

# **QUATERLY FACTSHEET**

of the Cash for Protection Taskforce (C4PTF) and the
Cash Working Group (CWG) under the Refugee Response
Plan for the Ukraine response

#21
August-November
2023



# Purpose of this factsheet:

This factsheet aims at contributing to the quality implementation of humanitarian cash for protection for Ukraine and the region that is presented in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and in the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP), as published on 15 February 2023. As a reminder, in support of the respective national governments, the coordination of the HRP is led by OCHA, while UNHCR leads the coordination of the refugee response.

# HOT TOPICS AND QUESTIONS OF THE MOMENT

- Inside Ukraine:
  - How can CVA (Cash & Voucher Assistance) be used to support evacuations?
- Outside Ukraine:
  - Are the amounts made available to Ukrainian refugees as part of national protection schemes sufficient to meet their basic and protection needs?
- Inside and outside Ukraine:
  What is the difference between Cash for
  - What is the difference between Cash for Protection, Emergency Case Management and Individual protection assistance?
- What type of information on children should and should not be collected at enrolment stage, considering data protection risks? (Ex: birth certificates)
- Should the CVA assistance still be limited to 3 months?

- Closure of community centres how to ensure a protective shelter and environment for families?
- What would the implications be of setting more restrictive selection criterias for cash assistance?
- How to mitigate existing/future protection risks associated with lack of available and affordable shelter options?
- How can agencies best support foster families with CVA?
- How to estimate the value of protection top ups in CVA calculations?
- How to set up referral mechanisms between CVA and Protection teams that are safe from a data protection perspective?

# **KEY FIGURES**

**3,7M** estimated number of Ukrainian IDPs (link)

6,3M refugees fleeing Ukraine (link)

Map: this factsheet covers updates in Cash and in Protection in the following countries:



Disclaimer: the depiction and use of boundaries (...) shown on the map do not necessarily imply official endorsement or acceptance by the CEB or its member organizations.

# Role of the C4PTF in Ukraine (link)

- Provide technical guidance on the design of CVA & Protection assessments and activities and analysis of findings, including through the dissemination of tools and key resources
- Offer a space for collaboration and discussion to address key CVA and Protection challenges that emerge, ensuring sharing of best practices and lessons learnt.
- Adapt global guidance and tools to the Ukrainian response

# **Key links for Cash for Protection in the Ukrainian regional response**

Coordination tools in grey - General guidance in pale blue - CP4TF resources in green - All these resources are also available on the GPC website - Cash For Protection section (link)

### **MEAL INDICATORS - CVA & PROTECTION**

→ C4PTF recommended indicators for programs using CVA combined with Protection activities

### PROTECTION RISK ANALYSIS FOR CVA

→ C4PTF mapping of the different protection risks that refugees and IDPs are facing in Ukraine

### **PROTECTION UPDATES - RELIEFWEB**

→ Reliefweb landing page for Protection in Ukraine

### **CONSIDERING PROTECTION WITH MEB**

→ C4PTF resource on how to consider protection aspects when designing a MEB: key protection risks & costs

### **KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CVA & CP**

 C4PTF general guidance on how to implement CVA to achieve Child Protection outcomes.

### **UKRAINE CASH WORKING GROUP PAGE**

→ Landing page of CWG with all relevant documents, updates, factsheet, toolbox, live dashboard

### **C4P GUIDELINES FOR UKRAINE**

→ Protection Cluster recommendations on the use of Cash for Protection - contextualized for Ukraine

#### **GPC - CASH 4 PROTECTION DEFINITIONS**

Basic guidance on key definitions relating to Cash for Protection

### **REGIONAL INTENTIONS SURVEY**

→ UNHCR live dashboard of intentions and perspectives of Refugees from Ukraine

### **GBV CONSIDERATION IN UKRAINE**

→ Consideration for Women and Girls when using cash in ukraine and the Regional Refugee Response (UNFPA)

### C4P - ROME WORKSHOP REPORT

→ Attended by donors, UN agencies, and I/NGOs to increase understanding on C4P

### **PROTECTION PROFILING & MONITORING**

→ UNHCR live dashboard of protection risks and needs of Refugees from Ukraine

### **MPCA MEAL TOOLKIT**

includes tools and KoBo survey templates for monitoring and evaluating MPC programs.

#### CVA & GBV COMPENDIUM: A TOOLKIT

→ Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action

### **USING CVA TO PROTECT CHILDREN**

→ Live document: key consideration when using CVA to achieve CP outcomes

### STC CP & CVA MEAL TOOLKIT

→ To assess, address and monitor Direct and indirect impact on CP concern, and CP benefits of CVA.





# Key updates relevant to CVA & protection in **Ukraine**

## Response general updates

**UNHCR - Ukraine Winterization Plan 2023-2024 (link)** 

**OCHA - Ukraine: Humanitarian Response and Funding Snapshot** (January - September 2023) [EN/UK] (link)

Humanitarian Access Snapshot (January to October 2023) (link)

OCHA -Revised Ukraine Winter Response Plan, October 2023 – March 2024, Issued September 2023 [EN/UK] (<u>link</u>) UNHCR Operational Response, Delivery Updates 8 September 2023 (<u>link</u>) - 18 August 2023 (<u>link</u>)

- Protection 990,898 people reached from 1st Jan. to 31 August 2023
- MPC 441,100 people reached from 1st Jan. to 31 August 2023 -
- In 2023, UNHCR has so far distributed US\$79.4 million through the multipurpose cash programme

UNHCR - Ukraine Situation Flash Update #55 (15 September 2023) (link)

UNHCR Monthly Operational Update, August 2023 (link) July 2023 (link)

UNHCR - IBCP Monitoring Dashboard - Protection Profiling & Monitoring - September 2023 (link)

 The average number of people questioned at the border monthly since May 2023 is over 2,500 people, with occasional peaks reaching up to 3,500 people

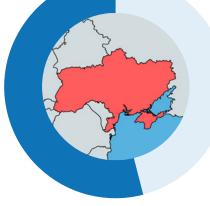
## **Cash updates**

**CWG - Transfer Value Revision, August 2023 [EN/UK]** (<u>link</u>) - MEB as of August 2023 (<u>link</u>) Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) decision: Presented with this analysis on 17 August, the HCT endorsed the Cash WG recommendation to raise the transfer value to 3,565 UAH per person per month and to provide 100 per cent of the gap to the newly registered caseloads, starting on 1 October 2023. For operational purposes, the value was rounded up to 3,600 UAH per person and per month.

Transfer value: 3,565 UAH /ps. /month

# CWG - Terms of reference for Inclusion, Gender, Gender-based Violence and Accountability to Affected People Task Team under the Cash Working Group of Ukraine (link)

- In the current humanitarian system in Ukraine, especially regarding cash and vouchers, there is limited operational and technical guidance that addresses cross-cutting considerations, including communication with the affected population, gender-based violence, and disability and gender inclusion.
- This task team replaced the accountability to the affected people task team and the Gender-based Violence (GBV) task team under the Cash Working Group (CWG) in Ukraine.
- This came after the decision to change the terms of reference of the Cash Working Group (CWG) based on partner-identified priorities.



54% of response funded (of \$3,95bn)<sup>1</sup>

# **KEY FIGURES**

**3,7M** people assisted by MPCA in Ukraine, as of Nov. 2023 (link)

**\$523M** amount disbursed in MPCA in Ukraine, as of Nov. 2023 (link)

———CVA——— RECOMMENDATIONS

**100**USD - **3,600**UAH

# **KEY CONTACTS**

## CWG:

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Mine Action: Guy Rho

Mine Action: Guy Rhodes - guy. rhodes@undp.org

1. OCHA - Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (link)

# Key updates continued - Ukraine - Cash

### CWG - Emergency Multipurpose Cash Assistance Guideline (as of 28th of August 2023) [EN/UKR] (link)

The purpose of this document is to provide the foundation and direct the actions of multiple responders to work towards a common goal through establishing standard guidelines for using MPCA to respond to different emergency situations in coordinated manners.

Thus, the objectives of this Emergency MPCA Guideline includes:

- To provide the definition and thresholds of the emergency, and under what conditions an emergency response is initiated.
- To define roles and responsibilities of the participating organizations during an emergency response.
- To set up communication and reporting channels for the ease of coordination.
- To outline the coordination mechanisms for the response.

CWG – Meeting minutes - 8 Nov. 2023 (link) - 30 Oct. 2023 (link) - 11 October 2023 (link) - 27 September 2023 (link) 30 August 2023 Meeting minutes (link) 4 august 2023 (link) Q&A Cash Working group (link)

MPC targeting and coordination in emergencies: Questions were also raised on whether MPCA is the appropriate modality for such emergencies, considering Protection and Shelter cash that could be better equipped for these situations in responding to needs/or in complementarity to MPCA. Some partners pointed out that it makes sense that these cases are better placed to be responded to by Cash for Protection as it gives more flexibility to respond to needs beyond MPCA. Others pointed out that MPCA is a quick modality to react to people's needs while waiting for the other types of cash. Partners also pointed out the importance of coordinating with Shelter and Protection clusters and the local authorities to avoid duplication of assistance and ensure better referral pathways. The possibility of a joint guideline CWG-Shelter-Protection was suggested.

CWG Task Team 2 (TT2) CVA Feasibility Assessments - Terms of Reference (TOR) - September 2023 (link)

Shelter Cluster, UNHCR - Cash Based Interventions: Rental Assistance Recommendations and Guidelines for Ukraine (Version 2.0 October 2023) (link)

### **REACH - Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) - July 2023 (link)**

Affordability remained a key issue, as 52% of customer Key Informants (KIs) reported price increases as their main financial barrier to accessing goods, with the highest percentage (74%) reported in the North. In addition, the North accounts for the largest share of retailer KIs expecting a rise in supplier prices and a decline in customers' purchasing power as major challenges in the coming months (94% and 81%, respectively).

While the cost of the full JMMI basket remained the same at the national level from June to July (1186 UAH), there was a notable increase (16%) in prices in the East, due to increase of price for NFIs, and especially diapers. More specifically, in Donetska oblast, 50% of retailer KIs reported price increases for each item in the full JMMI basket. Overall, the food basket remained the most expensive in the North, particularly in Chernihivska oblast.



Cost of JMMI basket in Ukraine

#### Financial services

In July, 75% of customer KIs reported the full availability of bank branches offering all their services, compared to 66% in June (Figure 18). The percentage of customer KIs reporting the full availability of functioning ATMs remained unchanged since June, amounting to 90%. Nationwide, 83% of customer KIs reported that Ukrposhta offices worked daily and provided all of their usual financial services regularly, a notable increase from the 72% reported in June.

# Key updates continued - Ukraine - Protection

Protection cluster, UNHCR - 2024 Protection Cluster Response Strategy & Monitoring (link)

**UNHCR - Protection Methodological Note (link)** 

**Protection Cluster Factsheets Map (link)** 

Protection cluster - National Meeting Minutes - 11 October 2023 (link) (09 August 2023) [EN/UK] (link)

Protection Cluster: IDP Councils meeting Meeting Minutes (20 September 2023) [EN/UK] (link)

Protection cluster, UNICEF - Guidance on Child and Adolescents Friendly Space, Ukraine [EN/UK] (link)

→ GBV REFERRAL PATHWAYS

### Ukraine Protection Cluster: Protection Monitoring Findings (1 January - 31 August 2023) [EN/UK] (link)

This is an overview of key protection risks in Ukraine based on the Protection Cluster's revised Protection Monitoring Tool (PMT). The revised PMT is built upon 14 protection typologies, including: safety and security; right to life, physical and mental integrity; liberty and movement; civil status and documentation; protection issues for elderly persons; protection issues for people with disabilities; social cohesion; gender-based violence; child protection; housing, land and property; standard of living; access to remedies; return and displacement; trafficking in persons. The PMT was launched at community (hromada) level and information presented in this document reflects data collection completed by protection partners from 1 January to 31 August 2023 – based on more than 10,203 Key Informants (KI) interviews in 1047 communities (hromadas) in 24 oblasts of Ukraine.

Protection cluster, UNHCR - Pensions Note for Internally Displaced People in Ukraine [EN/UK] (link)

**UNFPA Ukraine - Humanitarian Snapshot #25 September 2023 (link)** (cash assistance programme for GBV survivors via Case Management was provided to a total of 72 women in September 2023)

USAID/BHA - Protection Update, Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 (link)

### **Gender in humanitarian action**

**Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) Working Group,** 4 October 2023 (<u>link</u>) - 6 September 2023 [Meeting Minutes] (<u>link</u>) (previous meeting minutes (<u>link</u>)) Presents a summary of the United Nations work to support Roma communities affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine

### CARE- UN Women - Rapid Gender Analysis Ukraine October 2023 [EN/UK] (link)

As the humanitarian crisis ensues, a general trend has emerged: women are often providing alone for their families while facing loss of income, family separation, and massive disruptions in the provision of essential services; whilst many men are engaged in the more direct war efforts on the frontlines, exposing themselves to potential death, severe injuries and mental health distress

# Key updates continued - Ukraine - Protection

### **PSEA**

Terms of Reference - PSEA Inter-Agency Co-Ordination Structure Ukraine 2023 [EN/UK] (link)

PSEA Glossary [EN/UK] (link)

PSEA Network in Ukraine (28 August 2023) [Meeting Minutes] (link)

United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Inter-Agency Referral Mechanism for Allegations of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Ukraine involving UN personnel and related partners (<u>link</u>) – Action Plan (<u>link</u>)

**UNHCR - Engagement with government authorities on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)**: Ukraine Emergency Response, Thematic Brief (August 2023) (<u>link</u>)

### MHPSS:

FHI 360 - Increase in stress-related conditions in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine (link)

• The physicians, nurses, psychologists and social workers providing these services have observed in the intervening time an increase in stress-related physical and emotional conditions among the communities they serve.

UNHCR - Methodological Guidance Note – GBV

WHO - Map of regional working groups of the MHPSS Technical Working Group Ukraine (14 August 2023) (link)

### **GBV**:

Protection cluster, UNFPA - Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Transit Center Poster (link)

**Protection cluster, UNFPA, UNHCR - Inter-Agency Standard Operational Procedures** on Gender-Based Violence Case Management for Humanitarian Actors: Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility in Ukraine, Endorsed 17 July 2023 [EN/UK] (link)

Provides guidance on Cash in the Framework of GBV Case Management (Page 21)

Protection cluster, UNFPA - GBV AoR: Outreach Working Group - Meeting Notes 3 October 2023 (link)

Case Management Task Team Meeting Notes - 21 September 2023 (link) (14 Sept – (link)) 31 August 2023 (link)

Capacity Enhancement WG Meeting Minutes August 25 (link) – July 27 (link)

WG on Addressing the Needs of Male Survivors of Sexual Violence – 21 September 2023 (link) - 17 August 2023 [Meeting Minutes] (link) 20 july 2023 (link) GBV SC coordination Meeting notes – 3 august 2023 (link)

## <u>CP</u>

New Child Protection 5W and referral pathways dashboard (link)

Child Protection AoR – 25 October 2023 [Meeting Minutes] [EN/UK] (link) 21 Sept. (link)

Updates on the CP HNRP – in the critical CP activities: Emergency cash for Child Protection outcome

### REACH - Ukraine: Cold Spot Risk Assessment Winterization 2023/24, Factsheet - August 2023 (link)

- Ukrainians face challenges ahead of the 2023/24 winter season due to a combination of factors, including damage to residential and non-residential infrastructure, internal displacement, elevated levels of humanitarian needs, and cumulative damage to energy, water, and heating infrastructure
- Vulnerability to winter-related hazards is particularly high in "cold spots" geographic areas where winter-related hazards compound with high levels of exposure, susceptibilities, and estimated lack of coping capacity.

## REACH - Humanitarian situation monitoring focus on the areas closer to the front line (July 2023) [EN/UK] (link)

### Overall level of need:

- Overall findings indicated that the level of humanitarian needs across the assessed settlements in GCAs remained mostly 'moderate' or 'limited' (see Annex on p7). However, areas closer to the front line, as well as areas retaken by the Government of Ukraine (GoU), reportedly experienced a higher level of need.
- Protection: In Zones A and B, active hostilities and close proximity to the front line continued to impact the safety and security of civilians in their daily life. KIs in three quarters of the assessed settlements (74%, n=207/281) highlighted the threat of a missile attack among the main safety and security concerns
- KIs also reported that some groups of people in the settlement were less able to meet their everyday needs, including returnees (reported by KIs in 40% of the assessed settlements, n=112/281), people who had been directly harmed by the ongoing violence (34%, n=96/281), pregnant and lactating women (16%, n=46/281), and female-headed households (12%, n=34/281).

#### Access to financial services

- Overall, the findings suggest a slight decrease in the share of assessed settlements where KIs reported that most people had not had access to cash, banking services, and ATMs: from 26% (67 out 254 assessed settlements in both rounds) in May 2023 (Round 10) to 22% (n=57/254) in June/July 2023 (Round 11)
- In relation to market accessibility, the situation was reportedly largely 'under control', with KIs in 73% (n=204/281) of the assessed settlements reporting that people were able to access markets to purchase goods in the 14 days prior to data collection.

### Data Friendly Space - Ukrainian Crisis Situational Analysis – 25 October 2023 (<u>link</u>) 31 August 2023 (<u>link</u>)

### Depaul International - Multi Sector Needs Assessment [EN/UK] (link)

- The report shows 88 per cent of people surveyed in Ukraine do not have enough money to cover their living expenses. Only a third reported being
  satisfied with their current living conditions, with 31 per cent being forced to share a bedroom with another family and 43 per cent not knowing how long they will
  be able to stay in their current accommodation.
- As the war shows no sign of abating, Ukrainians are relying on humanitarian assistance, government support and savings to supplement lost or irregular income. With people coping with trauma, living in precarious circumstances and unable to afford adequate housing, the charity warns of a significant risk of a rise in homelessness and people sleeping rough in Ukraine this winter.
- Targeted cash transfers will increase as 73 per cent of people cited cash as the highest priority need and the most useful form of assistance across all locations.

## WFP - Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) - Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (August 2023 (link))

- One third (31%) of respondents were found to have inadequate food consumption, defined by a poor (7%) or borderline (24%) food consumption score.
- Nine in ten respondents (88%) reported relying on a food consumption-based coping strategy at least once during the week prior to the data collection
- The majority (82%) of respondents reported adopting at least one livelihood coping strategy during the month prior to the data collection.
- In terms of economic vulnerability, the majority (73%) of respondents have monthly expenditures per capita below the Minimum Expenditure Basket

- Only 27% of respondents stated that they are either fully able or rather able to cover their needs. 61% stated they are not able to cover their needs, including 22% of respondents who reported not being able to cover their needs at all
- The more cash transfers received by beneficiaries, the lower the share of inadequate food consumption.
- The most common expenses covered with the cash assistance are health-related (62% of respondents), food (60%) and paying for utilities, including heating expenditures (54%).
- 92% of respondents stated that overall, they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the assistance, and 85% stated that they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of the entitlement.
- 95% of respondents said that their preferred modality of assistance was cash.

## PIN - Report on Employment and Economic Integration Situation of Internally Displaced Persons [EN/UK] (link)

The purpose of this report is to identify the needs, opportunities, and challenges of IDPs in terms of employment and economic integration. The report will provide relevant recommendations for related parties to improve the situation, which will facilitate further advocacy for IDPs in this important area.

### ACAPS Thematic Report: Ukraine - Impact of the conflict on the healthcare system and spotlight on specific needs (link)

- The healthcare system in Ukraine remains functional but is highly overstretched. Increased prices of medicines and poverty have become major barriers to healthcare access in the country: One of the main barriers preventing people from fully meeting their healthcare needs is the cost of medicine.
- Nearly one-third of adults surveyed by the WHO in December 2022 said they lacked sufficient funds to buy needed medicine, and 19% reported stopping their medication because of cost or inaccessibility. A reduction in healthcare expenditure has also been observed, particularly among women IDPs.

### SeeD, UNDP, USAID - Ukraine Gender Snapshot: Findings from the reSCORE 2023 (September 2023) (link)

- Around 4 in 10 of all respondents feel that their households can afford food and clothes but not more expensive goods. Women with disabilities and internally displaced women report lower income, with 16% and 14% stating that they cannot afford food, respectively.
- Respondents report an overwhelming lack of psychosocial support services, reported as sufficiently available by just 26% of men and 27% of women. Rural women are more likely to report a lack of all services. Women survivors of domestic violence report higher levels of marginalisation,
- Levels of Anxiety and Depression have been increasing since 2021 in Ukraine, and women consistently report higher levels in both.
- Personal security is low in women survivors of domestic violence, women in low income households, and women with disabilities.

CCD - Alignment Options for Humanitarian Cash with the Ukrainian Social Protection System (<u>link</u>) See also: Reflection Paper - Operational Alignment of Humanitarian Cash Programming with Ukraine's Social Protection System (September 2023) (<u>link</u>)

This discussion paper is building on the workshop and aims to present humanitarian organizations with program design options for humanitarian cash programming aligning to the SP system in Ukraine. This paper begins with an overview of the situation in Ukraine, then moves to a brief description of structure of the SP system in Ukraine and a brief snapshot of the emergency cash transfers currently being delivered by humanitarian actors and the government. The last section provides a gap analysis of the current benefits across the lifecycle along with recommendations of how humanitarian actors can link with and fill the gaps of the cash benefits provided through Ukraine's social insurance and social assistance systems

The Collaborative Cash Delivery network (CCD) partnered with Ukraine Cash Consortium (UCC) to build on CCD's work of mapping the SP system in Ukraine (a live filterable repository accessible here and an infographic shown in Figure 2) to advance in identifying alignment options for humanitarian cash assistance design programming within Ukraine's SP system.

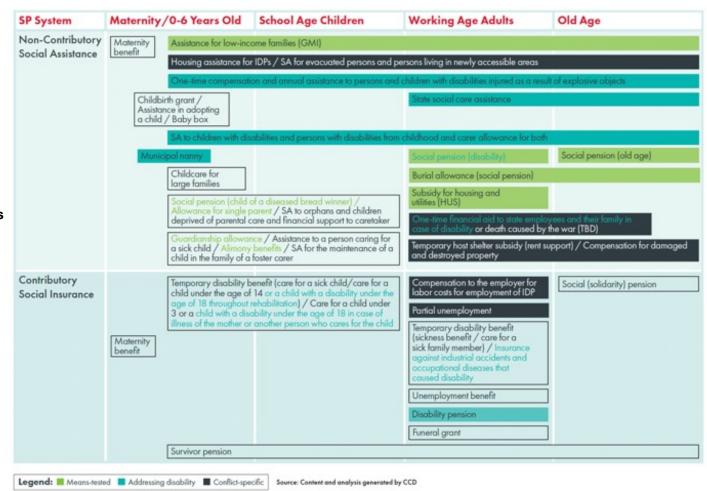


Figure 2: Infographic of the social protection programs across the lifecycle accessible in Ukraine (June 2023)

OHCHR - Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine, 1 February to 31 July 2023 (link)

CCCM Cluster, REACH - Ukraine Collective Site Monitoring: Round 9, July 2023 Brief [EN/UK] (link)

IOM - Ukraine Internal Displacement Report: General Population Survey Round 14 (October 2023) (link)

• Most pressing needs: As in previous rounds, cash (direct financial assistance) remains the most pressing need reported by displaced (50% of IDP respondents), returnee (45%) and non-displaced (44%) populations alike

ACAPS - Ukraine: Overview of the situation of refugees from Ukraine in six host countries (<u>link</u>)

# **Ukraine - Recommendations on C4P**

# Protection Cluster, UNHCR - Recommendations on Cash for Protection for General Protection Actors Sept 2023

The aim of this document is to offer recommendations on the use of Cash for Protection 2 interventions in Ukraine, including to create a common understanding among humanitarian partners, and to harmonize practices. This includes:

- Defining Cash for Protection & its objectives
- Scenarios for possible use of Cash for Protection
- Core Elements for using Cash for Protection

Cash for Protection is a form of assistance where Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) is used as the modality to address individual and/or household-level protection needs, identified on a case-by-case basis. Cash for Protection is used to prevent, reduce or mitigate the impacts of risks, violence, abuse, coercion, exploitation and deprivation, as well as usage of negative coping mechanisms. Cases may include protection concerns related to right to life, physical safety, psychological well-being, liberty, dignity and other fundamental rights.

Cash for Protection is not time-bound, not conditional and not restricted given the complexities of protection risks facing individuals and/or households. Cash for Protection is not defined by what the cash is spent on, but rather on the fact that an individual assessment has been conducted, and there is a clear indication that cash will support protection outcomes.

If well-designed (i.e. protection sensitive targeting, programme design, strong referral component, etc.), cash for basic needs and/or sectoral cash can bring significant protection outcomes – however, this is more likely to be categorized as mainstreaming and integration, rather than as a Cash for Protection intervention. Evidence suggests that basic needs grants have a positive impact on protection, particularly when delivered alongside strong case management and/or other services, including in-kind assistance, Mental Health & Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) and others.

The provision of Cash for Protection should never be intended to address generic socio-economic vulnerabilities; these can be addressed by multi-purpose cash assistance. Rather, the provision of Cash for Protection is driven by a causal link between a clearly identified protection concern and the analysis of how the cash assistance provided will produce a protection outcome by preventing, reducing, or mitigating the risks identified.

- Links between Cash for Protection & key protection activities
- Differences between Cash for Protection & Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

# The table below summarises key difference between Cash for Protection and MPCA in Ukraine.

	CFP	MPCA
Needs	Identified protection risk/incident	Socio-economic needs
Objective	Contributes to meaningful protection outcome	Meet basic needs
Targeting Approach	Protection monitoring, needs assessment or risk analysis at individual and/or household	Ukraine CWG Targeting Framework - https://reliefweb.int/report/ukr aine/ukraine-cash-working- group-task-team-1-targeting- aug-2022
Eligibility	Ad hoc, but requires a clear assessment linking the need for cash to the situation of the individual or household	Standard score card (among other)
# of Distributions	Contextualized for each case	One-off, time bound (3 months of assistance)
Amount	Tailored for each case	3,565 UAH per person per month up to three months or more depending on the needs
Modality	Cash and Voucher Assistance	Cash and Voucher Assistance
Monitoring	Protection monitoring and/or PRT indicators embedded into PDM tools	Post-Distribution Monitoring



# REGIONAL Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection

UNHCR - CONTINUOUS PROTECTION PROFILING AND MONITORING OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

UNHCR - Displacement patterns, protection risks and needs of refugees from Ukraine, November 2023 (link)

The report is based on 18,501 interviews conducted between October 2022 and September 2023 with refugees who arrived in these host countries during the first half of 2022, in order to identify trends in their access to rights over this period.

UNHCR - UKRAINE SITUATION 2023 RRP MID-YEAR REPORT

# **Key Findings**

1. A complex landscape of access to rights in host countries emerges. Over time, refugees from Ukraine have encountered a contrast between positive

trends impacting access to rights, including the effectiveness of temporary protection and swift access to employment markets, alongside notable hurdles including in accessing sustainable accommodation and healthcare. The overall picture is influenced by the situation in individual host countries and the sociodemographic characteristics of refugees.

2. Growing difficulties for refugees returning from short visits to Ukraine.

The proportion of respondents who experienced challenges upon their return to host countries following visits to Ukraine tripled, from 6% in Q4 2022 to 18% in Q3 2023. These challenges include issues such as the revocation of legal status, suspension of social protection benefits, and obstacles when re-entering host countries after visiting Ukraine. Notably, a relatively high proportion of refugees in Poland experienced these challenges.

**3 Reduction in the percentage of refugees with missing identity documentation, yet with ongoing challenges.** The proportion of refugees reporting missing identity documents decreased in Q2 2023 and Q3 2023 compared to previous periods. Despite this decline, 23% of respondents still reported missing documentation in Q3 2023, mainly biometric passports, and an increasing number of refugees face difficulties obtaining identity documents in their host countries. Additionally, the necessity to collect documentation continues to drive back-and-forth movements between host countries and Ukraine.

**4. Reduced access to key rights amongst refugees with specific needs.**Over time, households with individuals who have specific needs - such as older persons, persons with disabilities, and those with serious medical conditions – report lower levels of access to various rights, including identity documentation, long-term housing, healthcare, and employment. This trend highlights a worsening vulnerability among these groups as displacement persists.

of respondents with at least one household member missing one or more identity document

of refugees surveyed reported living in rented accommodation - 45% reported the ending of free accommodation programs as the main reason for having to leave their current housing within three months

42% are employed in host country, 20% are unemployed

# **Key recommendations**

- UNHCR recommends against the reduction of support to host countries, host communities and the refugee community.
- UNHCR recommends that refugees' legalstatus and associated rights in host countries are unaffected by a visit to Ukraine lasting less than three months.
- UNHCR recommends continued efforts to address administrative or legal barriers which hinder refugees' access to documentation services.
- UNHCR recommends further support for the most vulnerable to access their rights.



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in **Poland**

## Response general updates

UNHCR - Quaterly Inter-Agency Poland Snapshot Jan to Sept. 2023 (link)

UNHCR - Ukraine Situation - 2023 RRP Mid-Year Report (link)

UNHCR Poland Factsheet (01 October 2023 – (link) (01 August 2023) [EN/PL] (link)

ACAPS Briefing note - Ukraine/Poland: Loss of temporary protection status and social benefits for Ukrainian refugees in Poland (03 November 2023) (link)

- ACAPS estimates that several thousand refugees from Ukraine benefitting from temporary protection (TP) status in Poland have lost this status without meeting legal criteria for its revocation.
- The loss of TP status means that the duration of temporary residence in Poland is altered (typically shortened to max. 90 days) and refugees from Ukraine lose the right to universal family benefits, free healthcare, and the right to work without a work permit.



UNHCR - Guidance Note: Cash-based support for most vulnerable refugees from Ukraine in Poland for the winter season 2023/2024 (link)

### **Transfer Value:**

- The recommended transfer value remains at the same level as during the previous winter, that is 1000 PLN per person, to a maximum of 3000 PLN per household.
- It is recommended to pay the total amount in one off lump-sum transfer.
   The transfer value will encompass the additional needs for the winter season and is anticipated to be distributed within the year 2023, from October to December, as a one-off assistance.
- It is recommended to distribute the funds at the beginning of the winter season to allow beneficiaries to better prepare for the coming winter.
   However, organizations have the flexibility to provide assistance between January and March 2024 based on their operational circumstances.

### Targeting and eligibility criteria:

It is recommended to identify the most vulnerable refugees based on the "Poland Vulnerability and Targeting Framework", prioritizing HHs with intersectional vulnerabilities based on the categories on the right:

# 1000 PLN

per person, to a maximum of 3000 PLN per household.

### Targeting and eligibility criteria

- Older Persons
- Separated children
- Persons with disabilities
- · Caretakers of persons with disabilities
- People with serious medical conditions or chronic disease
- People at risk of eviction/homelessness (including in collective shelters)
- Refugees without legal status, as well as undocumented persons
- Pregnant & lactating women
- Single parents excluded from labour market due to caretaking obligations



# **KEY FIGURES**

958,935 refugees from Ukraine recorded in Poland, as of 15/11/2023 (link)

# RECOMMENDATIONS

**1,000PLN** for the 1st person per month, to a max. of 3.000PLN per HH. (link)

# **KEY CONTACTS**

### CWG:

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PCPM Co-Chair, **Agnieszka No-sowska** anosowska@pcpm.org.p

# **Protection cluster:**

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Yonca - veliece@unhcr.org
TCNs - IOM - Natalie Payne -

npayne@iom.int



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Poland - Cash

### Poland Cash Working Group Guidance Note: Poland Vulnerability and Targeting Framework, August 2023 (link)

Recognizing that resources are limited, and that certain individuals have higher needs, this document seeks to provide a prioritization of those with specific needs for immediate assistance, MPCA and sectoral cash top ups in Poland. It is produced based on contributed inputs and efforts from the TF members and if needed, the CWG can recommend having a specific targeting approach (For, instance, a socio-economic or a categorical approach(s))

### Cash Working Group Meeting Minutes - 18 Oct 2023 (link) (previous 20 Sept. 2023 Meeting minutes (link))

- Save the Children is working on the final adjustments for the MPCA 2023 programme in Lubelskie voivodship. Planning cash assistance
  for rent and cash for health program in Lubelskie. MPCA in 2024 will be minimal, focusing on urgent individual cases. Possible sectoral
  cash for livelihoods and protection.
- CCD is studying the results of cash for protection program, and plans to share findings, results, and lessons learned with the group.
- IRC's cash for protection programme will start in November 2023 and is ready to share experiences and cost assessments with partners.
- Oxfam has reported cash for protection in partnership with the Ukrainian House for 165 individuals.
- UNHCR continues enrolling for the MPCA targeted cash program until the end of December 2023, as the programme is open for referrals from partners.
- PCPM is at the final stage of its MPCA programming and plans to complete enrollment by the end of October 2023 or early November 2023. A programme for cash for rent is under discussion.
- Action points:
- IFRC to share their cash for rent guidance with partners.
- UNHCR to check with Protection WG on the cash for protection and needs by partners on their programming through CWG'S technical support.
- UNHCR to follow up with MSNA results related to cash, and for health to support IRC's assessment. IRC to share their assessment.

### IRC PDM results (as reported in CWG 20 Sept. 2023 meeting minutes (link)

- Only 33% of all participants reported that they could cover all their basic needs. 46% of participants reported that they have other unmet needs (not necessarily specified as basic needs). The ones cited most often are healthcare, medicines, and money for housing (rent). The key limitations to meeting these needs are limited language proficiency and disability/health limitations.
- On average, 67% of received cash was spent to cover basic needs, which corresponds to 2.786 PLN on average.
- Rent or shelter: 44% of received cash was spent to cover rent, which corresponds to 2008 PLN.





# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Poland - Protection

→ GBV REFERRAL PATHWAYS POLAND



# **Protection updates**

#### **GBV**

UNHCR - Surviving as We Can - Risks of Gender Based Violence (GBV), and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), Relating to Private and Collective Accommodation, Livelihoods, and Accessibility, for Persons Fleeing Ukraine: Poland - Summary Report (<u>link</u>)

### NRC - Protection Monitoring Report Poland (April - June 2023) (link)

This report provides an overview of the protection needs and risks refugees from Ukraine coming to Poland after February 24, 2022 are facing. The data analyzed in this report were collected during the Protection Monitoring (PM) conducted by the IRC in April, May, and June 2023. During this period, the Protection Monitoring Team of the IRC in Poland interviewed a total of 274 adult displaced people in Warsaw and Katowice region.

### **Assessments**

Poland Interagency Multi-sector Needs Assessment - Results Overview (October 2023) (<u>link</u>) - Jobs, healthcare and housing among main concerns of refugees from Ukraine, survey finds [EN/PL] (<u>link</u>)

The Interagency Multi-Sector Needs Assessment was conducted among over 5,600 households throughout the country in July and August 2023, in order to inform the Interagency 2024 RRP.

- 82% of HHs have reported unmet need(s)
- A lack of sufficient sources of income and problems with access to employment was most frequently mentioned as a need (by 32 percent), followed by limited access to health care (27 percent) and problems with access to housing (23 percent).
- "This survey makes clear that, notwithstanding the exemplary response of Poland, many vulnerable refugees still require support,"
- More than a third of respondents said there were protection risks for children. They said children were vulnerable to neglect, psychological violence, abuse and sexual violence.

## NRC - Too few places to feel safe. A snapshot of Ukrainian youth in Warsaw (link)

We asked young Ukrainians (aged 14-19) living in Warsaw to tell us what life has been like for them as refugees over the last 18 months.

- While many are looking with hope towards the future, the uncertainty of the future makes them feel anxious and powerless.
- Main findings are: Youth need access to safe spaces and youth centres / Youth need social connections and emotional support / Youth need income now

→ RRP - JOINT PROTECTION ANALYSIS - OCTOBER 2023



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Poland - Assessments

IOM Ukraine Crisis Response 2022 - 2023 | Poland - Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions, and Integration Challenges (April - June 2023) (link)

Top four needs reported at the moment of the interview: cash support (17%), medical needs (12%), job placement (12%) and housing (11%).

IOM - Ukraine Crisis Response 2022 - 2023, Poland: Crossing back to Ukraine - Surveys with Refugees on Destinations, Length of Stay & Assistance - Country Report & Data Analysis, April - June 2023 (link)

• Top needs at the time of interview:\* health services (10%), financial support (9%), medicine (8%), food (6%) and personal safety (5%). 34% of respondents did not report any needs

IMPACT Initiatives, Save the Children - Experiences, needs and aspirations of children, adolescents and caregivers displaced from Ukraine [EN/UK] (link)

### **Key Takeaways**

• The assessment demonstrates that refugee children and caregivers from Ukraine feel generally safe in their host countries and enjoy, for the most part, access to a range of services. Yet many continue to face significant challenges as result of their displacement

### **Financial situation**

- In Czech Republic (58%), Poland (54%), and Slovakia (51%) most refugees were working either in the host country or remotely in Ukraine or other countries, compared to Germany (16%), where households were largely dependent on government assistance.
- During qualitative interviews, caregivers in Poland and Romania explained that a lack of appropriate childcare options and the language barrier were significant obstacles that would prevent them from finding employment. The assessment also shows that refugees spent most (44%) of their monthly expenses on food and beverages. Only in Poland, households spent more than a quarter of their expenses on rent. The cost burden of paying for accommodation was also highlighted by service providers during the qualitative interviews in Poland.

HelpAge, PCPM - "Everyone has their own story, but it hurts us all the same" Learning from the experiences of older Ukrainian refugees in Poland (EN/PL) (link)

- Study findings confirm that older Ukrainian refugees have good access to the one-off cash assistance provided to all Ukrainian refugees by the Polish government and universal state family benefits, such as child support. However, access to social protection mechanisms for people who cannot work due to age, disability, or difficult financial situations, was found to be more troublesome.
- Accommodation remains one of the most significant long-term challenges for older Ukrainian refugees in Poland
- Many older Ukrainian refugees require medical attention and facilitated access to the Polish healthcare system.
- Lack of information and language barriers are significant challenges in ensuring that older Ukrainian refugees can access services and social inclusion activities.
- The mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of older Ukrainian refugees emerge as a key concern.

# Refugee coordination architecture in Poland (link)



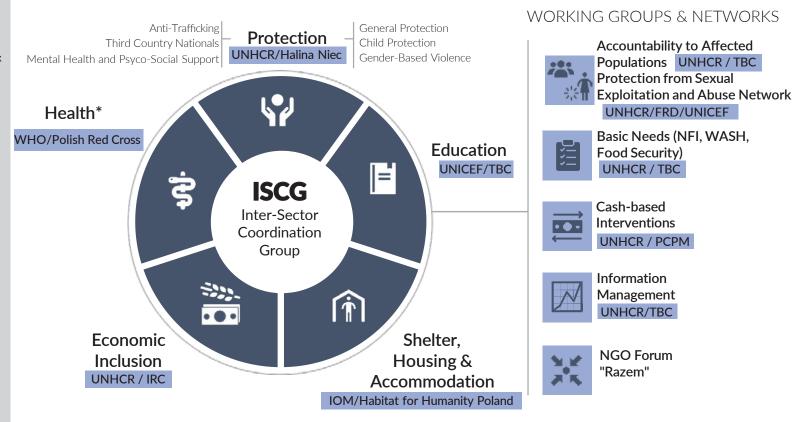
The Government of Poland leads the refugee response, complemented by activities of humanitarian organizations. The work of the humanitarian organizations which are part the refugee response is coordinated through the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM).

Since March 2022, the RCM has been adopted to respond to the sudden influx of refugees from Ukraine. In Poland, the RCM is coordinated through the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG). The RCM facilitates interventions that are in line with government priorities while maximizing resource complementarity and impact. At the national level, the ISCG in Poland consists of the sectors as outlined on this page. Additionally, several working groups and networks are reporting to the ISCG. Taking a localized approach, aside of the national structure, inter-agency Refugee Coordination Fora (RCF) are established in Mazowieckie (Warsaw), Malopolskie (Krakow), Lubelskie (Lublin) and Podkarpackie (Rzeszow).

The RCM maximizes opportunities for cross-fertilization in the implementation of the Refugee Response Plan 2023 through the ISCG and RCF architecture, enabling participating organizations to build on tangible achievements made in 2022.

\* - including mental health and psycho-social support working group jointly with the protection sector The **Government of Poland** has the primary responsibility of the refugee response. Under the Refugee Coordination Model, the **UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)** coordinates the complementary activities of humanitarian actors.

NATIONAL COORDINATION





Coordination Meeting Calendar & Contact List Podkarpackie Rzeszow Malopolskie Krakow Lubelskie Lublin SUBNATIONAL COORDINATION



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Romania

## Response general updates

UNHCR Romania: Ukraine Refugee Situation Update, Weekly Update #71, 6 November 2023 (link)

In October, UNHCR verified and assessed the vulnerability of some 2,848 refugees for its **cash for protection programme**. Since July, over 8,871 refugees with high levels of vulnerability received cash instalments. (**link**)

UNHCR - Spotlights of Romania: Promising practices from the ground (link)

# → UNHCR OPERATIONAL DATA PORTAL - ROMANIA (LINK)

## **Cash updates**

UNHCR - Ukraine Situation / Romania Rapid Assessment: Rapid assessment on the access of refugees from Ukraine to bank services (September 2023) (link)

### UNHCR - Post Distribution Monitoring for Cash for Winter - July 2023 (link)

Following the MPCA, the focus of the cash-based intervention shifted towards Winterization, in order to mitigate the adverse impact of a harsh winter, worsened by a general rise in prices, especially energy prices. The Winterization Cash Top-up assistance which added up to 653 RON per person, was released to 19,000 individuals. This assistance pack was provided in one instalment to eliqible households between December 2022 and March 2023.

- 91% of HHs reported spending the assistance on Food,
   59% on Hygiene items, 57% on health costs
- In terms of living conditions, 44% reported a 'slight' positive impact, 24% 'moderate,' 23% 'significant,' and 9% 'not at all.'
- For reduced stress, 37% experienced a 'slight' reduction, 29% 'moderate,' 24% 'significant,' and 10% 'not at all.'
- For **reduced financial burden**, 41% felt a 'slight' effect, 27% 'moderate,' 23% 'significant,' and 9% 'not at all.'

# **Protection updates**

UNHCR - Protection WG MoM September 2023 (link) - August 2023 (link) - Anti-trafficking TF MoM Sept. 2023 (link) - CP SWG MoM Sept. 2023 (link) - GBV MoM August 2023 (link) - PSEA MoM - October 2023 (link)

### **Assessments**

HIAS, VOICE - Gender-Based Violence in the Context of the Ukraine Crisis - Romania Assessment [EN/RO] (link)

• This is the second assessment undertaken by VOICE looking at the safety, protection, and well-being needs of Ukrainian women refugees living in Romania

84% of response funded, as of nov. 23 (of \$147,4M)

# **KEY FIGURES**

**84k** refugees in Romania, as of 06/11/2023<sup>1</sup>

# RECOMMENDATIONS

**127USD** per person per month (630RON)

# **KEY CONTACTS**

# **Protection cluster:**

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## CWG

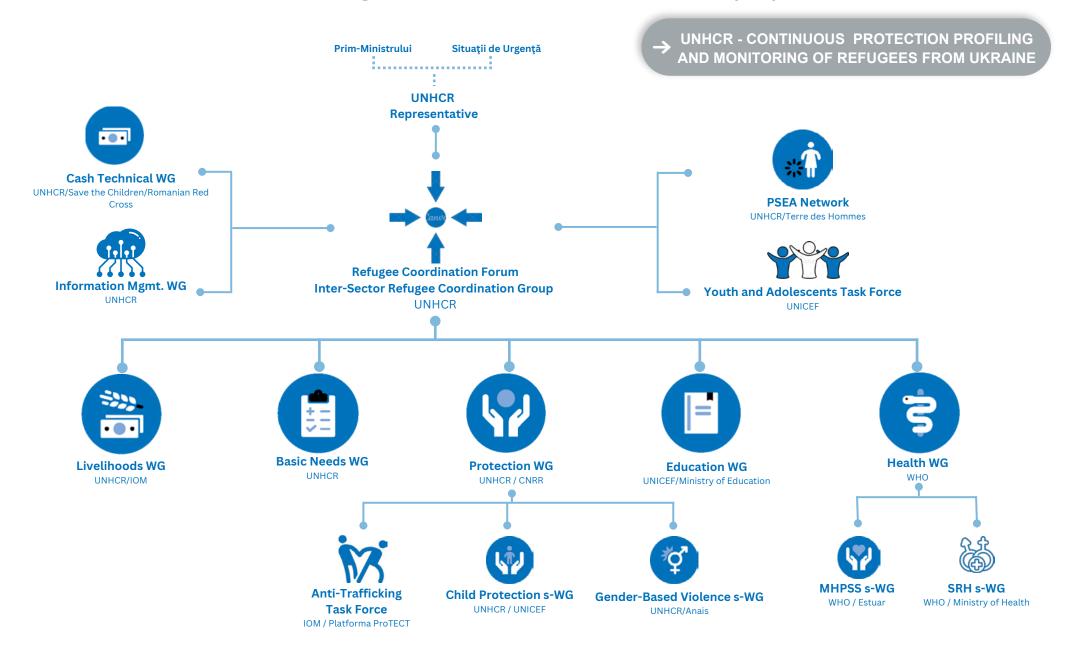
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UNHCR - UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION IN ROMANIA (LINK)

1. UNHCR Romania: Ukraine Refugee Situation Update, Weekly Update #71, 6 November 2023 (<u>link</u>)



# Refugee coordination structure in Romania (link)





# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Moldova



## Response general updates

UNHCR - The Republic of Moldova Operations Update (September 2023) (<u>link</u>) (August 2023 - (<u>link</u>)) UNHCR – Ukraine Situation: Moldova and Ukraine 2023-2024 UNHCR Winterization Response (<u>link</u>)

- 55,000 people to be reached with additional cash assistance to cover winter needs.
- Mobile protection visits, including for legal aid, mental health and psychosocial support, child protection services and referrals for cash assistance, to be provided to those unable to reach assistance during winter.

UNHCR - Funding Opportunities for Civil Society Organizations in Moldova (Last Update: 01 October 2023) (link)

UNHCR - Ukraine Situation: Moldova: Basic Needs, Socio-Economic Vulnerability and Multipurpose Cash Assistance October 2023 (link)

- Post Distribution Monitoring findings underscore the appropriateness of MPCA in Moldova. The findings show that 96%
  of the interviewed refugee population prefers cash assistance, as it enables them to meet their essential needs.
- Market Assessment has confirmed the availability of essential items in the market for both refugees and the host community. Food items are readily accessible, with an impressive 95% availability rate, while non-food items maintain a robust presence at 82%

Interagency Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) 2023 Preliminary analysis (9 Nov 2023) (link) - See also key findings (link) - 890 HHs interviewed between 14/8/2023 and 10/9/2023

- 9% % of HHs reporting having experienced hostile behaviour or attitudes from citizens of Moldova since arrival
- Most HHs reported that there were no discernible protection concerns for boys and girls. (68% and 68%, respectively).
   17 17% of HHs report concerns regarding the safety and security of women. The top three risks reported were getting robbed (10%), being threatened with violence(9%), and sufferingfrom physical harassment or violence (not sexual) (2%).
- When it comes to awareness of GBV services, respondents weremost awareofsafety and securityservices (94%)as well as health services (93%). More than halfof respondents knewof a helpline(77%), how to request legal assistance (77%), or of psycho-social services (74%).

→ UNHCR OPERATIONAL DATA PORTAL - MOLDOVA (LINK)

51% of response funded, as of sept. 2023 (of \$427M)

# **KEY FIGURES**

113k refugees from Ukr. recorded in Moldova (link)
50M\$ distributed
MPCA as of Dec. 2022 (link)

# CVA ——— RECOMMENDATIONS

**USD120 (2200 MDL)** 

Montly cash grant per person (UN-HCR cash update

# **KEY CONTACTS**

## CWG:

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# **Protection WG:**

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**GBV** UNHCR **Vanessa Bordin** - bordin@unhcr.org

Roma Task Force - Alina Sava - fieldoff. chisinau.moldova@intersos.org

**Disability and Age Task Force** - Alberto Tonon (tonon@unhcr.org)



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Moldova

## **Cash updates**

Cash Working Group - 2024 RRP Sector Consultations - Strategic Framework (06 October 2023) (link)

• Vast majority of the partner in Moldova has been implementing the cash programmes to cover the basic needs. On the other side, more targeted approach would evolve to a more tailored protection cash programmes.

Cash Working Group - 2024 RRP Sector Consultations (06 October 2023) (link) => No mention of Cash for Protection

Cash Working Group - Winterization Planning (September 2023) (link)

Cash Working Group - Meeting Minutes (21 September 2023) (link) (24 August 2023) (link) (20 July 2023) (link)

Cash Working Group - Financial Service Provider of UNHCR Moldova (21 September 2023) (link)

Cash Working Group / RedRose - Empowering the Humanitarian Sector (21 September 2023): presentation of FSP (link)

Cash Working Group / Magenta consulting - Market Assessment and Monitoring (July 2023) (link)

## **Protection updates**

# UNHCR - CONTINUOUS PROTECTION → PROFILING AND MONITORING OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

### **General updates**

UNHCR - Protection WG Meeting Minutes (19 October 2023) (link) - September 2023 (link) (August 2023 (link)

UNHCR: Protection Profiling and Monitoring Update September 2023 (link)

OHCHR - Monitoring Factsheet September 2023 (EN) (link) - August 2023 (link)

Protection Working Group - Temporary Protection Update (7 August 2023) (link)

Protection Working Group - Comments on Temporary Protection Implementation (7 July 2023) (link)

### **Roma community**

INTERSOS, UNHCR - Roma Task Force: Mapping of Roma Refugees in the Republic of Moldova (3 October 2023) (link)

IOM - Roma Task Force - Reducing Community Level Vulnerabilities (September 2023) (link)

Robota - Roma Task Force - Robota Presentation (September 2023) (link)

Roma Task Force - Social Cohesion Consideration (25 August 2023) (link)

Roma Task Force - Education and Employment Opportunities for Roma Refugees (August 2023) (link)

Roma Task Force Meeting Minutes (25 August 2023) (link)

# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Moldova

#### **GBV**

GBV Sub-Working Group Meeting Minutes (October 2023) (link) (28 September 2023) (link) (17 August) (link) (27 July 2023) (link)

RRP- UNFPA-UNHCR-UNICEF - GBV Safety Audit (link)

RRP-UNFPA-UNHCR - Rapid GBV Risk Assessment in CVA (link)

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Working Terms of Reference (2023) (link)

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Working Group Work Plan (2023) (link)

HIAS - Gender-based violence in the Republic of Moldova in the context of the humanitarian crisis produced by the war in Ukraine - Assessment Report [EN/RO] (link)

#### **Gender Task Force**

UN WOMEN - Consultation with women organisations and refugee women for Regional Response Plan 2024 (link)

• The aim of the consultation was to bring together women's organizations, refugee women and those working on gender equality to identify common challenges, lessons learned and opportunities as well as recommendations for strengthening gender mainstreaming in the refugee response in Moldova.

UN WOMEN, UNHCR - Ukraine situation: Moldova: Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action. Workshop Report (12-13 July 2023) (link)

#### **Child Protection**

Child Protection Sub Working Group Meeting Minutes (09 August 2023) (link)(12 july 2023) (link)

Child Protection Sub Working Group - Refugee children from Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova: an independent profile (12 July 2023) (link)

Child Protection Sub Working Group Informative Note (7 July 2023) (link)

### **Disability and Age Task Force**

Disability Task Force - Older Refugees Briefing Note (September 2023) (link)

Disability Task Force - Disability Briefing Note (September 2023) (link)

Disability Task Force Meeting Minutes (18 August 2023) (link) (28 July 2023 (link)

Disability Task Force / HelpAge - Access of refugees to health services (August 2023) (link)



## **Assessments**

NRC - Scoping Study: Barriers to Economic Inclusion faced by Refugees from Ukraine in Romania and the Republic of Moldova (link)

REACH - Moldova Rental Market Assessment, Round 1 - September 2023 (link)

IOM Ukraine Crisis Response 2022 - 2023 | Republic of Moldova - Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions, and Integration Challenges (April - June 2023) Country Report & Data Analysis (<u>link</u>)



# Refugee coordination architecture in Moldova (link)

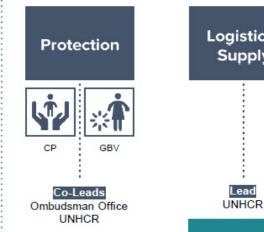


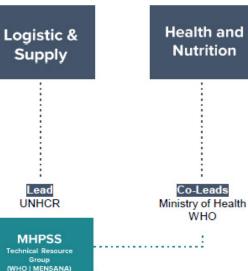


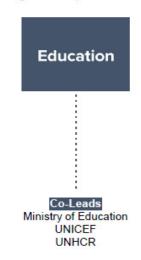
**UNHCR Representative** Francesca Bonelli



## **Sector Working Groups**















WASH SECURITY

Co-Leads Ministry of Labor and Social Protection UNHCR ACTED

# 

Cash

Co-Leads Ministry of Labor and Social Protection UNHCR

Information Management

> Co-Leads UNHCR REACH

### **Local Coordination Structures** Local Authorities NGOs | UNHCR

Palanca - Otaci - UTA Gagauzia- Cahul Balti-Ungheni



Gender

Co-Leads Platform for Gender Equality UN Women





**PSEA** Network Co-Leads UNHCR International



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in **Bulgaria**

### **General updates**

The CWG is seeking co-leadership from the Bulgarian Government's Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

Updates from UNHCR's one-off cash for protection assistance, PDM report (June 2023):

- The majority of UNHCR cash allowance was allocated on food expenses, constituting 90% of the total expenditures
- Over 90% of the participants successfully found the items or services they needed and were satisfied with their quality. Additionally, a majority of respondents noted a recent surge in the prices.
- Nearly 40% of all respondents indicated that UNHCR's Cash Assistance has significantly alleviated the financial strain on their household.
- Approximately 40% of all respondents reported that they managed to meet half of their basic needs, 30% of them met less than half and nearly 4% stated that their needs have not been met at all.
- Approximately 25% of the participants indicated inability to afford health care expenses.
   Food emerged as one of the primary basic needs that respondents admitted unable to meet.

→ BULGARIA CASH TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

→ UNHCR OPERATIONAL DATA PORTAL - BULGARIA (LINK)

44% of response funded, as of sept. 2023 (of \$43M)<sup>1</sup>

# **KEY FIGURES**

**52m** refugees remained in Bulgaria (link) **43m** refugees targeted for CVA (link)
as of Sept. 2023 (both)

# RECOMMENDATIONS

**546.95** Lev/HH (winterization value)

# **KEY CONTACTS**

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Education: Lyuba Batemberska - Ibatembergska@unicef.
org

PSEA Network: Hannah Waisman - waisman@unhcr.org

# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Bulgaria

### UNHCR new cash for protection program started in July 2023

UNHCR's cash for protection program will continue to implement categorical targeting, prioritizing households with specific needs (single parents, older person at risk, persons with disabilities and/or chronic illness, etc.), unable to meet basic needs.

- Eligible households include individual/household registered under Temporary Protection, those seeking or
  granted International Protection status as well as stateless persons undergoing the SDP or granted statelessness status in Bulgaria.
- The transfer values are revised to be aligned with the Bulgarian Government monthly financial assistance
  program and will be determined based on household composition. Similarly, to the program, a corresponding
  percentage for the group to which the persons belong to will be applied to a support base (30% of poverty line).
- The assistance follows a multi-transfer approach for four months. UNHCR and partners will enhance complementary inclusion support to assisted households to help their access to various social protection schemes and inclusion activities.
- UNHCR and IFRC will be providing winterization cash support. Transfer value is aligned with Bulgarian government heating assistance for the 2023 2024 winter period.

## **Refugee Coordination Mechanism in Bulgaria**





# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in **Slovakia**

## Response general updates

UNHCR - Ukraine Assistance Dashboard UNHCR Slovakia August 2023 Achievements (link)

UNHCR - Slovakia: Regional Refugee Response Plan 2023 - Quarter 2 - Inter-agency Funding Overview (link)

UNHCR Achievements Report - August 2023 (link) (July 2023) (link)

RRP - RRP Achievements Report - August 2023 (link) - (July 2023) (link)

RRP Interagency Funding Overview - Second Quarter 2023 (link)





UNHCR - Cash Based Interventions Timeline 2022-2023 (link)
UNHCR CBI Factsheet Winterization 2022 (link)

- The provided amount was calculated based on the number of family members. It was a one-time payment of 150 EUR per person, with a maximum of 400 EUR per family.
- More than 40,000 people as beneficiaries of the winterization assistance
- 60% of PDM\* respondents reported having improved their living conditions following the cash assistance

## UNHCR-UNICEF - Slovakia: Cash Based Interventions Timeline 2022-2023 (link)

Ongoing Cash For protection programme - UNICEF and UNHCR Duration - April-December 2023 (Between 1 and 3 instalments)

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Ukrainian refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and other third country nationals affected by the war in Ukraine and other refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons who are considered to be particularly vulnerable, under one of the following criteria:
- Individuals 60 years old and above, without sufficient family support
- Individuals with disability or serious medical condition
- Single parent or a caregiver
- Single pregnant or mother with young children.

#### Amount

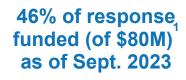
Adult – 80 €

Child - 60 €

Top-up – 80 to 300 €

#### ONGOING

After the registration with UNHCR, the case will be individually reviewed. An SMS is sent to inform the outcome on eligibility. Eligible individuals and families need to be economically disadvantaged. The programme prioritizes specially those individuals and families who applied to or are considered vulnerable by Slovak Labour Office, and also newly arrived individuals



# **KEY FIGURES**

112k refugees recorded in Slovakia (as of Nov. 2023 - link)
38k refugees received CVA (as of Aug. 2023 - link)

# RECOMMENDATIONS

**150€/ps**. Max. 400€/fam.

# **KEY CONTACTS**

## CWG:

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family Director of the Social Policy Department Ján Gabura jan.gabura@employment.gov.sk UNHCR - Thais Severo-SEVERO@unhcr. org

# Protection & inclusion WG

Please check all co-chairs here (link)

CP - Please check all co-chairs here (link)

PSEA - Please check all co-chairs here
(link)

1. UNHCR - Quaterly Inter-Agency Slovakia Snapshot, January to September 2023 (link)

# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Slovakia

### **Protection updates**

UNHCR - Protection Profiling and Monitoring Factsheet - November 2023 (link)

UNHCR - Analysis of Focus Group Discussions on Social Protection and Cash Assistance - July 2023 (link)

UNHCR - Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse: reflections from the first year of the emergency (link)

PSEA Task Force Terms of Reference 2023 – September update (english) (link) (Slovak) (link)

UNHCR - "10 promising practices from the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in Europe" (link)

UNHCR - CONTINUOUS

PROTECTION PROFILING AND
MONITORING OF REFUGEES FROM
UKRAINE

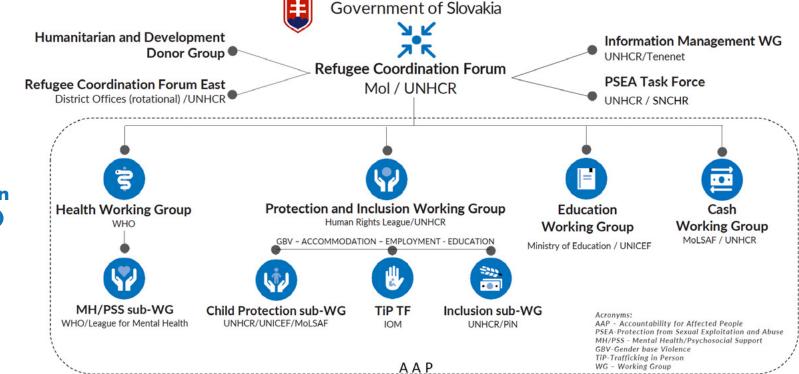
### **Assessments**

IOM - Slovakia — Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions, and Integration Challenges (April - June 2023) (link)

- Immediate needs: Health services (50%), financial support (48%), medicine (45%), language courses (34%), education for adults (31%).\*
- Inclusion challenges: Financial issues (45%), language barriers (26%), access to services (26%).\*

IOM - Ukraine Crisis Response 2022 - 2023, Slovakia: Crossing back to Ukraine - Surveys with Refugees on Destinations, Length of Stay & Assistance - Country Report & Data Analysis, April - June 2023 (link)

Top needs upon crossing back: health services (53%), financial support (22%), employment (15%), medicines (14%), general information (13%), language courses (11%). (more than one answer was possible)



Refugee coordination architecture in Slovakia (link)



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in **Hungary**



UNHCR - Hungary: Inter-Agency Operational Update (April - June 2023) (link)

UNHCR - Hungary Fact Sheet, August 2023 (link) (previous factsheet - July 2023 (link)

UNHCR - Hungary - Ukraine Situation Assistance Dashboard (August 2023) (link)

**UNHCR - Basic Needs Working Group Meeting Minute (link)** 

# **Protection updates**

UNHCR - Hungary: Where to Turn if a Refugee Child is at Risk (link)

The original document served as a "child abuse case management matrix" or referral pathway for Hungarian children in 2021. It has been adapted by the Child Protection Sub Working Group in 2023 to reflect the referral pathways available to Ukrainian refugee children.

### **UNHCR - PSEA Task Force:**

Terms of reference (link) Action Plan 2022-2023 (link) / Key Messages for Aid Organizations [EN/RU/HU/UK] (link) / Key Messages for sages for Refugees [EN/RU/HU/UK] (link) / Key Messages for Aid Workers [EN/RU/HU/UK] (link)

### Assessments

IOM - Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions, and Integration Challenges | April - June 2023 Country Report & Data Analysis (link)

Top needs in Hungary:\* financial support (51%), transportation (49%), information (40%), long-term accommodation (35%), food (35%), health services (24%)

IOM - Crossing to Ukraine: Surveys with Refugees on Destinations, Length of Stay & Assistance (April - June 2023) (link)

Top needs upon crossing back\*: transportation support (52%), general information (43%), financial support (39%).

**UNHCR - PROTECTION PROFILING & MONITORING FACTSHEET - OCT. 23** 

**UNHCR OPERATIONAL DATA** PORTAL - HUNGARY (LINK)

→ UNHCR - SERVICE MAPPING - HUNGARY

→ GBV REFERRAL PATHWAYS - HUNGARY

- 1. UNHCR Quaterly Inter-Agency Hungary Snapshot, January to September 2023 (link)
- 2. UNHCR Basic Needs Working Group Meeting Minute (link)



41% of reponse funded as of Sept. 2023 (of \$63M)

## **KEY FIGURES**

53k refugees remained in Hungary (link)

2,217 refugees targeted for CVA by UNHCR (link), as of August. 2023 (both)

# **RECOMMENDATIONS<sup>2</sup>**

Harmonization of TV for winter support from **96kHUF to 105kHUF** /ps.

# **KEY CONTACTS**

## **Protection WG**

UNHCR - Stephanie Woldenberg - wold-

# Basic Needs Working

Group (including Cash Assistance)



# Key updates relevant to CVA & Protection in Hungary - Continued

### UNHCR - 2024 RRP Workshop - Budapest, 26/09/2023 (link)

A planning workshop for the 2024 Refugee Response Plan (RRP) gathered 24 organizations among UN agencies and international and national NGOs to collect lessons learned and priorities for the 2024 refugee response in Hungary. These are the key findings presented by the different thematic groups and discussed in plenary. Below are the highlights for Cash-Based Inteventions

### **Cash-Based interventions (CBI)**

Protection Expertise: Tailoring CBI to address the needs of vulnerable groups, especially individuals with special needs, demonstrates the importance of integrating protection expertise into CBI initiatives.

### **Targeting Vulnerable Groups:**

There is room for improvement in targeting vulnerable groups with protection expertise to ensure they receive the assistance they need.

### 2024 priorities (for CBI):

- Precise Targeting: Improving the precision of targeting for assistance is crucial to ensure that aid reaches those who need it
  most.
- Inclusive Approach: Taking an inclusive approach, especially for individuals with specific needs, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities, is essential. Focus on those who face challenges in accessing technology and consider a longer-term and sustainable approach to CBI.
- Increased Transfer Values: Addressing the inadequacy of transfer amounts is a priority, particularly for individuals with disabilities. This should be closely linked to post-distribution monitoring.
- Referral Pathways: Strengthening referral pathways among different organizations is vital. Establish stronger links between
  cash interventions and community outreach and engagement, with active involvement of Refugee-Led Organizations and Community-Based Organizations.