by the Municipality of Bucharest and supported by UNHCR with core-relief items. During the visit, the delegation exchanged views with humanitarian actors and learned more about the most pressing needs of refugees from Ukraine.

Response

UNHCR in Romania is adopting a multi-year strategy that will cover programmes for refugees from 2024 until 2026. The strategy was developed with an extensive consultative process with partners and key stakeholders. It aims to continue providing critical assistance to the most vulnerable refugees and families with basic needs, key protection services and promoting socio-economic inclusion through livelihood services.

On 3 and 4 May, UNHCR organized a training for NGOs and partners of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) on the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). 65 participants from different organisations were present and trained on the GDPR policy in the humanitarian context. The training aimed also at supporting the Inter-Agency referral mechanism, which is critical to address gaps and duplication in the provision of support and services to refugees.

On 28 April, UNHCR organized a focus group discussion in Suceava county attended by 22 women and five men. During the discussion, UNHCR provided information on services available for refugees from Ukraine in Romania and shared information through counselling desks on the new government run assistance programme.. UNHCR also continued providing protection counselling services in person as well as through hotlines phone numbers. So far in 2023, UNHCR and partners provided protection and legal counselling to nearly 30,000 refugees.

UNHCR and partners continue supporting refugees to access livelihoods and employment opportunities. This week, UNHCR's together with partners provided a professional cooking training for ten refugees from Ukraine. In addition, UNHCR continues to facilitate Romanian language courses that help refugees in accessing job opportunities in Romania. So far in 2023, UNHCR and partners assisted 207 refugees with language courses and another 195 with various professional trainings.



Participants of the cooking training for refugees on 25 April.

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 \(unhcr.org\)](#)