UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #48

9 June 2023

Ukraine. UNHCR and UN partners are delivering aid to those impacted in Khersonska oblast following the destruction of Kakhovka dam on June 6. © UNHCR/Octavian Mohorea

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation

8,255,288[1]

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe (16 May)

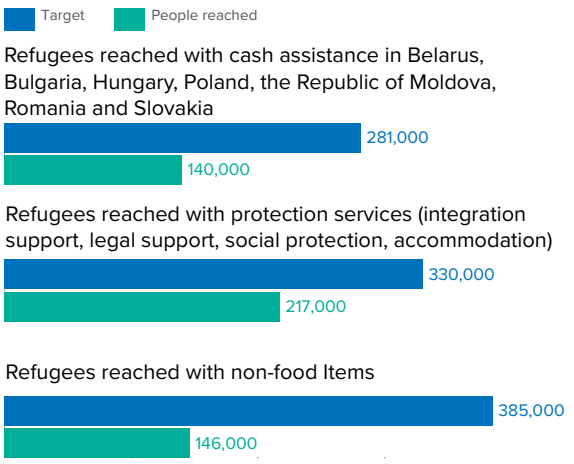
5,140,259[2 3]

Refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe (16 May)

5,088,000

Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (23 May) Internal Displacement Report

UNHCR REFUGEE RESPONSE 2023



KAKHOVKA DAM BREACH RESPONSE

- According to authorities, some 2,200 people have so far been evacuated from areas affected by the Kakhovka dam breach. The UN and humanitarian organizations have stepped up efforts to provide urgent assistance to affected people, including drinking water, cash assistance, and psychosocial support in areas accessible to humanitarian workers. The flooding will likely impact around 80 settlements in the coming days, with some 17,000 individuals possibly affected.
- UNHCR has pre-positioned and begun delivering emergency supplies to respond to displaced and affected communities in Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Odesa regions. UNHCR's warehouse in Dnipro has received 20,000 jerrycans and dispatched 7,000 to Kherson, where access to safe drinking water is a critical need.
- UNHCR and partners are also providing mental health and psychosocial support, as well as legal counselling and assistance to arriving evacuees in Kherson and nearby regions, including Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv and Odesa. Vulnerable families are being registered for cash assistance, and those in need are supported with access to accommodation in collective and reception centres. Evacuees are being included in existing protection activities, such as information sharing and referrals to specialized services. UNHCR partners are assessing needs and mapping temporary accommodation capacity in collective centres in nearby regions to ensure effective assistance to newly arriving persons.
- You can find out more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region on the dedicated UNHCR Ukraine Emergency website.

[1]The data displayed may not accurately reflect the current reality or actual information due to maintenance of the Operational Data Portal
[2] Idem.
[3]The figure "Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe" may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons; or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe.

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UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Since the beginning of May, the security situation in Ukraine has deteriorated substantially, with systematic long-range air strikes against critical infrastructure and major population centres, particularly Dnipro and Kyiv, occurring nearly daily. On 26 May, at least two people reportedly died and dozens more were injured after a missile struck a medical facility in the city of Dnipro. The UN has strongly condemned the attack, emphasizing that hospitals enjoy special protection under International Humanitarian Law.
- As of 5 June, OHCHR recorded 24,425 civilian casualties in Ukraine: 8,983 killed and 15,442 injured, with actual figures likely to be much higher. On 1 June, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator released a statement condemning the killing or injuring of over 1,500 children since Russia's full-scale invasion.

UNHCR RESPONSE AND TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2023 AS OF 5 MAY

1.31 million people reached with assistance in 2023, out of a target of **3.6 million** people, some of whom will receive several forms of support.

600,700 people reached with protection services, out of a target of **1.9 million** people.

443,561 people supported with essential items, out of a target of **1 million** people.

263,344 people supported with cash assistance, out of a target of **800,000** people.

95,536 people received shelter/housing support, out of a target of **720,000** people.

75,474 people supported with safe access to multi-sectoral services in collective sites, out of a target of **150,000** people.

UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Capacity-building**: On 16 and 17 May, 35 state lawyers from the Free Legal Aid Centres in Kyivska and Chernihivska oblasts were trained by UNHCR and partner Right to Protection on legal issues related to IDPs, including restoration of personal documentation, inheritance and housing compensation. On 19 May, 40 law students from legal clinics at two universities in Zhytomyr city were trained on identification and verification procedures for obtaining ID documents, restoring birth certificates, and providing free legal assistance.
- **Child friendly spaces:** On 1 June, UNHCR partner ROKADA opened two child friendly spaces in Chernihivska and Zhytomyrska oblasts. Both spaces were renovated jointly with local authorities and equipped by ROKADA, benefitting over 1,189 IDP and host community children and their families.
- **Children's mental health:** UNHCR and local partners are working to support children with their mental health and inclusion in the community. To mark Children's Day on 1 June, over 150 events were organized by UNHCR and partners across the country.
- **Humanitarian convoys:** Over 6,600 people were assisted through four UN interagency convoys to which UNHCR contributed with tarpaulins, hygiene kits, solar lamps and essential items. Aid was delivered between 17 May - 2 June to frontline villages in Kharkivska, Khersonska and Zaporizka oblasts.
- **PSEA**: On 29 and 30 May, 60 humanitarian workers from different non-government and government organizations in Poltava were trained by UNHCR on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).
- **Refurbishment:** On 26 May, a joint reconstruction project of a housing estate in Irpin city was officially launched by UNHCR and Kyivska oblast authorities. UNHCR will provide construction materials for 47 heavily damaged houses, benefiting 256 adults and 46 children, for a total cost of USD 2 million.
- **Shelter assistance**: In response to missile strikes, 180 emergency shelter kits were delivered to affected people in Ternopilska and Zhytomyrska. Additionally, in Khmelnytska oblast, UNHCR and ROKADA provided shelter materials to 988 families. In May, UNHCR organized 100 trucks to deliver construction materials to parts of the country to help people rebuild their homes. During May, UNHCR also provided 47,500 pieces of roofing slates to authorities in Khmelnytskyi and Mykolaiv.
- Find more information in the regular Ukraine country operational updates and on the UNHCR Ukraine portal page.

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

Blue Dots

35 Blue Dots Hubs are operational in:

Bulgaria	5	Poland	5	Slovenia	1
Hungary	3	Romania	7		
Moldova	10	Slovakia	4*		

*One Blue dot hub has recently been closed in Slovakia.

89,100

Refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia so far in 2023.

The Digital Blue Dot is a regional website that provides localized and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. The website provides a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs with information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 16 May 2023)

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

COUNTRY UPDATES

BULGARIA

159,225
refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

44,915
refugees have received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

36,918
refugees have been reached through **5** Blue Dot Hubs

8,376
refugees received cash assistance

6,361
visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria Help Page

- **Coordination:** On 25 May, UNHCR and Bulgaria's State Agency for Refugees (SAR) signed a cooperation agreement to enhance the national asylum processes and improve reception conditions. On 30 May, UNHCR also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Plovdiv municipality to strengthen partnership for the protection and inclusion of refugees. On 2 June, UNHCR signed an MoU with the National Police to strengthen protection interventions for unaccompanied children.
- **NFIs:** Last week, 64 refugees received non-food items (NFIs), including diapers, mattresses and blankets from UNHCR and partners. So far in 2023, 37,932 refugees received NFI assistance.
- **MHPSS:** Nearly 4,550 refugees from Ukraine have been provided with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) since 1 January 2023.

CZECH REPUBLIC

519,964
refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

5,245
refugees from Ukraine have received protection services

17,613
visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic Help Page

- **Coordination:** On 30 May, a Ukrainian government delegation briefed UNHCR about its initiative to establish a Survivor Relief Centre for Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic. The initiative was welcomed by the Czech authorities, and UNHCR agreed to support the initiative with expertise in quality standards, training opportunities and awareness-raising.

HUNGARY

36,313
refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

9,748
refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners

9,659
refugees have been reached through **3** Blue Dot Hubs

30,388
visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- **Accommodation:** UNHCR partner the Hungarian Red Cross provided accommodation in collective shelters to 275 refugees in April, and to a total of 929 refugees so far this year.
- **GBV pathways:** Between 15 - 17 May, 20 staff from 10 UNHCR partners were trained on case management services for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). The training aimed at building the capacity of social workers and integrating case management to ensure effective support to survivors of GBV.

- **NFIs:** During the reporting period, UNHCR and partners delivered 231 pairs of shoes to refugees through shelters in Budapest, as well as to refugee-led organization "Unity Association". Since April, nearly 950 pairs of shoes from in-kind donations have been dispatched to shelters and distributing entities.
- **Inclusion:** On 31 May, 21 refugee children from Ukraine participated with UNHCR's support in a UEFA Fan Festival sporting event in Budapest, which gathered professional football players of major European leagues.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Hungary data portal

POLAND

1,605,738
refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

25,000
people were provided with protection support over the phone

18,124
people were counselled at the **5** Blue Dot Hubs and **6** Community Centres

15,853
refugees were reached with cash assistance

269,163
views to the UNHCR Poland Help Page

- **Coordination:** From 15 - 16 May, UNHCR joined the launch of two out of five pilot projects under the government's "We Need Each Other" programme, which aims to reach 100 refugee and local community households to enhance social cohesion and increase inclusion opportunities. UNHCR will support the programme by providing expertise and advice, and conducting joint surveys and assessments, among others.
- **Mobile outreach:** During multifunctional mobile outreach visits to five regions, some 1,000 vulnerable refugees received social and psychological counselling, and several were referred to specialized services. Main queries related to financial support, accommodation, employment, and healthcare.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion**: UNHCR, the global job matching platform Indeed and Tent Partnership for Refugees and Tent Partnership for Refugees organized a job fair on 16 May in Warsaw in coordination with city authorities. More than 1,200 people, mainly refugees, attended the fair where they conducted on-the-spot job interviews, learned how to develop their CVs, and received legal advice on taxation. Another job fair was organized on 30 May in Gdynia by UNHCR and local authorities, which was attended by more than 1,000 jobseekers, including refugees. Apart from applying for job vacancies, participants received career advisories in Polish and Ukrainian, as well as CV development support.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Poland data portal

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

108,889
refugees from Ukraine recorded in the country

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

9,732
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

8,440
refugees have been reached through **10** Blue Dot Hubs as of 9 April

75,743
people have received cash assistance

165,288
visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page

- **Child protection:** On 16 May, 18 staff from NGO REACH were trained by UNHCR on child protection and conducting focus group discussions with children.
- **GBV:** Between 19 - 26 May, 33 staff from partner Casa Marioarei were trained by UNHCR on survivor-centred approaches when working with refugees. On 25 May, 15 staff from local authorities, UN Agencies and NGOs attended a training on GBV minimum standards in emergencies, including prevention, risk mitigation and response programmes. The training was organized by the GBV Sub-Working Group, co-chaired by UNHCR and UNFPA. So far in 2023, UNHCR trained 93 people on GBV prevention.
- **Human trafficking prevention:** On 23 May, 24 staff from UN Agencies and NGOs working at the Palanca Bus Hub were trained by UNHCR and the national Centre on Combatting Trafficking in Persons. The training focused on human trafficking, to help humanitarian workers identify people at risk.

- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** From 20 - 21 May, 700 refugees and local community members (mostly children) participated in events organized by UNHCR and partners CCR and AVE Copiii in the city of Balti to promote social cohesion, foster peaceful coexistence and raise awareness about refugee issues.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Moldova portal page

ROMANIA

132,362
refugees registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

43,834	35,761	35,323	567
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners	refugees were reached with cash assistance	visits to the UNHCR Romania Help Page	refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

- **Cash assistance:** To support refugees during the transition from the government's previous 50/20 financial assistance programme to a new national system launched on 1 June, UNHCR has so far provided 25,000 vulnerable refugees with a one-off cash payment.
- **GBV:** During the reporting period, 28 medical professionals and other frontline service providers attended sessions on GBV and PSEA co-facilitated by UNHCR in the context of a training on Clinical Management of Rape, which was co-organized by UNFPA, Romanian authorities and the East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH). So far in 2023, 327 individuals from authorities and partners were trained on core protection concepts, including GBV prevention and response.
- **NFIs:** On 15 - 19 May, UNHCR delivered kitchen equipment and NFIs for 45 refugees, including hygiene kits, blankets and bed linen to two collective accommodation centres in Galați and Tulcea cities. Furthermore, 183 refugees received NFIs in Cluj and Suceava cities.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** On 23 - 25 May, UNHCR partner HEKS/EPER held two webinars on company registration and taxation for refugees interested in launching a business for 61 participants. On 29 May, Ateliere Fără Frontiere (AFF) held a workshop for 26 refugees from Ukraine on legal aspects of working in Romania. AFF also accompanied refugee jobseekers to job interviews and held individual career counselling sessions. So far in 2023, 416 refugees have been provided with career counselling and 485 with information in Romania. Some 340 refugees have so far attended language courses provided by AFF and HEKS/EPER, while Jobs4Ukraine continues to provide refugees with employment support through its online job portal, which 1,405 refugees have so far registered for in 2023.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Romania data portal

SLOVAKIA

116,718
refugees registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

16,972	17,788	2,532	99,972
refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners as of 27 March	people been assisted with legal counselling at **4** Blue Dots	refugees have received cash assistance	visits to the UNHCR HELP Page

- **Capacity-building:** On 24 May, 30 humanitarian actors were trained on gender equality and humanitarian action. On 25 May, consultations with women-led organizations were also held, notably on the need for longer-term funding. Both activities were organized by UNHCR and partners.

- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** On 23 May, UNHCR and the Slovak Olympic and Sports Committee signed an MoU to enhance engagement with sport associations for inclusion of refugees and forcibly displaced people. Additionally, 950 refugees and people from the host community were reached through events from 15 - 31 May organized by UNHCR partners SME SPOLU, People In Need (PIN) and Mareena. Some 245 persons were provided with information on job counselling, language courses and employment workshops.
- Find out more on the UNHCR Slovakia data portal UNHCR Slovakia data portal.

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

- As of 1 May, **27,673 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Belarus.
- **Capacity-building:** On 23 May, 13 staff from partners and authorities were trained by UNHCR and partner Belarus Red Cross in psychological first aid to improve self-care for frontline workers. On 24 May, 30 staff from partner Belarus Red Cross were trained in planning during humanitarian crises, including PSEA and GBV. The training was organized by UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNICEF as the first in a series.
- **Cash assistance**: So far in 2023, 238 refugees from Ukraine were supported with cash assistance by UNHCR and partners.
- **Coordination**: From 25 - 26 May, during a mission to Gomel region, UNHCR discussed support needs with local authorities, partners and refugees, including information-sharing among Ukrainian asylum-seekers and training for authorities on international protection and psychosocial support.

ESTONIA

- As of 21 May, **45,690 refugees** from Ukraine have been registered for temporary protection.
- **Family reunification:** Through assistance from UNHCR partner the Estonian Human Rights Centre (EHRC), a Ukrainian-Russian family originally from Ukraine was successfully reunited. The family reunification was made possible through EHRC's legal intervention and support.
- **Protection monitoring**: On 22 May, UNHCR and partner Estonian Refugee Council visited a short-term government accommodation site in Võisiku town, which currently hosts 36 refugees from Ukraine. During a short meeting with UNHCR, primary questions raised by refugees related to cash assistance and other types of social support.

GEORGIA

- As of 9 May, **24,182 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Georgia.
- **Coordination:** During a working group meeting on socioeconomic inclusion and self-reliance held on 16 May, UNHCR presented consolidated findings from surveys on refugee inclusion. Participants agreed to deepen cooperation with private sector companies, raise awareness among employers and help refugees prepare for an upcoming job fair in the fall.
- **Inclusion:** On Children's Day on 1 June, UNHCR organized a visit of the UN Country Team (UNCT) to a Ukrainian school in Batumi city, accompanied by the Minister of Education of Adjara region. The purpose of the visit was to coordinate UNCT programmes on inclusion and integration of refugee children. Meanwhile, from 18 - 19 May, UNHCR and relevant ministries organized a meeting with representatives of hosting municipalities to discuss refugee inclusion through existing programmes and assistance schemes.

LATVIA

- As of 19 May, **47,948 refugees** from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection.
- **Counselling:** On 12 and 23 May, UNHCR partner Shelter Safe House (SSH) provided legal counselling to 20 refugees from Ukraine residing in the cities of Liepaja and Valmiera. Main topics related to documentation, taxes, social benefits, citizenship and travelling to Ukraine. As of 29 May, **2,139 refugees** from Ukraine have been counselled by UNHCR partners SSH, Latvian Centre for Human Rights and GPB.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** On 12 May, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and IOM, UNHCR and partner GPB discussed refugee accommodation, education, social support, employment and integration with 12 municipalities, ten state institutions and eight NGOs. Participants agreed to strengthen cooperation to meet refugee needs and raise awareness about risks of unregistered employment. As a follow-up, UNHCR and GPB will offer capacity-building sessions on inclusion for municipality staff.

LITHUANIA

- As of 17 May, **77,610 refugees** from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection.
- **Assistance:** So far in 2023, UNHCR partners have assisted **4,240 refugees** with counselling, language classes and community engagement activities.
- **Protection monitoring:** On 26 May, UNHCR conducted a monitoring visit of an accommodation facility hosting 34 unaccompanied and separated children in Kaunas city. UNHCR will renovate the facility to improve children's living conditions.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** From 4 - 16 May, UNHCR visited the municipalities of Kaunas, Utena and Vilnius to discuss refugee inclusion and integration, and support the municipalities taking a more active role in coordinating the Ukraine refugee response at the local level. All municipalities visited agreed to further support monitoring visits.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, 8,594 refugees from Ukraine have been counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while nearly 5,819 have been counselled in the border regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Voronezh. Over 28,758 refugees have been counselled via the hotline by UNHCR and partners.
- **MHPSS**: So far in 2023, over 11,488 refugees have received psychosocial support through partners.
- **Visit:** On 30 May, UNHCR spoke with 32 refugees from Ukraine during focus group discussions and semi-structured discussions in the city of Tula, organized by the Russian Red Cross. Main issues raised related to unavailability of housing and high rental costs – particularly for older people – as well as challenges obtaining employment history from Ukraine.

Ukraine. Following the destruction of Kakhovka dam on June 6, tens of thousands of people have been impacted by massive flooding, June 2023, © UNHCR/Octavian Mohorea

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items. The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates eleven UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 400,000 people in collective sites in 2023. The Protection Cluster consists of 136 partners, including sub-clusters (57 partners under General Protection) and operates through five coordination hubs to reach an anticipated 7 million people in 2023. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 97 active partners across five coordination hubs, targeting 3.3 million people in 2023 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

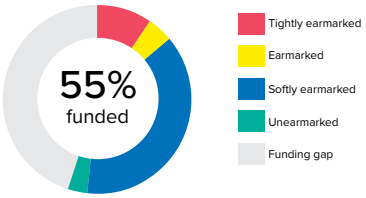
The 2023 RRP aims at ensuring refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, with a special focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. The 2023 plan places an emphasis on refugees' socio-economic inclusion, in recognition of the challenges faced by refugees due to their prolonged displacement. Support is foreseen to institutions, services and facilities used both by refugees and members of host communities, which will be crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between host and refugee communities. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs) led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, will continue working at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Ukraine Situation Financial Update

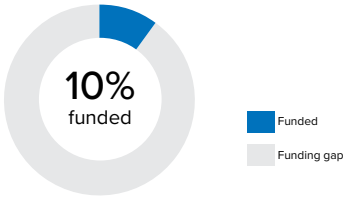
(as of 1 June 2023)

$ 1.1 billion
required (USD)



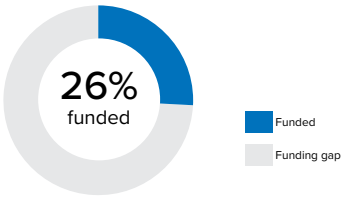
Inter-Agency Financial Updates

$ 1.68 billion
required (USD)
(as of 8 June 2023)



Revised:
Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan

$ 3.95 billion
required (USD)
(as of 8 June 2023)



Revised:
UN Flash Appeal (Ukraine)

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