



Photo credit: UNDP Moldova

MOLDOVA REFUGEE RESPONSE

WEEKLY UPDATE 14-21 March 2022

The Government of Moldova has shown leadership in responding to the protection needs of refugees fleeing war in Ukraine. While the Government continues to respond to meet the challenge, it is complemented and assisted by the efforts of partners that are coordinated by UNHCR under the refugee coordination forum. UN agencies and INGO/NGOs partners have stepped up their efforts to assist the efforts by Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Research, Moldovan Border Police as well as local authorities.

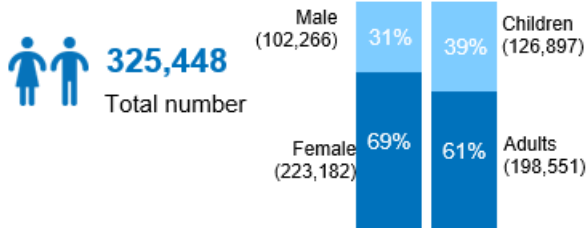


Photo Credit: Government of Republic of Moldova

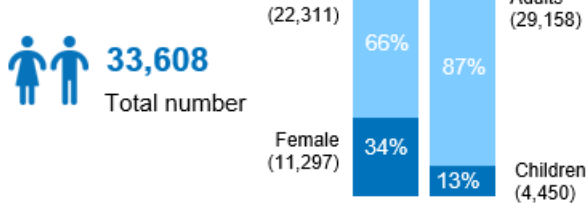
DATA AND TRENDS

Arrived in Moldova²

Ukrainians

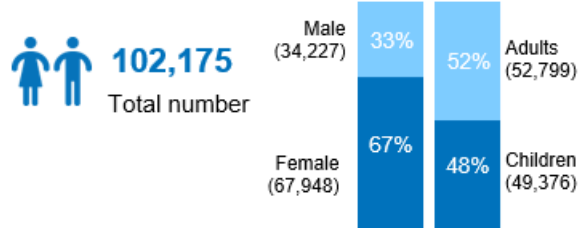


Third country nationals

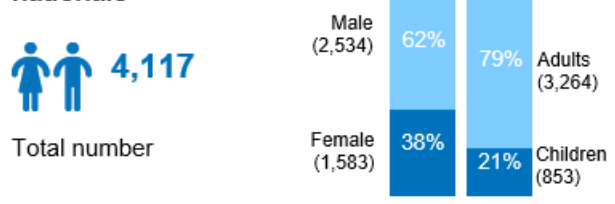


Remain in Moldova

Ukrainians



Third country nationals³



UN Women launched a factsheet on [Gender data on refugees at a glance: the Republic of Moldova](#) in partnership with the Border Police. This factsheet provides up-to-date data about the demographic profiles of refugees from Ukraine hosted by the Republic of Moldova. It is the first in a series that will examine the changing situation and provide data and evidence on the gender dimension of the current humanitarian crises as additional new data become available. Based on this several social media cards will be issued.

WEEKLY REFUGEE RESPONSE OVERVIEW



Photo Credit: UNFPA Moldova

	Working Groups		Overview
1	Protection	Ministry of Internal Affairs Moldovan Border Police UNHCR	Screening of persons at heightened risk and referral to different protection services and assistance
1.1	Child Protection (sub-working group)	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection UNICEF UNHCR	Support state child protection mechanism to respond to needs of refugee's children and child friendly spaces.
1.2	Gender Based Violence (sub-working group)	UNHCR UNFPA	Priority is the development of site-specific referral pathways linked to available services and existing pathways
2	Education	Ministry of Education and Research UNICEF	Priority remains for inclusion of refugee children (special/ specific needs, Roma) in formal and non-formal programme
3	Accommodation and Transportation	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection UNHCR	105 Government run Refugee Accommodations Centres (capacity of 9,126 ind.) supported via P3S - Protection Sensitive Site Support

4	Cash working Group	Minister of Labour and Social Protection UNHCR	Coordinated cash-based support for refugees and communities hosting them
5	Health and Nutrition	Ministry of Health WHO	Our priority is to support Moldova to provide health care for Ukrainian refugees
6	Logistics and supply	WFP UNHCR	Ensure shelter, food, medicines and other essential relief items are delivered
7	Information Management	UNHCR	Finalisation of 5W, data visualization, mapping of response
8	Livelihood and inclusion	UNDP	Alignment to the Government of Moldova efforts to address the refugee crisis on the background of socio-economic implications of energy crisis, COVID19 pandemic, and conflict in Ukraine.
9	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Network	UNFPA UNHCR	Train and educate partners about PSEA
10	Gender Task Force	UN Women UNHCR	Mainstream gender response across sectors



Photo: UNDP Moldova

CONTEXT THIS WEEK

The refugee situation in Moldova improved but remains fragile with regular daily arrivals at the borders. This allowed Government and partners to consolidate the response, at the same time prepare for scaled up response should the situation change drastically. The third week in the crisis entailed increase in response with limited human resource and a need to scale up refugee response with international support and presence of UN and international NGOs. National system was functioning for stable situation, people and families are moving quickly, onwards corridor, specific – new reality. Partners are responding to new realities in fast moving context.

The government of Moldova's leadership in the coordination architecture is important and allows for a consolidated, effective approach to protection and humanitarian assistance. In support of the efforts of the Government, UNHCR maintained the refugee coordination forum structure and overall coordination for the response that brought together partners such as UN agencies, NGOs, INGOs, donors and others. Most of the refugees fleeing Ukraine continued to be received and hosted by the host families and some taking shelter in the Refugees Accommodation Centres (RAC). 89% of Ukrainian refugee arrivals are women and children. Protection and gender sensitive approach are central to the response.

During the week, Solidarity and responsibility continued to be active with initiatives such Green Corridors, EU Solidarity Platform (Airlifts) and deployment of additional capacity through EU civil protection and Frontex. Understanding and compassion for the plight of refugees generated under the "Moldova for Peace" was the foundation for the refugee response. Civil society and private citizens are stepping up to meet basic needs ranging from food and water to shelter, medicines, emotional support, and transportation, as well as transporting refugees to other countries.

The achievements of Government of Moldova and partners as the update shows clearly partners have been able, with the governments concerned, to ensure that very real progress has been made in the assistance and support of the refugees. This is in a great part since the Government of Moldova created an enabling environment for partners to operation and scale up response swiftly.



MAIN SECTOR AND KEY UPDATES

1. Protection

- On 16 March, the Protection working group (PWG) convened, with over 45 organizations in attendance. PWG agreed to establish a task force to address specific situations and issues relating to persons with disabilities, accountability to affected persons (data collection), and information provision. Additionally, a six-month work plan will be created. All PWG members have been invited to join task forces, and leadership will be announced shortly.
- European solidarity in action is helping people through direct humanitarian aid, emergency civil protection assistance, support at the border, as well as by giving them a clear legal status allowing those fleeing the war to receive immediate protection in the EU. UNHCR, LCA, IOM, CCR, Intersos, ACTED, and others have collaborated to operationalize the EU Air transfer from Moldova to Austria. There will be flights for other countries in the coming week and partners stand ready to support.
- Hometown associations are joining the national campaign "Moldova for Peace" and are consolidating on a joint platform, "My locality for peace". Each association supports local authorities and the community in providing the necessary assistance to refugees, from Ukraine, including by engaging Moldovan citizens living abroad.
- Moldovan authorities have established triage and assistance centres at two border crosses with Ukraine -- Ocnita and Palanca. These centres offer accommodation to a number of refugees for 72 hours.
- On the government's request, UNHCR and the UN Resident Coordination Office seconded three full-time and two part-time staff to the Emergency External Aid Cell to coordinate with bilateral donor partners on humanitarian assistance provision and information management on needs and donations, as well as Crisis Communications.
- OHCHR visited smaller border crossing points in southern Moldova, such as Mirnoe and Vulcanesti, to better understand potential refugee needs. Both border crossings are underequipped to handle large groups of people and cars. Volunteers currently provide most of the support, including transportation. For some vulnerable groups, the three-kilometer walk between Ukraine and Moldova in Vulcanesti is a challenge. OHCHR also visited shelters to assess potential protection gaps.

- WHO supported the development of an informational flyer (50,000 in Ukrainian, 30,000 in Russian, and 10,000 in English) in support of the Government's efforts to provide public health advice and inform refugees about the health system and services available in Moldova.
- The State University of Medicine and Pharmacy completed a pilot of the health migrant screening electronic information platform with support from the World Health Organization: <https://cemr.gov.md/lock.php>. Additionally, a web design for the migrant health system was created.
- IOM distributed 70,000 leaflets with information on human trafficking at Palanca's transportation hub. The information includes how to identify potential cases, who to contact, and the hotline number to request assistance.
- UN Women, the United Nations Population Fund, and Handicap International have all made provision for assistive devices.
- UN Women team visited the transit, placement centres and home accommodated refugees based in Chisinau, Palanca, Giurgiulesti, Ungheni, Cahul, Drochia, Orhei and Straseni and had interviews with several women.

Hotlines for citizens of Ukraine in Moldova

Ask for help from volunteers

Hotline of the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (call from Moldova)

0 800 015 27

Hotline of the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (call from Ukraine)

+373 22 820 007

Border Police of the Republic of Moldova, hotline

+373 22 259 717

Center for Migration Advocates

+373 605 748 48

Green Line on Assistance to Ukrainian Citizens in Moldova

0 800 800 11

Useful information for citizens of Ukraine in Moldova

Communication with communities (CwC) is a key element of the refugee response www.Dopomogo.gov.md continues to provide information to both refugees and host communities

2. Child Protection

- The Child Protection sub-working group was formally established with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs' strong support, the participation of local governments and the Children's Ombudsman, as well as civil society. Among the identified priorities are expanding the Blue dots network and preventing and responding to the specific situation of unaccompanied and separated children.
- In order to meet the urgent needs of children and families crossing the border of the Republic of Moldova with Ukraine, three "Blue Dot" - support centres for children and families, located along refugee transit routes- have been activated. The first three "Blue Dots" in Moldova was set up at the Moldexpo Refugee Accommodation Center, Centre of refugees at Palanca and Border crossing point Otaci, which offers families and children services that meet their urgent needs: information and counselling, child-friendly spaces, psychological counselling and support, hygiene, health and nutrition services, as well as basic legal advice and referral services for cases of violence or health. The first three "Blue Dots" have been established in partnership by UNICEF in partnership UNHCR, CCF Moldova, Terre des Hommes Moldova, Partnerships for Every Child, national and local authorities.
- UNICEF has worked with the authorities to boost child protection capacities at two major border crossings and is working to place a designated full-time protection/psychosocial specialist at each location to improve child protection mechanisms at the border.

- To date, there are 348 people who were supported in BD Otaci (162 children and 186 caregivers), 2,114 people in Palanca (1,259 children and 855 caregivers) and 332 in MoldExpo (200 children and 132 caregivers). In the Transnistrian region, there are approx. 80 families/groups that were also supported at the child friendly spaces established there. Across all locations, an estimated 3,100 people have been supported with the Blue Dots.
- National referral mechanisms have been activated to care for unaccompanied refugee children at Palanca and Otachi border points by Guardianship authorities. Referral pathways will be documented and widely disseminated so all partners are aware of what to do if they identify an unaccompanied child.
- UNHCR Refugee Emergency Telecommunication Sector (RETS) has provided internet connectivity at Palanca, and Otaci border crossing points (BCP).



Child friendly space created as part of Blue Dot at RACs

Photo credit: Terre des hommes

3. Prevention and response to Gender based violence

- The GBV Sub-working group, which was co-chaired by UNFPA and UNHCR, had 23 members in attendance and was tasked with providing an update on trends and agreeing on priority actions. The Sub-working group prioritized the following immediate actions: (a) updating and developing referral pathways building on available services and existing systems, (b) Conducting needs assessments to identify gaps in services (in particular health services) and streamline information; and (c) Coordinating assessments, such as adapting UNHCR's safety audit and site level protection monitoring tool to an interagency tool. Based on requests, UNHCR is aiming to streamline and coordinate assessments as well as communication with the refugee community.
- To ensure the prevention and response to Gender Based Violence, including sexual violence, UNFPA provides capacity building of the healthcare personnel to apply the Protocol on Clinical

Management of Rape in humanitarian situation. Four online workshops are being organized with UNFPA support, in partnership with the Ministry of Health.

- The UN Women managed to secure a window from the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) for Ukraine and Moldova. The overall purpose of the WPHF is to provide grants to women and women's civil society organizations in Ukraine and Moldova that focus on the protection of women and girls and ensuring the needs of women and girls are integrated into humanitarian response in conflict and humanitarian contexts. As a first step, a targeted call was issued and two organization from Moldova approached to submit their applications by March 24th. The estimated budget is up to \$ 150,000 USA per organization.
- To ensure the prevention and response to Gender Based Violence, including sexual violence, UNFPA provides capacity building of the healthcare personnel to apply the Protocol on Clinical Management of Rape in humanitarian situation. 4 online workshops are being organized with UNFPA support, in partnership with the Ministry of Health.
- UN Women will deliver essential products as food and hygienic kits to selected shelters and daily centres targeting women and their children. In partnership with the National Coalition 'Life Without Violence' an informative campaign will be jointly implemented on VAW prevention, trafficking and PSEA for both women refugees and service providers in close partnership with relevant actors.
- In April 2022, UN Women will launch an open call for women's organizations from Moldova and Ukraine will be launched. Within the WPHF organizations would be able to apply for both institutional/core funding and programmatic funding in the areas of humanitarian support and improvement of the safety and mental health of women and girls, including combating gender-based violence.

4. Education

- Over 1400 applications have been submitted by Ukrainian refugees to have their children enrolled at schools and kindergartens in Moldova. Ministry of Education and Research has simplified procedures for enrolling applicants at schools includes only the presentation of an application and IDs. Refugee students from Ukraine can continue their studies at universities in Moldova. The list of available higher education institutions can be accessed on the portal Dopomoga.Gov.MD
- Efforts need to scale up to ensure inclusive education for refugee children including those with specific needs and Roma children. There is a need for adult literacy courses and other forms of training to support Roma adult gain literacy skills. There is an urgent need of learning material such laptops, scholastics materials.
- UNICEF is scaling up its response in education with plans being finalized in the area of early childhood education, youth engagement and participation, social cohesion and provision of capacity building to education personnel.
- Plan international 500 school bags distributed to the Municipality of Chisinau for refugee children enrolled in schools (primary and secondary). 25 school bags distributed to refugee children currently hosted in the Refugee centre of Congaz. 50 school bags will be distributed tomorrow Monday to the Municipality of Edinet for refugee children who are enrolled in school (primary and secondary)
- UNFPA will make provision of non-formal education activities for youth refugees through the network of youth centres and CSOs.
- UNDP is contributing to the drafting of the Education Sector Response plan.
- UNDP is identifying funds to finance the exams fee for validating professional competencies for refugees who wish to recognize their prior learning in order to find a job in Moldova.



A Roma family flee their homes in Mykolaiv Oblast & seek safety in Moldova (Photo Credit: UN Women)

5. Accommodation and Transport

- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection in close collaboration with UNHCR and its partners (ACTED, REACH Initiative) has established a data collection process to capture data on the refugee centres, hosting capacity, and various needs.
- As most of the refugees are moving, Moldovan authorities with support of UNHCR and IOM are managing the flow of people by provision of Bus transportation. Areas that need support include accessible transportation for disabled refugees, arranging affordable accommodations, providing access to education for children and jobs for their mothers, and coordinating with the many organisations and external groups that want to help.
- UNHCR partner ACTED supported 199 trips supporting 4,440 refugee to move under green corridor and on-going
- WFP has started deliver hot meals, to be distributed to all RACs through Cooperating Partners and catering contracts, and in coordination with all partners. WFP, following a request from the Government of Moldova, will lead the coordination of partners in the Food sub-working group, ensuring that needs are met by WFP and the different partners in this area of intervention. The current caseload at RACs is approximately 4,200 refugees, however this fluctuates daily, and WFP will adapt to the needs.
- Other needs at RACs are being met via humanitarian partners, supporting the great effort made so far by the government, volunteers, and private citizens. Hygiene kits and products have been distributed by UNHCR (ACTED), UNICEF, IMC, and WV. NFI are also being covered by CRS.
- While more systematic support is being delivered to RACs, needs in host communities are increasing, based on qualitative reports from Moldova for Peace. More and more Ukrainian families hosted by local people are requesting food and hygiene products, and there is a need to shift the main focus of assistance from RACs toward the hosting communities too.



Photo credit: UNFPA Moldova/Eduard Bizgu

- The Moldovan Government has requested for organized hot meals provision at border crossings and at the railway station in Causeni and Chisinau. WFP plans to support as needed, in collaboration with partners.
- UNHCR is supporting Moldexpo, the country's largest RAC, with basic appliances (toilets, showers, water boilers, refrigerators, and microwaves), blankets, minor repairs, stock management, and other emergency needs.
- UNHCR has strengthened facilities such as heaters, waiting areas, and access to toilets at transit hotspots (border crossing points and train stations). Site plans are being finalized with authorities for the installation of five containers and one rub hall that will serve as waiting areas for infants and children, pregnant and lactating women, people with special needs and limited mobility, and the elderly while they wait for transportation.
- As the renovation works (including electricity and plumbing work) of a government building have been completed, UNHCR has started its multi-purpose cash assistance.
- IOM has assessed the capacities of the 6 (six) RACs¹ in the vicinity of Chisinau: Moldexpo, Clinical Hospital of Phthisio-pneumology, SPB Constructorul, Dormitory of Institute of Educational Sciences, Dormitory of Gymnasium, Manej Sport Arena. In addition, 2 (two) emergency tent centres were assessed in cooperation with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and representative of SOS Attitude: the tent centre at Tudora and the one at Giurgulesti. Representatives of AFAD accompanied the site tour as well.
- IOM also supported the repatriation of 182 citizens of Azerbaijan. Out of these, 33 families with children and 13 infants have been referred to IOM by the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Moldova for assistance with ground transportation to Iasi, Romania from where they have boarded the repatriation flight to Baku, organised by the Azeri Government. Assistance provided by IOM included humanitarian communication (Embassy, Border Police), pre-departure FTT checks, ground transportation to Iasi.

6. Cash based assistance

- Cash payments are made available for vulnerable refugees from Ukraine following guidance from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection on grant sizes. National and international NGOs and UN

Agencies have started scale cash distributions in Chisinau, at the borders and in country through various payment mechanisms.

- IOM has distributed 287 MCA vouchers have been distributed by IOM in 5 centres in Chisinau, benefitting 282 refugee families and 5 TCN families. The value of each voucher is MDL 1,000 and can be redeemed at Linella and Fidesco supermarkets throughout the country.
- CRS has started distributions of cash assistance to host families in Soroca. Each host family receives a grant of 3,500 MDL which covers for costs incurred while hosting refugees.
- UNHCR, Catholic Relief Services and its partners Caritas Moldova and Diakonia, have started the rollout of the nationwide cash assistance scheme for refugees, starting in Chisinau. Refugees receive 2,200 MDL per month and the vulnerable refugees remaining in country will be entitled to a renewed grant.
- One-off cash payments will also be made available for families hosting refugees from Ukraine, by World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with its partners – Catholic Relief Services, Helvetas, People in Need Moldova, World Vision, Solidarités International, and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency.
- UNICEF is working closely with UNHCR to pilot a cash-based intervention for vulnerable families

7. Health and nutrition



Photo credit: WHO Moldova

- WHO presented to the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the National Agency for Public Health the Public Health Situation Analysis in the Refugee-hosting countries (17 March 2022). The risk assessment was conducted and public health measures have to be aligned to mitigate the public health risk associated with COVID-19, Measles and other public health risks (table 1 PHSA_hosting_countries_2022-03-16_CLEARED_v2euologo_JP (who.int))
- WHO and the Ministry of Health have continued to conduct rapid assessments of refugee health services. The Stefan Voda and Anenii Noi District Hospitals' capacity to manage mass casualties has been assessed.
- WHO visited the health services in Palanca and the nearby refugee camp. This included reviewing and strengthening surge capacity. The hospital and Ministry of Health's incident management capacity has been strengthened, as has event management coordination.

- UNICEF distributed medical kits in Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs) benefitting roughly 5,000 people, as well as medicine and antibiotics for roughly 9,000 children.
- WHO supported MoH to complete mapping of health sector partners by using standard the “5Ws” tool and identification of health needs and gaps, and regularly updated them in inter-agency health working group meeting to help coordinate, strengthen and expand health services for refugees.
- The WHO Academy and partners organized a 90-minute webinar to familiarize MoH representatives and key emergency health personnel, including doctors, nurses, and other emergency unit workers and first responders, on Mass Casualty Management (MCM) practice and guidance.
- A team of WHO experts carried out a health services and WASH response assessment to ensure consideration of water supply, sanitation, and hygiene, as well as information management and surveillance scale-up at sites in Palanka-Maiaky-Udobne border crossing point, Palanca and Popeasca refugee accommodation centers (Stefan Voda district) to evaluate risk disease factors of refugees, especially communicable and infectious diseases.
- In the refugee accommodation centres of Palanca, Manej (Chişinău), Giurgiuleşti, and Cahul, WHO provided ICT equipment and multifunctional printers with USAID funding to help refugees register their health and vaccination status, and to record and monitor the distribution of noncommunicable disease kits.
- UNICEF launched a ‘mother and child’ room at the Planca border-guard station to support breast-feeding. Additionally, over 10,000 fliers promoting health and nutrition for mother and child were distributed.
- The Republic of Moldova has established an Emergency Medical Team “Coordination Cell” to coordinate 17 international teams, including WHO EMTs deployed to support primary health care for refugees as directed by the health authorities, as well as mental health and psychological support for refugees and vulnerable populations. Six EMTs were sent to Manej (Chişinău municipality), Palanca, Tudora (Stafen Vova), Ivancea, Peresecina (Orhei district), and Briceni. Three other EMTs assessed refugee health needs at entry points.
- In response to the crisis in Ukraine, the WHO Academy has created an online resource centre for - doctors, nurses, first responders, and others. It offers curated learning resources in mass casualty management (MCM), trauma management and managing exposure to chemical, biological, and nuclear agents.
- Polio surveillance capacity is being expanded, including through emergency procurement of laboratory supplies. A regional assessment of vaccine coverage in neighbouring countries is currently being conducted to determine the risk of vaccine-preventable disease importation and spread.
- Refugee health care in republic of Moldova includes Emergency care Continuity of care for chronic conditions Evacuation of the specific cases - Cancer – Dialysis.
- UNICEF has carried out an assessment of needs for NICU (Institute of Mother and Child), and will be procuring support with equipment in the coming weeks.
- MSF Holland will as of 20th March start a health point at Otaci border crossing providing medical and psychological first aid as well as screening for vulnerabilities.
- IOM conducted pre-departure health screening for 180 TCNs at the refugee reception centre (Dormitory of the Medical University). To date, 545 health screenings have been conducted.
- Based on UNFPA SRH assessment, there are an estimated 23,000 affected refugee women of reproductive age in Moldova. Currently, 772 of them are pregnant. 86 women will give birth in the next month, 257 in the next three. 13 women may face fatal delivery complications in the coming month, necessitating immediate life-saving interventions.
- A total of 65 people living with HIV (including 3 pregnant women and 1 child) were treated with ARVs thanks to the National AIDS Program, UNAIDS, and civil society involvement. 50 other people were helped to get treatment in other EU host nations.
- 1300 volunteers from the Moldova Red Cross provide psychosocial support to Ukrainian refugees fleeing to #Moldova from Ukraine.



Photo: UNICEF Moldova

8. Logistics and Supply

- WFP and UNHCR are working to establish a planning and tracking platform for assistance delivery and distribution. The platform will enable tracking of partner needs and requests, as well as the mapping of various locations for assistance and delivery. The mapping process will ensure that information about needs, and areas of logistical support is consistent.
- UNICEF has donated 5,000 blankets to warehouses run by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, baby kits (diapers and WASH baby products) to 211 children aged 0-2 years in fifteen Refugee Accommodation Centers (RACs).
- UNHCR Moldova recently contracted with GFA Damco/Maersk for a 2,400m² warehouse in Chisinau's suburbs.
- WFP is ready to help humanitarian organizations with storage, warehouse management, coordination of cargo airlift, transportation, joint procurement, and a dedicated fleet service. The WFP has leased a warehouse with a covered area of 1200 square meters for transportation and assistance coordination.
- 800,000 EUR in critical medical supplies has been shipped to WHO Moldova to assist health workers and the health system in providing care and meeting the immediate health needs of incoming refugees and Moldovan citizens.
- WHO has contracted a new batch of personal protective equipment, disinfectants, and medical devices to help improve refugee triage and assist the health system in ensuring proper IPC measures. WHO working on rapid antigen tests, EHK and NCD kits, trauma kits, and ICU bed equipment.
- Three trucks of in-kind donations from France have arrived at the IOM warehouse (Pompiers de l'urgence Internationale and SOS Initiative). Clothing for adults and children, medical supplies, and personal hygiene items are the most frequently requested items.

9. Information management

- Feedback received from partners following the dissemination of a 5W template has been incorporated, including drop-down lists of activity categories provided by sector leads. The adjusted template is being populated with information already received and will be disseminated among all partners shortly.

- To avoid duplication and enable identification of gaps in assessment, the group is working on an Assessment Registry. Working Group members are encouraged to share information on assessments undertaken by them.
- IOM, in partnership with UN Women and CBS Research, conducted displacement surveys in 4 BCPs and 4 transit centres in Chisinau. So far, approx. 1,500 surveys have been collected, with Ukrainian refugees and TCNs, on their origin locations, main intended destinations, and their most pressing needs.
- To gather population data on static (stock figures), UNHCR will be partnering with REACH to undertake the following activities: Area-Based Monitoring - Periodical assessments of areas (towns, neighbourhoods/municipalities) where refugee populations are residing; Site Mapping – Identification of sites housing refugees (collective, planned, unplanned); Site Monitoring – Periodic sectorial assessments of the sites involving inputs from the sectors/working groups; UNHCR is considering conducting a Rapid Needs Assessment. All sectors are encouraged to feed into the design of this exercise. REACH recommends reviewing gaps in the available information first, before conducting a new needs assessment.
- TWB (Translators Without Borders) share the link of Questions and guidance around relevant languages for the context in needs assessments: <https://translatorswithoutborders.org/language-questions> as well the link of their community Translation Partnership program <https://clearglobal.org/partner-with-us/ukraine-appeal/>
- UNDP concluded preparations for the roll-out of the micronarratives collection with the purpose to collect qualitative data on ‘how is life’ from various groups of population, including in particular local population and refugees – early next week as data collection starts we will share the link to the collector site with all interested to disseminate and support data collection; the georeferenced dataset will be made available to all partners supporting the data collection efforts;
- UNDP in process of designing and deploying few services on human mobility based on VHR satellite imagery and mobility data to complement the efforts of partners to monitor and analyze the changing human mobility in the crisis context; further services could be developed and focused on population estimation, density and distribution, anomalies in human mobility, other.
- UNDP in partnership with Monday.com to roll-out a pilot in collaboration with Border Police to collect on border additional data focused on the needs of the entering refugees to be used for profiling purposes.
- Based on the initial income simulation work, UNDP is currently conducting a more in-depth analysis of the potential impact of the crisis onto the incomes of households to be presented at the next SE Task Force (planned Thursday, 24 March 2022, 16:00H).

10. Livelihood and inclusion

- The Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group is co-led by the State Chancellery and UNDP. The Livelihoods and Inclusion Sector Group is firmly anchored in the understanding of the current context in Moldova and will operate in support and alignment to the Government of Moldova efforts to address the refugee crisis on the background of socio-economic implications of energy crisis, COVID19 pandemic, and conflict in Ukraine.
- The first mtg of the Sector Group took place on 15 March and focused on exchange of information among the partners on the refugee response, including the situation of local public authorities in addressing the refugee influx. The scope of the Sector Group was discussed as well as contribution of the Sector Group partner to the Regional Refugee Response Plan with timeframe of 6 months. As for the scope, the Working Group discussed its focus to be on strengthening resilience of institutions and host communities, ensuring livelihoods of refugees through fostering economic inclusion and access to essential services and fostering social cohesion between refugees and host communities.
- In terms of activities, partners have already engaged in rapid assessments of – for example - readiness and capacities of local public authorities to respond to the needs of refugees, including accommodation, provision of basic services, and with due concern for social inclusion; impact of the disrupted value chains on the SMEs operating on the internal and external markets. Further discussions are to be held under

the leadership of the Government about conducting a more comprehensive assessment to identify the most critical needs of refugees and host communities in the context of socio-economic integration and livelihoods.

- UNDP continues to advance the cooperation with local communities and hometown associations (HTAs), that have actively engaged in the national efforts to support Ukrainian refugees. Over 40 HTAs are currently part of the „My locality for peace” group (aligned to the governmental campaign) and have facilitated diaspora contributions amounting to over 55,000 USD, to the benefit of over 7,000 refugees accommodated in these localities.
- UNDP concluded preparations for the roll-out of the ‘micronarratives’ - a survey tool to collect qualitative data on ‘how is life’ from various groups of population, in particular local population and refugees. Data collection will start on 28 March, and UNDP will share the link to the collector site through Livelihoods an Inclusion Working Group and Information Management Working Group to disseminate and support data collection.
- UNDP in process of designing and deploying services (information sets) on human mobility based on VHR satellite imagery and mobility data to complement the efforts of partners to monitor and analyse the



Photo credit: UNDP Moldova

changing human mobility in the crisis context. Further services could be developed and focused on population estimation, density and distribution, anomalies in human mobility.

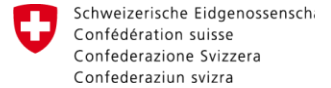
- UNDP in partnership with Monday.com is to roll-out a pilot in collaboration with Border Police to collect on border additional data focused on the needs of the entering refugees to be used for profiling purposes.
- UNDP is conducting a more in-depth analysis of the potential impact of the crisis onto the incomes of households to be presented at the next Socio-Economic Task Force planned Thursday, 24 March 2022, 16:00H
- First concrete discussions were kick-started between FAO, IFAD and WFP with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding support to Moldovan agricultural producers to cushion the impact of sanctions and supply chain disruptions.
- The Resident Coordinator led the United Nations Country Team in establishing an immediate United Nations-Moldova Government Socio-Economic Impact Taskforce, chaired by UNDP, to assess and respond to the crisis's medium- and long-term impact on the Republic of Moldova.

11. Gender Task Force

- The Gender Task Force (GTF), led by UN Women and UNHCR, is established to mainstream and integrate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls into the Moldovan refugee response for the purposes of humanitarian effectiveness and accountability.
- The Gender Task Force for the Moldovan Refugee Response will provide cross-sectoral and inter-organizational support to ensure the integration of gender dimensions into the refugee response by addressing protection and gender mainstreaming gaps and strengthening access to services for people of all ages, genders, and diversities, including women, men, adolescents/youth, boys and girls, as well as vulnerable groups such as older adults and persons with disabilities.
- The assistance will be focused on three key areas: a) Coordination; b) Technical assistance, guidance, and capacity building; and c) Advocacy and information sharing.
- Membership is open to all service providers involved in the response and will include gender focal points from each sector, nominated by each sector, government and local women organizations, women refugee committees, as well as women refugees and additional gender advocates, experts, and resource persons from selected agencies/organizations. Beginning 25 March 2022, meetings will be held every Friday from 10:00–11:30 a.m.



Inter-agency operational response update is a collaborative effort of over 45 partners who have joined the response thus far and more who are coming forward to coordinate their efforts under the umbrella of a single refugee response (UN agencies, Red Cross movements, INGOs, and NGOs), under the overall leadership of the Government of Moldova and UNHCR, to respond to the Ukrainian refugee situation in Moldova.



USEFUL LINKS

- [DOPOMOGA \(gov.md\)](#)
- [Situation Ukraine Refugee Situation \(unhcr.org\)](#)
- [geoservices \(unhcr.org\)](#)
- The libraries contain useful internal and external assets, information and guidance covering a range of topics, including new social media assets for Ukraine on:
 - a) Reporting misconduct: [English](#) – [Ukrainian](#) – [Editable](#)
 - b) Severe stress management: [English](#) – [Ukrainian](#) – [Editable](#)
 - c) Breastfeeding: [English](#) – [Ukrainian](#) – [Editable](#)

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