

# UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #10

28 April 2022

# **UNHCR PUBLICATIONS**

(22 April – 27 April)

Appeal: UNHCR Ukraine Situation Revised Supplementary Appeal, March-December 2022 (27 April)

Briefing Note: UNHCR and partners call for urgent support for refugees from Ukraine and their hosts (26 April)

Plan: Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan, March-December 2022 (25 April)

Summary: Ukraine Regional Refugee Response Plan And Flash Appeal Summary (25 April)

Advocacy Agenda: Ukraine Emergency: Children Fleeing Ukraine – The Advocacy Agenda For Action (25 April)

Previous Ukraine Situation Flash Updates Flash Update #9 (21 April)available here Flash Update #8 (13 April) available here Flash Update #7 (6 April) available here Flash Update #6 (30 March) available here Flash Update #5 (24 March) available here Flash Update #4 (18 March) available here Flash Update #3 (15 March) available here Flash Update #2 (11 March) available here Flash Update #1 (8 March) available here

More information

The UNHCR <u>Hungary portal</u> page The UNHCR <u>Moldova portal</u> page The UNHCR <u>Poland portal</u> page

The latest Ukraine Emergency: <u>UNHCR</u> <u>Operational Response and Delivery Update</u> as of 25 April

# REFUGEES FLEEING UKRAINE 5,317,219 Data as of 27 April 2022



More details: Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation

### BACKGROUND

The Russian Federation launched a military offensive against Ukraine on 24 February 2022. As of today, more than 5.3 million refugees have fled Ukraine, making this the fastest growing refugee crisis since World War II. A further 7.7 million people have been displaced internally within Ukraine.

Some 13 million people in Ukraine are estimated to be stranded in affected areas or unable to leave due to heightened security risks, destruction of bridges and roads, as well as lack of resources or information on where to find safety and accommodation.

Many people who are trapped are unable to meet their basic needs including food, water and medicines. The delivery of life-saving aid remains challenging, with a lack of safe humanitarian access. We continue striving to reach hard-hit areas with life-saving assistance as part of inter-agency humanitarian convoys. UNHCR continues to call for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, respect for international humanitarian law, and for neighbouring countries to continue keeping their borders open to those fleeing.



### Key figures - UKRAINE

- **304,975** people reached with essential food and non-food items, winter clothes and shelter materials
- **99,749** people received protection assistance at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines
- 162,015 people enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance. 96,357 already received first payment
- **30,172** people received assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas
- 149 reception and collective centres were supported with essential items

### **UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE**

- On 26 April, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres visited Moscow and met with President Putin. While there he made a <u>statement</u> calling for an end to the war in Ukraine and for the urgent establishment of humanitarian corridors to evacuate civilians and enable the delivery of much needed assistance.
- Secretary General Guterres travelled to Kyiv and met with the Ukrainian President Zelensky on Wednesday 27 April.
- On 25 April, OCHA launched the updated <u>UN Flash Appeal</u> seeking USD 2.25 billion to assist 8.7 million people in Ukraine during the six-month period through August.
- On 25 April, the Head of Ukrainian railways announced that five railway stations were hit by missiles in central and western Ukraine during the morning. According to media reports citing Ukrainian officials, at least five people were killed during the attacks in Zhmerynka and Kozyatyn towns in Vinnytsia oblast.
- Martial law in Ukraine has been extended until 25 May 2022, as intense fighting and airstrikes continue to cause civilian casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure.
- In a <u>statement</u> on 22 April, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights urged respect for international humanitarian law.
- On 21 April, the World Bank <u>announced</u> that physical damage to Ukraine's buildings and infrastructure has reached roughly US\$ 60 billion.
- On 20 April, four evacuation buses managed to leave Mariupol using the humanitarian corridor. Around 1,000 civilians remain stranded in the premises of the Azovstal steel factory, alongside remaining Ukrainian troops. A humanitarian corridor proposed to enable civilians to escape the steel factory has not yet been successful. The mayor of Mariupol reported on 21 April that some 100,000 people still remain in the city.
- A further humanitarian corridor from Kherson planned for 21
  April was unsuccessful while the situation there remains dire.

**TARGETS**\*



**1.2 million** people will receive protection assistance and information

# NFI

**1.5 million** people will be supported with essential food and NFIs

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**1.08 million** people will receive multipurpose cash assistance



**200** reception and collective centres will be equipped with essential items



**40** reception and collective centres will be refurbished to enhance capacity

\*Targets updated to cover a 6-month period

### **UNHCR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE**

### **Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)**

- Since the beginning of cash enrolment in Ukraine on 17 March, **162,015 people have been** enrolled to receive cash assistance and **96,357 have received their first payments.**
- Enrolment for cash assistance continues in eight oblasts Chernivtsi, Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnitskyi, Lviv, Ternopil, Vinnytsia and Zakarpattia, while preparations are underway to launch enrolment in four additional oblasts - Cherkasy, Kirovohrad, Poltava and Zaporizhzhia.
- An interactive Cash Working Group dashboard showing overall progress can be accessed here.

### Protection

- Almost 100,000 people have received targeted protection assistance at border crossing points, online and in locations where people have fled.
- This includes protection counselling and services, including psychosocial support and legal aid. The overall figure includes more than 31,600 people who received information and counselling through hotlines; over 19,250 people who received protection support or counselling; over 9,100 people who received psychosocial support or psychological first aid; over 10,400 people who received legal counselling or assistance; more than 4,100 who received social support; in addition to over 1,000 protection monitoring missions.
- On 22 April, UNHCR held a meeting with the Presidential Plenipotentiary on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities regarding longer-term solutions for persons with disabilities evacuated from conflict-affected areas. UNHCR also discussed possible assistance to refurbish premises for IDPs with disabilities.

### **Core Relief Items**

- To date, almost 305,000 people have benefitted from core relief items (CRIs) and food assistance across eastern, central and western Ukraine. This includes over 56,500 people who received food assistance, while the remainder received core relief items, winter clothes or emergency shelter and support.
- Access to the hardest hit areas remains extremely challenging with continuing security risks, both for affected civilians as well as humanitarian actors. Despite this, UNHCR, as part of interagency humanitarian convoys, has reached more than 30,000 people in the hardest hit areas with life-saving assistance.
- UNHCR continues to provide support to reception and collective centres, increasing their capacity to host IDPs. So far 149 reception and collective centres were supported with essential items.



### **Blue Dots**

UNHCR and UNICEF are jointly establishing 'Blue Dots' in multiple countries receiving refugees fleeing Ukraine. Some **30** Blue Dot hubs will be established, while a total of **19** are already operational including in:

Bulgaria	1
Italy	2
Moldova	6
Poland	5
Romania	3
Slovakia	2

Blue Dots are one-stop-shops, and safe spaces which provide a minimum set of protection services for children, families and others with specific needs, in support of existing services and government efforts. They improve accessibility and standardization of services provided, as well as predictability through a recognizable label - the 'Blue Dot'.

**HUNGARY** 

### **Key figures - HUNGARY**

35,200 core relief items pre-positioned for dispatch to Ukraine in the coming week

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**4,800** people provided with protection support including legal info, counselling, psychosocial support, and information

### Protection

- UNHCR and partners have provided protection support to some 4,800 people since 25 March, including legal and social counselling, psychosocial support, and information on temporary protection. Of these, some 515 people received protection support in the past week.
- UNHCR has a permanent presence at Zahony railway station, where counselling is provided to refugee arrivals. In the past week, counselling was provided to 127 families, including older people, people with serious medical conditions and other vulnerable groups. Some 95 per cent were women and children. At least 80 per cent of those counselled were facing psychological distress and required referrals to MHPSS services.

- UNHCR is addressing protection and reception gaps, including enhancing the vetting and registration of volunteers to ensure the safety and protection of refugees. On 24 April, UNHCR conducted two training sessions for volunteer networks focusing on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and core humanitarian principles. All 40 participants signed a Code of Conduct and agreed to reference checks. The application of the Code of Conduct is being discussed for introduction for all volunteers contributing at Zahony railway station.
- UNHCR is developing referrals pathways for cases of children at risk and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in coordination with national authorities. Joint capacity building for authorities is under discussion with the Department of Child Protection and Guardianship.
- UNHCR continues working with partners on the ground to coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities. UNHCR, who chairs the Protection Working Group, has developed GBV referral pathways.
- Efforts to increase access to information for refugees continue. This week an information video has been shared on UNHCR's twitter account to provide information and referral to national services on temporary protection and available services for refugees in Hungary. The video is available in Hungarian, Ukrainian, Russian and English.

- An Accountability to Affected Populations coordination group is being established to collaborate on communication, feedback mechanisms and community engagement. UNHCR's implementing partner for legal aid, the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, continues to operate feedback and information channels on Facebook Messenger and by email via <u>ukrainecrisis@</u> helsinki.hu.
- In addition to existing partnerships, UNHCR is finalizing agreements with two new partners to expand the capacity and reach of protection activities. Several more partnerships will be established in the coming weeks, including with Ukrainian refugee organisations, to focus on assistance at border areas, basic needs, reception and access to services, integration and Blue Dot activities.

### **Core Relief Items**

- UNHCR currently has the following stock prepositioned in a warehouse in Hungary for dispatch to Ukraine: 13,248 thermal blankets; 14,800 jerry cans; 2,448 solar lamps; 2,467 kitchen sets and 2,300 plastic tarpaulins. This stock is due to be dispatched to warehouses in Ukraine this week.
- Some **19,000 hygiene kits** are due to be delivered to Hungary next week with coordination underway with implementing partners regarding distribution.

# **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

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### Key figures - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

- **29,795** people have received multipurpose cash assistance so far (as of 26 April)
- **40,400** people have benefitted from core relief items distributed in Moldova
- **994** refugees departed to Austria, France, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania as part of the EU Solidarity Platform
- 6 Blue Dots operational
- 4,320 supported at Blue Dots

### Protection

 So far, in the context of the EU Solidarity Platform, 12 Member States - including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain - as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland have made pledges to welcome 19,770 people transiting Moldova.

- Out of the pledges made so far, a total of **994 persons** were transferred from Moldova, including to Austria, France, Germany, and Latvia by air and to Lithuania by bus. UNHCR provided support to the vulnerability screening process and collaborated with IOM on assistance to the organization of departure procedures, including through counselling refugees.
- UNHCR and IOM continue to jointly facilitate fast-track transfers from Palanca, Moldova, to Husi, Romania. As of 24 April, almost 10,000 people had been transported to Romania through this mechanism. UNHCR partner ACTED also provides transportation for persons from border crossing points to other locations in Moldova and Romania.
- UNHCR partners Law Center of Advocates (LCA), ACTED, and INTERSOS are stationed at border crossing points, and refugee accommodation centres to provide transportation, protection monitoring, vulnerability screening, and counselling.
- LCA also operates a legal help desk for refugees at MoldExpo. UNHCR intends to open additional legal help desks at key refugee accommodation centres. In the first quarter, some 10,000 people have received support.
- UNHCR is co-leading the GBV sub-working group alongside UNFPA which includes 43 organizations and government institutions. Comprehensive GBV referral pathways have been developed and shared based on service mapping for all regions of Moldova. To date 143 frontline partner, government and NGO staff have been trained on GBV safe disclosure and referral. Further orientation is planned for all sectors to promote GBV mainstreaming across the response.
- There are currently six Blue Dots operational in Moldova. Some 4,320 people (more than 50 per cent children) received support provided by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners at Blue Dot centres.

### **Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

 Some 29,795 refugees have been enrolled and issued bank cards for multipurpose cash assistance in Moldova since 25 March. This number continues to increase rapidly as the programme is scaled up in coordination with the Government of Moldova WFP, and other partners. So far, 8 enrolment centres are operational, with mobile teams covering other locations.

### **Core Relief Items**

UNHCR has handed over stocks of core relief items to the Government for onward distribution. To date, the Government has distributed items to benefit over 40,400 people, including blankets, tents, baby kits, winterization kits, solar lamps and respiratory masks. These have been distributed at border crossing points and at MoldExpo.



- UNHCR currently has a stockpile in Moldova of: more than 77,600 high thermal blankets, 11,400 solar lamps, 4,852 sleeping bags, 4,800 family tents, 3,000 winterization kits, 1,040 kitchen sets, and 1,000 plastic tarpaulins.
- UNHCR has also provided material assistance to the Government of Moldova to increase capacities in the form of vehicles, laptops, generators and other office equipment.

#### POLAND

# NFI

# Key figures - POLAND

- **37,709** refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance as of 26 April
- **5 Blue Dots operating** and scale up to other locations underway
- 118 trucks have been dispatched from Poland to Ukraine with core relief items to benefit some 425,000 people

### Protection

- There are currently 5 UNHCR-UNICEF Blue Dots operating in Poland at the UNHCR cash enrolment centres in Warsaw and Krakow, at the Tesco reception centre in Przemyśl and 'Light' Blue Dot points at the Medyka Border Crossing Point and Koczowa. A Light Blue Dot offers the most essential services in key border and transit areas.
- Between 11 and 25 April, more than 2,678 individuals received counselling at the 5 Blue Dots Hubs. Interviews, consultations and referrals are conducted on average with 50 refugees daily, while a common monitoring tool has been finalised and rolled across all the Blue Dots.
- Blue Dot protection staff are supporting the cash enrolment teams in identification of persons with specific needs for support and referral to services and communicating with refugees on cash assistance modalities, as well as other information needs.
- UNHCR has been present at border crossing points, reception centres and transit points since the onset of the crisis. Field teams have conducted over 46 field monitoring visits. In the past week, monitoring missions were undertaken to Katowicw, Medyka border crossing point, Kawecuznek, Lubelski, Kroscienko border crossing point and Lodyna.

- The <u>UNHCR Help Poland</u> page is now the most visited Help country site globally. It has surpassed one million visits and 2.3 million page views, with some 90,000 visitors from Ukraine. The Help site has been updated with additional health and MHPSS-related content and contacts and key GBV referral numbers and services.
- The first <u>Poland Inter-Agency Operational Update</u> was published on 20 April.

### **Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

 As of 26 April, 37,709 people (17,765 families) have been enrolled for cash assistance in Poland through three cash enrollment centres in Warsaw and Krakow.
 A site for the upcoming centre in Poznan has been identified and will be opened shortly.

### **Core Relief Items**

- 118 trucks have travelled from Poland to Ukraine to dispatch hundreds of thousands of core relief items to five warehouses in Ukraine for distribution to the increasing numbers of IDPs in need.
- These include: 147,105 high thermal blankets; 35,260 regular blankets; 47,500 sheets of tarpaulin to repair shelters; 30,000 towels; 14,800 winter clothing kits/ boxes; 51,800 solar lamps; 14,200 kitchen sets; 12,500 jerry cans; 10,000 sleeping bags; 8,800 hygiene parcels; 14,700 pillows; 5,175 winter jackets; 5,700 mattresses; 9,100 quilts; 20,700 bedsheets/linens; 20 Rubb halls.

### **ROMANIA**



### **Key figures - ROMANIA**

- **1,575** refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance as part of pilot as of 26 April
- Over **6,360** refugees received in-person counselling and assistance
- Some **7,680** refugees provided with information and counselling over the phone
- **3 Blue Dots** operating in Romania

### **Protection**

 UNHCR continues to provide in-person protection information and counselling as well as through hotlines. To date, over 6,363 people have received protection support and information in person, and more than 7,678 have received information and counselling through helplines. Information requested focused on accommodation, transportation, medical services, school enrolment support, job opportunities and temporary protection.

- On 24 April, a group of some 204 refugees including many older people and people with disabilities from Mykolaiv in Ukraine arrived in Romania, facilitated through a fast-track transfer from Moldova, following recent bombardments in residential areas of the city. UNHCR Romania and UNHCR Moldova provided coordinated assistance and follow up for this group.
- There are currently **three Blue Dots operational in Romania** including in Sighet, Siret and at Isaccea border crossing point. On 15 April, a Cisco mission was organized at the Siret Blue Dot site to enhance internet connectivity. **UNHCR and UNICEF, in collaboration** with the Government, are expanding the services and the child friendly space available at the Isaccea border crossing point Blue Dot.
- On 25 April, an information session for 34 Ukrainian refugees (32 women and 2 men) and 11 refugee children was organized by the National Agency Against Trafficking (ANITP) in Suceava on human trafficking, GBV awareness, and temporary protection in Romania. UNHCR and partners delivered a session on GBV and temporary protection, and cash assistance. Moving forward, weekly sessions will be held, with UNHCR participation and support.
- On 20 April, **UNHCR took part in the first meeting** of a refugee women's hub in Bucharest providing information on temporary protection, access to healthcare and cash. Participants shared their concerns including access to health care, access to education, access to the labour market and legal status.
- UNHCR is working with partners to coordinate and scale-up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by the refugees. Partners are working on finalizing GBV referral pathways and preparing for capacity building of the frontline workers on core concepts and safe disclosures.

#### **Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

- Since the rollout of the cash distribution and enrolment pilot in Bucharest which began on 4 April, 1,575 individuals (575 families) have been enrolled to receive multi-purpose cash assistance, of which 93% are women and children. Cash distributions began as of 26 April, with 827 individuals receiving assistance from the financial service provider Rapyd.
- The pilot will be scaled up to full implementation by early next week, with UNHCR targeting the support for 80,000 individuals. The setup of enrolment centres in various locations across the country is foreseen to

facilitate timely enrolment and distribution of cash assistance. UNHCR is seeking to secure Government agreement to ensure enrolment in the cash programme is harmonized with the issuance of temporary protection documentation, creating a one-stop shop synergy between these two main protection mechanisms.

### **Core Relief Items**

- UNHCR has three warehouses in Bucharest for storing core relief items. UNHCR uses its storage hub to deliver humanitarian assistance inside Ukraine and pre-position items for contingency needs in Romania.
- Pre-positioned stock in Romania for needs in Ukraine currently includes: 59,500 blankets; 28,200 jerry cans; 9,164 solar lamps; 2,025 kitchen sets.
- On 14 April, the following set of core-relief items arrived in the Romania Hub for Ukraine from Amman for delivery to Ukraine: 26,856 fleece blankets, 4,200 plastic tarpaulins, 15,200 jerrycans and 2,304 solar lamps. In addition, on 19 April, UNHCR procured 18,000 quilts and 12,500 thermoses, stockpiled in the Romania warehouse hub as part of contingency preparedness for a potential escalation of hostilities in Odesa.
- On 18 April, 8,800 jerry cans, 21,408 blankets, 2,340 kitchen sets and 5,400 solar lamps from the Romania Hub for Ukraine were delivered into Uzhorod and Chernivitsi.

### **SLOVAKIA**



# Key figures - SLOVAKIA

2 Blue Dots operating in Slovakia

### Protection

- Two UNHCR-UNICEF Blue Dots have been set up at a registration centre in Bratislava and in Gabčíkovo. Further approval has been secured from the Vice President of the Police to set up Blue Dots at additional registration centres including in Bottova, Kosice, Humenné, Michalovce and Nitra. This process is underway. Referral pathways are being developed to facilitate and formalise the identification and referral of persons with specific needs and children at risk, to state systems and service providers.
- Within the purview of the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, UNHCR has taken the lead on consolidating existing service mappings and directories at the local level to develop a service mapping and define referral pathways.

- In advance of dedicated Child Protection trainings for government and non-government counterparts in the coming weeks, UNHCR is utilizing opportunities within the Protection Working Group, protection monitoring training and others to provide key messages on identification, referral, and child protection.
- Ongoing assessments are underway to understand GBV risks, vulnerabilities and services available for GBV survivors, and priority actions to put in place for GBV prevention, mitigation and response programming. PSEA trainings are starting this week for UNHCR staff, and materials will be translated into Slovak.
- A resource repository with policy guidance, training materials and other tools has been launched for the PSEA Task Force. Training on GBV and PSEA was provided to police, medical personnel and other national actors involved in the refugee response on 26 April.
- Existing partnership agreements with local actors will be extended to include additional protection services, including at Blue Dots.

### **Multipurpose Cash Assistance**

 UNHCR enrolment activities for cash assistance are planned to start on 2 May at five registration centres (Michalovce, Nitra, Humenné, Žilina and Bratislava). As the co-chair of the Cash Working Group, alongside the Government, UNHCR is coordinating with other agencies to harmonize cash assistance in country and develop an interagency document on the cash assistance strategy in support of the Government.

# COORDINATION

### Ukraine

UNHCR leads the Protection, Shelter and Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. In addition, as colead of the Logistics Working Group in Ukraine, UNHCR is facilitating the movement of humanitarian convoys in coordination with OCHA.

The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster has established a national coordination office in Lviv and plans to establish sub-national offices in Chernivtsi, Dnipro Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia. Both the Child Protection and GBV Sub-Clusters are similarly expanding their presence.

### **Regional Refugee Response**

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of the relevant governments. A Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) was developed in early March. A revised version of the RRP extending through December 2022 was published this week (25 April), bringing together the joint efforts of 142 partners.

Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, have been established at country level in **Belarus**, **Bulgaria**, the **Czech Republic**, **Hungary**, the **Republic of Moldova**, **Poland**, **Romania** and **Slovakia** to support the efforts of the concerned governments. The structures are meant to be agile and shall be adjusted as the situation evolves.

In **Hungary**, UNHCR chairs the RCF and co-chairs coordination groups on Basic Needs, Health, Protection, Child Protection, GBV, and Cash, as well as PSEA and MHPSS task forces, which work with the Government's National Humanitarian Coordination Council.

In **Moldova**, an Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been established with more than 100 participating members. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs the Cash, Education, IM, Protection, Accommodation & Transportation, and Logistics & Supply Working Groups; GBV and Child Protection Sub Working Groups; the Gender Task Force; and the PSEA Network. The Government of Moldova has established a Single Emergency Management Centre under the Prime Minister's Office, where UNHCR represents the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, ensuring coordination between the two. In **Poland**, UNHCR has established a Refugee Coordination Forum that includes local and international actors across eight sectors and working groups. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs AAP, Basic Needs, Cash, IM, Logistics, and Protection Sector Working Groups, Child Protection and GBV Sub-sectors, the MHPSS Working Group, and the PSEA Network.

In **Romania**, UNHCR has set up the Refugee Coordination Model structure with several sector Working Groups co-led by UNHCR and other UN agencies, government counterparts and NGOs. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs Basic Needs, Cash, IM and Protection Working Groups; the Child Protection Sub Working Group; and the PSEA Network.

In **Slovakia**, the refugee coordination structure has been streamlined to better complement government systems. UNHCR leads the RCF-Central and RCF-East and the Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups for Health, IM, Child Protection, Protection, Inclusion and Cash.

#### **FINANCIAL NEEDS**

Links

Revised: <u>Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan</u> Revised: <u>UN Flash Appeal (Ukraine)</u> Revised: <u>UNHCR Ukraine Situation Revised Supplementary Appeal</u>



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.