

# Inter-Agency Newsletter

## REFUGEE COORDINATION FORUM | ROMANIA

**179,737** Temporary Protection holders in Romania  
(as of 31 December 2024)

Men 61,056 (34%)	Women 68,183 (38%)	Boys 25,930 (14%)	Girls 24,568 (14%)
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**8.1 million** border crossings from Ukraine and Moldova since February 2022

**913,220** third-country nationals arrived in Romania from Ukraine and Moldova

**7.2 million** Ukrainians arrived in Romania from Ukraine and Moldova

## REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN 2025 APPEAL SUMMARY

**42** TOTAL APPEALING  
PARTNERS

### Current funding needs

Total Appealed Budget

**\$82.8 million**

CASH  
INTERVENTIONS **\$12.1M**

Appealed

Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion	<b>\$16.5 M</b>
Protection	<b>\$16.2M</b>
Basic Needs	<b>\$15.7M</b>
Public Health and MHPSS	<b>\$10.1M</b>
Education	<b>\$9.3M</b>
Child Protection	<b>\$8.7M</b>
Gender-based Violence	<b>\$6.3M</b>

## 2025 targets



Support for Public  
Authorities

**12,500** personnel trained



Strengthening  
Social Cohesion

**15,000** people from both refugee and  
host communities targeted

## People targeted by sector



Protection  
**52,000**



Education  
**17,000**



Basic Needs  
**35,000**



Child Protection  
**10,000**



Health and Nutrition  
**113,000**



Cash Assistance  
**15,000**



Gender-Based Violence  
**52,000**



MHPSS  
**63,000**



Livelihoods and Socio-  
Economic Inclusion  
**35,000**

## Operational context: Strengthening Refugee Response and Coordination in Romania

More than two years since the onset of the war in Ukraine, Romania remains a key host country for refugees, with 177,632 Ukrainians and third-country nationals registered under temporary protection as of 31 December 2024. This status grants access to essential services including healthcare, education, and the labour market, helping individuals rebuild their lives with dignity and stability.

The humanitarian response in Romania continues to be a collaborative effort, guided by the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) and coordinated through the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) and sector working groups. On 16 January, the United Nations and partners officially launched the new Regional Refugee Response Plans for 2025–2026 during an event in Kyiv, co-hosted with the Government of Ukraine. This year, the regional appeal amounts to USD 1.2 billion, aimed at supporting 2.1 million people affected by the crisis—including thousands in Romania. The launch featured a compelling [video message](#) from [MALVA](#), a refugee-led organization and new RRP partner, highlighting the powerful role of community leadership in the response.

In Romania, the RRP for 2025–2026 seeks USD 155 million to fund the work of 42 appealing partners, including UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and refugee-led organizations. These partners are actively engaged in delivering vital assistance and promoting long-term inclusion across the country.

Preparedness also remains a critical pillar of the response. From 22–24 January, Romanian and Moldovan authorities, along with UN partners, participated in the Palanca–Huși Green Corridor Tabletop Exercise in Chișinău. The exercise tested emergency response mechanisms and cross-border coordination, with a field visit to the Palanca border crossing and bus station offering valuable insights into real-time procedures and inter-agency collaboration.

Finally, coordination structures at the national level have continued to evolve to strengthen partnerships and streamline efforts. As of January, the Basic Needs and Cash Technical Working Groups merged, enhancing operational synergy. The National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoption (ANPDCA) joined UNHCR and UNICEF as co-chair of the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, while the National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men (ANES) became co-chair of the GBV Sub-Working Group, alongside NGO Anais and UNHCR. These changes mark an important step toward localized coordination and deeper institutional engagement in the refugee response.



### Spotlight story - RRP partner ADPARE

ADPARE, a Romanian non-governmental organization, is committed to supporting vulnerable individuals, including refugees, migrants, and victims of trafficking. In response to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, ADPARE has played a crucial role in assisting those fleeing war, helping them rebuild their lives in Romania. Through legal assistance, psychological support, and essential aid, the organization provides displaced individuals with the resources they need to regain stability and independence.

One such individual is M., a young man from Odesa, whose journey illustrates both the hardships faced by refugees and the critical support provided by ADPARE. After completing high school in Ukraine, M. dreamed of a better future beyond his homeland. However, with the looming threat of being detained and sent to war, he made the difficult decision to flee. In October 2024, he swam across a river from Ukraine to Romania, where he was granted temporary protection and began searching for a place to stay.

Finding accommodation proved challenging, but he eventually secured a short-term stay at a centre run by local authorities in Bucharest. Determined to build a new life, he quickly found a job and formed connections with other residents. By December, he had moved into a shared apartment with some of them, taking a significant step toward independence.

ADPARE provided crucial support throughout his transition, assisting with translation services to open a bank account, offering emotional support, helping him secure stable housing, and covering basic daily necessities and household items.

# Protection

## Working Group co-chairs

Romanian National Council for Refugees

UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

## Institutional strengthening

In January, the Protection Working Group sharpened its focus on overcoming barriers to social assistance for refugees in Romania, particularly at the Bucharest level. The group reviewed previous advocacy efforts and mapped out next steps, prioritizing advocacy strategies to enhance access to the social protection system and reinforcing support for authorities through tools such as interpretation services.

Challenges remain. Border monitoring surveys from the last three months show that financial hardship and short-term family visits are among the main reasons prompting Ukrainians to return temporarily to Ukraine or Moldova. Meanwhile, inconsistent application of benefit regulations, including varying eligibility criteria and documentation requirements at the local level, continues to hinder access to essential support. These issues are especially pronounced in Bucharest, Constanța, and Cluj, where authorities have reportedly refused to recognize temporary addresses, affecting eligibility. Language barriers and the lack of interpretation services have also led to rejected applications in Constanța, while Bragadiru (Ilfov County) faces discrepancies in disability classifications, complicating access to support for vulnerable individuals.

Despite these challenges, protection actors delivered a wide range of direct services in January, reaching around 2,000 refugees with assistance in legal matters, healthcare, education, and other areas:

- Terre des Hommes supported 26 adults in Bucharest and Brașov through personalized case management, legal guidance, and referrals to health and mental health services.
- The Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) conducted over 1,800 legal counselling sessions through call centres, border crossings, and support hubs.
- The Metropolitan Agency for Sustainable Development in Brașov (AMDDDB) provided translation and interpretation services to 30 individuals, helping them access healthcare, employment, and school enrolment.
- In Cluj, World Vision ran multiple counselling, professional orientation, and MHPSS sessions, while PATRIR developed a service mapping tool to improve coordination and outreach in the region.

These efforts underscore the ongoing commitment of humanitarian partners to advance refugee protection, access, and inclusion, even as they navigate structural and administrative obstacles.

# Child Protection

## Sub-Working Group co-chairs

UNHCR

UNICEF

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

In January, child protection actors across Romania continued to strengthen services and support for refugee children and their families, with a focus on psychosocial support, education, language learning, and community inclusion.

### Strengthening Coordination and Planning for 2025

UNHCR and UNICEF kicked off the year by convening a strategic workshop of the Child Protection Sub-Working Group. The session brought together national and international NGOs as well as the National Authority for the Protection of Children's Rights and Adoption (NAPCRA) to reflect on 2024 challenges and align on priorities for the year ahead.

World Vision Romania reached 206 Ukrainian refugee children across Bucharest, Cluj, Constanța, and Suceava through engaging mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programming. Using creative tools such as art and movement, sessions also tackled essential child protection themes like discrimination, bullying, safe boundaries, and children's rights. Community-building events—organized in partnership with local schools, NGOs, and residents—fostered greater social inclusion and cultural exchange.

### Empowering Children Through Mental Health Support and Education

The resulting revised work plan emphasizes improving access to services, enhancing referral pathways and service mapping, increasing information sharing, and investing in capacity-building to strengthen coordination and delivery of protection for refugee and vulnerable children.

In Suceava, a collaboration with Ștefan cel Mare University allowed students to actively support workshops and youth-focused activities. Additionally, UNHCR facilitated a digital safety workshop for 10 Ukrainian teenagers hosted by World Vision in Bucharest, equipping them to navigate online environments safely.

## Holistic Support from Save the Children

Save the Children Romania provided comprehensive support to 565 children in Bucharest, Galați, Iași, Maramureș, and Suceava through a combination of counselling, language classes, and recreational activities. In Bucharest, 20 children participated in Romanian language courses at a daycare centre, while another 241 attended language classes and 119 joined after-school programs. To support language learning at home, 70 children received storybooks.

Children also benefited from a range of psychosocial activities (286 participants) and took part in innovative initiatives like the “Little Chef” programme—where 27 children built social skills through cooking—and the Adolescence Club, which welcomed 107 teenagers for peer-led engagement and learning.

## Building Community Connections in Constanța

In Constanța, the Civic Resource Centre led a series of family-focused activities designed to promote social integration. Mothers and children participated in 18 MHPSS group sessions, two digital skills workshops, and five educational programming sessions, reaching 133 participants in total.

These interactive gatherings created a welcoming space for families to bond, learn, and feel supported in their new communities.

## Persistent Challenges Underscore Need for Expanded Services

Despite these strong achievements, partners in the Child Protection Sub-Working Group continue to report challenges. Limited resources, language barriers, and insufficient access to specialized psychological care hinder children’s ability to receive the support they need. Long wait times for psychological services remain a critical concern, particularly as demand grows among refugee families seeking both mental health and medical assistance for their children.

These gaps reinforce the importance of scaling up child protection services, improving coordination among actors, and ensuring that refugee children across Romania have equitable access to the care and support they deserve.

# Gender-Based Violence

## Working Group co-chairs

Anais

National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men  
UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR)
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- HIAS
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania

## Strengthening Institutions and Survivor-Centred Support

As part of ongoing efforts to reinforce institutional responses to gender-based violence, RRP partner Necuvinte, in collaboration with the National Agency for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (ANES) and the Romanian Police, hosted a specialized training programme from 20–23 January at the Romanian Parliament. Delivered under the "E.L.E. – Evolve by Learning to Empower" project, the training brought together professionals from the police, prosecutor's offices, district courts, and the Bucharest Bar Association for a series of practice-oriented sessions.

Focused on enhancing interventions for both minor and adult survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, the training emphasized victim-centred approaches through interactive workshops and in-depth case discussions. By engaging a cross-section of the justice system, the programme aimed to build institutional capacity and promote trauma-informed, rights-based practices across Romania's protection framework.

## Enhancing Well-being Through Psychosocial Support

In parallel, community-level efforts to support women's emotional resilience and risk awareness continued. The Sensiblu Foundation provided group psychosocial support and specialized information sessions to 272

Ukrainian refugees in Bucharest, Constanța, Râmnicu Vâlcea, and Suceava. A total of 21 group sessions were held, complemented by 26 hours of individual counselling, including case management support for three individuals with more complex needs. These services focused on strengthening participants' emotional well-being, enhancing their ability to identify and navigate risk, and providing a safe environment for sharing and healing.

## Persistent Gender-Based Vulnerabilities

Despite these targeted interventions, gender-based vulnerabilities remain a critical concern. According to members of the Gender-Based Violence Working Group, refugee women's emotional well-being is often closely tied to their family circumstances. Women who have reunited with their spouses in Romania generally report greater emotional stability, while those separated due to war or work—particularly whose partners remain in Ukraine—frequently struggle with loneliness, anxiety, and fear of forced return.

These trends underline the urgent need for sustained access to individual counselling, peer support groups, and community-based mental health services to ensure refugee women are not left behind in the ongoing response.

# Education

**Working Group co-chairs**  
Jesuit Refugee Service Romania  
UNICEF

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Association of Ukrainian Teachers in Romania
- City Makers
- Civic Rădăuți Association
- Help Ukrainians
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis

- PATRIR
- Plan International
- Roma Education Fund
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- SECS
- SERA
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- Terre des Hommes
- Tineri Pentru Tineri
- UNICEF
- YMCA Romania



## Safeguarding in the Classroom

In a continued effort to ensure safer learning environments for all children, World Vision organized a webinar on safeguarding, bringing together over 100 teachers from across Romania. The session focused on improving educators' ability to identify and respond to cases of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation. By equipping teachers with practical safeguarding tools, the initiative contributed to building more inclusive and protective classrooms for both Romanian and refugee children.

## Supporting Refugee Children's Access to Education

Throughout January, RRP partners remained active in supporting Ukrainian children and their families with access to formal education, while also providing technical guidance and advocacy to local and national authorities.

In Bucharest, UNICEF offered direct school enrolment support through the Education Desk at Romexpo and by assisting the School Inspectorate of the Municipality of Bucharest (ISMB). UNICEF responded to numerous parental inquiries and submitted 65 enrolment requests at School No. 95, while also coordinating with the Romanian language inspectorate to schedule language proficiency testing for newly registered children.

Across six cities – Bucharest, Braşov, Constanţa, Galaţi, Iaşi, and Suceava – the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) provided education counselling, helping families navigate enrolment in schools and kindergartens, gain recognition for foreign diplomas, and access Romanian language courses and educational referrals.

## Complementary Education and Community-Based Learning

Beyond formal enrolment, several RRP partners helped fill service gaps through complementary education and parental support activities. Organizations including Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Romania, PATRIR, Step-by-Step, HOLTIS, and UNICEF worked in key refugee-hosting cities—Bucharest, Braşov, Cluj-Napoca, Constanţa, and Vâlcea County—to provide alternative learning spaces and holistic support for refugee families.

JRS Romania led after-school programmes at five learning centres across Bucharest, Constanţa, and Braşov, supporting 244 children, with an additional 200 children participating in activities at Pipera Hub and the Romexpo playground. Backed by a team of 21 Ukrainian and Romanian teachers and two psychologists, the centres offered academic assistance and facilitated communication between families and local schools.

With AMIF funding, JRS also delivered educational counselling and services to over 600 people in Constanţa and Galaţi, including 300 children, and provided online Romanian language classes to 500 children through the Entreculturas and Caritas projects.

Meanwhile, preschool-aged children in Bucharest benefited from interactive learning activities supported through the One proposal project. World Vision Romania resumed services at its “Happy Bubbles” centres in Bucharest, Suceava, Iaşi, Cluj, and Constanţa, reaching 352 children through integrated education, MHPSS, and child protection programming. Activities ranged from homework help, Romanian and English language development, arts and crafts, sports, to logic games and social-emotional learning sessions.

## Challenges in Integration and Educational Continuity

Despite these coordinated efforts, significant challenges remain in integrating refugee students into the Romanian education system. Key obstacles include the transition from “audient” to full pupil status, limited duration of audient status, language testing procedures, and the recognition of foreign academic qualifications.

Families continue to face bureaucratic hurdles in school registration, equivalence of studies, and access to tailored support services such as language tutoring, counselling, and school transport. There is also a growing demand for information about high school admission processes, scholarships, and university education in Romania, as more Ukrainian youth consider long-term educational paths.

At the school level, teachers need additional training to meet the unique needs of refugee learners and ensure inclusive, equitable classroom environments. Strengthening these support systems remains a priority for 2025 to ensure no child is left behind.

# Health and nutrition

## Working Group co-chairs

WHO

Romanian Red Cross

## Appealing sectoral partners

- Asociația Moașelor Independente
- Ateliere Fără Frontiere
- City Makers
- East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH)
- FONSS
- IOM
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- PATRIR
- ParentIS
- Plan International
- RomaJust
- SECS
- SERA
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- WHO
- YMCA Romania

### Training Health Professionals on Inclusive and Rights-Based Care

In January, the Sexual and Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group—including AMI (Independent Midwives Association), E-Romnja, Sex vs Stork, SECS, Filia Centre, and the Partnership for Equality Centre (CPE)—delivered a series of comprehensive trainings for health professionals across Romania. These sessions focused on reproductive and perinatal health, reproductive rights, gender equality, intersectionality, and anti-discrimination policies, aiming to strengthen care for both Romanian and refugee populations.

Supported by the French Embassy, the trainings also facilitated an exchange of good practices between midwives from Romania and France and featured the presentation of a study highlighting the needs and benefits of midwifery in public health systems. These efforts contribute to a more inclusive and responsive healthcare environment, particularly for women and vulnerable groups.

### Expanding Access to Primary Health Care for Refugees

Ensuring access to primary healthcare continues to be a top priority for Ukrainian refugees in Romania. In January, WHO Romania supported clinics in Bucharest, Brașov, Cluj, Constanța, Galați, Sibiu, and Suceava by providing stipends for administrative staff to ease the burden on family doctors and improve refugee access.

As a result, WHO-supported clinics delivered 513 medical consultations, including 49 vaccinations for children and essential health needs. To further bridge access gaps, WHO cultural mediators offered personalized health advice to 182 refugees, accompanied 85 patients to appointments, and helped 207 individuals schedule visits.

Language support was another critical service. The WHO Romania hotline, operated by the Independent Midwives Association, provided interpretation services for 47 doctor's appointments, including 3 emergency consultations. The hotline assisted 292 callers with navigating family doctor registration, reproductive health access, and general medical services. Online health promotion materials shared through the platform reached 272 views, extending its impact beyond direct consultations.

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): A Continued Priority

As 34% of refugees report experiencing mental health or psychosocial issues (2024 Socio-Economic Insights Survey), MHPSS programming remains a critical focus for RRP partners. In January alone, WHO cultural mediators conducted 40 individual counselling sessions, two group sessions with 23 participants, and four art therapy workshops involving 49 attendees—all geared toward alleviating stress and building resilience.



Terre des Hommes continued its impactful work in Bucharest and Braşov, providing a range of individual and group MHPSS sessions, intercultural and life skills workshops, adapted information, and referrals to essential services. Their Resilience Innovation Facilities served as vibrant community hubs, where 52 children participated in MHPSS and digital skills activities, and 60 children attended life skills lessons.

In total, 46 children received tailored referrals to health, legal, and social services or were supported through case management, while 9 adults joined individual consultations or family-based support sessions.

### Challenges in Health System Integration

Despite legal protections under Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024, which grants refugees access to a basic package of

medical services, Ukrainian refugees remain formally classified as uninsured in the Romanian health system due to differences in registration procedures. This administrative inconsistency continues to confuse healthcare providers—particularly in clinics and pharmacies with limited experience serving refugee patients.

As a result, refugees are still being asked to pay for services and medications that should be covered—or, in some cases, are denied treatment altogether. Closing this gap will require clearer communication, standardized practices, and greater awareness among frontline medical professionals to ensure the rights of refugees are upheld across all points of care.

# Basic Needs and Cash

## Working Group co-chairs

Save the Children Romania

Romanian Red Cross

UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- ASSOC
- HIAS
- Habitat for Humanity Romania
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- Necuvinte
- Novapolis
- RomaJust
- Save the Children Romania
- Sensiblu Foundation
- SERA
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- UNHCR

### Towards Sustainable Accommodation Solutions

Addressing the persistent challenge of securing sustainable accommodation for refugees and vulnerable populations in Romania remains a top priority. In January, UNHCR, alongside representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, the Department for Emergency Situations, and the General Directorate of Social Assistance of Bucharest Municipality (DGASMB), met with the Mayor of Bucharest's Sector 2 to explore solutions.

Sector 2 has been a key actor in the refugee response since the onset of the Ukraine crisis, hosting two of the largest collective accommodation centres in the country. The meeting emphasized the importance of maintaining and optimizing the Edmond Centre, which currently shelters 46 Ukrainian refugees, as a model for systemic, long-term housing support. The Centre is not only a place of shelter but also a hub for inclusion services provided by local authorities and partner organizations—demonstrating a promising approach to sustainable, community-based refugee accommodation.

## Meeting Basic Needs: Distributions of Essential Items

To support particularly vulnerable individuals, RRP partners ramped up efforts in January to deliver non-food items (NFIs) across the country:

- The Independent Midwives Association, working with UNHCR, distributed 2,265 NFIs, including hygiene kits, diapers, quilts, and pillows to 950 Ukrainian families in Bucharest.
- Save the Children Romania reached 729 Ukrainian refugees in Bucharest, Galați, Iași, Suceava, Baia Mare, and Sighet, delivering 836 essential items, such as baby care supplies and sanitary kits.
- More broadly, UNHCR and its partners distributed nearly 10,237 items—including mattresses, towels, blankets, adult clothing, and hygiene kits—to over 2,300 refugees in Bucharest, Bistrița, Botoșani, Constanța, Galați, Iași, Oradea, Suceava, and Târgu Mureș.

These coordinated efforts continue to be vital in safeguarding the health, dignity, and well-being of displaced individuals across the country.

## Cash Assistance to Support Winter Needs

As part of its cash-for-winterization program, UNHCR enrolled over 200 individuals in January, aiming to help vulnerable families cope with seasonal expenses like heating and warm clothing. By the end of the month, 134 individuals had already received this critical assistance, helping them face the cold months with greater security and dignity.

# Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion

## Working Group co-chairs

World Vision Romania

UNHCR

## Appealing sectoral partners

- ADPARE
- Ateliere Fără Frontiere
- City Makers
- Civic Rădăuți Association
- Commit Global
- Drumul Vieții
- HIAS
- Help Ukrainians
- IOM
- JRS Romania
- MALVA
- Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brasov
- Migrant Integration Centre Brasov
- National Youth Foundation
- Novapolis
- Plan International
- Project Voyager
- Roma Education Fund
- Sibiu Community Foundation
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- World Vision Romania
- YMCA Romania

## Strengthening Local Coordination and Labour Market Inclusion

In January, key steps were taken to enhance institutional collaboration and promote the socio-economic integration of refugees and migrants across Romania.

On 22 January, the Maramureş County Council convened the Fourth Stakeholders Meeting on Socio-Economic Integration of Refugees and Migrants in Baia Mare. The meeting gathered over 15 representatives from local public institutions—including the County Prefecture, AJOFM, Maramureş Chamber of Commerce, County School Inspectorate, DGASPC, and IGI—alongside civil society actors such as ASSOC, City Makers, the Romanian Red Cross, and UNHCR. The discussions centred on best practices from the EU-funded Interreg Europe 2021–2027 project and stressed the importance of inter-institutional cooperation, particularly in the early stages of emergency response around basic needs, shelter, and child protection.

As a tangible outcome, City Makers, in collaboration with CNRR, will support refugees in Baia Mare with CV writing, interview preparation, and employment connections—strengthening local inclusion efforts through practical skills development.

Meanwhile, on 29 January, HIAS hosted a conference in Bucharest focused on the integration of migrants and refugees from Africa and the Roma community. Attended by around 20 participants from organizations including Ateliere Fără Frontiere, DSU, Fundația Regina Maria, and IOM, the event presented a new HIAS study based on the

experiences of 101 respondents. Findings highlighted significant challenges, including language barriers, labour exploitation, and underemployment caused by complex diploma equivalence procedures. Participants emphasized the need for sustained advocacy and engagement to improve labour market access for these underrepresented communities.

## Achievements in Economic Inclusion and Skills Empowerment

On 16 January, the Livelihood and Economic Inclusion Working Group held its monthly meeting to reflect on 2024 lessons and align on priorities for 2025. Key topics included:

- Ongoing labour market integration programmes by World Vision and the Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Braşov (AMDDDB) in six major cities.
- Survey insights from Project Voyager (Nov–Dec 2024) regarding employment barriers and opportunities.
- Language courses offered by International House and InovCons for Ukrainian refugees.
- Integration support, including employment referrals, by CNRR and Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

Future efforts will prioritize the recognition of diplomas through CNRED and language certification with the Institute of Romanian Language, led by UNHCR and AMDDDB.



## RRP partner Project Voyager- inspiring social media professionals

On 27 January, Project Voyager through its [Jobs4Ukraine](#) platform and in partnership with UNHCR hosted an informative and engaging event in Bucharest with on the inspiring topic of professional development for social media professionals. The event brought together 47 Ukrainian women refugee guests interested or already working in social media and 6 expert speakers to share experiences, discuss trends for 2025, and explore new ideas for growth. Attendees learned about brand authenticity through content, discussed motivation and internal resources on social networks, and received practical advice for social media management, including managing hate speech and setting up sales channels. The event took also provided a great opportunity for the participants to discuss and expand their professional networks.

# Cross-Cutting Priorities

## Trafficking in Persons

### Institutional strengthening

On 30 January, IOM Romania participated in a high-level working group convened by the National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons (ANITP) and coordinated by the Romanian Government. The meeting focused on establishing the 2025 national objectives for anti-trafficking prevention campaigns, with a particular focus on emerging risks linked to online platforms and labour exploitation. As trafficking threats continue to evolve, especially for displaced populations, the working group reinforced the need for multi-agency cooperation and targeted outreach.

Earlier in the month, on 15 January, IOM Romania contributed to the U.S. State Department's 2025 Trafficking

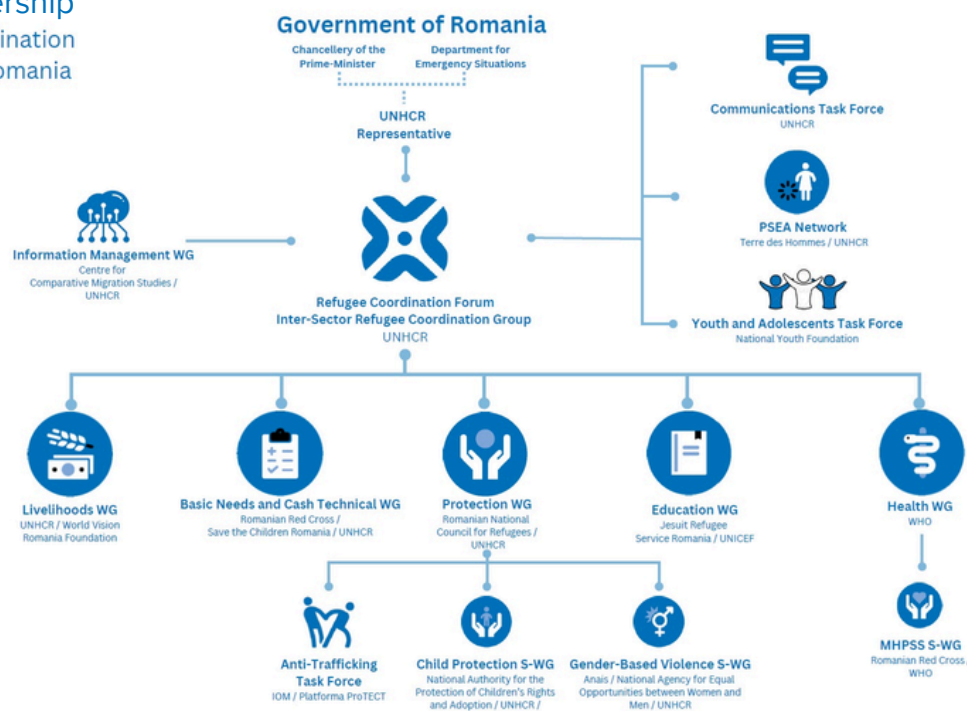
in Persons Report, offering key insights into Romania's recent efforts to combat human trafficking. The submission highlighted notable progress, while also identifying gaps in prevention, protection, and prosecution mechanisms, helping shape both national and international accountability frameworks.

### Achievements

In January, newly onboarded RRP partner ADPARE provided specialized anti-trafficking counselling to 90 vulnerable Ukrainian refugees in Bucharest. Through targeted sessions at their counselling centre and accommodation facilities, ADPARE raised awareness about trafficking risks, early warning signs, and available protection mechanisms, reinforcing frontline prevention for those most at risk.

### Working in partnership

Refugee Coordination  
Structure in Romania



In 2025, the Inter-Agency platform comprises of the following 42 appealing partners implementing humanitarian activities in Romania for refugees from Ukraine:

[ADPARE](#) | [Asociația Moașelor Independente](#) | [ASSOC](#) | Association of Ukrainian Teachers in Romania | [Ateliere Fără Frontiere](#) | [City Makers](#) | [Civic Rădăuți Association](#) | [CNRR](#) | [Commit Global](#) | [Drumul Vieții](#) | [EEIRH](#) | [FONSS](#) | [Habitat for Humanity](#) | [Help Ukrainians](#) | [HIAS](#) | [IOM](#) | [Jesuit Refugee Service Romania](#) | [MALVA](#) | [Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development Brașov](#) | [Migrant Integration Centre Brașov](#) | [National Youth Foundation](#) | [Necuvinte](#) | [Novapolis](#) | [ParentIS](#) | [PATRIR](#) | [Plan International](#) | [Project Voyager](#) | [Roma Education Fund](#) | [RomaJust](#) | [Save the Children Romania](#) | [SECS](#) | [Sensiblu Foundation](#) | [SERA](#) | [Sibiu Community Foundation](#) | [Terre des Hommes](#) | [Tineri pentru Tineri](#) | [UNFPA](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [UNHCR](#) | [WHO](#) | [World Vision Romania](#) | [YMCA Romania](#)

For more information, please contact the Inter-Agency Coordination Unit:

Sebastiaan Der Kinderen  
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator Officer, Romania  
Email: [kinderen@unhcr.org](mailto:kinderen@unhcr.org)

### LINKS

[Regional data portal](#) – [Romania Page](#) – [Ukraine Situation RRP](#) – [Refugee Funding Tracker](#)