AUGUST 2023

UNICEF Romania refugee response – facts and figures

unicef for every child

Situation overview

4,577,147
Total border crossing from Ukraina and Moldova into Romania

2,699,516
Back to Ukraine

92,262
Staying in Romania

141,513
Received temporary protection

Source: UNHCR Data Portal (as of 29/08/2023

45,959
Estimated number of children in the country*

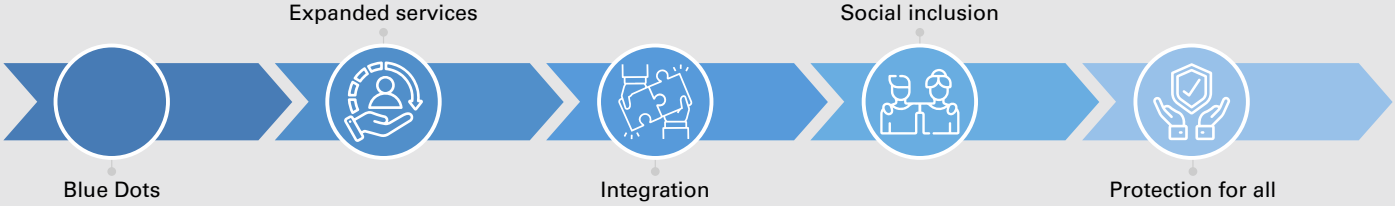
6,697
Unaccompanied and separated children

27,662
Ukrainian children enrolled in formal education

Our vision: from emergency response to protection for all

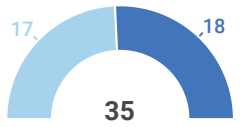
- UNICEF's response makes an integral part of the two overarching frameworks: 2023 Interagency Refugee Response Plan and the Government of Romania Response Plan – with focus on children and families.
- Ukraine refugee response started at the onset of the war in Ukraine with the establishment of Blue Dot safe spaces along the borders to provide immediate assistance to the refugees arriving in Romania.
- The response has transitioned from a primarily emergency one to a wider framework for the protection of all vulnerable populations through integrated service models run by the local communities and authorities. Municipalities are being supported to access European Union funding to provide more sustainable response.
- The concept of Blue Dots – the highlight of the response previously – is now in the process of transitioning towards a 'Blue Grid' approach involving a progressive handover of key response activities to local social protection authorities.
- As part of the refugee population settled inside the country, the response adapted and expanded to new areas to accommodate the developing needs of refugees: systems of education, health, and social protection.
- The integration of refugees is the ongoing phase of the response with the aim of gradually progressing into their long-term social inclusion.
- Lessons learnt, experience and knowledge built as part of the response to the Ukraine refugee crisis transcend the boundaries of Romania and can be a starting point for cross-border system strengthening as part of long-term emergency preparedness and response.

All phases of the response remain critical to the ongoing efforts to respond to the changing needs of the refugee populations

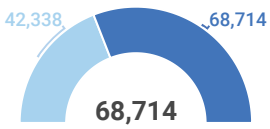


What we do: UNICEF and partners

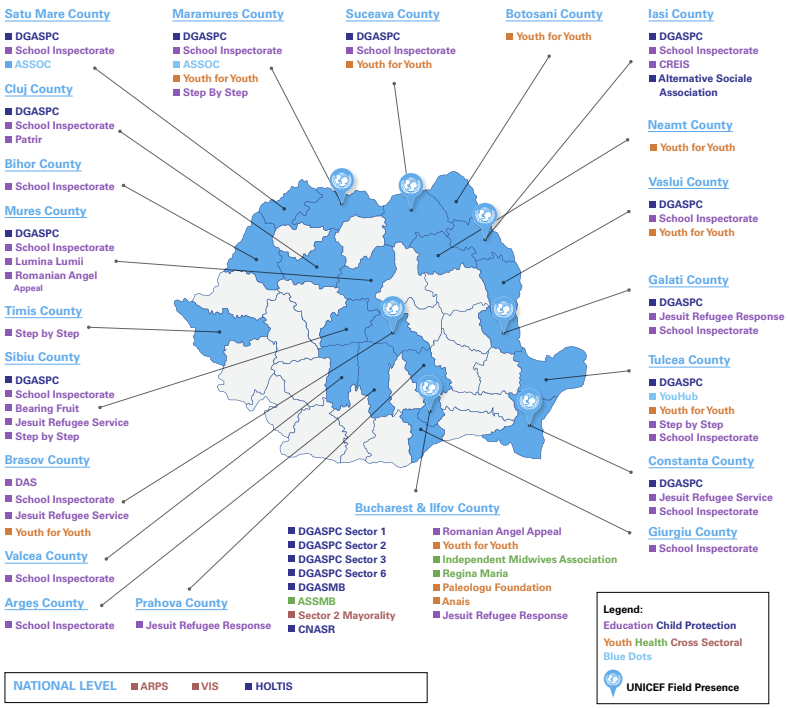
UNICEF and partners provide a minimum standard of protection and care to different categories of refugees, especially the most vulnerable.
Services in safe spaces and hubs are dedicated to mothers with infants and young children, people and children with disabilities, adolescents and the elderly.
These services include but are not limited to: registration,immediate assistance and protection, provision of accommodation, meals, and supplies such as winter clothes, medical and learning kits, medical and legal referrals, education, mental health and psycho-social support.



new formal partnerships established with national and subnational authorities to support the extension of quality social services to refugees



targeted population in municipalities receiving UNICEF technical assistance for system strengthening



*Based on number of Temporary Protection permits issued as of 29/08/2023 (Source: UNHCR Data Portal)

For more information:
UNICEF website: unicef.org/Romania
UNHCR Data Portal: data.unhcr.org

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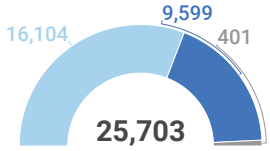
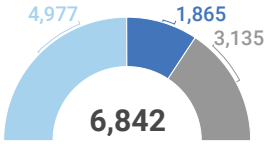
Progress to date

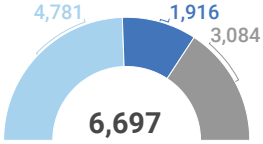
Child protection UNICEF's focus remains on identification, registration and protection of unaccompanied and/or separated children arriving in Romania, including children from residential care in Ukraine. UNICEF and partners identify their needs and seek to provide them with the most suitable forms of care and protection. Protection from all forms of violence – including gender-based violence, trafficking, and sexual exploitation and abuse-remains an integral part of the refugee response. Mental health and psychosocial support to different categories of refugee populations remains another key component of the response.



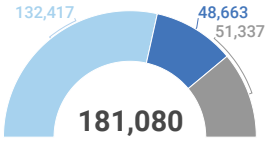
children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



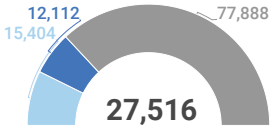
unaccompanied and separated children identified



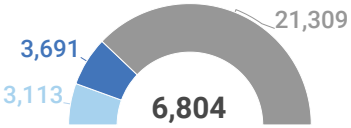
# of unaccompanied and separated identified who were provided with alternative care or reunified



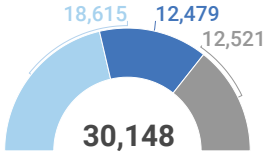
people with access to safe spaces, protection and support hubs



# of children who have received individual case management

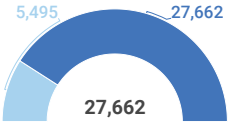


women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions

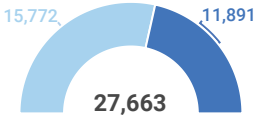


people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers

Education employs a three-tiered approach to provide access to education to all refugee children: 1) learning hubs and safe learning spaces, including for interaction with peers from Romania; 2) support to online education in Ukrainian; 3) distribution of learning materials. In 2023, the focus is increasingly on accelerating integration of the refugee schoolchildren into the education system of Romania.

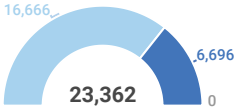


# of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning, through UNICEF-supported system-strengthening and programmes

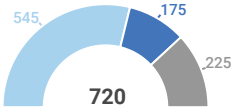


# of children receiving learning materials

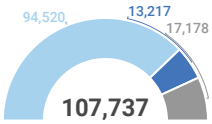
Health interventions focus on primary health care services, including immunization and provision of medical supplies. In 2023, healthcare provision and nutrition support will continue, combined with the efforts to strengthen the capacities of frontline health workers and the overall healthcare system of Romania.



children and women receiving primary health care services through UNICEF supported mechanisms

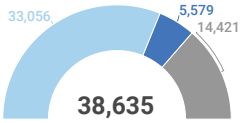


# of children up to 15 years vaccinated through UNICEF supported mechanisms

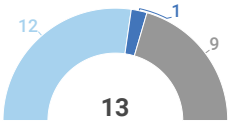


# of parents/child guardians reached with health information/promotion services

Basic Needs: In 2023, UNICEF will continue ensuring access of refugee populations to potable water, hygiene and sanitation, and winter clothes – including as part of contingency plans and emergency preparedness.



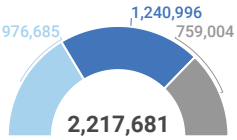
people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs



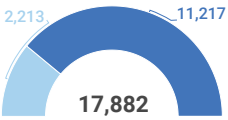
reception/placement centres equipped with sanitation facilities

Development and participation of adolescents as a specific category of refugee populations is fostered through skill building, education, interaction with peers from the receiving communities, sports for development, and psycho-social support.

Accountability to affected populations is mainstreamed into all interventions through information sharing and development of feedback mechanisms on different channels – including personal interaction and outreach via social media with messages on safe and healthy behaviours and access to services available in Romania.



people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services (including social protection, health, nutrition, education, etc)



# of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

Social policy and protection: UNICEF works with partners to support the integration of refugee populations into the social protection system of Romania, raise their awareness on the available social benefits, support capacity building of decentralized authorities, and facilitate refugees' access to social assistance programmes.

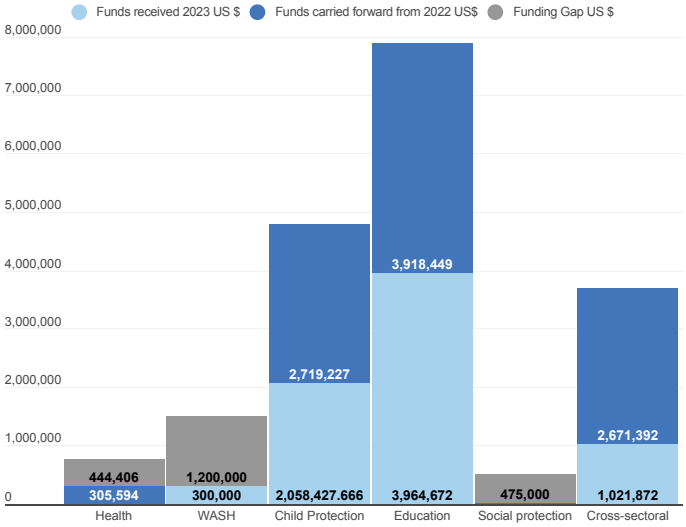
Legend

Reached 2022 ● Reached 2023 ● Remaining target

Funding overview

UNICEF remains grateful to our government and civil society partners for continued efforts to help us reach all refugee populations in Romania. Funds received by donors are of utmost importance for sustaining the Ukraine refugee response.

2023 Ukraine Response Budget



*In 2023, 9.64 million has been carried forward from 2022 funding to cover the continuation of commitments and interventions started in 2022.

**Most funds received for the implementation of 2023 HAC are in-kind or ear-marked for specific activities under Education and Child Protection (eg Blue Dots).

***UNICEF would welcome flexible funding to reach all 2023 HAC targets. Flexible funds will enable UNICEF to sustain full support and provide assistance to Ukraine war refugees for further integration in Romania.