Polish Shelter, Housing & Accommodation Sector meeting

18th December 2024

RRP for Ukraine Situation

Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Agenda

1. **Coordination updates**
   - Legislative and Strategic Planning - Special Act review
   - Support for Vulnerable Groups in CCs
   - Preparedness and Communication
   - Presentation of MOI data on CCs residents
2. **Partners updates – challenges from the field**
3. **Shelter, Housing & Accommodation Sector 2025 Plans - discussion**
4. **Cash for rent and economic inclusion program – closing remarks, Diakonia, Mateusz Jelinek**
5. **AOB**

1. Aktualizacje od koordynatorek

- Plany legislacyjne i strategiczne – zmiany w Specustawie
- Wsparcie dla grup wrażliwych w OZZ
- Reagowanie kryzysowe - gotowość i komunikacja
- Prezentacja danych MSWiA o mieszkańcach OZZ

2. Aktualizacje od partnerów – wyzwania, międzysektorowe problemy

3. Plany Sektora Shelter na 2025 - dyskusja

4. Program „Gotówka na wynajem i włączanie ekonomiczne" – uwagi po zakończeniu projektu, Diakonia, Mateusz Jelinek

5. Inne

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1. Updates - Meeting with MOI on emergency preparedness

1. Special Act: in the first quarter of 2025 MOI will be looking into needed changes. Either they will propose simple amendment (according to EU directive extension of temporary protection until March 2026) or changes and amendment of temporary protection or new law entirely. It all depends on the discussions at EU level and development of the situation in Ukraine. MOI would like to see UNHCR as lead to gather coordinated response from humanitarian actors (same as last year).
2. Situation at the border at moment is stable (presented by colonel P.Fijałkowski).
3. Due to the savings, MOI has 60mln PLN emergency fund for any unexpected situation. This budget was allocated to the Collective Centers / Ośrodek Zakwaterowania Zbiorowego (OZZ) to deal with increased accommodation needs expected after last changed in the special act, mainly cancellation of article 13. However, as we know, refugees supported through that article did not decide to move to OZZ, hence the savings.

1. Updates - Meeting with MOI on emergency preparedness

4. This week, MOI is planning to share invitations to join the intersectoral group for migration. The main objective will be to discuss implementation plan for the migration strategy.

5. Collective centers / OZZ

- **Increase in Vulnerable Residents:**
  The overall share of vulnerable refugees, particularly elderly individuals and those with disabilities, is visibly increasing among the total inhabitants of OZZ. These individuals are highly fragile and require specialized support and care. Addressing their needs has been identified as a key priority for the MOI in the coming months and year. To meet this challenge, MOI will seek active support from civil society, NGOs, and the humanitarian community.
- **Current OZZ Population:**
  As of today, the overall number of residents in OZZ stands at just under 30,000. Despite earlier concerns, the demand for individual accommodation has been lower than expected, reducing the pressure on these centers.
- **“Towards Independence” Project:**
  The implementation of the “Towards Independence” project is ongoing. Due to the lower-than-expected demand for individual accommodation, MOI has reallocated more funds to the project’s economic inclusion component. This shift aims to support refugees in finding employment and enhancing their self-reliance.
- **Call for Partner Support:**
  MOI is unable to fund vocational training through the “Towards Independence” project due to budget limitations. They are calling on all partners to support vocational training initiatives to fill this gap. Such efforts are critical for equipping refugees with the skills needed for long-term economic inclusion.

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji

6. Voivods from podlaskie, warmińsko-mazurskie, lubelskie and podkarpackie presented their situation. One of key issue that was popping up was **Roma refugees in OZZs.** Otherwise they all highlighted their readiness to provide emergency support in case situation changed and there was a need for extra accommodation.

7. Director Marczyński (MOI) was highlighting the **need to develop and implement information strategies**, both towards UKR refugees and Polish citizens. In particular he highlighted the need to address the disinformation campaigns

8. **Minister Duszczyk presented an idea that we might be observing increased influx of vulnerable refugees**, especially elderly, due to problems with access to health care and attacks on critical infrastructure. He would like to keep an eye on this particular group, follow dynamics and particularly check if they would be seeking support rather through families already in Poland or using the social system support such as OZZ, etc.

9. Representative of the military forces informed that two brigades are ready to support in case it's needed

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji

- Informacja o sytuacji w OZZ

	dane na 27.11		Różnice od poprzedniego raportu z października	
województwa	Liczba aktywnych obiektów	Suma miejsc zajętych	Liczba aktywnych obiektów	Suma miejsc zajętych
dolnośląskie	72	2987	-9	-152
kujawsko-pomorskie	72	2258	-11	-188
lubelskie	75	2009	3	-330
lubuskie	20	1024	-3	-96
łódzkie	35	1344	-5	-139
małopolskie	267	7192	-11	-482
mazowieckie	81	3351	8	158
opolskie	4	213	0	-28
podkarpackie	10	396	-1	-100
podlaskie	26	884	-3	-27
pomorskie	90	3091	-5	-176
śląskie	124	3274	-9	-8
świętokrzyskie	16	305	-2	-57
warmińsko-mazurskie	2	232	-2	-87
wielkopolskie	34	1242	1	24
zachodniopomorskie	11	261	0	1
Suma końcowa	**939**	**30063**	**-49**	**-1687**

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji

OZZ - struktura	Liczba osób w OZZ - 30.09 / NB of people	Liczba osób partycypujących w kosztach / co-paying	Liczba osób do 120 dni / NB of people up to 120 days	Liczba zwolnionych z opłat, w tym: / NB exempt from co-pay	ust. 17 c pkt 1 (niepełnosprawni) / disability	ust. 17 c pkt 2 (wiek) / female over 60, male over 65 yo	ust. 17 c pkt 3 (w ciąży, z dzieckiem do 1rż) / pregnant or with infant below 1yo	ust. 17 c pkt 4 (samotny rodzic, 3 dzieci) / single parent with more than 3 kids, at least one below 14yo	ust. 17 c pkt 5 (ponizej 18rż) / kids under 18yo	ust. 17 c pkt 6 (zwolnienie woj.) / exempt by voivode	ust. 17 d pkt 1 (opiekuni niepełnosprawni) / carers disability	ust. 17 d pkt 2 (tymczasowi opiekuni) / temporary carers for kids under 18yo
NBR	31356	15646	1658	14052	1903	5265	279	1005	2386	2126	775	313
percentage		50%	5%	45%	6%	17%	1%	3%	8%	7%	2%	1%

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji

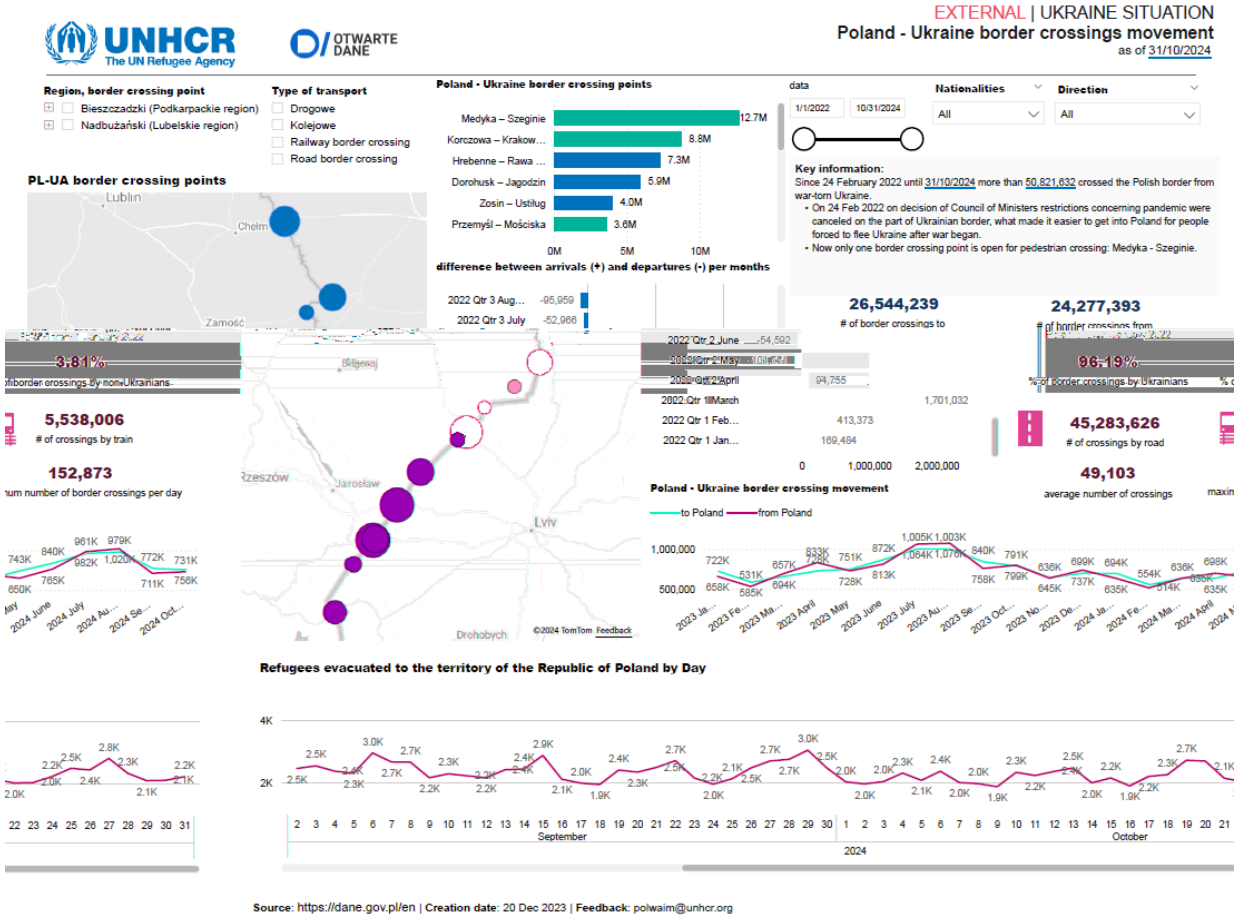
Dane 30.09	rozłożenie % - osoby w wieku emerytalnym	rozłożenie % - osoby z niepełnosprawnością
dolnośląskie	9,5%	8,1%
kujawsko-pomorskie	5,8%	8,3%
lubelskie	5,7%	8,6%
lubuskie	3,6%	2,4%
łódzkie	3,9%	5,7%
małopolskie	25,2%	18,3%
mazowieckie	12,0%	13,9%
opolskie	1,6%	0,5%
podkarpackie	1,5%	1,0%
podlaskie	2,9%	3,4%
pomorskie	8,7%	11,0%
śląskie	10,0%	11,0%
świętokrzyskie	1,6%	1,4%
warmińsko - mazurskie	0,9%	0,7%
wielkopolskie	6,4%	5,3%
zachodniopomorskie	0,7%	0,4%
Razem	100,0%	100,0%

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji

10. During the round of presentations provided by guests there were following speakers: UNHCR (K.Oyrzanowska & A.Kapłon), PCK, PCPM, Care, Protection Sector, WHO, Homo Faber, Shelter Sector, Migration Consortium, PAH, Union of UKR in Poland, Roma Council, Caritas, Lena Grochowska, Ukraine House, Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of Civil Society. All presented their capacities in terms of emergency preparedness and few discussed problems related to the implementation of the amended Special Act.

To summarize, Minister Duszczyk expressed a need to create coordination mechanisms, and promised to get back on that topic in early January.

1. Updates / Aktualizacje informacji



Link to the Refugee Population Stats Dashboard: Microsoft Power BI

2. Partners updates – challenges from the field

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Diakonia Polska

Kościół Ewangelicko-Augsburski
w Polsce

Diakonia Polska

2022-2023

- Funds and technical suport from DKH
- new office and new team
- programs with humanitarian standards
- cash-based interventions (MPCA)

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

Diakonia Polska

2023-2024

Integrated humanitarian response for conflict affected Ukrainians
and third country nationals in Ukraine, Poland, Romania, and Moldova” (K-EUM-2023-4009)

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

Implemented by

Diakonia Polska

Financed by

german humanitarian assistance
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE

Cash for winterization
Cash for rent
Cash for livelihoods
Small grants

Diakonia Polska

Cash for rent (1st edition)

Oct 2023 – June 2024

Improve the housing situation of refugees in Poland in the medium/long term and strengthen sustainability

financial support for renting a new apartment: up to PLN 2,150 every month (6 months);

support in finding an apartment on the market;

administrative and legal support in signing the lease agreement;

support on the labor market in terms of improving professional qualifications and learning the language.

Diakonia Polska

Eligibility

UKR refugees

difficult housing situation

- collective accommodation, hostels
- host families,
- parish houses,
- without a rental agreement

potential to achieve financial independence during the program

- Working age,
- work or motivation to work

Diakonia Polska

Local partners

- Lutheran parishes,
- Nomada Wrocław
- New Story Toruń,
- ELEOS Polska,
- Caritas Bydgoszcz,
- Wałbrzyskie Centrum Integracji,
- Spilno Białystok,
- WCPR,
- PAH Olsztyn,
- Związek Ukraińców w Suwałkach

Diakonia Polska

Economic inclusion component (livelihoods)

- accessing the labor market by improving professional skills and language skills.
  - Financing tailormade vocational trainings and language courses
  - up to 1800 PLN per person

Diakonia Polska

Cash for rent (2nd edition)

July – December 2024

- Degressive subsidy for renting a new apartment for 6 months;
- administrative and legal support in signing the lease agreement
- support on the labor market in terms of improving professional qualifications and learning the language;
- optional: refund of moving and furnishing the apartment;
- optional: service for managing the lease relationship via the Pacto application.

Diakonia Polska

Transfer value

- 1–2 people – PLN 2 200
- 3–4 people – PLN 2 800
- 5 or more people – PLN 3 500
- 1 person (single room) – PLN 1 000

- 100% subsidy for the 1st rent
- 80% subsidy for the 2nd and 3rd rent
- 50% subsidy for the 4th and 5th rent
- 30% subsidy for the 6th rent

+ subsidy for deposit

+ Eligible beneficiary receives a refund of moving costs up to 1 500 PLN

Economic inclusion compontent (livelihoods) 2nd edition

Diakonia Polska

Up to PLN 2 000:

- for short-term training or professional exam fees;
- for language course;
- for translation fees for documents related to professional status;
- for other justified costs related to professional status.

Eligiblity

- in a difficult socio-economic situation
  - (no employment contract, work below qualifications, low income, disability, single parent, caring for at least two children or another verified difficult situation);
- demonstrate motivation to participate in the program and plan to stay in Poland for the next 6 months.

Diakonia Polska

Cash for rent (1st, 2nd)

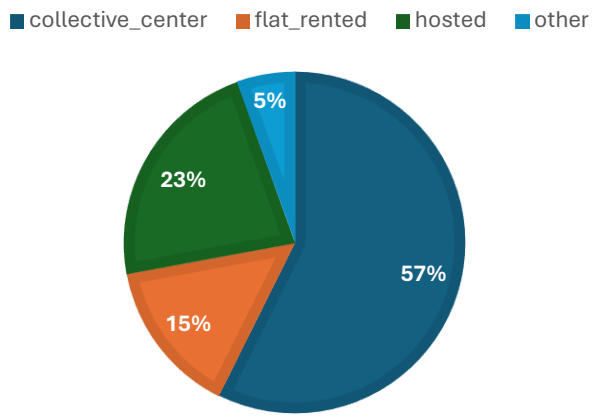
129 households (391 individuals)
Av. HH size 3,05
204 adults - 189 children

DOLNOŚLĄSKIE	29
KUJAWSKO-POMORSKIE	24
LUBUSKIE	7
ŁÓDZKIE	5
MAŁOPOLSCE	6
MAZOWIECKIE	17
OPOLSKIE	2
PODLASKIE	5
POMORSKIE	3
ŚLĄSKIE	7
ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE	1
WARMIŃSKO-MAZURSKIE	17
WIELKOPOLSKIE	2
ZACHODNIOPOMORSKIE	3

Challenges

- wide geographical dispersion of beneficiaries
- difficult market and problems in finding an apartment
- reluctance to rent to Ukrainians
- risk of being dependent
- various types of lease agreements required by landlords
- various capacity of volunteers (local partners)

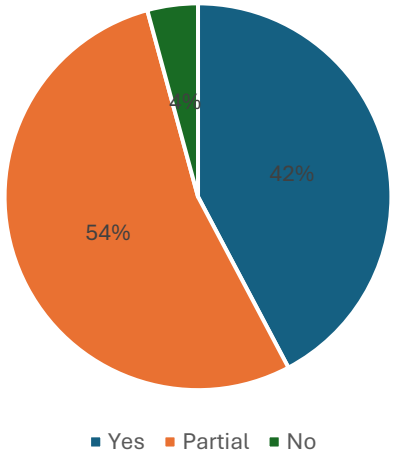
HOUSING SITUATION BEFORE THE PROGRAM



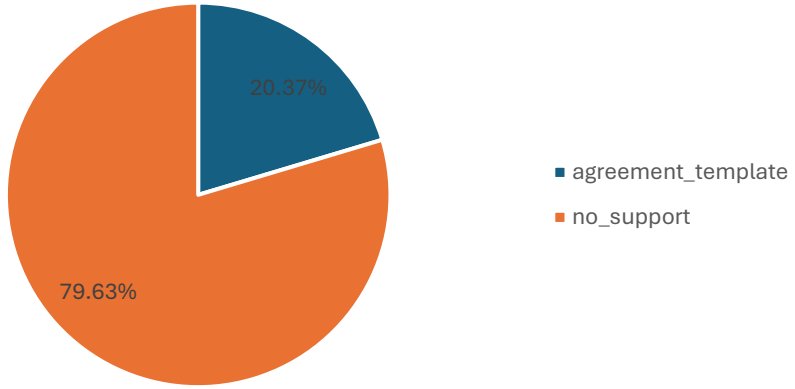
collective_center_free	37
collective_center_paid	37
flat_rented	14
flat_rented_together	5
hosting_not_related_free	14
hosting_not_related_paid	8
hosting_related_free	4
hosting_related_paid	3
other	7

Diakonia Polska

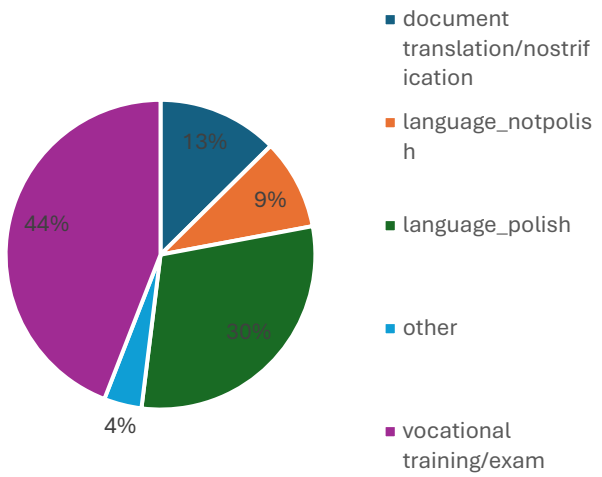
Are you able to continue the lease?



Need for administrative and legal support



Economic inclusion - needs



Did the program cause any problems/negative impact?
(beneficiaries' perspective)
No - 97,26%
Yes - 2.64% (landlord's reluctance to rent, initial misunderstanding with the coordinator)

Did the program have any unintended negative consequences for the community?
(local partners' perspective)
No - 100%

Diakonia Polska

Mateusz Jelinek

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5. AOB

5. INNE

- Spotkanie w Nowym Roku: 22 czy 29 stycznia?

Next Shelter meeting - Wednesday th January, 2:00pm

Następne spotkanie sektora – środa, stycznia, 14:00