

**12 million**

PEOPLE IN NEED IN UKRAINE

OF WHICH:

**4.3 million**

ARE INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

**4 million**

CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE ARE PROJECTED TO CROSS INTO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

**900,000**

CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE HAVE CROSSED INTO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO-DATE

**350M** FUNDING REQUIREMENT



Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

## IOM APPEAL STATUS

IOM has released its multi-sectoral Flash Appeal for Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries, in which it has identified multiple and overlapping sectoral needs. IOM's plan is in line with the interagency Flash Appeal for Ukraine and the Regional Refugee Response Plan, which were both launched on 1 March 2022.

IOM is requesting USD 250 million for an initial period of three months to meet the needs of over 3.5 million affected people in Ukraine. Intervention areas include: water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter/non-food items (NFI), health (including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)), cash-based interventions, food security and livelihoods, protection, humanitarian border management (HBM), camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), the

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), and logistics. IOM has also created a separate Flash Appeal for Ukraine based on its inputs into the inter-agency appeal.

At the same time, IOM has requested USD 100 million over the course of six months to meet the needs of IDPs, refugees, third country nationals and other migrants, as well as hosting communities in countries neighboring Ukraine, including Belarus, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. Intervention areas include: WASH, shelter-NFI, health (including MHPSS), multi-purpose cash assistance (MCA), livelihoods (including integration support), protection (including humanitarian transport and border management), CCCM, and information management.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Following weeks of heightened tensions in Eastern Ukraine, the Government of Ukraine declared an initial 30-day State of Emergency on 23 February, with the exception of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, where a special security regime has been in place since 2014. Following this declaration, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a military operation in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region on 24 February. Major attacks have been reported across Ukraine, including in the capital, Kyiv. Russian troops have quickly expanded their presence across Ukraine, with military clashes ongoing in other major cities: Chernihiv (north), Kharkiv (north-east), Kherson (south), Mariupol (south-east), Mykolaiv (south), Odessa (south

-west), Sumy (north), among other cities, while the pre-existing hostilities in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts have significantly intensified.

After intense clashes across Ukraine, the number of civilian casualties and damage to critical infrastructure are growing, triggering severe humanitarian consequences on people in the hardest-hit areas. Between 24 and 28 February, the OHCHR recorded 536 civilian casualties, including 136 people killed; these figures are likely to be considerably higher (source: OHCHR).

The increasing intensity of the conflict has contributed to growing internal displacement and cross-border movement.

## CONTACTS

Over 900,000 persons have crossed into neighbouring countries, with still more projected to come.

The current situation is exacerbating an already dire humanitarian emergency in the Donbas region and generating new multisectoral needs across the country. The ongoing hostilities also continue to disrupt local supply chains and access to food and other basic items. In eastern Ukraine, there are reports of food shortages in Kramatorsk (Donetsk oblast) as supplies were mostly coming from Kharkiv. Even before 23 February, the escalating tensions in Donetsk oblast had already damaged roads and bridges that subsequently limited access to markets for food on the government-controlled side of the contact line for those residing in non-government-controlled areas. Food insecurity and medical needs are projected to rise considerably as more people are displaced.

Despite the growing operational and security challenges, IOM and other humanitarian organizations remain committed to staying on the ground and responding to growing humanitarian needs and protection risks. UN agencies and humanitarian partners are preparing to scale-up operations for whenever access and security allow for humanitarian operations to be rolled out in the hardest-hit areas.

## IOM RESPONSE

### UKRAINE

Access to basic social services and health services is currently impaired, as healthcare facilities are being damaged or face a lack of medical supplies, medications and equipment. Displaced persons and third country nationals fleeing Ukraine face extensive traffic on highways leading out of major cities and while queuing at border control points, which also inhibits the distribution of humanitarian support and exposes individuals to continued fighting, shelter, and protection risks.

IOM currently operates in eight field offices in Ukraine, with established capacity in information management, shelter, and community engagement, amongst other areas, and has plans to begin interventions when the security situation stabilizes.

### POLAND

The current wait time for pedestrians crossing from Ukraine is 24-36 hours. On the Polish side of the border, IOM is helping to provide assistance immediately after the border control point (BCP), in coordination with the regional government authority. Of particular concern is the situation of third country nationals (Zimbabwe, DRC, Nigeria, Bangladesh, and India, among others) who have reported discriminatory behaviour on the Ukrainian side.

IOM is supporting the operation of nine reception centres along the border and operates an information hotline. Additionally, IOM conducted a two-day rapid needs assessment at the Polish-Ukrainian border and identified the

following urgent needs: food assistance (including food for infants), a need for additional reception facilities, an urgent need for WASH facilities (at border control points and reception facilities), legal assistance, mental health assistance, training on vulnerability assessments and assistance to vulnerable persons, and the delivery of humanitarian aid to persons waiting to cross into Poland. Moreover, IOM has assisted with the translation of frequently asked questions into Ukrainian, Russian, and Polish and is in the process of distributing them to the Polish Border Guard.



IOM Poland assesses the Medyka Border Control Point. © IOM 2022

Finally, there were recent deployments of specialists in information management (Displacement Tracking Matrix) and cash based interventions (CBI) to support the IOM Poland mission and increase in-country coordination capacity at the border.

### ROMANIA

Local authorities have sent buses with food, blankets, and winter clothing to Solotvyno and Chernivtsi, just across the Ukrainian border. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is currently coordinating with IOM on support for third country nationals (TCNs).

IOM is currently in the process of negotiating a regional agreement with Airbnb to provide accommodation for 100,000 migrants from Ukraine through cash transfers via the platform in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania. The mission is working to establish a private sector response plan involving additional partners.

### SLOVAKIA

Of serious concern is the situation of third country nationals and to this end, IOM Slovakia is currently liaising with embassies to provide return assistance and counselling to TCNs. The mission is also running a Migration Information Centre hotline in close coordination with local NGOs.

IOM in Slovakia continues to coordinate with local government to provide support at BCPs, including counselling



services, coordination of transportation, and preliminary shelter support and assessments. The mission is currently rolling out its Displacement Tracking Matrix activities to capture the situation at the border. Finally, the mission is preparing a new team in sub office Kosice in the east of the country for permanent provision of services at the border, including legal counselling, operations, and other types of assistance, and is in the process of setting up a humanitarian warehouse.

## BELARUS

IOM in Belarus is carrying out an assessment in Gomel, in coordination with the government and local partners, and aims to provide migrants with basic kits and NFIs.

As a member of the UNCT, IOM actively participates in the SMT and CMT and co-chairs a task force with UNHCR on mixed flows near the Polish border. The Ministry of the Interior has assigned a focal point to IOM to coordinate support for TCNs.

## MOLDOVA

Traffic from the Ukrainian side of the border to Moldova spans for kilometres at all BCPs. The Government of Moldova has deployed temporary placement centres near Palanca and Ocnita to provide accommodation and basic services for 72 hours.

IOM is actively involved in the interagency refugee coordination group established within the UN Country Team (UNCT) as of 28 February and has provided additional support to the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Health in establishing a coordination mechanism on procurement of urgent supplies.

In terms of shelter/NFI, IOM is coordinating with the French NGO SOS to ship tents and 4,000 sleeping bags to the border, with IOM as consignee. With regards to information management, IOM in Moldova is coordinating and expanding its DTM activities to provide flow monitoring, assessments, and rapid surveys. Additionally, IOM has partnered with World Central Kitchen to provide hot meals to refugees and TCNs in Moldova.

Furthermore, IOM conducted rapid needs assessments at the Criva, Tudora, Palanca, and Otaci BCPs and is currently coordinating with the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Health on further action to address immediate needs and planning. IOM continues to work closely with the Moldovan Customs Service to support humanitarian access and coordinates with the border police to provide additional equipment for rapid and accurate flow monitoring and disaggregation.



IOM Chief of Mission Lars Lonnback visited the Palanca Border Control Post to assess the current situation in the field. © IOM 2022