

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #115

23 September 2024

Key figures

162,045 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania (as of 30 June).

16,407 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2024.

19,503 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support since January 2024.

7,193 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services since January 2024.



I found Romanian language courses very valuable for integration and living a sustainable life in Romania.

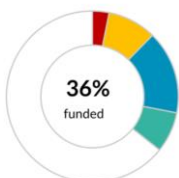
- *Ekaterina, a refugee from Ukraine hosted in Bucharest, Romania.*

Funding Situation

As of 31 August 2024

\$54.3 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

Highlight

On 17 September, the UNHCR Representative met with Ms. Victoria Stoiciu, State Counsellor, Prime Minister's Chancellery, the Chief-of-Cabinet of State Secretary, Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) and the Director General of Social Services at the Municipality of Bucharest. The meeting focused on the new government assistance programme for new arrivals for up to three months and on the way forward to ensure continued accommodation is available for the most vulnerable refugees from Ukraine. UNHCR and DSU provided an overview of the recently concluded joint site assessment exercise findings that revealed vulnerabilities of refugees hosted in the collective centres, and limitations faced by the Centres. Potential funding options were discussed to ensure continuity. Engagement with local authorities of locations where centres are located will be necessary in this regard.

Response

In the context of the flood situation in Galati (south-east Romania), UNHCR has offered its support through the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) to complement the government's response. On 16 September, UNHCR Field Office in Galati, in collaboration with its partner Inima de Copil, conducted a mission to flood-affected areas and subsequently met with the Prefect and ISU. Refugees from Ukraine are also contributing to relief efforts through the NGO "IDC", providing food and non-food items. In addition, the refugee-led organization Help Ukrainians is actively encouraging its members to donate to the flood-affected Romanian communities.

On 18 September, UNHCR, in collaboration with partner CSCM, conducted a training on the methodology of the Area-Based Assessment, with the participation of 6 organizations from Suceava city. During the training, the participants confirmed their willingness to collaborate in this exercise, which will involve surveying 150 refugees from Ukraine, 100 persons from the Romanian host community, and 10 experts. The thematic information to be obtained through the survey will help enhance advocacy efforts and the planning for 2025.

On 20 September, UNHCR launched a survey developed together with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), aimed to understand better the needs and challenges refugees face in accessing banking and financial services in Romania. The survey is available in various languages, and is open to FDP of all nationalities. The survey will remain open until 29 September and the findings will be used to support the advocacy campaign with banks in the following months.

Coordination

The Inter-Agency Coordination Team provided training to 30 organizations that submitted an "expression of interest" to appeal for the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) 2025/2026 while holding orientation sessions for an additional 8 local organizations on the RRP. In the meantime, the thematic sectors have started to discuss their strategies and priorities for 2025/2026, with dedicated sessions held in the gender-based violence sub-Working Group and the PSEA network.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 and 2024 programmes. For more details: [Romania Funding Update – 2024](#).



Training on the methodology of the Area-Based Assessment.