Operations Update | 30 August – 20 September

MOLDOVA

On 8 September, UNHCR and partners opened a new Blue Dot at the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Asylum Seekers. Currently there are nine Blue Dots operational in Moldova.

Figures at a glance

Population figures

- 91,772 Ukrainian refugees remaining in Moldova
- 60% females
- 49% children
- 15% elderly
- 617,210 arrivals from Ukraine since 24 February

Key response figures

- 84k people were provided with cash assistance
- USD 36M disbursed
- 58,714 refugees supported with legal assistance by the Law Centre of Advocates
- 2,808 refugees hosted in 70 refugee accommodation centres supported by UNHCR
- 2,854 people have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid by INTERSOS

Blue Dots

Blue Dots are safe spaces established jointly with UNICEF and implementing partners. They provide practical support and information to children and families. To date, over 30k people were assisted in nine Blue Dots.

Digital Blue Dots

To complement the physical Blue Dot Hubs, and for all refugees to be able to look up services, a digital platform, named “Digital Blue Dot”, was launched in September. It can be accessed at https://bluedothub.org/

Recent highlights

- On 20 September, the Embassy of Italy and UNHCR provided the Bureau of Migration and Asylum of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Chisinau with donations, including vehicles, laptops, printers, internet routers, generators, air conditioners, refrigerators, safes and surveillance cameras. The donation is aiming to enhance the BMA’s responsiveness in managing the refugee crisis from Ukraine.

- On 13 September, UNHCR met with the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Igor Grosu. At the meeting, they discussed protection and inclusion of refugees and committed on working together to help refugees in the Republic of Moldova access education, work opportunities, as well as medical and social services. The Government of Moldova and UNHCR are working together to build a sustainable framework for refugee inclusion that benefits refugees and citizens of Moldova alike.

- On 5 September, UNHCR donated essential home appliances to the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Asylum Seekers in Chisinau. The centre is under the administration of the Bureau for Migration and Asylum, and it is the only one of its kind in Moldova. The donated appliances will improve the living conditions for the most vulnerable asylum seekers.

- UNHCR works with sectors and partners on the planning of winterization-related activities, including coordination for the development and implementation of Winter Needs Rapid Assessment, coordination of NFI Kits composition and distribution in the context of the development of a joint winterization plan.
UNHCR is currently re-orienting its cash registration centres as Community Service Centres to provide refugees and host communities with information and services, offering a community space for them to interact and organise community-led activities.

In close collaboration with the local authorities and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, on 6 September UNHCR and partners opened a community service centre in Ungheni, offering services such as enrolment for cash assistance, legal counselling, and psychosocial support and psychological first aid. Similar centres are also planned in Bălți, Orhei among other places.

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When we heard about this opportunity for our daughter to learn Romanian, we said that we want to learn Romanian too, out of respect for this country hosting us. For Polina, Romanian language is a joy, because she is learning English also and a lot of words are the same. To learn together with children was interesting and encouraging.

Alla Kocetova, refugee from Ukraine

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UNHCR Moldova is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. Unearmarked contributions provide UNHCR with vital flexibility in determining how best to protect and assist persons of concern who are in the greatest need or at the greatest risk.

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### Additional response figures

- **35,989** people counselled through the Green Line managed by UNHCR
- **9,709** SIM cards distributed to refugees by ACTED
- **30,705** people received assistance through Blue Dots supported by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners
- **12,343** people were transported from the border crossing points to Romania in partnership with IOM
- **16,459** people transported from the border crossing points further to Moldova together with ACTED
- **1,877** refugees and TCNs voluntarily transferred to EU+ countries under the EU Solidarity Platform

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Alla and Serghey together with Polina graduated the Romanian language courses. The project is implemented across the country by the Association of Ukrainian language teachers in Moldova with the support of UNHCR. Courses are organized in Bălți and Edinet.