

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #48

26 May 2023

Key figures

132,362 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

94,179 refugees present in Romania (as of 20 May 2023).

19,505 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

38,261 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

1,825 refugees supported with livelihoods & employment services in 2023.



Along with the displacement, I lost a part of myself that was socially integrated. I want to restore myself in this sense here in Romania and feel involved in life where I am.

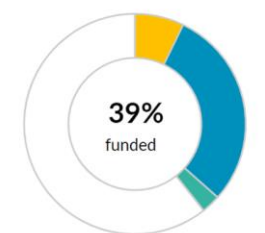
–Natali, a refugee from Ukraine hosted in, Romania.

Funding Situation

As of 23 May 2023

\$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



Highlights

During the week, UNHCR in Romania organized an all-staff workshop to review and familiarize with the multi-year strategy for 2024-2026, as well as to strengthen the team dynamics. The strategy was developed with an extensive consultative process with partners and key stakeholders. It aims to continue providing critical assistance to the most vulnerable refugees and families with basic needs, key protection services as well as socio-economic inclusion through livelihood services, in a context where UNHCR will continue to actively support the protection and inclusion of refugees and keep its contingency capacity.

On 23 May, UNHCR's partner PATRIR accompanied by UNHCR Field Office in Suceava, hosted a visit of the US Ambassador Kathleen Kavalec at the Ukraine House in Cluj. During the visit, the US delegation met with refugees from Ukraine and discussed about the various services offered by partners in Cluj, including counselling, livelihoods activities, and prevention of and response to gender-based violence.

Response

UNHCR and partners continue supporting refugees with protection services in view of the completion of the 50/20 programme and until the new system of governmental assistance is in full implementation, including a one-off cash assistance for 35,000 vulnerable refugees. Over the past weeks, over 26,000 refugees have been verified for cash assistance. In addition, refugees are assisted in Bucharest and other major cities in Romania with dedicated counseling (via phone and in person) to access the new Government support programme. Since the beginning of 2023, over 38,200 refugees received protection and counseling services in person or through hotlines.

On 18 May, UNHCR, in coordination with authorities, held awareness sessions on conditions for registration in the new government assistance programme with participation of 80 Ukrainian refugees hosted in Constanța. Topics included registration for education and employment, and registration of people with disabilities.

During the week, UNHCR in Galați delivered kitchen equipment, including a fridge, five microwaves, and two stoves to two collective accommodation centres for refugee in Galați and Tulcea hosting some 140 refugees from Ukraine. The equipment will improve the ability to prepare food in the centres. In addition, core-relief items (CRIs) including hygiene kits, blankets, bed linen, and bottled water were delivered to 45 refugees. In addition, UNHCR in Suceava distributed CRIs to 183 individuals in Suceava and Cluj.

UNHCR and partners continue providing individual career counselling and Romanian language courses to refugee job seekers. In 2023, 834 refugees have been provided with career counselling and relevant information, and 321 have been enrolled in language courses. More than 100 refugees have secured employment through support of UNHCR and partners in 2023 ensuring livelihoods for over 300 family members.



Awareness session held on 18 May in Constanța on conditions for registration in the new government assistance programme with participation of 80 refugees from Ukraine.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)