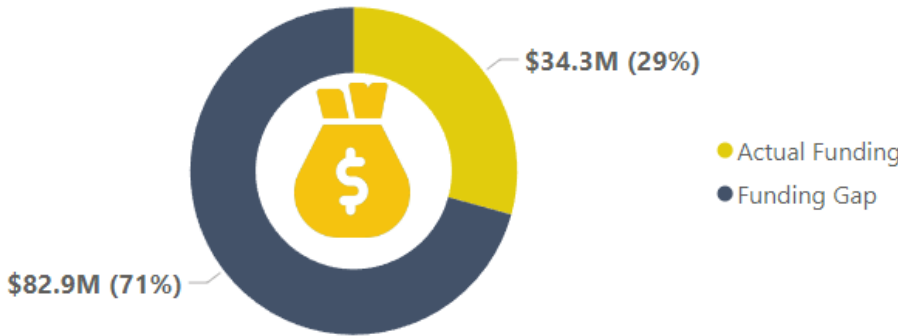


Overview of Funding Received vs Appealed



The Romania Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for 2024, aimed at supporting refugees affected by the situation in Ukraine, is experiencing significant funding shortfalls.

37 Partners appealed for a total of \$117.2 million. By the end of Q2, the partners received \$34,3 million (or 29 per cent against the appeal); up from \$14.4 million received in the first quarter of this year. This leaves a substantial gap of 71 per cent, amounting to \$82.9 million.

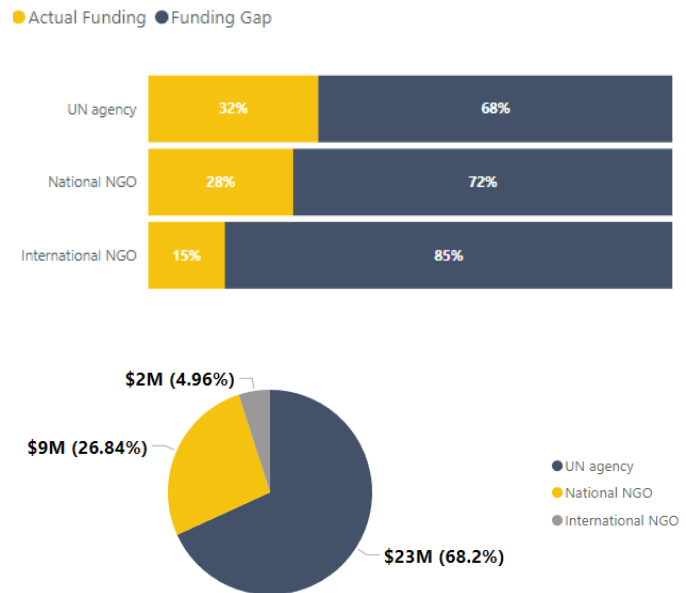
Funding levels remain critically low. Worryingly, 46 per cent of partners have reported receiving no new funding in 2024, highlighting the urgent need for increased financial support.

FUNDING BY PARTNER

UN agencies represent a substantial portion of the RRP appeal. Although UN agencies received the most funds in absolute terms, totalling \$23 million (68 per cent from total RRP received funding), this amount only represents one third of their total requested \$72.22 million. Among these, UNESCO has not been able to initiate its planned projects targeting misinformation and misconception related to refugee bias, due to lack of funds.

National NGOs have received a total of \$9.21 million against a requested \$26.7 million, representing 28 per cent of their need. This represents a slight increase from 22 per cent reported last quarter. However, funding remains unevenly distributed, with 13 out of 24 national NGOs still reporting no new funding. Organizations such as SECS and Tineri pentru Tineri have not been able to implement any refugee-focused activities, and others like Habitat for Humanity, RomaJust, and Romanian Angel Appeal are on the brink of suspension by mid-year, spending last year's carried forward funds.

International NGOs face a significant funding challenge, having received only \$1.7 million out of a total appeal of \$11.66 million, accounting for just 15 per cent of their need (compared to 11.5 per cent in Q1). Less than half of the seven International NGOs received funding. Others like CORE and Good Neighbours Japan received none. ACF and CORE terminated their operations in Romania due to these funding shortfalls.



FUNDING BY SECTOR

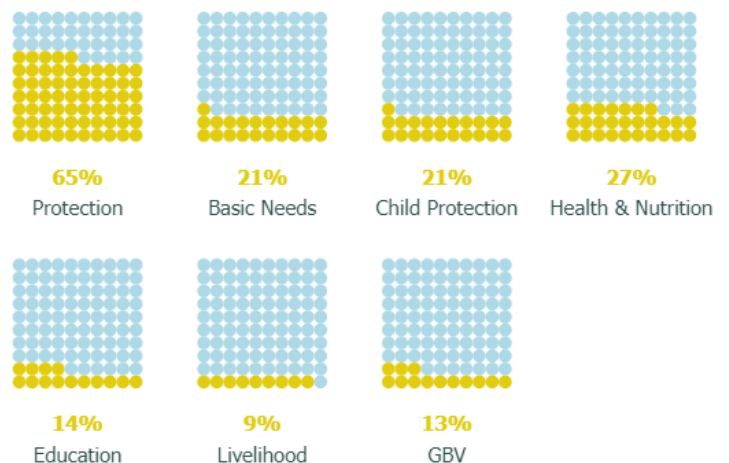
All sectors continue to face significant funding shortfalls. Only the Protection sector (excluding Gender-Based Violence [GBV] and Child Protection), with \$12.8 million allocated, has received more than half of its funding needs, covering 65 per cent of the required funding.

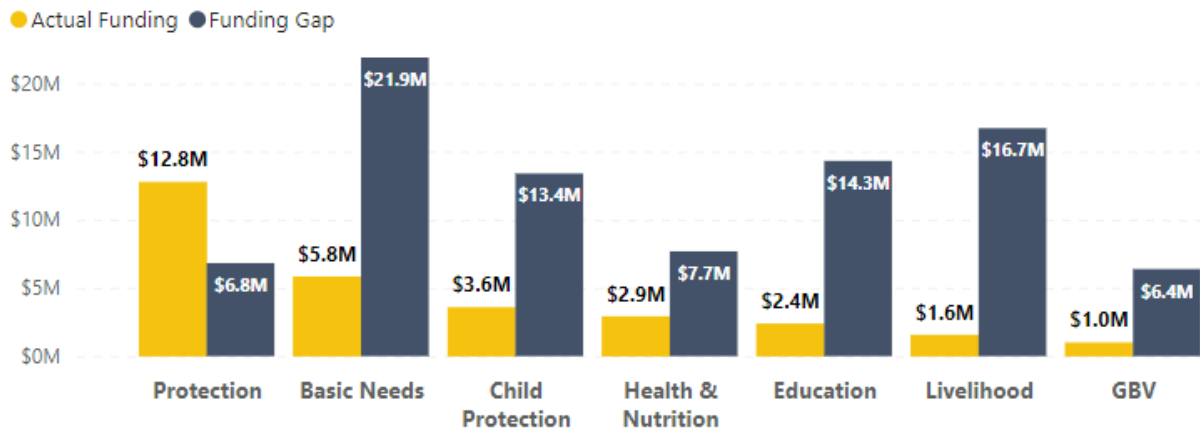
However, Child Protection and GBV are severely underfunded, receiving only 21 per cent and 13 per cent of their required funding, respectively.

The Health sector received \$2.9 million, a little more than a quarter of its funding needs while Basic Needs received \$5.8 million, or 21 per cent against its appeal. The Education sector is struggling as it received only 14 per cent of the appealed amounts.

Alarmingly, a sector focused on economic inclusion, the Livelihood & Socio-Economic Inclusion sector continues to face the most severe funding gap, with only \$1.6 million received against an appeal of \$18.3 million, representing just 9 per cent of its requested funds.

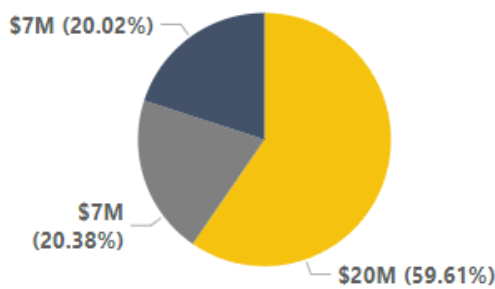
Funding by Sector





FUNDING BY SOURCE

● Internal allocation ● Governmental funding ● Private sector funding



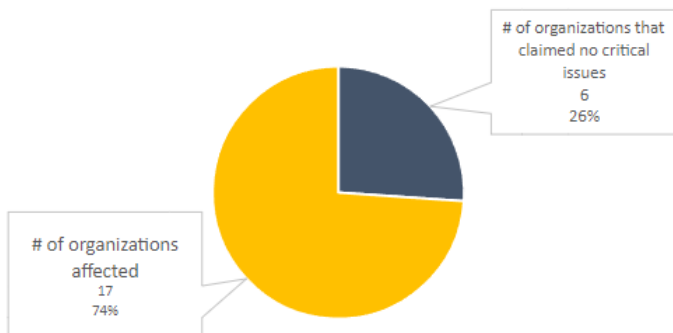
There are distinct trends in the sources of funding across various sectors. A substantial portion of the funding - 60 per cent of the total - came from organizations' internal allocations, indicating a heavy reliance on internal resources to meet funding needs across sectors. These funds were directed mostly to Basic Needs (\$3.1 million) and Protection (\$9.7 million).

Private sector contributions amount to \$6.7 million, representing 20 per cent of total funding, predominantly supporting Education (\$1 million), Health (\$1.5 million), and Protection (\$1.6 million).

While a severe drop-in support from traditional governmental donors was observed in Q1, comprising around 9 per cent of total funding, this quarter saw an increase to just over 20 per cent of the total funding received for the RRP in Romania. Governmental support was directed mainly towards Child Protection (\$2.4 million) and Health (\$1.6 million).

PROGRAM CRITICALITY SURVEY

Number of partners affected by funding shortages



To complement the funding update, a Program Criticality Survey was undertaken in the first week of July to assess the impact of underfunding on RRP partners.

23 Partners out of 37 provided insights representing 67 per cent of the RRP partners. The survey results closely mirror the funding situation. Among the 23 partners, 74 per cent (17 organizations) indicated that their activities have been affected by this year's funding shortages. This percentage aligns with the previously mentioned 75 per cent funding gap.

Of these 17 organizations, 11 reported having to scale down and interrupt many of their activities, while 5 partners mentioned phasing out or suspending their activities completely.

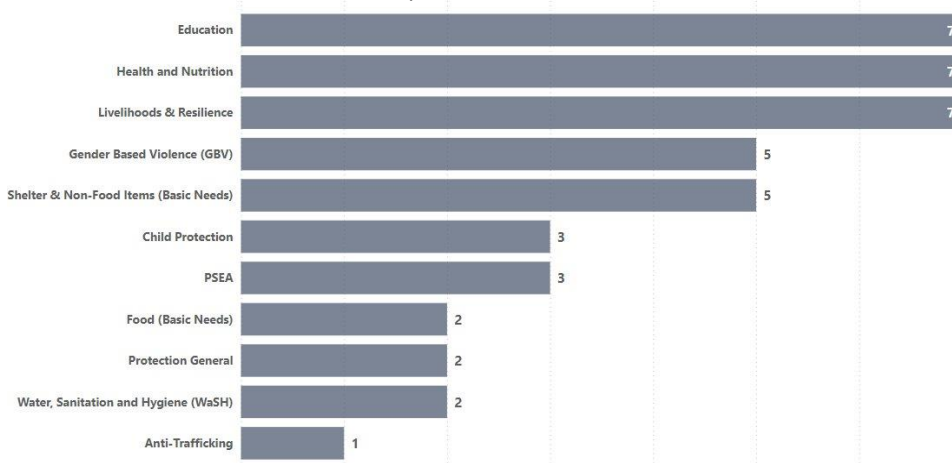
All five international NGOs that responded to the survey reported being adversely affected. Additionally, one international NGO which did not respond to the survey, had already phased out of the country at the end of Q1.

75 per cent of the UN Agencies declared they were affected due to funding shortfalls and one UN Agency reported being unable to initiate its planned programming due to lack of funds.

Among the national NGOs, 64 per cent reported being affected. Those that did not report issues had mostly received funding from RRP partners (as primary recipient of the funding).

It is noteworthy that all organizations reported an ability and willingness to resume their planned activities in case new funding was received.

Distribution of Affected RRP Partners by Sector



When asked what sectors and programs are mostly affected by the funding shortfalls, the RRP partners responding to the survey most frequently mentioned Livelihoods, Education, and Health, with seven organizations citing each of these sectors.

GBV and Basic Needs (Shelter) were the next most mentioned, with five organizations each.

When comparing the affected sectors with those in the appeal, the sectors most impacted were WASH (100 per cent), PSEA (75 per cent), and Education (64 per cent). Protection was the least affected sector (17 per cent), which correlates with its relatively better funding situation.

Livelihoods, with only 9 per cent funding, was the most mentioned affected sector. Partners reported being unable to continue or implement language classes, job searching, and vocational training, hindering the ability of refugees to achieve economic self-sufficiency and hampering the overall inclusion of refugees. In Education, with 14 per cent funding levels, partners mentioned closing educational hubs, being unable to sustain language classes for children, and scaling down their support for current non-formal educational programs.

Child Protection, with 21 per cent funding levels, and Health with 27 per cent funding levels, several partners mentioned the cessation of psychosocial support for children. Smaller organizations stated that they could not implement mental health support and sexual reproductive health programs, leaving the refugee population exposed to risks of mental health disorders caused by war trauma and forced relocation, as well as an increased risk of STDs without sufficient prevention measures.

GBV, with 13 per cent funding, was also frequently mentioned in the survey. Activities being scaled down include support for victims and awareness campaigns, which was signalled in relation to the increase in domestic violence caused by family reunification or observed in mixed host-refugee couples.

Finally, Shelter and Food were also alarming areas, with the closure of social renting programs and potential closure of accommodation centres where the most vulnerable groups are hosted. This could force refugees to either return to Ukraine or live in poorer conditions, exposed to health risks and severe poverty.

CONCLUSION

The RRP for 2024 faces significant challenges due to substantial funding shortfalls. Only 29 per cent of the total \$117.2 million appeal has been received, leaving a critical gap of 71 per cent, or \$82.9 million. Addressing this funding deficit is imperative to meet the immediate needs of Ukrainian refugees and to support their long-term stability, social cohesion, and integration into host communities.

The current funding has been unevenly distributed across various sectors and partners, further complicating response efforts. The most critical funding gaps are in Livelihood & Socio-Economic Inclusion, GBV, and Basic Needs sectors, all of which are vital for the refugees' well-being.

Priority areas for further funding include Livelihood & Socio-Economic Inclusion, with only 9 per cent funding, severely hindering economic self-sufficiency initiatives like language classes, job searching, vocational training and child care; GBV, with only 13 per cent funding, affecting support for victims and awareness campaigns in the context of rise in domestic violence; and Basic Needs especially in the Shelter area endangering the maintenance of accommodation centres and rent support programmes for most vulnerable groups.

National NGOs are particularly struggling, with half reporting no new funding this year. Consequently, 22 per cent have either suspended emergency interventions or been unable to implement activities. The phasing-out of international NGOs, which together received less than \$2 million (only 15 per cent of their needs), further exacerbates the situation, with at least two major organizations out of 6, halting their activities in Romania.

Strategic actions, including enhanced fundraising by intensifying efforts to secure more donors from diverse sources including private sector and strengthening partnerships and advocacy efforts to raise awareness about the urgent needs and attract more resources.