ROMANIA

Weekly Update #90 **1 April 2024**

Key figures

156,901 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania.

78,673 refugees present in Romania (as of 24 March 2024).

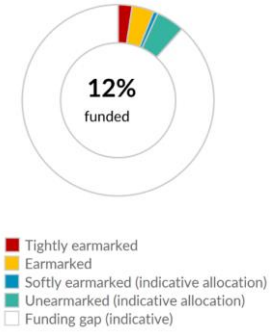
3,009 refugees enrolled in the winter cash assistance programme in 2024.

Over 6,024 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support since January 2024

1,072 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services since January 2024.

I am living in Braila with my father-in-law, who is 74 years and two children. I am trying to find a job here, it is not so easy, but I do not despair.
– Dmytro, a 60 year old refugee from Ukraine, hosted in Romania.

Funding Situation
As of 29 February 2024
$54.3 million
UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



Highlights

On 28 March, the Government of Romania has extended the cash assistance for the refugees from Ukraine for additional three months until the end of June 2024. Through this programme - that replaced the so called 50/20 programme in April 2023 - the Government is providing 2,000 RON (approx. 434 USD) per family per month to cover accommodation costs and additional 600 RON (approx. 130 USD) per person per month for food expenses for eligible refugees from Ukraine, notably those on the path towards inclusion and some vulnerable categories.

On 28 March, UNHCR visited Cluj-Napoca. The Representative Mr. Pablo Zapata met with the Mayor of Cluj-Napoca Mr. Emil Boc, expressing gratitude for the city's welcoming approach to refugees and commended the City Hall's innovative approach to the inclusion of refugees into mainstream services through its one-stop-shop platform. Mayor Boc emphasized the multicultural approach and aspiration of the city, as a welcoming place for all. UNHCR also met with the child protection authority (DGASPC) and the school inspectorate (ISJ) in Cluj and learned about various best practices. UNHCR team met with refugees from Ukraine hosted in Cluj who are currently engaged in entrepreneurial initiatives, thus contributing to Romania's economic development by setting up small businesses, which are supported by UNHCR grants. These grants also benefit the small enterprise initiatives of the members of the Romanian community.

UNHCR Representative Mr. Pablo Zapata met the Mayor of Cluj Napoca Mr. Emil Boc on 28 March 2024.

Population Movements

Following recent attacks in Ukraine, notably those of 22 March, UNHCR has observed an increase of 2,000 refugees remaining in the country, totalling the number of refugees present in the country to 78,673 as of 24 March.

Response

UNHCR and partners monitor border crossing points with Ukraine and Moldova, reaching over 7,700 refugees from Ukraine this year with counselling and legal services upon their arrival. On 26 March, UNHCR conducted a mission to Maramures (northern Romania) and met with the Border Police and the Mountain Rescue Service.

During the week, UNHCR, in coordination with the General Inspectorate for Immigration (GII), conducted two training sessions on Best-Interest Determination Procedures and specific protection considerations for unaccompanied and separated children in Sibiu (central Romania). The training sessions were part of an event organized by the GII, bringing together over 70 representatives from various public institutions supporting unaccompanied and separated children in Romania.

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 and 2024 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2024 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)