

# Ukraine Situation

## RETS MOLDOVA

### Coordination Call #5

7th April 2022

#### Agenda

1. UNHCR: Situation overview
2. Global RETS Update
3. RETS Update from Moldova
4. Field partner updates

#### Participants

Akinalp Orhan, RETS IM UNHCR	Iulia Iordachi, FAO
Alexander Thomas, RETS Moldova Lead	
Andrew Linehan, UNDOS/OICT	Jean Luc Abiyou, UNHCR
Anthony Kimani, World Vision International	Jeya Kumar, UNICEF
Antonios Martalis, UNHCR	Joe Simmons, Geeks without Frontiers
BP Panwar, UNICEF	John Warnes, UNHCR
Chloé MANDELBAUM, ACTED	Jose Toscano, Intelsat
Dagbjartur Brynjarsson, NetHope	Kevin Schwartz, Geek Without Frontiers
Daniel Ciobotaru, UNICEF	Lars Ruediger, Ericsson
David Hartshorn, Geeks without Frontiers	Ludmila Nepotu, Moldtelecom
Dorian Gorea, UNICEF	Mara Deckard, USAID
Edisher Giorgadze, WFP	Mark Hawkins, Save the Children
Elie Ayoub, UNHCR	Meghann Rhynard-Geil, Internews
Erin Bown-Anderson, Geeks without Frontiers	Nizar Zeidan, UNHCR
Ezzeddin Hassoumeh, Save the Children	Oisin Walton, Vodafone Foundation
Harry Papastavrou, World Vision International	
Hem Bohora, UNICEF	
Hung Tran, SES Networks	
Igor Condrat, UNFPA	
Isaac Kwamy, GSMA	

## Situation Overview

Since the escalation of conflict in Ukraine on 24 February, over 4.3 million people have been forced to flee to neighbouring countries. The total displacement across Europe surpassed 4.3 million on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

As the situation evolves, more humanitarians are reaching to the countries bordering Ukraine and consequently, the needs of both people forced to flee and humanitarians delivering critical protection and programme activities in these countries is increasing.

Rami Shakra, Global RETS Coordinator is supporting the RETS response in countries neighbouring Ukraine, working closely with the partners. Alexander Thomas is leading RETS coordination in the Republic of Moldova.

## Global RETS Update

- Request from UNHCR Poland to connect 5 sites: 3 enrolment centres and 2 Blue Dots. In order to support this request, Cisco is deploying 2 additional people to Krakow.
- In Slovakia, 7 sites are being finalised and more are expected to go live soon. Cisco and Slovak Telecom will support UNHCR in this direction from next week.
- UNHCR is looking at establishing 7 Blue Dots in Hungary and is starting to make agreements with UNICEF on the location of these sites.
- UNICEF is still planning the locations of the Blue Dots in Poland, Czechia, Slovakia and Hungary.
- 4 sites in Romania have been identified for the installation of Blue Dots and more are in progress. UNHCR is working with UNICEF to establish a sustainable connectivity solution in these sites. 7 emergency kits from Cisco have been deployed to Romania in support of this endeavour.

## RETS Update from Moldova

Alexander Thomas is leading coordination in Moldova. RETS continues to coordinate all IT assessments and service delivery for the humanitarian response community in Moldova. In this regard, partners are encouraged to support the 5W data collection activities in Moldova to capture the services provided by different actors ([link](#)). Partners who have problems accessing the 5W can reach out to [mdachim@unhcr.org](mailto:mdachim@unhcr.org).

### Coordination and Connectivity

- Moldova has four active RETS sites, two Blue Dots in Otaci and Palanca, the Causeni station as well as a number of humanitarian tents in Palanca.
- UNHCR has extended the Wi-Fi coverage in Palanca to cover all humanitarian organisations that have containers and service tents in this area.
- Regular surveys will be conducted by UNHCR to ensure good connectivity of sites and to reassess connectivity needs if necessary
- UNHCR and UNICEF are also working on plans to deploy two new Blue Bots in Moldova: one in Leuseni and the other in Sculeni.
  
- Local partners are encouraged to share their connectivity needs with RETS Coordinator in Moldova, Alexander Thomas [thomas@unhcr.org](mailto:thomas@unhcr.org) and submit their assessments to the RETS Ukraine Situation team via [this link](#) or via email [rets.europe@unhcr.org](mailto:rets.europe@unhcr.org).

## Global Partner Updates

### CISCO

- Cisco continues to support UNHCR with a third team that is heading to Krakow and will be operating throughout the region.
- Cisco has sent emergency kits to Romania and a team to support the ongoing operations there.

**NETHOPE**

- Result of NetHope's assessment: Out of 58 sites visited about 25 need connectivity or support for connectivity. NetHope will soon share the full results and action plan to address these needs
- Especially in the bordering areas of Ukraine, secure connectivity is essential. NetHope will deploy equipment and personnel to respond to the cybersecurity needs in incoming days.

**GEEKS WITHOUT FRONTIERS**

- An initial assessment for the need and modification of the ten containers is still ongoing. Currently, a number of containers are in Krakow. Geeks without Frontiers are willing to distribute the kitted containers to Romania, Moldova and Ukraine if needed.
- A number of government and international agencies have already requested the shipment of the containers.
- Geeks without Frontiers will soon share their deployment maps with the UNHCR and NetHope.
- Geeks without Borders are working on the delivery of the first batch of the 10 containers, which are equipped with all the technology needed for the personnel, this can be modified based on the individual needs of the partners.
- Partners are encouraged to reach out to Joe Simmons get more information, modification and delivery of these containers.

<b>Action Points</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
1. The next RETS Coordination Meeting for Moldova will take place on 07 April, meeting invitation will be sent to all participants.	UNHCR	Immediate
2. Partners and colleagues are encouraged to upload their assessment reports, maps and other information and data materials to the RETS Ukraine Situation Team.	All partners present in Moldova	ASAP
3. Partners are encouraged to submit their activities to the 5W Moldova.	All partners delivering services in Moldova	ASAP

