



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

**THE REPUBLIC
OF MOLDOVA**

Operations Update
26 June 2023

Refugee and Moldovan children playing in the community event 'A Day at the Park' organized by UNHCR and partners in Chisinau. ©UNHCR/S. Abdulrahman

Figures at a glance

103,786 refugees from Ukraine remaining in Moldova



848,831 arrivals from Ukraine since 24 February 2022

Key response figures

117,468 refugees received cash assistance since 24 February 2022 (over **USD 103.2M** disbursed)

101,000 refugees supported with legal assistance since 24 February 2022

2,269 refugees now hosted in **56** refugee accommodation centres supported by UNHCR

4,977 refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid since 24 February 2022



President Sandu attending the community event organized by UNHCR in collaboration with local authorities and partners on **World Refugee Day** in Edinet. UNHCR marked this year's World Refugee Day with a series of events organized in collaboration with the Government, UN and national/international NGOs. These events included educational and recreational activities for refugees and Moldovans alike in Causeni, Chisinau, Balti, Edinet, Orhei, Ungheni and other locations across the country.

Recent highlights

- Results of UNHCR partners' Temporary Protection ('TP') Assessment indicate the favorable intentions of refugees for applying for TP, with 70% of respondents who have not yet applied stating that they are planning to. This number is even higher for those interviewed after the decision of the Commission for Exceptional Situations on 15 May* (76%). Additional positive results relate to the experiences of the respondents who had applied for TP. Of these, 79% said that they did not face any major difficulties with the TP application and interview process as a whole.
- On 21 June, the Italian Ambassador joined UNHCR and partners in inaugurating the new community service centre in Causeni. UNHCR partners carried out the renovation work for the centre, built new playgrounds, theatre, and activity rooms, will administer the centre and provide psychosocial support, language courses for adolescents and adults, and will continue providing legal counselling.
- On 20 June, UNHCR Representative Francesca Bonelli and the United States Ambassador Kent Logsdon handed over 22 anaesthesia machines to local hospitals in the Republic of Moldova to improve access to healthcare for refugees and host communities. The Minister of Health, who attended the event, reaffirmed Moldova's commitment to ensuring that its health system provides support and care for all, including refugees.

*Under CES Decision No. 68, Ukrainian refugees who were present in Moldova as of 15 May 2023 have 90 days as of that date to regularize their status, i.e., until 13 August 2023.

Other activities during the reporting period

UNHCR in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Ungheni City Hall joined forces with the OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation and the local NGO Low Vision to launch temporary eye clinics in Chisinau and Ungheni, which offer free eyecare services to Moldovans and refugees in Chisinau from 26-28 June and in Ungheni from 30 June to 1 July. This project aims to improve access to eyecare services in these areas by distributing eyeglasses to at least 1,000 individuals, supporting training for local eyecare professionals as well as donating the equipment to the local NGO to further help refugees and Moldovans alike.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection has a National Strategy for Creche Services for Children Aged 0-3 that seeks to expand access to childcare services for children in this age group around the country. The Government has allocated MDL 10,000,000 (around EUR 500,000) for this project, and local public authorities will have the opportunity to apply for this funding to undertake projects in their cities. Several UN agencies have committed to providing additional funding or other kinds of support to complement the government funding. In this context, UNHCR has committed to support the rehabilitation or expansion of six childcare centers in different locations around the country to expand access for refugee children.

UNHCR continues training representatives of authorities and partners. On 14 June, UNHCR Disability Expert delivered a second training for Refugee Accommodation Centre (RACs) managers, with a focus on disability inclusion and the identification of people with disabilities within RACs. So far in 2023, UNHCR has trained over 198 humanitarian aid workers on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, over 37 on Child Protection issues, over 93 on Gender-Based Violence related topics, and over 53 on Accountability to Affected Populations, among others.



Refugees and Moldovans receiving free eyecare services in Chisinau on 26 June. © UNHCR/ E.Ciurca



Italian Ambassador Lorenzo Tomassoni and UNHCR Representative Francesca Bonelli at the inauguration of the community centre in Causeni. © UNHCR/S.Abdulrahman



Malvina Samoilova shared her story of inclusion and how refugees give back to the communities that received them at the World Refugee Day event organized by UNHCR and the Ministry of Culture. This event featured the Moldovan National Youth Orchestra, the Ukrainian saxophonist Igor Znatokov, and UNHCR high profile supporter Valentina Nafornița. ©UNHCR/ S.Abdulrahman

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For more information, please visit the [Operational Data Portal](#) for Moldova or the [Global Focus page](#) for the Ukraine Situation.