UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #37

16 December 2022

Hungary. Dog therapy helps relieve stress of Ukrainian refugee children. November 2022 © UNHCR/ Zsolt Balla

UNHCR PUBLICATIONS

Brief: Displacement patterns, protection risks and needs of refugees from Ukraine: Regional protection analysis #1 (26 Oct)

Previous Ukraine Situation Flash Updates are available here

The latest Ukraine Emergency: UNHCR Operational Response and Delivery Update (14 December)

More information
The UNHCR Hungary portal
The UNHCR Moldova portal
The UNHCR Poland portal
The UNHCR Romania portal
The UNHCR Slovakia portal

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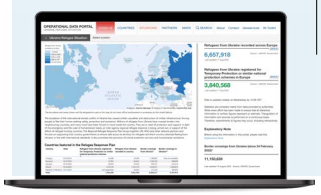
KEY FIGURES (as of 06 December)

7,832,493
refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe

4,805,531
refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe

5,914,000
estimated number of IDPs in Ukraine (as of 5 December)
Source: Internal Displacement Report



More details: Operational Data Portal
Ukraine Refugee Situation

BACKGROUND

While close to 7.9 million refugees from Ukraine were recored across Europe, 4.7 million refugees from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes.

According to the IOM Ukraine Internal Displacement Report 11th rapid assessment, as of 5 December, there were over 5.9 million people displaced by the war within Ukraine. According to the report, some 680,000 people have been newly displaced within the last month.

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

Due to repeated missile attacks on energy infrastructure, 12 million Ukrainians have been disconnected from the electricity grid and all of Ukraine's thermal and hydroelectric power plants have been damaged. This situation is compounded by the onset of harsh winter conditions and plummeting temperatures, aggravating the existing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS - UKRAINE

- **Over 1 million people** have now been reached by UNHCR and partners with winter support. Of these, 280,841 people received cash for winter, 801,185 people were given winterized items and 12,525 people benefited from shelter support.
- Generators for heating points remain a priority for oblast authorities. UNHCR has so far distributed **55 generators** to **12 oblasts,** to be installed at heating points, which are makeshift centres provided by the authorities, with an additional 54 generators in the pipeline.
- **Over 3.69 million people** have by now been reached by UNHCR and partners with protection services and assistance in form of cash, essential items and shelter support, while UNHCR continues to support and complement the national authorities' response to help ensure sustainability, recovery and durable solutions. Find more information in the **regular Ukraine country operational updates**
- Responding to winter-specific needs, nearly 11,200 pieces of winter clothes and shoes were distributed to the people affected by war in Dnipropetrovska, Zaporizka, Kharkivska, Poltavska, Sumska, Donetska and Khersonska oblasts over the past week.
- Heating points and shelters are being equipped in coordination with local authorities: 250 electric and solid fuel heaters were provided to Mykolaiv City authorities, 60 solid fuel heaters to partners in Zhytomyrska oblast and three solid fuel heaters to equip heating points in Donteska oblast, which can accommodate 3,000 people.
- Some 400 internally displaced people in Zakarpatska and Ivano-Frankivska oblasts were provided with psychosocial support sessions over the past week by UNHCR partners, who noted that many are experiencing severe anxiety due to the beginning of the winter season and frequent electricity cuts.

KEY FIGURES IN UKRAINE (as of 14 December)

3.69 million
people reached with assistance to date

1,439,704
people reached with essential food and non-food items (NFIs), winter clothes

858,654
individuals received cash assistance from UNHCR to support their basic needs. Inter-agency Cash Working Group partners have reached 4.32 million people with cash assistance (dashboard)

145,229
people received shelter support through interventions in collective centres and damaged homes.

1,115,722
people received protection assistance, advice and referrals at border crossing points, transit, and reception centres and through hotlines, including psychosocial support and legal aid

480,520
people have received assistance through

572
humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas.

UNHCR RESPONSE TARGETS*

4.3 million
The number of people UNHCR aims to reach

1.2 million
people will receive protection assistance and information

1.5 million
people will be supported with essential food and non-food items

1.08 million
people will receive multipurpose cash assistances

140,000
people to receive shelter support, including through repairs and insulation of

8,200
homes

*The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements detailed on the last page.

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

- UNHCR continues to work closely with the national authorities as well as partners to prepare contingency plans in the region. Preparedness measures include the procurement of an adequate stock of essential relief items, including thermal blankets, mattresses, clothes and other items stocked in UNHCR warehouses in the region.
- 463,820 people had received cash assistance in Bulgaria, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia as of 15 December.
- 38 Blue Dot Hubs established with UNICEF in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.
- The regional Digital Blue Dot has been launched in Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland and Romania. The website provides localized and up-to-date information about services available to refugees in each country, a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs, information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

BULGARIA

146,659
refugees registered for temporary protection

103,133
people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners

50,255
people had been reached through **6** Blue Dots

2,161
people have received cash assistance

- A top priority for UNHCR and partners is the delivery of winter-related support packages. In the reporting period, UNHCR and partners delivered winter-related household appliances to 4,577 individuals, including quilts, hygiene kits and blankets. Over 71,000 refugees have so far received household items. Increased numbers of refugees are approaching service providers to seek winter assistance (non-food items, food parcels). To date, UNHCR partners have provided nearly 54,500 people with food or food vouchers.

CZECH REPUBLIC

466,872
refugees registered for temporary protection

1,290
people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners

- Since 24 February, over **460 individuals** have been trained on core protection principles by UNHCR and partners, including NGOs, volunteers and authorities. Topics include child protection, GBV, PSEA, and the legal framework for temporary protection.

HUNGARY

32,628
refugees registered for temporary protection

10,839
people had been reached through **3** Blue Dots

103,536
visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- From the onset of the refugee crisis, UNHCR and partners have reached 47,423 people with protection support at locations across Hungary, including at Blue Dot Hubs, the Zahony railway station and accommodation shelters.

More than 8,000 people have received legal support from UNHCR partners the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Menedék Association.

- During a round table organized by UNHCR on 6 December, 47 participants from 19 different organizations, including OSCE, the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, and the European Commission, exchanged on the heightened vulnerability of people fleeing Ukraine to tech-facilitated labour exploitation, human trafficking and gender-based violence risks on-line. The meeting took place in the framework of the project Wise Browsing, Safe Posting, which was launched in Hungary in August 2022 to tackle the misuse of social media platforms by individuals and criminal networks.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

98,027
refugees from Ukraine estimated to have remained in the country

76,371
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

40,500
people had been reached through 9 Blue Dot Hubs, including 20,000 children

106,546
people have received cash assistance

428,741
visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page

- UNHCR organized three local Refugee Coordination Forums in Otaci, Ungheni and Palanca this week. Participants from local authorities, civil society organisations and the refugee community agreed on enhancing coordination mechanism in NFI distribution in Ungheni and introducing legal support and case management in Otaci.

POLAND

1,529,355
refugees have registered for temporary protection

40,371
people were counselled at the **6** Blue Dots and **5** Community Centres

5.7 million
views to the UNHCR Poland Help page

- Some 60 companies and over 1,000 jobseekers participated in two job fairs organized by UNHCR in Warsaw on 6 December and Krakow on 8 December. Over 600 conditional job offers were made.
- Protection Sector Recommendations on the application of the Temporary Protection Directive in Poland were published on 9 December. They include, inter alia, advice to ensure that Ukrainians who temporarily leave their residence in Poland do not lose their protection status, suggestions to prevent digital exclusion, and proposals to better address needs of persons with disabilities.
- As part of winterization efforts, thermal upgrade works have started in two out of eight selected shelters in the Lubelskie region and in four shelters in the Podkarpackie border region.

ROMANIA

91,766
refugees registered for temporary protection

30,671
people have received cash assistance

57,498
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners, in-person and over hotlines

89,384
views to the UNHCR Romania Help page

- In response to the harsh weather conditions, UNHCR has been distributing household items in various areas of the countries, including 900 blankets, 960 bed linen sets and 195 hygiene kits to refugees in the north of Romania bordering with Ukraine. Over 500 persons received blankets and bed linen in the city of Iasi.
- Over twenty public institutions and NGO representatives participated in two roundtables on gender-based violence (GBV) organized by UNHCR partner Sensiblu Foundation in Bucharest and Suceava last week.

SLOVAKIA

102,675
refugees registered for temporary protection

28,824
people been assisted with legal counselling at **3** Blue Dots

26,997
refugees have received cash assistance

- UNHCR's helpline had received nearly 10,739 calls as of 9 December. Queries related to registration for temporary protection, winterization assistance, employment, cash assistance, access to food assistance, protection services, and education.
- UNHCR partner Mareena finalised a situational analysis, which maps integration services in five cities (Bratislava, Košice, Nitra, Banská Bystrica and Trenčín), including community support networks. Based on this analysis a series of consultations with municipalities and other local actors were initiated to identify areas for improvement to facilitate integration of refugees from Ukraine.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Belarus

- Over 2,100 people have received in-person counselling from UNHCR partners until the end of November, and 1,686 calls were recorded on the counselling line so far.
- UNHCR and partners have to date helped 2,635 refugees from Ukraine with the delivery of household items, including winter blankets, bedding, kitchen items and hygiene kits.

Estonia

- As of 6 December, **40,510 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- In the reporting period, UNHCR visited three border crossing points in Narva, Luhamaa and Koidula to monitor access to territory, and interview some refugees entering the country and monitor the application of exits for temporary protection holders

Latvia

- As of 6 December **43,592 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- As the temperatures in the border areas are down to -16 degrees Celsius, UNHCR partners "I Want to Help Refugees" (GPB) and "Your Friends" continue to provide warm food and winter clothes to refugees crossing into Latvia.

Lithuania

- As of 6 December, **71,367 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection in Lithuania.
- In the reporting week, UNHCR partner the Lithuanian Red Cross Society has provided individual counselling and assistance for 395 refugees from Ukraine in Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai, Panevėžys, and Alytus to facilitate their inclusion and access to rights and services.

Russian Federation

- To date, UNHCR and local partners have counselled over 82,597 people, either in person or over the phone. Queries relate to humanitarian assistance (winter items), temporary protection and asylum, temporary residence permits, access to the labour market, social rights, education and health care.
- Additionally, in the regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov and Voronzeh, the Russian Red Cross Society – UNHCR main partner in the area - has provided counselling to over 16,170 people as of 9 December.
- The UNHCR Russia Help Page has received 87,190 visits to date.

Ukraine

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads the Protection, Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI), and Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. Cluster coordinators ensure a timely and appropriate approach among humanitarian partners for delivering protection services and conducting protection advocacy; providing emergency and temporary shelter solutions, and distributing essential household and other non-food items; and supporting management and service delivery in collective sites hosting IDPs. All UNHCR-led Clusters have national coordination structures based in the capital, Kyiv, as well as sub-national coordinators in various hubs covering the West, North, Centre and South-East. UNHCR also co-chairs the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Protection Strategy Working Group and the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection across the response, and promotes meaningful engagement and participation of people affected by war throughout the humanitarian programme cycle.

Regional Refugee Response outside Ukraine

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of relevant governments. An initial Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) was developed in early March. A revised version of the RRP extending through December 2022 was published in April bringing together the joint efforts of 142 partners. The recalibrated RRP was published in October, to adjust for winter-related needs and other emerging priorities. 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 intended to be agile and will be adjusted as the situation evolves.

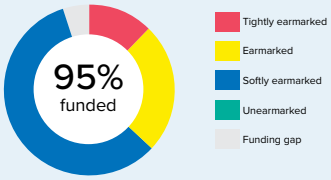
Ukraine. UNHCR supports families with repairs as first snow falls. November 2022 © UNHCR/ Victoria Andrievska

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Financial Update
(as of 8 December 2022)

Addendum to the Revised Supplementary Appeal (revised)

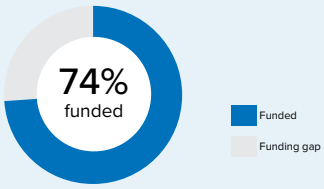
$ 1.4 billion
required (USD)



Inter-Agency Financial Updates
(as of 15 December 2022)

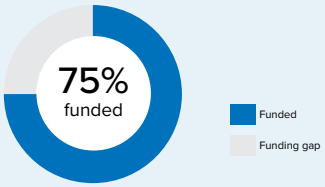
Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan (revised)

$ 1.79 billion
required (USD)

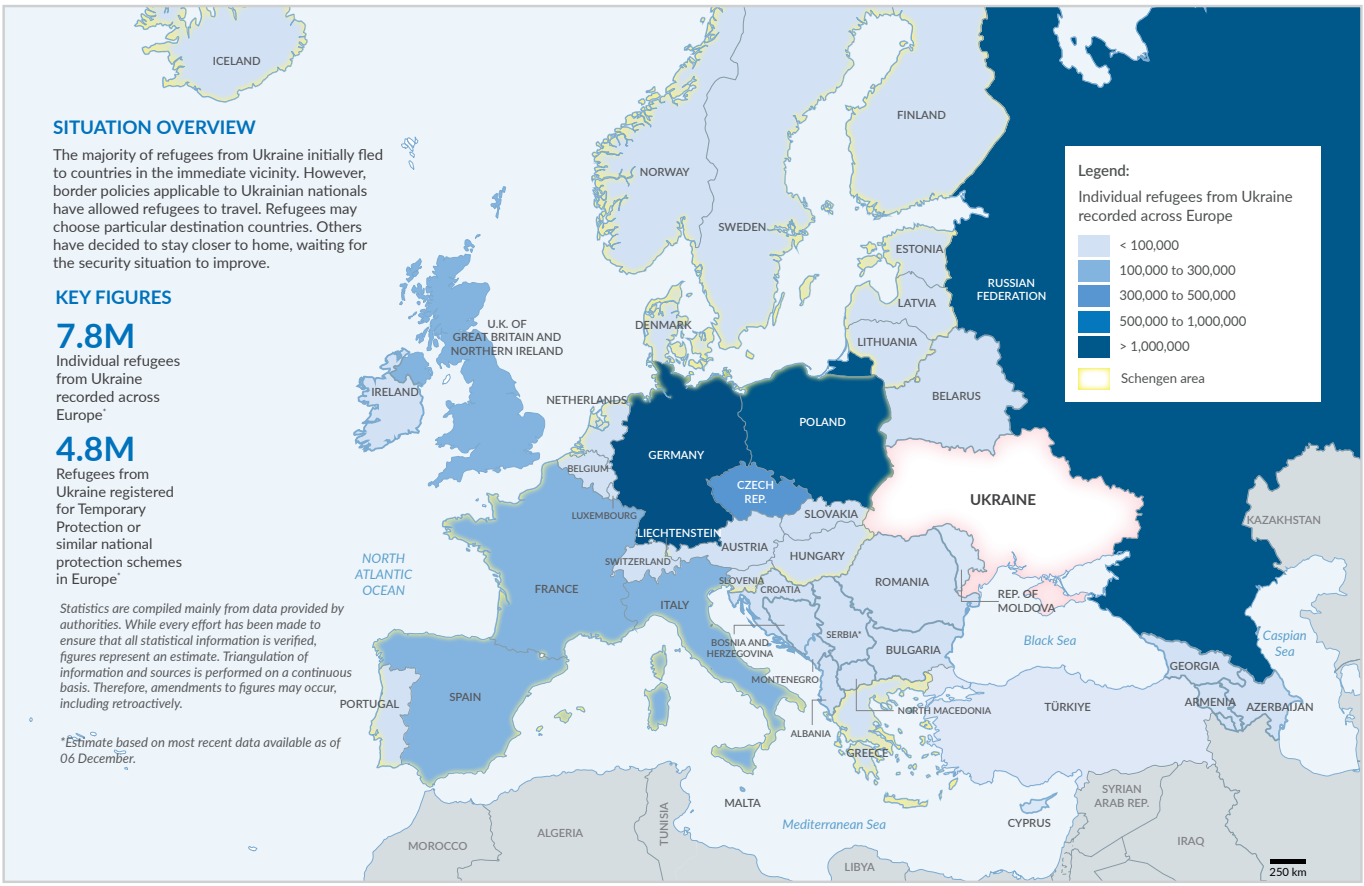


UN Flash Appeal Ukraine (revised)

$ 4.29 billion
required (USD)



Refugees from Ukraine across Europe as of 06 December 2022



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. *Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999])
Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe