



**INTER AGENCY UPDATE #7 (6-8<sup>th</sup> of April 2022)**

Photo: Government of Republic of Moldova

# MOLDOVA REFUGEE RESPONSE

**411,365**

Arrived in Moldova since 24 February

**98,363**

Remaining in Moldova



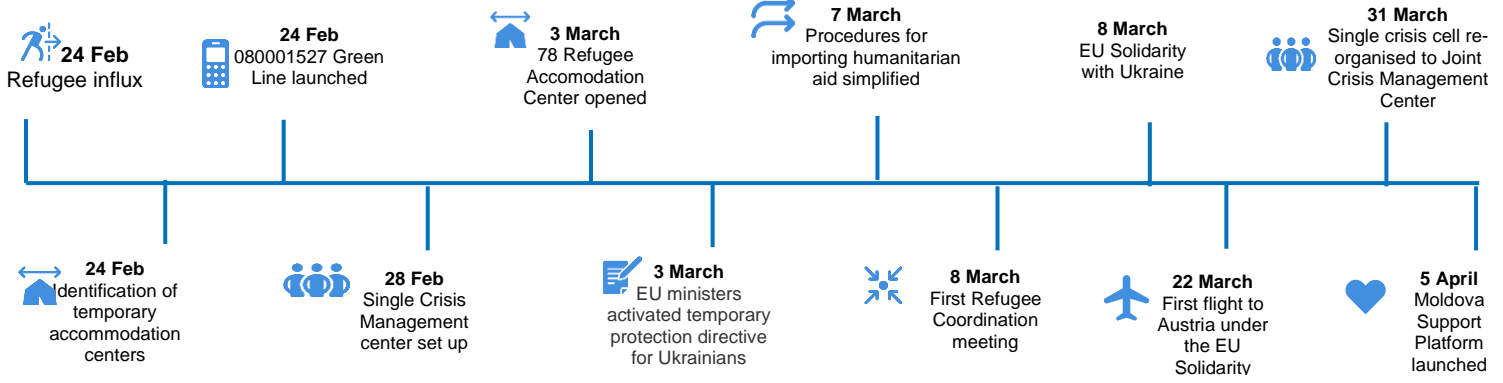
**65%**  
women



**36%**  
Children

First classroom of online studies has been arranged for refugee children from Ukraine at the placement centre at the Provisional Basic Sanatorium CONSTRUCTORUL Chisinau by the Government of Moldova. School supplies and 20 laptops have been placed in classrooms to ensure that children have access to online education platforms to continue their studies with their teachers and colleagues from Ukraine. The Single Center for Crisis Management (CUGC) is working with all interested organizations to create good conditions for refugees from Ukraine in Moldova

### Timeline of response

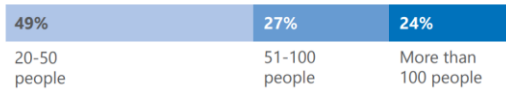


## Updates in numbers

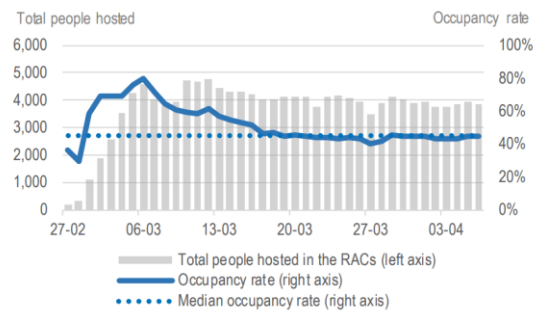
### Refugee Accommodation Centers (RACs): capacity and hosting capacity

(Source: REACH/ UNHCR)

% of RACs by hosting capacity (out of 95 RACs)



People hosted in RACs since receiving approval to open



Source: ANAS, Registry of Refugee Accommodation Centres, 06.04.2022

### Hot Meals Coverage: Refugee Population Reached since March 15 2022

(Source: WFP)

- **97,938** meals distributed by WFP contracted partners
- **250,752** meals covered by the food security working group

### Health care service offered for free since 24 February 2022

(Source: Ministry of Health/ WHO)

- Primary health care: 3,100 cases, 1,263 children, 102 pregnant women
- 2,510 cases, including 1,266 children consulted by the Health Care Worker from Ambulance care service
- 848, including 263 hospitalized
- 233 Dialyzes sessions
- 10 oncology treatments.

### Blue Dots (Source: UNICEF)

UNICEF is working with partners to support three Blue Dots in different locations reaching 1,562 people (766 adults and 796 children) over the past week. Services were also provided to 30 children with disabilities.

## SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

This section brings you on the ground coverage of activities by partners

### Protection

- 625 refugees have been supported through air transfers from Moldova via nine flights to Austria, Germany, and Latvia. IOM and UNHCR are supporting the transfers in coordination with the respective governments.
- UNHCR's partner Law Centre of Advocates conducting border monitoring reported an increase in the number of pedestrians arriving from Kharkiv, Nikolaev and Odesa due to the increase in security incidents. Refugees arrive by bus and are dropped off at the border crossing point (BCP). ACTED has distributed 600 free SIM cards to date to support Ukrainian refugees to access information, stay connected and seek help. ACTED has also provided free internet coverage at Palanca BCP for humanitarian workers and refugees.
- UNFPA and UNHCR conducted a joint visit to the Otaci BCP to assess GBV risks, including trafficking and sexual harassment, and available response services. Development of protection referral pathways for the BCP is underway in collaboration with authorities and NGOs specialized in health, legal, and social services, as well as law enforcement bodies.
- The Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Task Force has established a baseline set of AAP questions for joint use in assessments to better understand refugees' information and communication needs and refugees' preferred feedback methods.

- The PRIMES Support Team trained UNHCR case management focal points on ProGres V4; child protection, GBV, and general protection focal points are granted access to ProGres in consultation with the PRIMES Teams and can view individuals with specific needs flagged by multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) enrolment teams to provide appropriate referrals and follow up.
- On 6 April a joint UN team (OHCHR, UNHCR, UNFPA) conducted a visit to the Transnistria region to identify the needs of refugees as well as protection concerns. It was reported that around 8,000 refugees from Ukraine are staying in the region, with 500 placed in seven accommodation centres and others staying within the communities. Follow-up discussions are taking place on how to respond to existing needs.
- Genderdoc is providing support to LGBTQI refugees including accommodation, food, medical, psychological, and legal support. Refugees can reach out to them on the hotline (+37360491200) to seek help.
- People in Need will start a psychosocial support (PSS) hotline for refugees, a PSS support to local civil actors and PSS mobile teams. Around 17 local CSOs will be supported in the frame of the Call of the proposal on the social cohesion, wellbeing, PSS support and legal support, party also medical support – such as first aid training and delivery of food and hygiene.
- IOM visited two sites 2km from Palanca BCP that national authorities identified as potential locations for new temporary border crossing points. The two locations were chosen for pedestrian crossings as part of a national contingency plan.
- On April 6, IOM is planning to distribute 100,000 anti-trafficking leaflets in transportation hubs, and border crossing points. The distribution will take place during the vouchers' distributions, in host communities and through humanitarian partners.

### Gender Based violence

- On April 8, Sima Bahous, Executive Director of UN Women and UN Under-Secretary-General paid an official visit to Moldova. She attended a series of meetings with representatives from

the government and civil society partners. The Executive Director visited Palanca border crossing point, refugee placement centres at Moldexpo and Costesti Tourist Resort to emphasize UN Women's commitment to assisting partner organizations in the provision of gender-sensitive humanitarian response

- GBV sub-working group has developed GBV referral pathways, joint workplans and strategy.
- Voice Amplified assessed a women-led organization in Moldova. Key findings included (a) Local women's NGOs are committed to the refugee response and work according to clear strategic plans and (b) Refugee women who are staying in Moldova are more vulnerable, as they are running out of money and their housing situation is becoming more precarious. A report will be released shortly.

### Child Protection

- Two undocumented children were identified through the Blue Dots this week, they were provided support and referral to appropriate authorities.
- UNICEF is working with UNHCR as sector co-leads on developing a feedback/complaint mechanism in Moldova.
- UNICEF successfully carried out a multi-country poll on Viber this week reaching over 900 people in Moldova, helping better inform programming decisions. Additionally, roughly 600 more people registered for U-Report in the country.
- UNFPA launched an inter-agency short document on GBV Considerations for Women and Girls - Cash in Ukraine and the Regional Refugee Response, covering Ukraine, Moldova, and other refugee-hosting countries with key considerations and contacts for hotlines and messaging material, endorsed by key donors.

### Supply and Logistics

- WFP dispatched four trucks to seven destinations transporting 7.1 tons of assorted humanitarian aid.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) with a shipment of 4.4 tons of humanitarian aid to 12 destinations.

- WFP is supporting the Ministry of Interior (MIA) with a shipment of humanitarian aid to Vinitsya in Ukraine, scheduled for 08 April with seven trucks.
- WFP supported MLSP to receive at Vatra Warehouse humanitarian cargo donated by Latvia, with an additional stop of the truck at MoldExpo for an official ceremony.
- UNFPA distributed 8,000 dignities to refugees in accommodation centres and host communities based on identified needs of women and girls.
- Inter-agency emergency reproductive health kits, additional dignity kits, ultrasounds and PPEs are being procured by UNFPA to address the urgent needs of refugee women and girls and health service providers to ensure sexual and reproductive health (SRH) service provision. The reproductive health kits will include contraception, treatment of sexually transmitted infections, clinical delivery assistance, management of complications of miscarriage and abortions, equipment for obstetric surgery and severe obstetric complications.
- Following the Government's approval of cross-border delivery of supplies from Moldova to Odesa in Southern Ukraine, UNFPA will ensure SRH supplies reach the refugees along with the food items delivery.
- From 04 to 07 April, WFP managed to dispatch 12 trucks to 34 destinations consisting of 18MT of assorted humanitarian cargo.
- On April 5th, IOM delivered 15 pallets (approximately 4 tons) of humanitarian goods to the Moldovan Customs Service.
- IOM Moldova has helped IOM Ukraine purchase 2,919 First Aid Medical Kits for the Ukrainian State Customs Service and State Border Guard Service (SBGS). The goods were delivered on Thursday, April 7th, at the Palanca border crossing.
- platform's use will continue to grow until all needs are met.
- The virtual warehouse system is a warehouse management platform proposed to the government by UNHCR, WFP, and ACTED. The platform allows all donors to add products from their physical stock or from suppliers with whom they have agreements. This should improve inventory visibility, reduce product duplication, and speed up delivery. Now in development, it should be operational in 2-3 weeks.
- With its partner REACH, UNHCR continues to provide daily and weekly needs assessment calls to all registered RACs to verify occupancy and collect information on needs covered and gaps.
- UNHCR began looking into mid-to-long-term housing options, such as assisting refugees in host communities and alternatives to centres. UNHCR is consulting Government, ACTED, WFP, CRS, IOM, and Moldova for Peace in this regard.
- As chair of the Moldova Food security sub-working Group, from 21 to 06 April, WFP and Cooperating Partners – with signed Field Level Agreements (FLAs) – have 79,953 hot meals (3 per day) in 33 different localities/regions and 106 centres.
- WFP has created an initial mapping of supermarkets across the country and their accessibility to provide assistance to refugee accommodation centres.
- Since March 15, WFP and partners have reached an average of 2,112 refugees daily. WFP and partners' daily average refugee population has increased by 60.6 percent.
- International Medical Corporation (IMC) has active coordination with key WASH actors including UNHCR, ICRC, ACTED, and other WASH actors for Refugee Accommodation center (RACs) coordination. IMC has been asked to support additional RACs in the South and Central districts, and the team is currently accessing the possibility.
- IMC distributed 735 hygiene kits and 11 cleaning items to 11 RACs in districts in the Central (Criuleni (2), Hincesti (1), Ialoveni (1), and Nisporeni (1)) and South (Anenii Noi (2), Cimislia (3), and Unitate Teritoriala Autonoma Gagauzia (1)) Moldova.
- On April 5th, IOM delivered five water coolers, 100 gallons of drinkable water, 10 first aid kits,

### Accommodation and Transportation

- The MLSP created an online platform for NFI needs in refugee accommodation centres (RACs.) The UAhelp platform enables RAC managers to easily report their needs, allowing the government to respond appropriately and plan more accurately. The platform is also open to mayors of hosting communities to coordinate refugee needs. The

two pulse oximeters and two tonometers to the Refugee Accommodation Center Nr. 2 within the University of Medicine. In total, 90 refugee households benefitted from assistance.

- The field visit to the RAC Patria Lukoil centre (the biggest municipal refugee camp) was conducted on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April in order to task the EMT there and to evaluate the refugees' basic needs.

### Education

- UNICEF provided technical support to set up three child-friendly spaces (CFS) and three-day camps in Chisinau. 14 refugee children have visited these sites for socio-emotional support, learning, and recreational activities in the last few days.

### Health and Nutrition

- The 7th Inter-Agency Health working group meeting chaired and co-chaired by MOH/WHO with focus on public health CBRN risk assessment and management was conducted on 6 April 2022. The needs assessment and service delivery platform on Mother and Child services for refugees was updated.
- The WHO is coordinating jointly with the MoH the Emergency Medical Teams and EMT coordination meeting was conducted on 7 April 2022. The issues with regards to MDS reporting discussed, eight EMTs are submitting daily reports with regards to the refugee health status and types of services offered. The SOP with regards to immunization services and training for 10 EMTs actions & guidance in order to improve access to the immunization services delivery was conducted.
- The rapid assessments of the hospital health service available in the context of the mass casualty management in the north-eastern (three hospitals) part of the country was conducted.
- The evacuation of the NCD chronic patients (with cancer) to Italy was discussed with the representatives of the Italy civil protection governmental institutions, the list of the patients and the actual number of

accompanying persons must be shared via CECIS and EWRS EU platform.

- WHO supported MoH to activate the Procedures on secured medical evacuation pathways to the EU countries. One child was evacuated using EWRS platform, other 20 patients with cancer are in the process of initiation the evacuation to EU countries.
- On 6<sup>th</sup> of April the 4<sup>th</sup> national training of HCW on immunization catch up Campaign was conducted in Edinet for all GPS from Edinet, Briceni, Ocnita and Donduseni.
- A donation of 80,000 pills of Delamanid (an MDR-TB drug) is being prepared to be shipped to the Republic of Moldova.
- The WHO CO delivered a batch of personal protective equipment to ensure infection prevention and control measures against COVID-19 and other infectious pathogens for the laboratory and public health care workers within the National Agency for Public Health.
- The leaflet and poster on health, and immunization distributed nationwide by the National Public Health Agency (NPHA). The leaflet on public health measures, including COVID-19 pandemic, developed by NPHA was printed with WHO support and disseminated in refugee temporary centers and communities.
- From 1 to 7 April, CCR distributed hygiene kits to 277 individual refugees from Ukraine.
- IMC has formulated an implementation plan for immediate and short-term WASH activities.
- IMC formalized the partnership with a local partner. Partner has provided a formal proposal to support the future WASH interventions to support those displaced.
- UNICEF coordinated the consolidation of WASH sector interventions under UNHCR and the Government of Moldova's National Inter-Sectoral Refugee Coordination mechanism.
- UNICEF met with World Vision International to begin discussions on a multi-sectoral project, that would include WASH.
- UNICEF is working to develop a partnership with Action Against Hunger to help bolster 'mother-baby corners' in Refugee Accommodation Centers (RACs)
- With UNFPA support, more than 500 women and youth refugees received psychological first aid and mental health support, including referral to SRH and referral to GBV services -

working jointly with the "Youth Friendly Health Clinic" Network.

- UNFPA assessed and initiated the first-line procurement for six maternity units with an additional labour room and equipping the operating theatre for emergency obstetric care (North, South and Centre) of state-of-the-art equipment to ensure safe deliveries among refugee women.

### Cash-based intervention

- As of 8 April, 8,060 individuals have been registered and issued bank cards for UNHCR's MPCA programme, of which 70% are women and 11% are persons over the age of 60. Five enrolment centres are operational in the country, with mobile teams supporting enrolment in other locations. To date, around USD 1 million has been disbursed in UNHCR MPCA.
- On 05 April, the Head of the WFP Moldova office, together with the Head of UNHCR in Moldova were interviewed on the national Moldovan TV channel TRM. Together, they provided an overview of the cash assistance to refugees (UNHCR) and host communities (WFP) in Moldova. This is part of a wider joint communications strategy to further inform Moldovan civil society and Ukrainian refugees about the programme.
- WFP will distribute the second batch of cash transfers to host families. On 5 April, 413 households (1,652 beneficiaries) in the Gagauzia and Besarabasca regions received an SMS in Romanian and Russian containing the self-registration link and unique code. 165 households have already registered. A community committee comprised of representatives from the local administration and civil society organizations identified and validated the households. The WFP's partner, People in Need, compiled and shared the household lists. The World Food Programme estimates that it will reach 3000 households this week. Payments will be made on Saturday, April 7.
- UNHCR met with local authorities in six areas (Rîșcani, Glodeni, Fălești, Sîngerei, and Telenești districts and Balti municipality) to inform on MPCA implementation; the authorities will support information dissemination on the MPCA program.

- Charity Refugee Center counselled 172 refugees on various issues and referred to the UNHCR help web page to apply for cash assistance or cash grants.
- The WFP hotline is operational and 180+ calls were received as of 5 April. Callers are predominantly women (75%), middle-aged, living in Chisinau.
- Since March 13, a total of 1,089, refugees and 15 TCN families have benefitted from voucher assistance. 1104 vouchers have been distributed across six districts in Moldova (Anenii Noi, Chisinau, Cimislia, Criuleni, Ialoveni). The value of each voucher is 1.000 Moldovan leu and can be redeemed at Linella and Fidesco supermarkets throughout the country. During the CBI distribution, IOM has also provided protection leaflets, focused on safe migration, the risks of trafficking in persons and on how to claim asylum in Moldova.
- As the gender focal point of the Moldova Cash Working Group, UNFPA works closely with UNHCR and other key actors to ensure that GBV risks are addressed in the Moldova cash response. Simultaneously, UNFPA is planning its own sectorial cash support for refugee women and girls with a focus on SRH and GBV.

### Information management

- The Moldova Refugee inter-agency operational data portal continue to be updated and can be [here](#). The inter-agency coordination portal provides a platform for partners to share information, updates, reports, assessment, minutes, and information products. Efforts continue to develop a coordinated assessment registry.
- DTM produced a short report on Ukrainian refugees and TCNs (entries, exits, presence) with figures disaggregated by nationality, age, and gender, distributed internally and with donors. Available [here](#).
- A map with BCPs, reported presence in RACs and summary figures is also available as a standalone. Available [here](#).
- CBS conducted 5,800 transit surveys (4 BCPs, 3 transit areas in Chisinau). The surveys are conducted in collaboration with UN Women. The data collection process is extended by another month.

Moldova refugee inter-agency coordination



For more information please contact:

- Bertrand Blanc, Senior Emergency Coordinator, [blanc@unhcr.org](mailto:blanc@unhcr.org)
- Lachin Hasanova, Snr. Inter-Agency Coordination Officer, [hasanova@unhcr.org](mailto:hasanova@unhcr.org)
- Kiri Atri, Reporting Officer, [atri@unhcr.org](mailto:atri@unhcr.org)