ROMANIA

Weekly Update #56 **24 July 2023**

Key figures

138,157 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

95,314 refugees present in Romania (as of 16 July 2023).

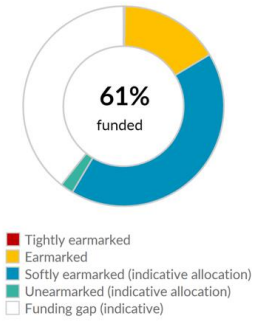
44,442 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

52,845 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

3,360 refugees supported with livelihoods & employment services in 2023.

I liked Romanian language ever since I heard it first time. It is such a nice language.
-Valerya, a refugee woman from Ukraine hosted in Romania.

Funding Situation
As of 19 July 2023
$59.5 million
UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



Highlights

UNHCR Romania continues to support refugees from Ukraine with a new cash for protection programme. During the piloting phase, vulnerable families will be assisted with four monthly instalments of 630 RON per refugee per month to help them meet their most pressing needs, such as food, medicines, hygiene items etc. Since 3 July, UNHCR has identified and enrolled 3,284 vulnerable refugees (1,017 families) for the new programme. Plans are also advancing to disburse the first cash contribution to refugees in the coming days.

On 12 July, UNHCR conducted an informative meeting on the cash for protection programme in Suceava, Romania.

UNHCR is currently organizing information sessions on its new cash for protection programme across the country. For instance, last week around 35 refugees from Ukraine currently hosted in Suceava were able to ask questions on topics such as eligibility, deduplication, and supporting documentation for this programme. UNHCR is also supporting refugees through hotlines and providing information online.

Response

UNHCR continues to offer support to refugees through community centres and expand activities in Brasov. In the coming weeks, UNHCR and partners will support the CATTIA centre in Brasov that is supporting hundreds of refugees from Ukraine with various protection services such as counselling, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) as well as integration services on a daily basis. In addition, UNHCR and partners are planning to expand activities related to livelihoods with a view of helping refugees in finding employment in Romania. The CATTIA centre will also support Romanians with similar services which will enhance the social cohesion between the two communities. Brasov is one of the major cities hosting refugees from Ukraine in Romania, with an estimated 4,500 refugees residing in and around the city.

Last week, the Inter-Agency Coordination team launched the Services Advisor Platform, an online tool designed to provide support to refugees residing in Romania. Services Advisor is an innovative platform that offers an interactive map that is connecting refugees with essential humanitarian services in their vicinity. During the first week, 1,000 unique individuals used the platform and the number of services published on the platform increased to 417 services provided by 86 organizations.

UNHCR continues to strengthen the overall protection response of partners and NGOs in the field. This week, UNHCR in Suceava organised a training on Child Protection and Best Interests Procedures (BIPs), in order to enhance the knowledge and skills of partners and NGOs on how to ensure safety and well-being of refugee children. Over 20 representatives from nine organisations participated in the event. Sessions covered multiple topics such as child protection in the humanitarian context, child-friendly procedures and communicating with children and others. So far in 2023, 419 individuals have received training from UNHCR on different aspects of refugee protection.

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)