



**UKRAINE SITUATION
FLASH UPDATE #66**

11 March 2024

Dnipro, Ukraine – Anna, 32, and her son fled Luhansk, eastern Ukraine shortly after the full-scale invasion in February 2022. After arriving in Dnipro, central Ukraine in 2022, she devoted her time to assisting people from war-affected areas. In April 2022, Anna established a transit centre to provide temporary accommodation for internally displaced people (IDPs), with support of local authorities and the humanitarian sector, including UNHCR. Since then, the centre has transitioned into a collective site with a capacity for up to 160 people, offering a child-friendly space, psychosocial support services, and career counselling and support. © UNHCR



PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

6,004,100*

refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 15 Feb 2024)

475,600

refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 16 Feb 2024)

6,479,700

refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 15 Feb 2024)

3,689,000**

Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (as of 31 Dec 2023) (Source: [IOM](#))

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)



Regional Refugee Response Plan for the Ukraine Situation – Final Report 2023

Read more [here](#)

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Russian large-scale attacks in Ukraine have continued, particularly on Odesa region in the south and Kharkiv region in the east, killing and injuring civilians, as well as destroying civilian infrastructure. Following the attacks on Odesa at the end of [February](#) and again in early [March](#), UNHCR partner TTA distributed emergency shelter kits to help affected families quickly repair their damaged homes. TTA conducted monitoring visits to affected areas and provided psychosocial support and legal consultations. In Kharkiv City, UNHCR partner Proliiska helped over 50 people affected by an attack on 2 March. They were assisted with wooden boards and tarpaulins, in addition to receiving psychological assistance and legal consultations.
- On 23 February, Inter-Agency partners [released](#) the final report for the 2023 Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for the Ukraine Situation. The report highlights year-end achievements across the region, as well as in 10 RRP countries. In 2023, the RRP made significant contributions towards ensuring refugees' inclusion and access to legal status on a non-discriminatory basis, including Temporary Protection and similar legal statuses in host countries. During the year, some 2.1 million people were reached by 234 RRP partners, comprising 53 per cent of the 4 million targeted for the region. The 2023 Ukraine Situation RRP was 44% funded, based on reporting by partners.

* Europe corresponds to all Europe sub-regions as identified by [Eurovoc \(European Union, Thesaurus Eurovoc, Volume 2, Subject-oriented version, Publications Office, 2005\)](#), therefore including EU and non-EU countries belonging to Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe, and Western Europe, plus Türkiye.

**There has been a significant reduction in the IDP figure in Ukraine based on the latest [IOM Internal Displacement Report](#), Internal Displacement Report, from 5.1 million in mid-2023 to 3.68 million by end-2023. It is important to note that this is not due to a significant return of IDPs, but rather primarily to a change in the methodology used in calculating the number of IDPs. The new baseline population figure used to extrapolate IDP estimates now takes into account the absence of some 6.2 million refugees from Ukraine who are no longer in the country. Baseline data is consolidated by UNFPA.

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Cash assistance:** In January 2024, UNHCR distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 44,200 war-affected and internally displaced families, returnees, and people with specific vulnerabilities to help cover the costs of basic items like food, medicines, clothes, accommodation and utilities. Following the missile attack on Lviv on 15 February, UNHCR and partner Right to Protection (R2P) began enrolment for over 300 families affected by the attack to receive cash assistance to address their urgent needs.
- Collective sites:** UNHCR supported renovation works at a collective site where displaced people reside in Terebovlya, Ternopil'ska region in western Ukraine. A total of 52 rooms, 12 common kitchens, bathrooms and corridors were renovated, and 206 sleeping places have been improved. UNHCR also helped equip seven bomb shelters in collective sites in Vinnytska region, for example with sleeping items such as blankets and mattresses, with the capacity to provide shelter to a total of 475 people. Additionally, UNHCR helped replace 119 windows in two collective sites in Cherkaska region in central Ukraine, improving living conditions for around 140 displaced people residing in these two sites.
- Protection:** On 20 February, UNHCR and partner Rokada [opened](#) a child daycare centre in the city of Kalush, Ivano-Frankiv'ska region in western Ukraine. The area hosts about 2,000 displaced people, and many displaced families continue to actively look for employment opportunities. The daycare centre gives parents the opportunity to work or seek employment while their children are looked after. On 29 February, UNHCR's partner NEEKA [opened](#) a new integration and resource hub "Access Point" in the city of Tiachiv, Zakarpatska region in western Ukraine. Activities and social events aim to help displaced people integrate into the community while also supporting them with trainings and services. In coordination with local authorities, UNHCR and Rokada [opened](#) a community centre for elderly people in Chernivtsi, in southwestern Ukraine, to help strengthen their self-reliance and inclusion. Around 700 people aged 60+, including over 270 displaced people, will be able to use the centre to gain new skills and receive psychosocial support.

UNHCR RESPONSE & TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2024* (as of 29 February 2024)



*Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance.

**The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.

***Also includes calls to hotlines.

Innovative "Workshop on Wheels"- initiative supports Ukrainians with house repairs

UNHCR, jointly with its NGO partner "Angels of Salvation", have launched a new project, "Workshop on Wheels", to support war-affected communities with technical advice and assistance to help people repair homes damaged in missile, drone or other attacks.

Five mobile teams of skilled construction workers, equipped with essential tools such as screwdrivers, angle grinders, circular saws etc. have since January 2024 been deployed in war-affected areas in the Kharkiv region. Here, they help families who have received building materials to repair their war-damaged homes, but who lack the necessary tools or skills to complete the repairs.

To date, the mobile teams of "Angels of Salvation" have installed over 300 windows and three entrance doors, helping around 100 families. In 2024, the project aims to support a total of 1,500 families in the Kharkiv region with loan of tools, technical expertise and assistance with repairs.



© Angels of Salvation/ Olexsii Hutnyk

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES

2024 REGIONAL TARGETS*



850,000

people are targeted for different forms of assistance in 2024**



515,000

people are targeted for protection information and services***



190,000

people are targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance



267,000

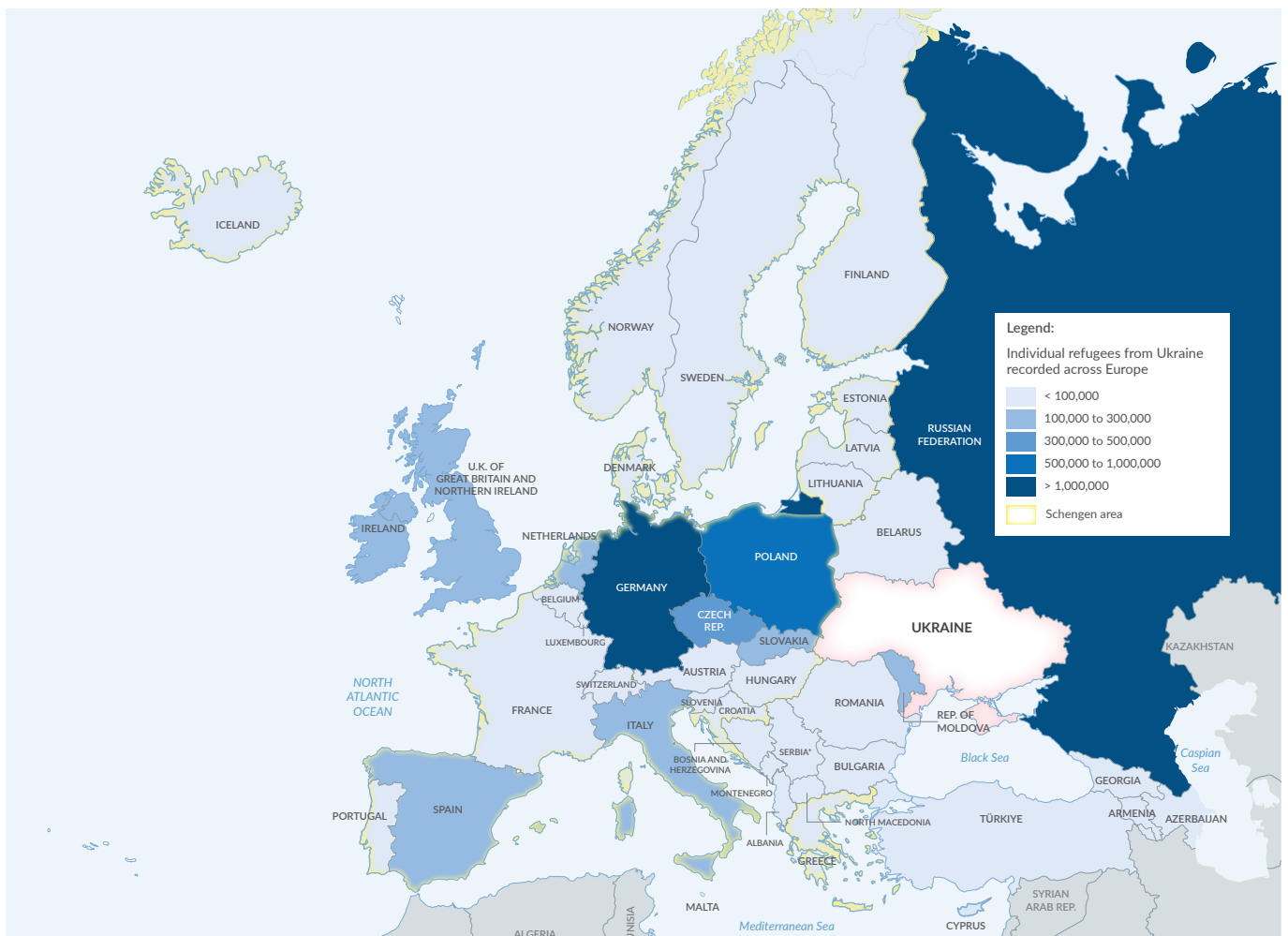
people are targeted for socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods support by UNHCR and partners.

*Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance.

**The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.

***Also includes calls to hotlines.

REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE ACROSS EUROPE (as of 07 March 2024)



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

More information available on the UNHCR [Ukraine operational data portal](#) page.

PROTECTION

2024 TARGET



515,000

Refugees from Ukraine supported with protection information and services through UNHCR and partners.

- **Bulgaria:** On 28 - 29 February, UNHCR monitored re-registration desks for Temporary Protection (TP) holders within the regional authorities' offices in Plovdiv and Pazardzhik Cities. Since re-registration began in February, both desks processed over 1,600 re-registrations. UNHCR partner FAR is offering counselling to TP holders interested in applying for permanent residence or Bulgarian citizenship.
- **Czech Republic:** On 2 - 3 March, 13 primary and secondary school teachers attended a refresher session and a training by UNHCR and partner NGO/Slovo 21 through the Hello Czech Republic education campaign. The [Hello Czech Republic](#) education project aims at building a safe school environment while promoting mutual tolerance and respect by teaching about refugee-related issues.
- **Georgia:** UNHCR and World Vision finalized the third comprehensive assessment of the needs, priorities and intentions of refugees from Ukraine, covering 403 households (1,200 individuals). According to the survey, 38% of respondents intend to remain in Georgia long-term, while 57% are uncertain. There has been an increase in the percentage (from 9% to 20%) of Ukrainians returning home to assess the situation, visit relatives/friends, or obtain documentation. Based on the results, UNHCR and World Vision highlighted the following key priorities: access to education, particularly face-to-face schooling and local enrollment, with additional support for children in remote areas; promoting employment opportunities, including skills development and financial assistance for startups; and delivering targeted social and financial aid to vulnerable families, as well as childcare support for caregivers to foster self-reliance.
- **Hungary:** On 27 February in Zahony, and on 28 February in Beregdaroc City (eastern Hungary), 40 first-liner Border Police officers, working at the Hungary-Ukraine border in Barabas, Beregsurany, Kolcse, and Zahony City, attended a training on identifying protection needs and specific needs, organized by UNHCR. Discussions included protection standards at the border, communication and interviewing techniques (including communication with persons with disabilities), identification and referral of victims of trafficking, vulnerable children with a focus on unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable persons – with specific focus on survivors of gender-based violence (GBV).
- **Republic of Moldova:** Between 29 February - 1 March, UNHCR in collaboration with IOM facilitated a workshop for 43 staff from local organizations, authorities, international NGOs, and UN partners on establishing referral pathways in Causeni, Stefan Voda, and Palanca districts. The workshop aimed to build capacities in key protection areas, such as preventing GBV, enabling survivor-centered approaches, child protection, education, livelihoods, etc. A comprehensive Referral Pathways document will be drafted as a result of the workshop. Meanwhile, as part of its awareness-raising activities, UNHCR distributed among partners 3,000 [Zero Tolerance pocket cards](#) and 450 posters on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in Ukrainian, Romanian, Russian, and English.
- **Romania:** On 1 March, UNHCR organized a workshop to review the vulnerability scorecard determining eligibility for the cash for protection programme in 2024, and other NGO-run programmes. The reviewed scorecard incorporates feedback received from authorities, UN agencies and NGOs participating in a recalibration workshop conducted in January 2024.
- **Slovakia:** On 26 February, UNHCR met with representatives of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) from the Council of Europe to discuss the risk of human trafficking among refugees in Slovakia, as well as available response services. UNHCR shared details about the [SafeOnline](#) campaign as a good practice.

BASIC NEEDS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

2024 TARGET



190,000

People are targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance by UNHCR and partners.

- **Czech Republic:** On 29 February, UNHCR and IOM held a consultation workshop with 12 NGOs sharing their experiences in working with vulnerable refugees in collective accommodation to gather information for a joint assessment for the Czech Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs on Ukrainian TP holders in collective accommodation sites. UNHCR also interviewed local authorities on solutions and capacities to support the relocation of residents to standard housing. In parallel, the Integration Centre Prague held a meeting with other NGO and stakeholders to discuss the same issues. Based on preliminary

findings, primary barriers to relocating include the lack of information about the rental market, lack of available housing opportunities, short-term planning, as well as challenges related to disability and age.

- **Hungary:** Post-distribution monitoring of the Winterization Cash Assistance for refugees aged 60+ is finalized. Out of 458 beneficiaries, 90 were interviewed, with 69% reporting being satisfied with the programme, 70% reported improved living conditions due to cash assistance and 89% reported a reduced feeling of stress. The main findings were shared with partners.
- **Republic of Moldova:** On 1 March, UNHCR provided furniture to two schools in Vulcanesti district, near the border with Ukraine and hosting a considerable number of refugees, to improve school conditions for both refugee and Moldovan students.
- **Romania:** Since 15 January 2024, UNHCR has enrolled over 2,400 refugees for winter cash assistance, of whom UNHCR so far has assisted over 1,280 persons. The

enrolment for winter cash assistance will conclude by 15 March. Meanwhile, UNHCR last week distributed over 900 core relief items (CRIs), such as blankets, thermoses, clothes, cooking utensils and hygiene items to nearly 300 refugees from Ukraine, including nearly 100 women and 150 children. So far in 2024, UNHCR delivered over 20,000 CRIs to refugees from Ukraine.

- **Russian Federation:** So far in 2024, UNHCR partners assisted over 7,730 refugees with mental health and psychosocial support services.
- **Slovakia:** UNHCR and UNICEF will jointly help vulnerable refugees who, due to budget limitations, have not been assisted with cash since October 2023. As a result, some 200 refugees with vulnerabilities will be assisted by UNHCR with one-off assistance under Cash for Protection for a total amount of USD 45,500.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND LOCALIZATION

2024 TARGET

 **267,000**

People are targeted for socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods support by UNHCR and partners.

- **Bulgaria:** On 27 February, UNHCR and the Foundation for Access to Rights (FAR) [launched](#) the [Refugee Employment Platform](#) in Bulgaria featuring job listings to enable refugee job-seekers to access employment opportunities. The platform aims to match hundreds of refugees with employers and provide valuable insights into the administrative and legal aspects of employment in Bulgaria.
- **Czech Republic:** On 21 February, UNHCR met the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior (Mol) to discuss cooperation around enhancing integration at municipal level. The Czech national fund will allocate CZK 58 M (\$2.5 M), to support municipalities' projects that UNHCR will complement with approx. CZK 23 M (\$980,000). The Mol and UNHCR will review 60 applications received. Implementation of the project activities is expected to start later this month.
- **Latvia:** UNHCR is coordinating with national counterparts following the Ministry of Education's recent announcement that primary education in Latvian schools is becoming mandatory from September. Previously, refugee children from Ukraine were permitted to follow online learning through the Ukrainian school system. While welcoming the shift to in-person learning, UNHCR expressed that refugee parents should receive detailed information about education options available to enable

them to make informed decisions, and that for long-term solutions hiring additional trained and certified teachers—including teaching assistants from Ukraine—should be a priority. In this regard, UNHCR met with the Ombudsman, Ministry of Education, and national partners to ensure a smooth transition for affected families.

- **Lithuania:** Together with the Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Vilnius, Ministry of Social Security and Labour and Diversity Development Group, UNHCR co-organized a Pan-Baltic knowledge exchange seminar and Baltic-Nordic FOR-IN conference in Vilnius on 19 - 21 February. The Pan-Baltic seminar focused on best practices among Baltic integration practitioners (national and local authorities, NGOs and RLOs) in sustainable reception and integration services for refugees, especially relevant due to the significant number of refugees from Ukraine in the Baltic states. Meanwhile, the FOR-IN conference focused on local-level integration, evidence-based policymaking, and mental health. The event provided a platform for informal networking with key stakeholders from NGOs, state institutions, local municipalities, and UN agencies across the Baltics. Nearly 200 participants took part in the events.
- **Poland:** On 5 March, UNHCR [launched](#) a study, conducted by Deloitte, "[Analysis of the impact of refugees from Ukraine on the economy of Poland – March 2024](#)". According to its outcomes, refugees from Ukraine have quickly become a part of society as consumers, employees, entrepreneurs, and taxpayers. Currently between 225,000 and 350,000 refugees from Ukraine are estimated to be working in Poland. Refugees from Ukraine fit well into the needs of the growing Polish labour market. In the long-term, refugees from Ukraine will contribute 0.9-1.35% to the gross domestic product in Poland. Meanwhile, on 21 - 22 February, UNHCR together with the Regional Labour Office [offered](#) infor-

mation, assistance, and guidance to refugees regarding the job market in Poland during the European Job Fair in Rzeszów (southeastern Poland).

- **Republic of Moldova:** On 29 February, the 2023 Participatory Assessment (PA) [was published](#) reflecting the findings of 41 focus group discussions conducted with refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people in October 2023. The findings of the Participatory Assessment highlight a strong correlation between the legal status of displaced persons in Moldova and their prospects for integration and inclusion within the local communities, including their access to healthcare and education services, as well as access to the labour market. Despite intentions and expectations to remain in Moldova in the medium term, many PA participants expressed challenges in accessing certain services, such as affordable and adequate housing and accommodation, and quality of health services.
- **Romania:** On 28 February, 23 refugees from Ukraine attended an awareness session in Brasov city organized by UNHCR, partner Jobs for Ukraine and the Metropolitan Agency for Sustainable Development to exchange about the group's experience with seeking employment in Romania and introduce refugees to job search resources, including [Jobs4Ukraine platform](#), [Employment Agency Guide](#), and [Services Advisor Tool](#). Meanwhile, AIDRom—UNHCR's partner in Timisoara, west Romania—held three hybrid counselling sessions for 10 refugees from Ukraine regarding job contract legal issues, identifying job opportunities and employment needs.

Microcredit helps Ukrainian refugees start businesses in Georgia



Batumi, Georgia – Irina, 67, is a Ukrainian refugee from Kharkiv who launched her own business after arriving to Georgia: a small café which she named “Like at Home”. Unable to cook for her family who remain in Ukraine, she channels her energy into cooking for other refugees from Ukraine, as well as for the local community. She also employs 44 staff, 30 of which are fellow Ukrainian refugees.

To ensure continued employment for her growing staff, Irina launched a second café, despite having limited financial resources to do so. As a solution, she applied for a small loan from Crystal, a microfinance institution in Georgia that recently launched a programme to assist refugees from Ukraine, which Irina received within three days. The additional finance transformed her aspirations into reality, enabling her to purchase the necessary kitchen appliances and equipment to open the second café in December 2023.

Following discussions with UNHCR, Crystal will soon be extending its programme to refugees of different nationalities in Georgia, enabling them to launch and expand their businesses.

“This type of financial assistance is crucial for individuals, as it contributes significantly to the country's economy,” says Irina, as she opens the doors to her second ‘Like at Home’ café in Batumi. Learn more [here](#).



COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI). The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates 18 UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 157,000 people in collective sites in 2024. The Protection Cluster consists of 166 partners, including sub-clusters, and operates three coordination hubs to reach an anticipated three million people in 2024. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 98 partners across three coordination hubs, targeting 3.9 million people in 2024 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 (AAP) Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

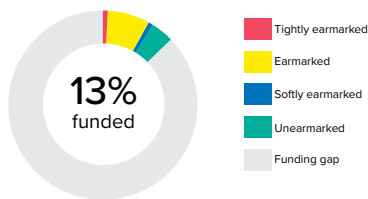
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Through the [2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#), 313 partners in Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia work towards ensuring refugees have effective access to legal status, protection and rights in their host countries and that refugees with specific needs and vulnerabilities have access to targeted support and assistance. The plan also aims at strengthening refugees' socio-economic inclusion in their host communities and increasing their self-reliance, while at the same time reinforcing social cohesion between refugees and their hosts. In support of the government-led responses across the region, UNHCR leads and coordinates the implementation of the inter-agency RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, collaborating and consulting with authorities, aid agencies, civil society, and with affected populations.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR UKRAINE SITUATION FINANCIAL UPDATE 2024

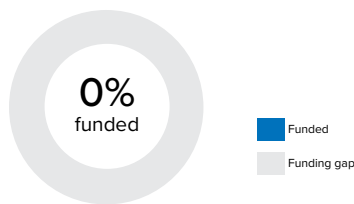
US\$ 993.3 million required



As of 31 Jan 2024

INTER-AGENCY FINANCIAL UPDATES

US\$ 1.08 billion required

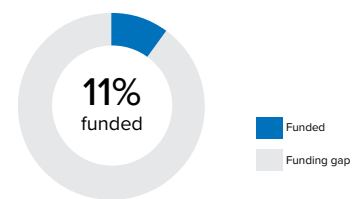


As of 11 March 2024*

[Ukraine situation: 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan](#)

*The first financial data will be available in April 2024.

US\$ 3.11 billion required



As of 11 March 2024

[Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024](#)

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