

# Inter-Agency Newsletter

## REFUGEE COORDINATION FORUM | ROMANIA

**188,188** Temporary Protection holders in Romania  
(as of 30 June 2025)

|                     |                       |                      |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Men<br>66,502 (35%) | Women<br>70,958 (38%) | Boys<br>25,961 (14%) | Girls<br>24,767 (13%) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|



**8.98 million** border crossings from  
Ukraine and Moldova since February 2022

**1 million** third-country nationals arrived  
in Romania from Ukraine and Moldova

**7.8 million** Ukrainians arrived  
in Romania from Ukraine and  
Moldova

## Current funding level\*

42

TOTAL APPEALING PARTNERS

**\$82.8 M**

TOTAL APPEALED BUDGET



**\$16.4 M**

TOTAL FUNDING  
RECEIVED

**\$66.4 M**

TOTAL  
FUNDING GAP

Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion  
Protection  
Basic Needs  
Public Health and MHPSS  
Education  
Child Protection  
Gender-based Violence

| Received | Appealed |
|----------|----------|
| \$3.4M   | \$16.5 M |
| \$5.6M   | \$16.2M  |
| \$2M     | \$15.7M  |
| \$1.6M   | \$10.1M  |
| \$1.1M   | \$9.3M   |
| \$1M     | \$8.7M   |
| \$0.8M   | \$6.3M   |

\*as of end of Q2

## 2025 Achievements



Support for Public  
Authorities

**1,210** personnel trained



Strengthening  
Social Cohesion

**1,813** participants from both refugee and  
host communities in initiatives and  
events



Romanian courses  
for integration

**3,073** people provided with  
Romanian languages classes

## People reached by sector



Protection  
**35,404**



Education  
**4,875**



Basic Needs  
**31,978**



Child Protection  
**10,551**



Health and Nutrition  
**72,006**



Cash Assistance  
**8,147**



Gender-Based Violence  
**6,778**



MHPSS  
**10,328**



Livelihoods and Socio-  
Economic Inclusion  
**6,743**

## Operational context

Under the Refugee Response Plan (RRP), UN agencies and NGO partners continue to work closely with national and local authorities through the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) and sectoral working groups. These collaborative mechanisms remain central to ensuring a coherent, effective, and inclusive response to the needs of refugees across Romania.

Since 24 February 2022, more than 5 million people from Ukraine have sought refuge across Europe. As of 30 June 2025, the Romanian General Inspectorate for Immigration (GII) reported that 188,188 Ukrainians and third country nationals obtained temporary protection in Romania, which provides access to healthcare, education, and the labour market.

### Together in the Park: Music Without Borders

On 27 July, UNHCR in collaboration with NGO Green Revolution (Roaba de Cultură) and partners of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP), hosted “Together in the Park: Music Without Borders” - a celebration of multiculturalism, community, and culture. The open-air event - with live music and workshops for children - was the second in a series of community activities aimed at fostering social cohesion, multicultural understanding, and solidarity, bringing together refugees, migrants, and the host community in Bucharest. The third in the series of “Together in the Park” events supported by UNHCR will take place on 30 August.



### Q2 funding situation update

The Inter-Agency Coordination Unit finalised its assessment of the Q2 2025 funding situation of the RRP. Out of \$82.8 million appealed for by the 42 RRP partners, only \$16.3 million (20 per cent) had been received at the end of Q2 with particularly severe funding gaps identified for gender-based violence (GBV), child protection, education, basic needs, and health sectors. 21 of the partners have not received any funding against their appeals. Detailed findings are illustrated in the Inter-Agency accompanying [infographic](#). The results of the assessment will help to inform fundraising efforts to ensure continued provision of essential support to refugees.

## Spotlight story - RRP partner National Youth Foundation

Since May 2022, the National Youth Foundation started its language program together with Elena, a passionate language teacher from Cernăuți, Ukraine, and a refugee herself, who has been supporting young Ukrainian refugees through Romanian language lessons. She began her work in Suceava, where her classes quickly became safe spaces of connection and hope for newly arrived youth. More than 1,000 of young people learned to communicate, integrate, and feel more confident thanks to her dedication. Later, Elena continued her work at the Oradea Youth Centre, where her language courses brought joy and belonging to many.

Elena says, “The educational process has represented not only a transfer of knowledge, but also a contribution to integration and bringing communities closer together. Based on the lessons I prepared, I was able to write a book for Ukrainian learners at A1–A2 [beginner] level.”

Now, the National Youth Foundation is preparing to extend the impact of courses, moving its resources to Bucharest, while also continuing its online activities.

The National Youth Foundation is proud to announce the release of “Limba română împreună cu Lenuța”, a practical manual for learning Romanian already used in youth centres to support integration through accessible and culturally sensitive learning.

The Foundation develops and supports youth centres across Romania, offering diverse services and activities



for both Romanian and Ukrainian youth. Romanian language classes and meetings to practice Romanian are initiatives that are supported by the Foundation without any dedicated funding.

Ksenia, a 19-year-old refugee from Ukraine assisted through the programme, says, “I am from Ukraine and I study in Suceava, but Elena taught me Romanian better than the preparatory year at the university because I had real-life practice with her. For example, we went to restaurants, to shops, where we spoke only in Romanian. I want to say a big thank you to Elena.”

# Protection

## Working Group co-chairs

Romanian National Council for Refugees  
UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

## Supporting Refugees Through Information, Access, and Advocacy

### Strengthening Access to Rights and Services

The Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) has been actively working to ensure better access to public services for forcibly displaced and stateless persons. Drawing on its counselling and accompaniment experience, CNRR submitted recommendations for Romania's 2025–2027 National Action Plan under the Open Government Partnership. Proposals included translating official documents and websites, establishing information points and helplines, and training officials in intercultural communication. CNRR also highlighted systemic digital challenges such as online platforms not recognising protection permits or requiring bank cards and digital certificates that refugees cannot obtain.

Although not all suggestions were taken up as formal commitments, the General Secretariat of the Government noted that several may still be applied during implementation, an encouraging step forward and a valuable contribution to the forthcoming 2025–2030 Open Government Strategy.

### Advocacy Aimed at Improving the Asylum System

A group of Romanian NGOs from the Protection Working Group joined forces to influence Romania's national plan for implementing the European Pact on Asylum and Migration. Their joint letter to the Ministry of Internal Affairs addressed areas where EU regulations allow national discretion. Key recommendations focused on providing accurate information and counselling to individuals in need of protection, introducing additional safeguards for vulnerable groups, and strengthening institutional capacity.

This coordinated effort led to direct engagement: the General Inspectorate of the Border Police held a meeting with the signatory NGOs, while the General Inspectorate for Immigration formally responded in writing, acknowledging the suggestions received.

*For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).*



## Delivering Timely Information and Counselling

Ensuring that refugees are well-informed about their rights and entitlements remains a priority. In July, UNHCR continued to deliver information sessions tailored to the expressed needs of refugees from Ukraine. Topics included accessing disability benefits, the minimum inclusion income (VMI), and healthcare services. Sessions took place both at the RomExpo Community Centre in Bucharest and in Tulcea, where local social protection services also participated.

Responding to high demand, UNHCR organised a follow-up online session on VMI, attracting strong interest. Over the course of



July, UNHCR provided counselling services to 669 refugees, underscoring the vital role of accessible, accurate, and practical information in helping individuals navigate life in Romania.

## Supporting Families and Integration Pathways

Save the Children Romania provided wide-ranging support to 1,286 adults, primarily women from Ukraine, across its counselling hubs and integration centres in Bucharest, Baia

Mare, Galați, Iași, and Suceava. Services included legal and social counselling, guidance on applying for social benefits such as VMI and disability allowances, and assistance in accessing healthcare.

The organisation also played an important role in facilitating integration: helping beneficiaries register with family doctors, accompanying them to medical appointments, offering translation support, and assisting with employment opportunities and meeting basic needs. These initiatives are ensuring that displaced families receive the guidance and tools necessary to build more stable lives in Romania.

As the needs of refugees evolve, humanitarian organizations and public institutions across Romania are adapting. The focus is increasingly on ensuring long-term stability, easier access to services, and smoother integration, especially for those under temporary protection.

# Child Protection

## Sub-Working Group co-chairs

UNHCR  
UNICEF

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

## Protecting and Supporting Ukrainian Refugee Children in Romania

### Strengthening Child Protection Systems

UNICEF continued to play a key role in supporting child protection efforts for evacuated and displaced children. Working closely with the National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoption (NAPCRA) and county-level child protection directorates (DGASPCs), UNICEF provided technical assistance to improve service quality and coordination, including engagement with relevant Ukrainian stakeholders.

To address the needs of the most vulnerable, physiotherapy

services were delivered to children with disabilities in Suceava, while mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) was provided to Ukrainian staff accompanying children in Prahova.

In parallel, UNICEF, together with DGASPC Iași and DGASPC Suceava, piloted the Best Interest Determination guidance and tools developed under the Blue Grid initiative. Practical insights from case management and field experience helped refine these tools, ensuring that decisions taken for children are better informed and more effective in practice.

## Empowering Children and Families

Throughout July, World Vision Romania supported more than 300 Ukrainian refugee children in Bucharest, Braşov, Constanţa, Iaşi, and Suceava through an integrated package of child protection services. Activities ranged from MHPSS sessions and recreational workshops using creative arts and movement, to awareness-raising sessions on safety, rights, and protection from abuse.

World Vision also worked with parents, delivering training on recognising and responding to signs of neglect, abuse, and exploitation. Families received case management support, assistance with school enrolment, and referrals to health, legal, and social services. Importantly, 31 educators in Iaşi and Suceava were trained to identify and respond to violence against children, bolstering protection at the community level.

Similarly, Save the Children reached 881 children in Bucharest, Baia Mare, Galaţi, Iaşi, and Suceava, offering counselling and information to families on children's rights and social benefits. Vulnerable children received tailored case management and social assistance, while parents took part in sessions based on the Safe Families methodology, designed to prevent abuse and neglect. Mobile teams also extended support to at-risk families in Iaşi and Maramureş counties, working in partnership with local authorities.

## Listening to Children's Voices

Ensuring that refugee children and adolescents can shape the support they receive is essential for meaningful integration. In July, UNHCR and its partners conducted a participatory assessment exercise with 107 refugee children and youth through 11 focus group discussions in Bucharest, Suceava, and Constanţa.

Young participants shared candid reflections on education, social inclusion, and future opportunities. They raised concerns about language barriers, limited Romanian language support in schools, bullying, and lack of extracurricular activities. Older adolescents noted difficulties in accessing employment and the need for more avenues to interact socially with Romanian peers.

Despite these challenges, children highlighted positive developments: gradual integration, new friendships, and the importance of shared activities such as football and group events in building mutual understanding and a sense of belonging. Above all, they stressed that learning Romanian is key to successful integration and participation in community life.

*For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).*

# Gender-Based Violence

## Working Group co-chairs

Anais

National Agency for Equal Opportunities between  
Women and Men

UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

## Building Safety and Resilience for Refugee Women and Girls in Romania

### Building Capacity to Address Gender-Based Violence

On 10 July, UNHCR organised a workshop in Constanța focusing on gender-based violence (GBV) mitigation. The session reviewed definitions and terminology, explored the root causes, contributing factors and consequences of GBV, and introduced the process of GBV mainstreaming in humanitarian work.

The ten participants from the Dr. Max Foundation, World Vision Romania, Civic Resource Centre, ROUA Novapolis, Jesuit Refugee Service Romania, the Romanian Red Cross and the World Health Organization engaged in active discussions to identify key GBV risks alongside wider humanitarian challenges. Together, they worked on prioritising sectoral interventions and defining concrete mitigation measures. The training marked an important step towards strengthening collective action in reducing GBV risks and advancing gender equality in humanitarian settings.

### Engaging Communities in Dialogue on Gender

Later in the month, on 17 July, UNHCR facilitated a youth-focused community event in Constanța under the umbrella of the Orange Day Campaign, which raises awareness and calls for action to prevent violence against women and girls. Hosted by the Zbor Hub, the dialogue created space for young refugees and members of the host community to reflect on gender equality and the disproportionate impact of violence and harmful practices on women and girls.

*For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).*

Through a mix of interactive activities – including quizzes, a power walk and a short film screening – the seven young participants explored key issues and reflected on their own role in driving change. The event concluded with participants writing personal pledges for gender equality on puzzle pieces, which were then assembled into the Orange the World Campaign logo, symbolising the collective effort needed to build a future free from violence.

### Expanding Psychosocial Support Services

Responding to growing emotional strain among refugees, particularly women, the Dr. Max Foundation observed a marked rise in requests for psychological support in July. Many women have been seeking help to manage acute anxiety, panic attacks, and depression, often intensified by instability and the ongoing risk of displacement.

To address these needs, the organisation ran 15 group sessions and activities across Bucharest, Constanța and Suceava, reaching more than 140 refugees, including both adults and children. The sessions provided safe spaces for healing, connection and resilience-building. Alongside this, 24 individual counselling sessions were provided for seven new survivors, amounting to over 30 hours of one-to-one support. Case management and partner referrals ensured that those with more complex needs received comprehensive care.

These combined efforts highlight the importance of community engagement, psychosocial support, and cross-sector collaboration in promoting wellbeing and advancing gender equality among refugees and host communities.

## Education

### Working Group co-chairs

Jesuit Refugee Service Romania  
UNICEF

### Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Association of Ukrainian Teachers in Romania
- City Makers
- Civic Rădăuți Association
- Help Ukrainians
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis

- PATRIR
- Plan International
- Roma Education Fund
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- SECS
- SERA
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNICEF
- YMCA Romania



## Supporting the Inclusion of Refugee and Vulnerable Children Across Romania

### Expanding Access to Early and Complementary Education

In July, UNICEF continued to work with national, county, and local authorities, alongside NGOs, to maintain vital education services for refugee and host community children. In partnership with Step-by-Step, HOLTIS and JRS Romania, UNICEF supported complementary education programmes and parental guidance in cities with large refugee populations, including Bucharest, Braşov, Cluj, Constanţa, Maramureş, Tulcea and Vâlcea.



UNICEF © Adrian Holerga

A key element of this support is the network of 16 early education centres (Play, Learning and Parenting Hubs – PLPH), run with Step-by-Step, which currently serve around 350 children (90 per cent Ukrainian, 10 per cent Romanian). The hubs focus on early literacy, intuitive mathematics, socioemotional development, and sensory stimulation, with strong emphasis on language acquisition and social interaction to support smooth transitions into primary education.



UNICEF © Adrian Cătu

### Strengthening Learning Opportunities Across Romania

Save the Children Romania worked throughout July to provide education and inclusion support to refugees from Ukraine and other vulnerable groups. Activities were organised in schools and education centres in Bucharest, Baia Mare, Galaţi, Iaşi and Suceava, ensuring children had access to learning opportunities over the summer. Support included Romanian and English language courses, homework assistance, remedial lessons, and summer school activities. In total, Save the Children reached 338 school-age children, 22 preschoolers, 205 children in Romanian classes and 98 in English classes, helping prepare them for the new school year and easing integration into the Romanian system.

Meanwhile, the Roma Education Fund, through its One-Stop-Shop Centre in Bucharest funded by the Council of Europe Development Bank, delivered a wide range of educational and psychosocial activities. These included Romanian language courses, remedial mathematics and Ukrainian language lessons, vocational training in make-up, and creative activities such as arts and crafts. Urban camps provided enriching experiences at local cultural and recreational venues, encouraging learning through play and social interaction. In July, 66 beneficiaries took part in these activities, while families also received support through 399 social assistance vouchers and clothing vouchers for 30 children.

### Promoting Integration Through Language and Engagement

Language acquisition remained a cornerstone of integration efforts. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued to provide Romanian language courses in cities such as Bucharest, Braşov and Cluj-Napoca, with 2,835 Ukrainian refugees assisted so far in 2025.

In addition, IOM piloted an internship and volunteering programme for young refugees and other beneficiaries. Four participants (two from Ukraine and two from Lebanon) engaged in placements within integration projects, gaining career orientation, exposure to UN agency operations and a sense of contribution to their communities. Participants reported feeling more valued and connected, underscoring the role of such opportunities in fostering wellbeing and long-term integration.

*For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).*



## Supporting Enrolment and School Readiness

School enrolment for Ukrainian children in Bucharest remained a priority. UNICEF supported the School Inspectorate of the Municipality of Bucharest (ISMB) and the Education Desk at RomExpo in providing tailored assistance. In July alone, the desk recorded 178 requests for education information and 124 school enrolment applications, reflecting growing demand ahead of the 2025–2026 academic year. While summer applications are limited to auditor enrolment, ISMB continues to process equivalency and full-time student requests.



UNICEF © Ioana Moldovan

At RomExpo, JRS Romania complemented this work by supporting families through playground activities and counselling on education options. Additionally, 12 Ukrainian former teachers began a two-month mediation course, under UNICEF's project, to assist parents, educators and school administrators in the upcoming academic year. Across JRS's broader programmes, over 369 children and 467 adults participated in education and counselling activities in Constanța, Galați, Brăila and Tulcea. Daily Romanian language classes, online learning for 500 children, and tailored activities for preschoolers in Bucharest were also delivered. Language proficiency certificates were secured by nearly 200 participants, while intensive Romanian and English courses supported adults entering the workforce in Bucharest and Constanța. Cultural heritage initiatives, including Ukrainian dance, pottery and handicraft workshops, further enriched community engagement.

For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).

# Health and nutrition

## Working Group co-chairs

WHO

Romanian Red Cross

## Appealing sectoral partners

- Asociația Moșelor Independente
- Ateliere Fără Frontiere
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- IOM
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- ParentIS
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- SECS
- SERA
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- WHO
- YMCA Romania

## Scaling Up Access to Primary Healthcare Services

### Understanding Barriers to Health Access

On 15 July, WHO Romania, in partnership with the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) and the Ministry of Health, launched a qualitative study exploring the decline in childhood vaccination rates in rural and semi-urban communities across Romania. The findings revealed that the challenges extend far beyond vaccine hesitancy. Limited access to healthcare, low health literacy and a lack of culturally appropriate information all contribute to the problem.



Photo credit © WHO

The study recommends practical solutions tailored to local needs, such as establishing integrated health and social centres, improving communication between family doctors and public health authorities, and addressing the broader social and economic context influencing people's health decisions. Importantly, these insights will also help ensure better access to immunisation services for Ukrainian refugees living in Romania.

### Supporting Refugee Health and Wellbeing

WHO Romania also continued to focus on access to healthcare for refugees. With stipends provided to selected family doctors in Braşov, Bucharest, Cluj, Constanţa, Galaţi, Sibiu and Suceava, a total of 579 consultations were delivered to Ukrainian patients in July, including 77 childhood vaccinations. To bridge language gaps, WHO's free telephone translation hotline handled 87 interpretation requests, while a cultural mediator in Constanţa supported 43 Ukrainians with personalised advice, referrals and appointment scheduling.

Complementing these efforts, the Romanian Red Cross reached 477 Ukrainian refugees in July through its Health Promotion Centres in Braşov, Bucharest, Constanţa, Iaşi, Satu-Mare and Sălaj, offering guidance and support in accessing healthcare.

In the area of reproductive health, UNFPA, in partnership with the Romanian Midwives Association, continued to run its Safeline hotline, providing confidential information and services for Ukrainian refugees. In July, the hotline was accessed 240 times, including by 23 pregnant women. Alongside this, 15 information sessions reached 207 participants, and 18 individuals received tailored family planning and maternal health consultations.

### Empowering Communities Through Knowledge and Dialogue

Beyond health services, organisations continued to empower refugees through training and research. On 9 July, WHO Romania and the Romanian Red Cross hosted a training on employment opportunities at the RomExpo Community Centre in Bucharest. Participants – including youth and adults – completed a certified Holland Career Test, received personalised career advice, and learned practical skills for job applications, CVs, and interviews. The session helped refugees and host community members better understand the Romanian labour market and strengthen their employability.

At the same time, Save the Children Romania focused on listening to the voices of children themselves. In July, Save the Children published its [Assessment of the Situation and Needs of Ukrainian Children and Adolescents in Romania](#), based on an online survey completed by 355 children aged 8 to 17. The findings highlight persistent barriers in accessing health and education, with almost one in five children reporting difficulties in reaching essential services. Language obstacles, limited information, and distance to service points were identified as the main challenges – important insights that will guide future programming and advocacy.

## Strengthening Health Surveillance and Emergency Preparedness



Photo credit © WHO

On 17 July, WHO Romania and INSP signed a new agreement to strengthen Romania's wastewater surveillance system, enhancing early detection of public health threats.

The project includes a new testing centre in Iași, sample collection from counties bordering Ukraine, and the introduction of modern laboratory methods. Together, these efforts aim to improve preparedness and build more resilient communities.

Earlier in the month, on 8 July, WHO Romania, in collaboration with WHO Moldova, conducted a Mass Casualty Management (MCM) simulation exercise at the University



Emergency Hospital in Bucharest.

Photo credit © WHO

Using the Emergo Train System, the exercise combined tabletop discussions with live drills, involving 72



Photo credit © WHO

participants including doctors, nurses, managers and support staff. The simulation tested emergency plans, triage, and coordination in real time, with facilitators sharing practical insights from similar exercises across Moldova.

For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult the [Health dashboard](#) and the [MHPSS dashboard](#).

## Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Fostering Resilience, Social Cohesion, and Youth Empowerment

### Individual and Group Support

In July, WHO Romania's cultural mediators, all with a background in mental health, delivered extensive psychosocial support to Ukrainian refugees. The team provided 79 individual and group counselling sessions, alongside art therapy activities, reaching a total of 242 beneficiaries. These sessions focused on addressing emotional well-being, coping strategies, and creative expression as tools for resilience.

### IOM Romania: Integrated Support Through Art and Education

IOM Romania continued its mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programmes for Ukrainian and other third-country nationals in partnership with local implementing partners and a network of Ukrainian psychologists. In July, the team organised a variety of interventions for both adults and children, including individual and group counselling, art and theatre workshops, and non-formal educational activities. A total of 23 unique beneficiaries participated, with many attending multiple sessions, promoting both social engagement and emotional support.

### Save the Children Romania: Social Inclusion and Youth Empowerment

Save the Children Romania focused on promoting positive relationships, respect, and tolerance among Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian children through expressive and creative activities, thematic workshops, and leisure-time events. In July, MHPSS activities reached 545 Ukrainian and 42 non-Ukrainian children, alongside 213 Ukrainian and 5 non-Ukrainian adults. Specific initiatives included individual psychological counselling sessions for 20 Ukrainian children and 57 Ukrainian adults. Youth engagement programmes, with 96 adolescents participating in the Teenager's and Children's Club, while 93 children attended TeamUp activities fostering social cohesion. A summer camp in Constanța where 62 children (35 Ukrainian and 27 Romanian) engaged in social cohesion exercises, creative workshops, and recreational activities such as mountain biking and hiking, strengthening cross-cultural friendships and inclusion.



## Romanian Red Cross: Recreation, Skill-Building, and Community Well-Being

Throughout July, the Romanian Red Cross supported 505 adults and children through a wide range of MHPSS activities. Sessions included recreational and skill-building workshops, sports, teamwork exercises, and other structured social activities designed to strengthen mental health and community cohesion for displaced Ukrainian populations.



© WHO

In-person Health and MHPSS partner meeting, 10 July

For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult the [Health dashboard](#) and the [MHPSS dashboard](#).

# Basic Needs and Cash

**Working Group co-chairs**

Save the Children Romania  
Romanian Red Cross  
UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- ASSOC
- HIAS
- Habitat for Humanity Romania
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- SERA
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- UNHCR

## Supporting Refugees through Integrated Services, Emergency Aid, and Local Coordination

### Food and Cash Assistance Reaches Thousands

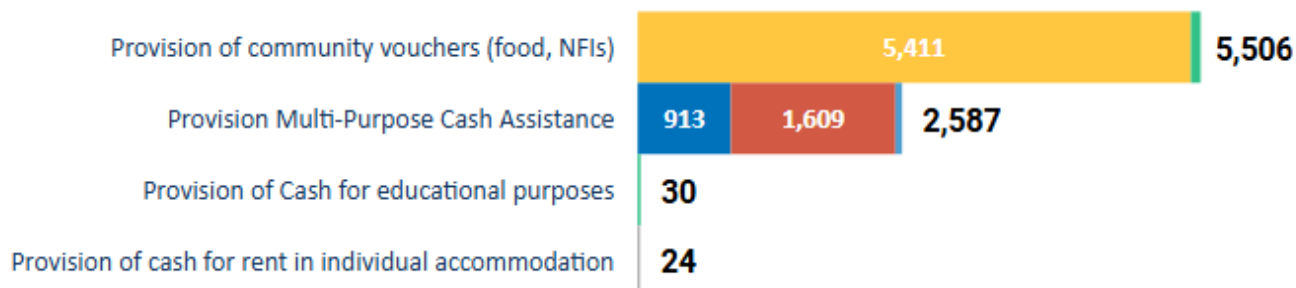
In July, World Vision, through its DEC-funded project, finalised the majority of its food distribution activities. Over the course of the project, 1,296 food vouchers worth RON 200 (US\$ 46) each were distributed to as many households, benefiting a total of 5,411 people. While the bulk of distributions are now complete, a final phase in August will focus on closure and reporting, with some remaining vouchers prioritised for older persons and

individuals with disabilities. The project is expected to conclude by the end of the month.

Similarly, Save the Children continued its Cash and Voucher Assistance programme, supporting 244 vulnerable individuals. In addition, the organisation distributed 1,002 core relief items (CRIs) and ensured that 885 people received essential supplies. Save the Children also facilitated access to education for vulnerable children, providing transport for 108 children and daily lunches for 26.



● FONSS ● IOM ● REF Romania ● Salvati Copiii ● UNHCR ● World Vision Romania Foundation



By end of July, over **8,200 refugees and vulnerable individuals** benefitted from Cash and Voucher Assistance provided by partners, including World Vision, Save the Children, UNHCR, and IOM. Support ranged from food vouchers and multipurpose cash to assistance for education and rent, helping families meet their most urgent needs.

## Core Relief Items Distributed Across Romania

Throughout July, UNHCR, in partnership with the General Directorate of Social Assistance of Bucharest Municipality (DGASMB), sustained its support for forcibly displaced persons through widespread distributions of CRIs. At the UNHCR Community Centre at RomExpo, DGASMB provided assistance to around 1,685 individuals, distributing 5,731 items including blankets, mattresses, and baby diapers provided by UNHCR.

Across Bucharest, Cluj, Constanța, Galați, and Timiș counties, UNHCR and partners delivered nearly 7,878 CRIs to 2,216 Ukrainians, third-country nationals, and vulnerable members of the host community. Since the beginning of 2025, more than 107,445 CRIs have been distributed, reaching approximately 37,570 beneficiaries.

## Supporting Vulnerable Groups in Accommodation Centres

On 23 July, UNHCR visited the accommodation centre in Crevedia, Dâmbovița County, which currently hosts 50 residents, including Ukrainian refugees and migrant workers. The privately managed centre provides free accommodation, with utilities shared among residents. The visit highlighted several challenges, including difficulties accessing healthcare, social benefits, and language courses. Many single mothers, unable to secure part-time work due to childcare responsibilities and the centre's distance from Bucharest, face heightened vulnerability. UNHCR is actively coordinating with partners to address these needs and strengthen access to essential services.

For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).

# Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion

Working Group co-chairs

World Vision Romania  
UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Ateliere Fără Frontiere
- City Makers
- Civic Rădăuți Association
- Commit Global
- Drumul Vieții
- HIAS
- Help Ukrainians
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Novapolis
- Plan International
- Project Voyager
- Roma Education Fund
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania
- YMCA Romania

## Promoting Refugee Inclusion Through Education, Employment, and Recognition of Qualifications

### Language and Workplace Skills

In July, World Vision Romania conducted a thematic training, Workplace: Essential Communication for Job Integration, in Constanța. This programme was designed to help Ukrainian refugees enhance their Romanian language skills specifically for workplace contexts. First-time participants received tailored explanations to ensure comprehension and successful engagement, with attendees providing positive feedback on the training's practical focus.

Similarly, Save the Children Romania continued supporting socio-economic integration through Romanian language classes for 102 Ukrainian adults and English classes for 27 adults. Participants also received guidance on accessing the labour market, childcare support, and educational resources, helping families overcome barriers to employment and promoting long-term financial independence.

IOM Romania further contributed to socio-economic inclusion via its Migrant Resource Centres, offering Romanian language courses, job counselling, legal support, and socio-cultural activities. In July, 174 individuals received information and counselling support, 5 registered for language courses, 44 took part in labour market access activities, and 66 joined socio-cultural and civic orientation sessions.

For the latest progress against the sector indicators please consult this [dashboard](#).

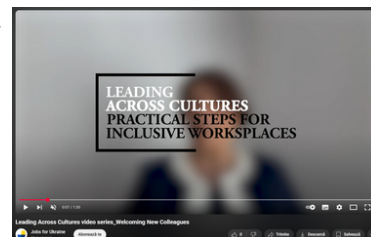
### Entrepreneurship and Career Development

World Vision Romania finalised a six-week entrepreneurship training programme on 24 July, with 295 Ukrainian refugees successfully completing the course. Participants learned to develop business plans, set SMART objectives, and navigate the legal and tax requirements for establishing a company in Romania. In the coming weeks, 10 business plans from the programme will be selected for UNHCR-funded grants.

To further empower refugees, World Vision is launching a new leadership programme supported by France. The initiative, which will take place in Romania and France, includes scholarships, international training, and career support, targeting Ukrainian professionals in exile and fostering contributions to democratic rebuilding in Ukraine while strengthening Franco-Ukrainian relations.

UNHCR partner Project Voyager also launched the first [video](#) of a five-part mini-video series, Leading Across Cultures, aimed at engaging employers and promoting inclusive workplace practices. The

series, developed with a [certified strengths coach](#), provides practical guidance on welcoming new colleagues and fostering culturally inclusive environments.



## Inna's Story – My Journey from Odesa to Braşov

"My name is Inna. When I arrived in Romania in May 2022 with my husband, daughter, and my husband's parents, the future was uncertain. I had left Odesa, the city where I had built a strong career as a professional photographer, working with major clients. My life revolved around images, capturing memories in perfect frames and ideal lighting. But the reality of starting anew in a different country seemed daunting.

The project run through the KATYA hub of the Metropolitan Agency for Sustainable Development Braşov gave me an opportunity I would not have had otherwise. I participated in essential training sessions on Romanian legislation, taxation, and the steps required to start a business. "This program helped me tremendously. Information about opening a business is hard to access and usually only available for a fee. Here, I received answers to all my questions.

By participating in the business idea competition, I became one of the winners of a grant worth RON 27,900 (US\$6,292). With this funding, I was able to officially register my business and purchase the necessary equipment to continue my work. "I had planned to open a studio, but I was hesitant. My equipment was outdated, starting a business involved high costs, and without this support, it would have taken me years to get here. Now, I am legally registered, have the necessary equipment, and can work towards my goal.



Today, I continue to search for the perfect space for my studio, but I am already working as an independent photographer in Braşov, offering services for events, family sessions, and commercial advertisements. The project not only provided me with the means to continue my career but also restored my hope that I could build a new life, using my talent to bring beauty into others' lives.

This was not just an investment in a business; it was an investment in the future of a family, a community, and a success story written in images and determination."

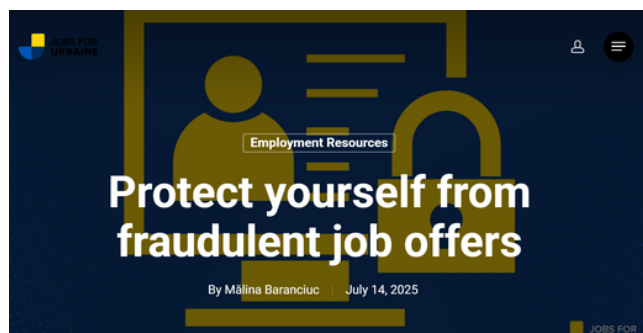
## Cross-Cutting Priorities

### Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

#### Safeguarding Vulnerable Refugees through Awareness, Guidance, and Practical Tools

##### Raising Awareness and Safeguarding Refugees

In July, Jobs 4 Ukraine made significant strides in safeguarding Ukrainian refugees seeking employment by developing a [Job Scam Awareness Guide](#). This resource, part of the organisation's ongoing PSEA initiative, aims to equip refugees with the knowledge to identify potential scams and harmful situations during their job search. The guide is now available on the [Jobs 4 Ukraine blog](#), and is being shared directly with refugees through individual counselling sessions, ensuring that vulnerable jobseekers receive practical and accessible guidance to protect themselves.



### Trafficking in Persons:

#### Strengthening Regional Coordination, Policy Advocacy, and Victim-Centred Protection Systems

##### Regional Coordination and Knowledge Sharing

On 2 July, eLiberare participated in the third Regional Child Protection Advisory Group Meeting, organised by KIND (Kids in Need of Defense) under the Suzir'ya Project. The meeting brought together National Core member organisations to share updates since March 2025 and exchange best practices on the protection of children displaced both within Ukraine and abroad due to the ongoing conflict. These discussions reinforced cross-border collaboration and highlighted emerging trends and challenges in child protection.

##### Advocacy for Migration and Anti-Trafficking Measures

In July, eLiberare, through the ProTECT Federation, advanced advocacy on the new Pact on Migration and Asylum. Key priorities included improving coordination and referral mechanisms for trafficking cases, building the capacity of frontline staff with a victim-centred approach, and ensuring adequate reception conditions and services for at-risk individuals and survivors. These efforts aim to strengthen protection systems and uphold the rights and dignity of vulnerable populations.



## Protection and Inclusion Challenges for Refugees: Advocacy and Action Needed

### Persistent Delays in Social Assistance

Temporary protection holders in Romania continue to face significant delays in receiving lump sum payments. Some individuals who submitted documentation under the governmental programme nine months ago have yet to receive their funds. UNHCR, CNRR, and partner organisations regularly receive inquiries on this issue, with beneficiaries emphasising the critical nature of timely support for their immediate needs.

In Constanța, the longstanding challenge of accessing minimum inclusion income for single Ukrainian mothers persists. Civil status extracts from Ukraine, indicating that a child's birth certificate was issued based on the mother's declaration, have historically been rejected by Romanian authorities. Previous attempts to provide translated legal articles or notarised self-declarations were unsuccessful.

Following discussions with social workers and the County Agency for Payments and Social Inspection (AJPIS), CNRR achieved a key breakthrough: single mothers can now submit a self-declaration confirming their status. This resolution has already enabled one mother to reapply successfully, setting a precedent that will guide other applicants.

### Barriers in Healthcare Access

In Brașov, discrepancies in the health insurance system continue to frustrate refugees seeking medical care. Although individuals are registered with family doctors, they are sometimes flagged as uninsured. Clinics refer patients to the Health Insurance House (CNAS), which, after verification, confirms coverage. This ongoing loop delays access to essential healthcare services and underscores the need for systemic alignment between local and national healthcare databases.

### Support for Children with Disabilities

Access to Romanian disability certification for refugee children remains inconsistent, with variations in application processes and documentation requirements creating delays. This results in unequal access to essential support services, highlighting the need for clearer guidelines and coordinated assistance.

### Housing and Self-Reliance Challenges

Refugees accommodated in locations such as Crevedia, near Bucharest, illustrate the broader challenges faced across Romania. While some families access more affordable accommodation outside major cities, difficulties in accessing healthcare, social services, and livelihoods persist, limiting opportunities for self-reliance.

The shortage of safe and stable housing remains a pressing concern, particularly for vulnerable refugees. Basic Needs partners continue advocacy efforts with national and local authorities to expand social housing options and support pathways toward sustainable accommodation.

### Challenges in Education Access and Integration

The integration of Ukrainian children into the Romanian education system remains uneven. During the summer, ISMB processes applications primarily for auditing status, with final decisions for the 2025–2026 academic year expected in September. The holiday period has further delayed enrolment and equivalency procedures, compounding existing capacity constraints.

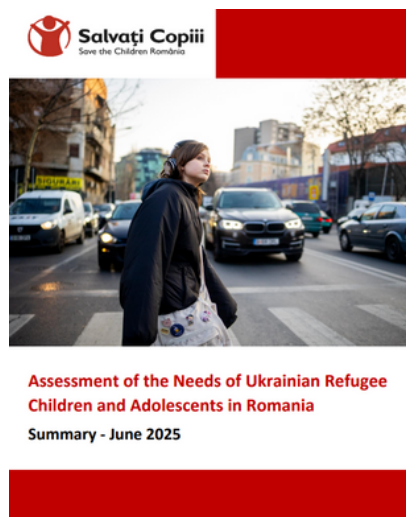
Despite progress in enrolling children, significant gaps remain at all educational levels. Challenges include transitioning from “audient” to full pupil status, limited availability of school places, Romanian language instruction and certification, recognition of prior studies, and support from Ukrainian educators as mediators or social educators. Adolescents face particular difficulties: only 35 per cent of

15–17-year-olds report regular school attendance.

Language barriers, lack of information, and administrative hurdles exacerbate these issues.

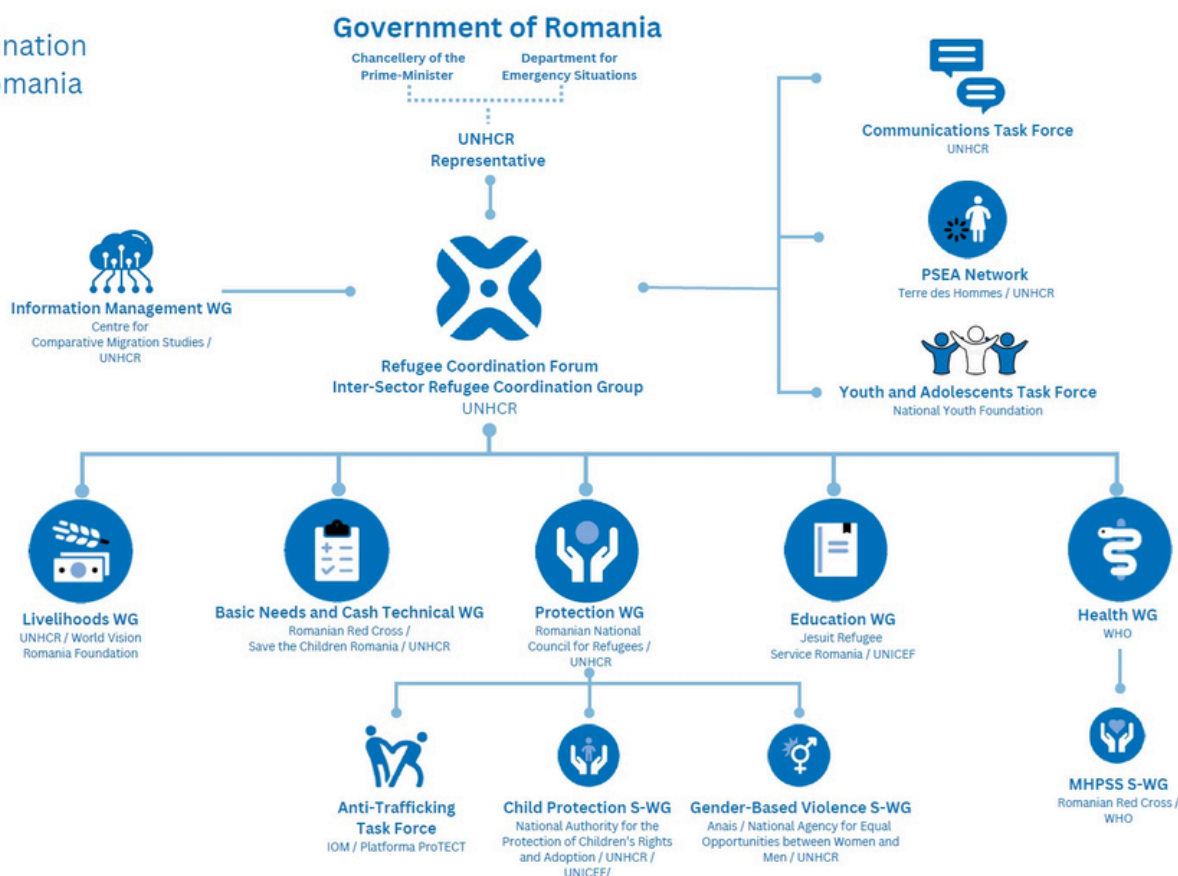
Save the Children Romania's June 2025 [Assessment of the Situation and Needs of Ukrainian Children and Adolescents in Romania](#), a survey of 355 Ukrainian children aged 8–17, highlights the

importance of inclusive school environments. Emotional wellbeing and psychosocial support remain closely linked to educational inclusion, with a pressing need for subsidised counselling, group activities, and workshops focused on personal development, communication, and emotional expression.



## Working in partnership

### Refugee Coordination Structure in Romania



In 2025, the Inter-Agency platform comprises of the following 42 appealing partners implementing humanitarian activities in Romania for refugees from Ukraine:

ADPARE | Asociația Moșelor Independente | ASSOC | Association of Ukrainian Teachers in Romania | Ateliere Fără Frontiere | City Makers | Civic Rădăuți Association | CNRR | Commit Global | Drumul Vieții | EEIRH | FONSS | Habitat for Humanity | Help Ukrainians | HIAS | IOM | Jesuit Refugee Service Romania | MALVA | Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brașov | Migrant Integration Centre Brașov | National Youth Foundation | Necuvinte | Novapolis | ParentIS | PATRIR | Plan International | Project Voyager | Roma Education Fund | RomaJust | Save the Children Romania | SECS | Sensiblu Foundation | SERA | Sibiu Community Foundation | Terre des Hommes | Tineri pentru Tineri | UNFPA | UNICEF | UNHCR | WHO | World Vision Romania | YMCA Romania

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LINKS:

[Regional data portal](#)  
[Romania Page](#)  
[Ukraine Situation RRP](#)  
[Refugee Funding Tracker](#)  
[Romania Refugee Response Plan - Results](#)