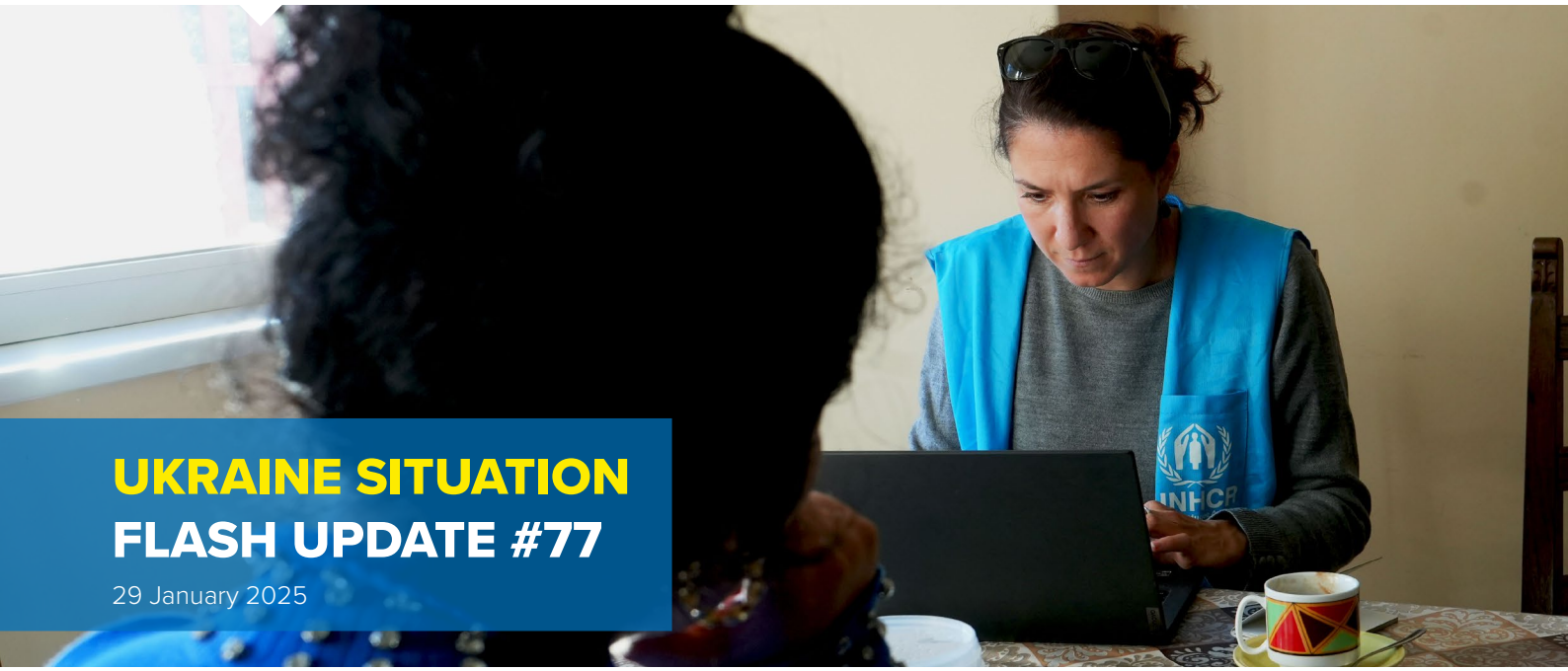
UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Regional Bureau for Europe



UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #77

29 January 2025

Göd, Hungary – UNHCR registers a Ukrainian refugee family in Göd for cash assistance. After losing access to state-subsidized accommodation, they moved in with another refugee family so they could share rental and electricity costs during the winter. UNHCR's support will help them meet their basic needs, including buying food and adequate clothes or school supplies. © UNHCR / Giulia Naboni

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

6,303,200*
refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 16 Jan 2025)

560,200
refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 16 Jan 2025)

6,863,400
refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 16 Jan 2025)

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

Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) (Jan 2025)

To read more, click here.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As the full-scale war in Ukraine approaches its fourth year, the UN and partners launched the Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 and the Regional Refugee Response plan for 2025-2026, appealing for **US$3.32 billion** to support **8.2 million people** affected by the crisis within Ukraine and across borders. Launched in Kyiv with the Government of Ukraine on 16 January, the plans outline strategies to address the needs of people whose lives have been upended by the war, while emphasizing international solidarity to sustain critical humanitarian efforts in 2025.
- To respond to the pressing needs inside Ukraine and refugee host countries, UNHCR released its 2025 consolidated plans and financial requirements for the Ukraine situation. UNHCR is appealing for **US$ 803.6 million for the situation**, including US$ 550 million inside Ukraine, and **US$ 253.6 million in refugee host countries**. UNHCR aims to provide 2.7 million multi-sector services to people in Ukraine, including protection, cash and shelter/housing assistance. Additionally, UNHCR aims to reach the most vulnerable refugees with targeted assistance, including protection services including legal advice, and cash assistance.
- On 16 January, **UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi concluded his sixth** mission **to Ukraine** since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022, where he met with President Zelenskyy, as well as with displaced and war-affected people, local authorities and humanitarian partners. On 17 - 18 January, **Grandi also** visited **the Republic of Moldova**, where he met with President Sandu, key government officials, Ambassadors, and partners. Grandi also visited a refugee-led business, highlighting their contribution to local communities.

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).

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:** Large-scale attacks were observed on Christmas eve, affecting multiple locations across Donetska, Dnipropetrovska, Kirovohradska, Poltavska and Zaporizka regions of eastern Ukraine. The strikes resulted in civilian casualties and damage to buildings including educational and medical institutions as well as critical energy infrastructure. UNHCR partners Proliska, R2P and Tenth of April provided emergency shelter items, NFIs, psychosocial support, legal aid, counselling, and case management. On 27 December, UNHCR dispatched essential NFIs including blankets, bed linen sets, sleeping bags and jerry cans to support 750 residents of Siverska community in Donetska region, which has largely been unreachable by humanitarian organizations due to the regularity and intensity of shelling.
- **Protection:** On 13 December, UNHCR partner Neemia opened a child-friendly space at the premises of the Zakarpattia Oblast Employment Centre in Uzhhorod, with financial support from UNHCR. On December 19, a child friendly space was reopened in Ivano-Frankivsk (by UNHCR and partner Rokada), and a new space was established in Tomashivska community, Kyivska region. These spaces provide safe environments for children to participate in educational and creative activities.
- **Cash assistance:** In 2024, UNHCR distributed around $144 million in 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 costs of basic items like food, medicines, clothes, accommodation and utilities. This includes over 210,100 people reached as of 5 December with cash support for additional winter needs in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Policy and the Pension Fund of Ukraine, and the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories. Additionally, over 83,800 families hosting IDPs received cash assistance in 2024 through the Prykhystok programme, in collaboration with the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories.
- **Shelter:** In December, UNHCR and partner Proliska provided NFI kits to equip 15 bomb shelters in Dnipro, Nikopol and Petropalivka in Dnipropetrovska regions, helping local authorities provide basic warmth and comfort to those seeking shelter. In addition, Proliska transferred 571 non-food items (quilts, solar lamps, sleeping bags and jerry cans) to local city administrations in Konotop city, Sumy region to help equip bomb shelters in schools and kindergartens. As part of UNHCR's winter response, new windows were also installed in 164 households in Zaporizka and Dnipropetrovska. In Kramatorsk, Donetska region, 10 households received construction materials for self-repairs.
- **Durable Solutions:** On 27 December, an IDP Centre was opened in Bila Tserkva city, Kyivska region. UNHCR and partner Rokada provided furniture and equipment, which will allow displaced people in Kyiv to receive all IDP-related services—including issuance of official registration certificates, and applications for targeted assistance—while providing humanitarian partners and the local IDP Council with consultation rooms. On 23 December, Rokada with support from UNHCR also opened an integration hub in Horodok city, Khmelnytskyi region, which will serve as an integration space for internally displaced and local youth, and as a meeting place for a local IDP Council, with social services available on site.

Winter Relief for War-Affected People in Ukraine

Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine – Starting in October 2024, UNHCR and NGO partner Proliska distributed heaters and Rapid Thermal Kits to displaced or war-affected families in the Zaporizhzhia region, south-east Ukraine. This is helping people better insulate their homes and stay warm during the cold winter months. During the 2024/25 winter period, UNHCR is targeting 33,600 people with essential winter items, with over 20,000 reached so far. Photo © UNHCR

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES

2024 REGIONAL TARGETS* (as of 20 Jan 2025)

638,448
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**

476,719
people reached with protection information and services***, out of a target of

515,000
people

87,683
people targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance, out of a target of

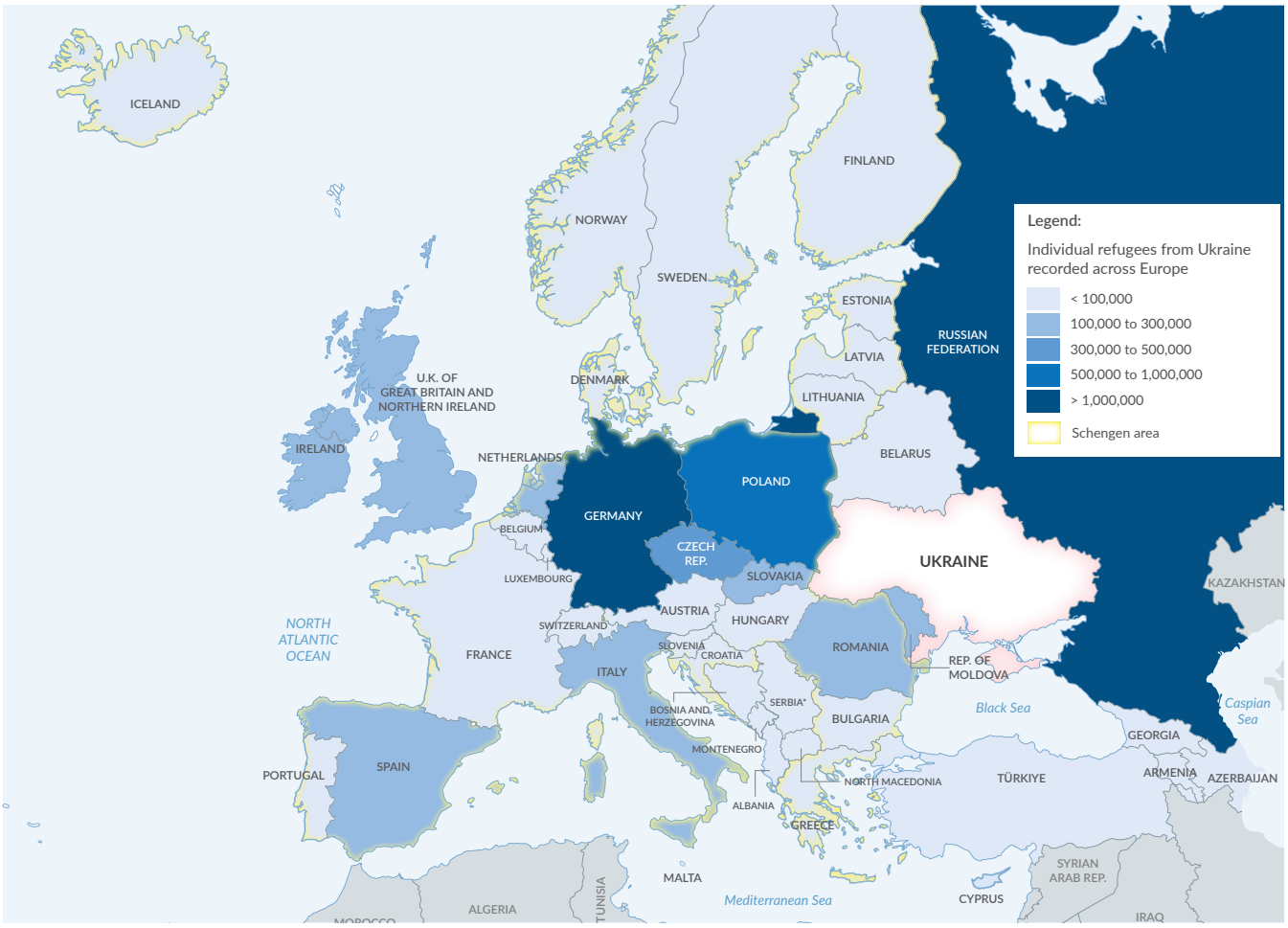
190,000
people

153,634
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. All figures pending final verification.
** Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance and services.
*** Also includes calls to hotlines.

REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE ACROSS EUROPE (as of 16 Jan 2025)



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 Bulgaria organized a series of child protection trainings in December for local authorities. The trainings covered key areas of response in Bulgaria, while addressing primary challenges raised by participants, including access to education and alternative care arrangements.
- **Czech Republic:** UNHCR recently published and disseminated the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Brochure in three languages: English, Czech, and Ukrainian. Designed to assist the Ukrainian community, the brochure offers comprehensive tools, applications, and websites, guiding users from psychological first aid to referral pathways for MHPSS services.
- **Hungary:** On 3 December, UNHCR's GBV partner Hungarian Interchurch Aid organized a conference on risks of GBV and prevention strategies, focusing on refugees from Ukraine. The event was opened by UNHCR where the 'Safe Online' campaign was explained, with speakers from national experts from both the state sector and charity organizations.
- **Moldova:** On 6 December, a meeting was held with partners managing refugee hotlines to map existing services, identify key actors, and establish a referral network. This coordination improves access to reliable information and facilitates smoother referrals for refugees seeking support through hotline services.
- **Poland:** As part of the '16 days of activism against GBV', UNHCR organized a workshop on 3 December in collaboration with partner Patchwork for 15 refugee women with disabilities and mothers of children with disabilities. The session covered gender roles, forms of violence that affect refugee women, and available services. As a follow up, UNHCR will continue to provide tools and information to the group along with the partner.
- **Romania:** From 3 - 12 December, UNHCR organized six information sessions in Bucharest to explain the new Emergency Ordinance 96/2024, which provides support to refugees from Ukraine. The sessions, attended by 60 refugees, focused on social assistance and access to healthcare for holders of Temporary Protection. These sessions were organized by each of the six Bucharest Municipality sectors, with the support of local authorities and WHO representatives.
- **Russian Federation:** A total of 4,186 refugees received psychosocial support in December. Additionally, 892 refugees from Ukraine were counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while 1,225 were counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. A total of 3,019 refugees were counselled via the hotline by UNHCR and partners in December.
- **Slovakia:** From 4 - 6 December, UNHCR conducted a training for 36 staff from the Migration Office and Slovak Humanitarian Council based at asylum and detention facilities in eastern Slovakia, as well as 20 frontline police officers operating at the border with Ukraine. The training primarily focused on the fundamentals of GBV, relevant legal frameworks, rights of survivors, and appropriate procedures to follow in the event of a GBV disclosure.

BASIC NEEDS, HEALTH & WELL-BEING

2024 TARGET

190,000

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

- **Belarus:** As of December 2024, UNHCR has provided cash assistance to 955 individuals (413 households) in the Minsk, Vitebsk, Brest, Grodno, Mogilev and Gomel regions, including 749 people from Ukraine.
- **Bulgaria:** As of 8 January, a total of 9,036 unique individuals have been assisted with UNHCR cash assistance in 2024; of this, 7,190 individuals benefited from multi-purpose cash assistance and winterization support, while 1,767 individuals received education assistance. Additionally, 79 students have received university grants.
- **Czech Republic:** In December, UNHCR awarded an additional $37,552 in grants to five Ukrainian refugee led organizations (RLOs). This brings the total amount of UNHCR Czechia's financial contribution to RLOs in 2024 to $147,000. The grants support RLOs in their various activities, including providing integration-related support to their community members, raising awareness on risks, disseminating information, and conducting community-based psychosocial activities.
- **Romania:** In 2024, assisted over 17,413 vulnerable refugees from Ukraine with cash — primarily women and children. These families have been registered through five centres located in Bucharest, Constanța, Brașov, Galați, and Suceava, as well as through mobile missions across 13 counties in Romania.
- **Slovakia:** In 2024, UNHCR assisted 9,000 individuals through Cash for Protection and Winterization programs, disbursing a total of $1.6 million.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LOCALIZATION

2024 TARGET

267,000

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

- **Bulgaria:** On 13 December, UNHCR and the Municipality of Varna, together with ENERGY Association (NRG), organized an event "Integration and Access to Services for Refugees in Varna Municipality". The event was opened by the deputy mayor, and representatives of municipality's education, social and sports directorate, and provided detailed info on municipality social projects including free public cuisine, assistance for people with disabilities, as well as compensations for families of children who are unable to secure a place in kindergarten.
- **Czech Republic:** In December, UNHCR partner Association for Integration and Migration launched a comprehensive Handbook for Renting Accommodation, available in four languages: Czech, English, Russian, and Ukrainian. The online manual offers practical information to assist individuals in vulnerable situations who may struggle to assert their housing rights. On 23 December, UNHCR disseminated the manual to Refugee-Led Organizations (RLOs) to support their housing oriented activities. The manual will serve other UNHCR partners in providing housing-related information, counseling, and awareness-raising as part of their integration support.
- **Hungary:** On 8 January, UNHCR held a session at the Budapest Information and Community Centre about access to higher education and available scholarships, which was attended by 52 refugees. UNHCR partners Menedek and Next Step Association presented on their activities which promote access to higher education for refugees, while two Ukrainian students and scholarship holders shared their experiences.
- **Latvia:** On 5 December, UNHCR in cooperation with think tank Providus and Stockholm School of Economics organized a conference on 'Integration of Ukrainian Refugees in the Baltic Countries' with a specific focus on education. UNHCR shared findings from its latest Socio-Economic Insight Survey to highlight main challenges faced by refugee children in Latvia, including access to learning.
- **Moldova:** UNHCR is actively taking part in the roadmap plan for the integration of Ukrainian children into Moldovan schools, developed in collaboration with UNICEF and presented to the Ministry of Education and Research for endorsement. The roadmap is a key document aimed at creating a conducive environment for refugee children to enroll in national schools and access quality education.
- **Poland:** On 17 December, UNHCR organized an event recognizing refugee talent and entrepreneurship in Warsaw, marking the completion of training programs organized by refugee-led organizations with UNHCR funding, under the Small Grant Agreement modality. Refugees showcased their business ideas, explored funding opportunities, and networked with other entrepreneurs. Several institutions, including the Warsaw Labour Office, Foundation for Social and Economic Initiatives, and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development presented their business grant programs. In 2024, UNHCR signed a total of 34 Small Grant Agreements with grassroot organizations in Poland benefiting refugees.
- **Romania:** On 12 December, UNHCR together with the Metropolitan Agency for Durable Development in Brașov hosted an event to support refugee job integration, sharing 280 CVs of refugees with possible employers in Romania. The event saw participation of professionals from 37 companies and local authorities supporting refugees from Ukraine to integrate into the Romanian labour market. In 2024, UNHCR supported over 9,000 refugees with different livelihood services.
- **Slovakia:** On 11 December, UNHCR organized a roundtable in Kosice focusing on disability inclusion in Community Centres and other safe spaces through local-level engagement of organizations supporting people with disabilities. The workshop was attended by 30 participants from public institutions, including the Commissioner for People with Disabilities, organizations for people with disabilities, and other NGOs. The workshop outcomes will inform recommendations to improve the situation for refugees with disabilities and their access to services, as well as the development of an internal 2025 Disability Action Plan for UNHCR Slovakia.

Winter Relief for Refugees from Ukraine in Moldova

Ungheni, Republic of Moldova – In November, UNHCR and partners delivered winter relief items to support refugees and vulnerable Moldovans during the cold winter months.

The distribution was carried out at the Community Centre in Ungheni, which opened in 2023 with UNHCR support. The centre is part of a network of nine community centres across Moldova that help promote women and youth empowerment, and facilitate the socialization and inclusion of refugees. Photo © UNHCR/Mark Macdonald

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.

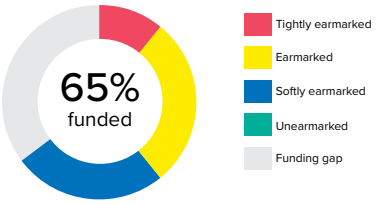
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

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

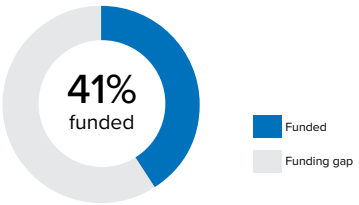
US$ 993.3 million
required



As of 31 Dec 2024

INTER-AGENCY FINANCIAL UPDATES 2024

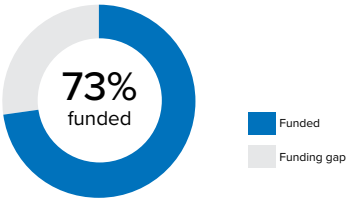
US$ 1.08 billion
required*



As of 30 Sep 2024

Ukraine situation: 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan

US$ 3.11 billion
required



As of 20 Jan 2025

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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UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions from the private sector and individuals.

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