UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #76

30 December 2024

Kyiv, Ukraine – As part of the winter response, UNHCR and NGO partner Rokada are distributing Rapid Thermal Kits to war-affected people in Ukraine, helping families improve the insulation of their apartments and stay warm during the cold season. © UNHCR/Elisabeth Arnsdorf Haslund

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

6,253,700*
refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 16 Dec 2024)

560,200
refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 15 Dec 2024)

6,813,900
refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 16 Dec 2024)

3,555,000**
Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (as of Oct 2024)

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Ukraine

- On 19 November, **Ukraine marked 1,000 days since the start of the full-scale invasion,** as largescale aerial attacks and fighting continue to impact civilians and damage energy and other critical infrastructure. The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine reported that at least **165 civilians** were killed and 887 injured in Ukraine in November, a significant increase from the same period in 2023. Meanwhile, OCHA reported on 27 November that since the beginning of 2024, more than **50 aid workers** have been killed or injured since the start of the full-scale invasion.
- UNHCR and partners continue to provide **psychological first aid, emergency shelter material, emergency cash assistance, essential items**, and **legal counselling** to families affected by recent attacks inside Ukraine, complementing the response of local authorities. As of end-November, UNHCR and partners have delivered **1.56 million** multi-sectoral services to people in need; additionally, UNHCR and partners have stepped up efforts to deliver assistance to help people stay safe and warm this winter, delivering **242,100** multi-sectoral services as part of UNHCR's 2024-25 winter response plan and the broader inter-agency response.

RRP Countries

- So far in 2024, UNHCR and partners have reached **593,258 individuals** reached with different forms of assistance in RRP countries, including **81,810 individuals** with multi-purpose cash assistance, and **130,277 individuals** with socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods support.

For more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region, see UNHCR's Ukraine Emergency website

* 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.

** Source: IOM Data Collection (Round 18).

UKRAINE UPDATE

UNHCR RESPONSE & TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2024* (as of 16 December 2024)

1,564,705
multi-sectoral services delivered in 2024, targeting
2.7 million
people, some of whom will receive several forms of support**

601,948
people reached with protection information and services***, out of a target of
1.2 million
people

175,843
people supported with essential items, out of a target of
350,000
people

521,784
people supported with multi-purpose cash and/or cash for winter energy needs, out of a target of
600,000
people

150,098
people received emergency shelter and housing support, out of a target of
467,500
people

31,184
people reached with safe access to multi-sectoral services in collective sites, out of a target of
130,000
people

*Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance. **The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements. ***Also includes calls to hotlines.

- **Emergency Response:** On 21 November, in response to recent missile attacks on Dnipro, UNHCR and partner Proliska assisted affected households with emergency shelter materials to cover damaged housing, provided blankets and portable solar lamps, psychological support and consultations on registering for compensation for damaged property. To respond to needs following daily attacks on Sumska region during November, Proliska delivered emergency shelter kits to over 2,800 people, as well as essential items (blankets, thermoses, solar lamps etc.) and on-site psychosocial and protection support to affected communities.
- **Protection:** On 25 November, two community centres were inaugurated in Dnipropetrovska region. Between July – November, UNHCR and partner Tenth of April (TTA) rehabilitated the premises and hygiene facilities, provided furniture and equipment and installed projectors and screens. The opening of the centres will help IDPs integrate into the host community, have the same access to social services as the residents of the community, while promoting economic and livelihood activities. On 26 November, UNHCR and partner Rokada opened a child-friendly space in Drohobytska community in Lvivska region, providing a safe environment for children affected by war.
- **Cash assistance:** So far in 2024, UNHCR has distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 521,700 war-affected people, IDPs, recent evacuees from frontline areas, returnees, and people with specific vulnerabilities to help cover the cost of basic items like food, medicines, clothes, accommodation and utilities. Around $144 million has been disbursed so far this year, which includes cash support for winter needs, reaching 210,100 people as of 5 December (in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Policy and the Pension Fund of Ukraine, and the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories).
- **Shelter:** So far in 2024, UNHCR has supported over 7,100 families with durable housing solutions. In November, UNHCR equipped over 200 protective shelters in Dnipro city's educational institutions with 1,500 solar lamps, 12,000 blankets, and other essentials. UNHCR also delivered supplies such as blankets, solar lamps and sleeping bags to equip 15 educational facility shelters in Vorozhba and Konotop in Sumska region. UNHCR and partner Rokada also opened social housing apartments in Dorohynka village, Kyivska region, converting a former school dormitory into seven flats, helping vulnerable IDPs from Donetska, Khersonska, Sumska, Zaporizka and Dnipropetrovska regions to access sustainable housing.
- **Livelihoods:** UNHCR through partner Rokada inaugurated a business development hub in Chernivtsi, western Ukraine, providing furniture and equipment to the premises. The project aims to create favourable conditions for small and medium businesses in the region and facilitate employment and inclusion for both IDPs and returnees.

Shelter Repairs for Internally Displaced Families in Ukraine

Saltivka, Ukraine – Oleksandr and Liudmila, along with their two children and grandmother, fled their home in Borodianka, Kyiv region in March 2022 due to intense shelling. After returning, they found their home badly damaged but did not have the resources to undertake repairs or move to an alternative location. In June 2024, UNHCR helped repair the family's house by replacing the roof, which enabled them to continue the internal renovations necessary to restore their home. Since the start of the full-scale invasion, UNHCR has repaired over 32,000 houses in Ukraine, helping people to stay in their communities or return home after their displacement.

Photo © UNHCR/Iryna Tymchyshy

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES

2024 REGIONAL TARGETS*

593,258
people reached with different forms of assistance in 2024*, out of a target of

850,000
people, some of whom will receive several forms of support**

453,723
people reached with protection information and services***, out of a target of

515,000
people

81,810
people targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance, out of a target of

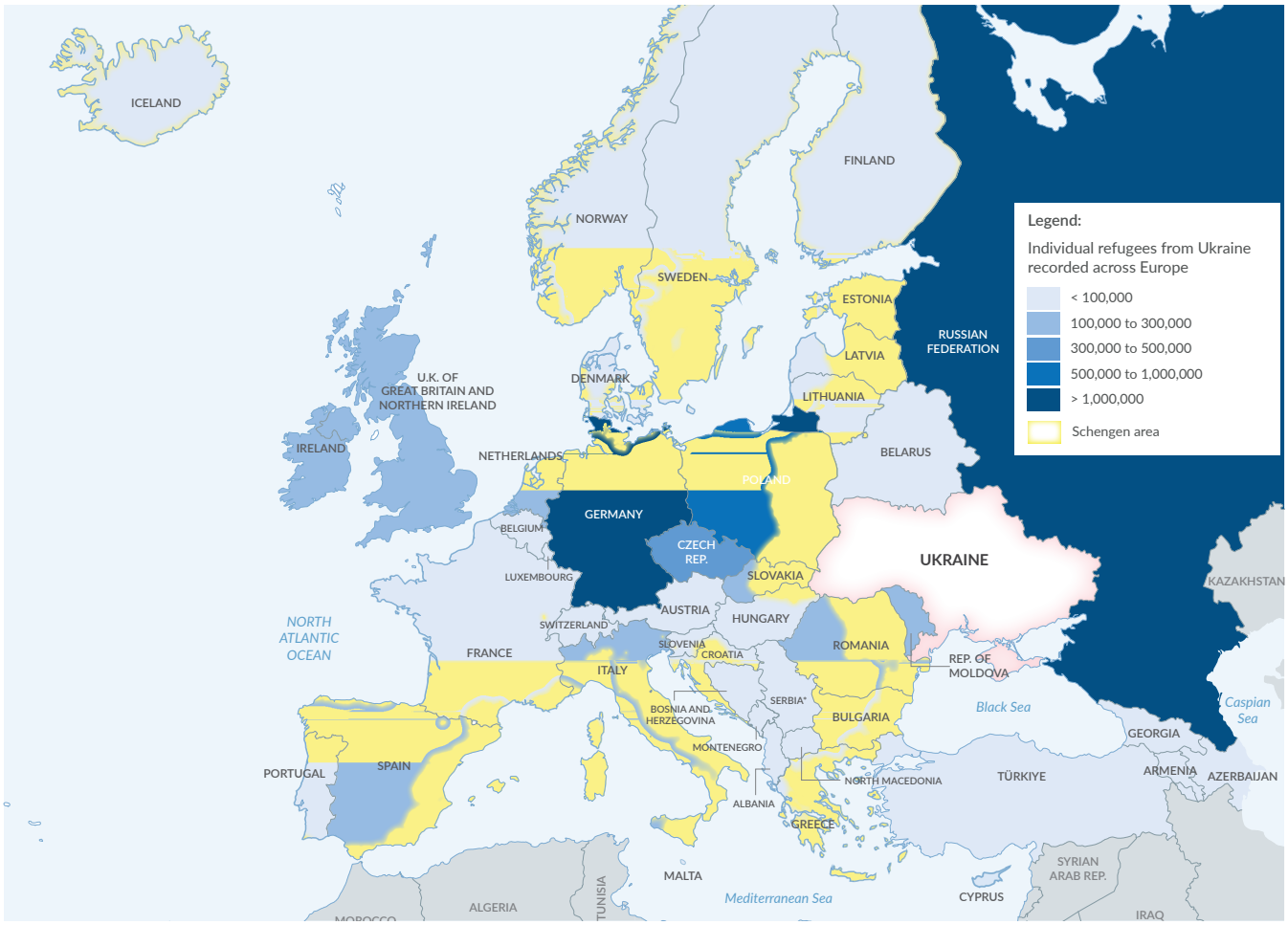
190,000
people

130,277
people supported with socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods support by UNHCR and partners, out of a target of

267,000
people

* The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.
** Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance and services.
*** Also includes calls to hotlines.

REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE ACROSS EUROPE (as of 16 Dec 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:** UNHCR delivered four Child Protection trainings to partner staff during November, as well as government representatives and various child protection departments. Several challenges regarding the protection of children at risk were discussed during the trainings.
- **Czech Republic:** During October, UNHCR's GBV partner proFem delivered trainings to 22 staff from local NGOs on mitigating risks related to GBV. The training, co-designed and funded by UNHCR, targeted social workers assisting refugees from Ukraine. UNHCR provided guidance on recognizing and reporting misconduct including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and distributed materials on gender-based violence (GBV) and SEA available on the HELP website and refugee helpline.
- **Hungary:** As part of the '16 Days of Activism against GBV' campaign, during December UNHCR and Hungarian Interchurch Aid organized a roundtable on integration of refugee GBV survivors into national care systems, with participation from key actors from both state and civil sector. Additionally, UNHCR and partner Cordelia held a training in Fot on 6 November to equip protection partners with essential skills to support unaccompanied children, which focused on best interests of the child, psychological first aid, trauma awareness, child-friendly communication, and peer support strategies.
- **Latvia**: During November, UNHCR continued monitoring visits to schools across various municipalities to observe challenges and best practices regarding inclusion of Ukrainian refugee children into the national education system.
- **Lithuania:** During November, UNHCR continued to follow-up on returns of unaccompanied and separated Ukrainian children to Ukraine, including reportedly to conflicted-affected areas. UNHCR is following-up with national state counterparts to gather updated information and address concerns regarding these returns and discuss durable solutions for children who are unable to be placed in foster care due to disabilities or medical issues.
- **Moldova:** On 20 November, Child Protection partners organized Children's Day events to raise awareness about children's rights and promote integration between Moldovan and refugee children. That same day, adolescents from the 'Education Doesn't Hurt' advocacy project presented their initiative to the Minister of Education to reduce bullying in schools.
- **Poland:** On 8 November, UNHCR together with the Deputy Mayor of Krakow and Habitat for Humanity Poland, handed over eight renovated apartments as part of the latest Social Rental Agency (SRA) pilot in Poland. This is part of a wider initiative to promote affordable housing in Poland for refugees and low-income host community members. The SRA scheme facilitates the rental of private and social apartments to those in need.
- **Romania:** On 19 - 20 November, UNHCR held Child Protection workshops in Baia Mare and Bistrita, attended by 55 local Social Assistance and Child Protection representatives. The workshops focused on best practices for supporting unaccompanied children, a case study analysis, and introducing a template for social workers to improve intervention and monitoring.
- **Russian Federation:** In November 2024, a total of 2,159 refugees from Ukraine received psychosocial support. Additionally, 849 refugees from Ukraine were counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while 976 were counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. A total of 2,848 refugees were counselled via hotline by UNHCR and partners in November.
- **Slovakia:** UNHCR is currently transitioning the Blue Dot Protection Hubs into a network of inclusive support centres, with strong local ownership. The goal is to unify these centres under a common label, to be guided by a set of minimum recommended standards from the previous Blue Dot model. Each centre will be led and coordinated by its respective local municipality with support from other actors. In line with current practice, UNHCR partners will continue providing services in the centres, collaborating with municipalities and other civil society organizations.

UNHCR's Refugee Green Line

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova – UNHCR's Refugee Green Line, helps address refugees' concerns and provides information on available rights and services for refugees from Ukraine in Moldova. The helpline is staffed by a team of 10 operators—who are also refugees themselves—providing advice and assistance in Ukrainian, Romanian, Russian, and English. Over 40,000 calls were received from January – October 2024, with a notable surge observed during the current winter period.

Photo © UNHCR/Mark Macdonald

BASIC NEEDS, HEALTH & WELL-BEING

2024 TARGET

190,000

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

- **Belarus:** So far in 2024, UNHCR has provided 749 refugees from Ukraine (313 households) with cash assistance in Minsk, Vitebsk, Brest, Grodno and other regions.
- **Czech Republic:** On 24 October, UNHCR hosted a webinar for nine refugee-led organizations (RLOs) awarded new UNHCR grants of approximately USD 5,000 each to support local refugee communities. Fifteen representatives attended, receiving information on UNHCR visibility requirements, reporting, and available resources like the HELP website and refugee helpline. The RLOs will use these grants to provide mental health support, social counselling, and community-building activities for refugees from Ukraine.
- **Hungary:** UNHCR recently completed registration for one-off winterization cash assistance. The first phase—targeting 222 households / 728 individuals—assisted those who had lost access to state-subsidized accommodation in August 2024 due to legislative changes, with a payment ranging from $270 - $540. The second phase provided a one-time winter top-up of $270 for UNHCR's beneficiaries for cash for protection for 50 families, including 90 individuals with at least one family member with a severe disability.
- **Moldova:** During November, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection closed two additional Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs), with UNHCR and partners supporting the safe relocation of some 200 individuals, most of whom were transferred to other operational centres. Currently, 26 RACs remain active; UNHCR will continue to identify sustainable housing solutions and provide integration support for displaced individuals.
- **Slovakia:** On 3 October, UNHCR met with representatives of the Banská Bystrica Self-Governing Region, where UNHCR is donating equipment to 10 Centres of Integrated Social and Health Care, which facilitate access to social protection and healthcare for older persons, persons with disabilities, and individuals in crisis situations among vulnerable refugees and Slovak nationals, particularly in remote locations.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LOCALIZATION

2024 TARGET

267,000

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

- **Belarus:** On 30 November, UNHCR held the fifth 'From CV to Employment' workshop in Grodno, western Belarus with participation from 24 refugees, including 22 from Ukraine. The workshop focused on building essential skills for the Belarusian job market, covering job search techniques, CV writing, interview skills, and strategies for managing job-search anxiety to assist participants with access to employment opportunities.
- **Bulgaria:** During November, UNHCR organized a High-Level Forum on refugee integration for mutual economic and social growth, bringing together refugees, government officials, NGOs, and business representatives to explore ways to improve refugee inclusion and self-reliance through employment and community support initiatives. Discussions focused on effective partnerships and policies that enable refugees to rebuild their lives, with a shared commitment to creating opportunities for refugees to contribute to host communities.
- **Czech Republic:** On 7 - 8 November, UNHCR in partnership with the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) and the town of Lednice organized a conference on local integration for representatives of municipalities hosting refugee populations. Approximately 90 participants from 40 municipalities attended, with a focus on housing, employment, self-reliance, and education. The event promoted sharing of best practices among municipalities on sustainable planning, budgeting for integration, intercultural and psychosocial support, and social cohesion between refugee and host communities.
- **Moldova:** On 12 November, UNHCR hosted a meeting in Cahul with local authorities and actors to design an action plan under the Cities of Solidarity Initiative, aiming to advance refugee inclusion and support host communities by leveraging local capacities. The initiative seeks to foster stronger local ownership and ensure refugee inclusion is incorporated into long-term community development.
- **Poland:** On 20 November, 30 single refugee mothers took part in a training titled 'Empowering Entrepreneurship' organized by UNHCR partner Right to Protection. Through practical exercises and teamwork, participants were provided with information and advice on launching their own businesses.
- **Romania:** On 6 November, UNHCR organized an awareness session in Braila for 22 refugees from Ukraine, focusing on employment rights and accessing the labour market. Supported by the local Agency for Employment and the Romanian National Council for Refugees, the session provided information on job placement services, vocational training, and employment contracts, while addressing challenges such as language barriers. So far in 2024, UNHCR and partners supported 8,554 refugees with various livelihood services
- **Slovakia:** On 23 - 24 October, UNHCR participated in Slovakia's largest job fair 'Profesia Days', which offers career counselling, job opportunities, and insights into current employment. UNHCR's presence included an information stand which was approached by over 250 visitors. UNHCR also took part in a panel discussion on the "Future of Employment in eastern Slovakia" during which the potential of refugees in the job market was highlighted.

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs). 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 active 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.

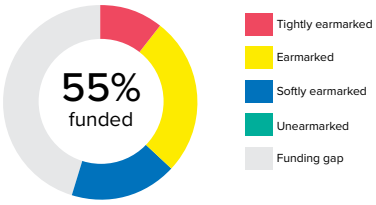
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

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. To learn more about the 2024 RRP response, please see here.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR UKRAINE SITUATION FINANCIAL UPDATE 2024

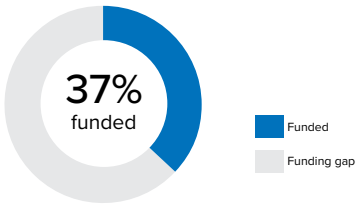
US$ 993.3 million
required



As of 30 Nov 2024

INTER-AGENCY FINANCIAL UPDATES

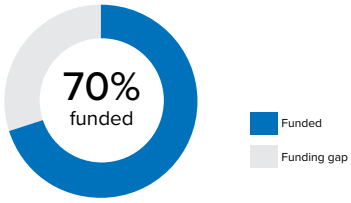
US$ 1.08 billion
required*



As of 30 Sep 2024

Ukraine situation: 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan

US$ 3.11 billion
required



As of 29 Dec 2024

Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

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