

REGIONAL UKRAINE RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT #10 25 MARCH 2022

6.48 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

3.62 million

REFUGEES FLEEING UKRAINE

195,543

THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS HAVE ARRIVED IN POLAND, SLOVAKIA, AND MOLDOVA

350 million USD

FUNDING REQUIREMENT



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since the launch of the Russian Federation's war on Ukraine on 24 February, major attacks have been reported across Ukraine, including in the capital, Kyiv, resulting in widescale destruction of infrastructure, loss of life, and displacement.

The situation in the country continues to deteriorate, with ongoing shelling in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Sumy, Kherson, and Zhytomyr regions. Between 24 February and 22 March, the OHCHR recorded 2,571 civilian casualties, including 977 people killed, however, these figures are likely to be considerably higher (source: OCHA). According to the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU), more than 650 residential buildings have been destroyed across Ukraine thus far, while 64 attacks have taken place on healthcare facilities (source: WHO) and 548 educational facilities have received damaged.

On 22 March, two out of five humanitarian corridors were operating, which enabled the relocation of 7,026 persons, while on 23 March, Ukraine's Vice-Prime Minister, Iryna Vereshchuk, announced that nine humanitarian corridors had been agreed upon and would be opening.

The situation in eastern and northern Ukraine is particularly concerning. In Mariupol (Donetsk oblast), local authorities estimate that around 80 per cent of the city's



infrastructure has been destroyed. Critical health services have been brought to a halt due to the destruction of healthcare infrastructure and injury to health workers, and access to food and drinking water remains critical.

The increasing intensity of the war has contributed to growing internal displacement and cross-border movement. As of 22 March, over 3.62 million people have left Ukraine and crossed into neighbouring countries. IOM further estimates that around 6.48 million people have already been internally displaced, many of whom currently have limited access to food, drinking water, social services, and power.

IOM RESPONSE

On 18-21 March, IOM's Deputy Director General for Operations, Uguochi Daniels, visited Slovakia to support IOM's operational response to the Ukraine Crisis. The first two days of the visit were spent on the front lines of IOM's response, visiting the three points of entry from Ukraine into Slovakia and transit hotspots in Kosice and Michelovce. Deputy Director General Daniels also visited the IOM warehouse in Kosice which is used to maintain cross border operations and provides pipeline emergency assistance directly into Ukraine.

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SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

With the overall objective of providing safe, dignified and sustainable living conditions and shelter solutions in conflictaffected areas and along highly transited borders, IOM provides temporary shelter assistance and non-food item support to people affected by the conflict in Ukraine.

In **Ukraine**, as of 21 March, IOM has supported 26,142 newly displaced Ukrainians through the provision of 18,300 thermal blankets and 7,842 hygiene kits in collective centres in Lviv, Ivano Frankivsk, Dnipro, Mykolaiv and Zakarpattia regions. In partnership with the Polish Border Guard Service, the mission also provided 1,000 medical kits for Ukrainian border guards.

In **Moldova**, through IOM's agreement with Airbnb, the mission is working to establish referral mechanisms and target criteria to be used to identify highly vulnerable families who may face increased risks if accommodated in a Refugee Accommodation Centre (RAC). Working through long-standing partnerships between IOM Moldova and the Ministry of Internal Affairs as well as the National Agency for Social Assistance (NASA), these cases will be referred to IOM which will then support the families to find accommodation through the Airbnb platform.

In **Hungary**, IOM continues to scale up its shelter and NFI response. The mission has finalized the lease of a 60 pax accommodation premise, which has already received use from 15 persons as of 23 March, including nine men, four women and two children. IOM has also provided accommodation support to 10 Nigerian nationals, two Ghanian nationals, and one Azerbaijani-Ukrainian family. The office is currently finalizing the identification of additional accommodation for 7,200 nights for the next 6 months for both third country nationals and Ukrainian refugees.

PROTECTION

Through both its regional and in-country response, IOM intends to strengthen the provision of individual protection assistance and case management to persons with specific needs and vulnerabilities.

In **Ukraine**, IOM manages regional hotlines to ensure the safety of individuals on the move. From 24 February to 18 March 2022, the National Toll-Free Counter-Trafficking and Migrant Advice Hotline 527 provided 13,486 consultations in response to 2,760 calls received. About 60 per cent of the calls were placed by IDPs, with 40 per cent being men and 60 per cent being women.

In **Moldova**, on 21 March, alongside a site management assessment that took place near Otaci border control post, IOM distributed 3,000 leaflets to authorities and humanitarian actors present on site, including 2,000 prevention leaflets on the risks of human trafficking at the Moldova-Ukraine border and 1,000 leaflets on how to seek asylum in Moldova, including through relevant government hotlines.

In **Slovakia**, to reduce the risk of human trafficking, IOM has developed a SAFE App that provides key information about human trafficking, safe travelling principles, advice on seeking employment abroad and a list of emergency contacts. In addition, the mission has prepared and is disseminating information leaflets and information cards (in English, Ukrainian, Russian and Roma) with relevant preventive information and contact details of NGOs providing specialized assistance in Slovakia and other European countries. Finally, the mission conducted two internal introductory trainings on "Frontline workers in an emergency response" for 11 IOM staff. Partners have since requested IOM's support to implement similar trainings in the coming week for volunteers.

In Hungary, IOM's counter trafficking hotline has been registered and is in the process of being operationalized. To supplement the launch of the hotline, information leaflets for beneficiaries on the risks of human trafficking have been printed in three languages and include the hotline number. In addition, during the reporting period, IOM provided 71 persons, including 19 men, 24 women, 13 boys, and 15 girls, with information on access to appropriate protection services and information on human trafficking. Finally, the mission facilitated the provision of counselling services on protection issues and voluntary return to seven persons.

HEALTH

In response to the lack of access to healthcare during displacement and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, IOM is providing a range of health services, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).



Hospital staff in Mukachevo receive 150 baby hygiene kits. © IOM 2022

In **Slovakia**, IOM has partnered with the Ministry of Health to provide MHPSS programming to Ukrainian refugees and displaced third country nationals in coordination with the League of Mental Health. The mission will be responsible for the creation of an integrated MHPSS team, training experts, and coordinating requests for support.

In **Poland**, IOM continues to provide psychological first aid (PFA) and MHPSS trainings to volunteers across reception



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centres and temporary shelters. At a transit site in Mlyny, IOM provided 13 volunteers with basic PFA training to better support the needs of Ukrainian refugees and third country nationals arriving in Poland. More information on the training and IOM's MHPSS assistance in Poland can be found <u>here</u>.

In **Ukraine**, IOM aims to bridge the gap in healthcare services as the country experiences significant destruction to healthcare infrastructure and a lack of medicines and basic items. The mission provided a hospital in Mukachevo, Zakarpattia Region, with 150 baby hygiene kits for mothers who have recently given birth and women with infants. In total, IOM has provided the Zakarpattia and Zaporizhzhia regions with 7,900 hygiene kits, with additional deliveries to continue.

MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

Through IOM's regional intervention, the most vulnerable populations will be able to meet their immediate basic needs through multi-purpose cash assistance.

In **Ukraine**, IOM will be initiating the first round of multipurpose cash assistance in Zarkarpattia Oblast, in coordination with Ukraine's Ministry of Social Policy. The intervention will include the registration of and subsequent cash distribution to 40,000 persons, of which 80% are internally displaced persons (IDP) and 20% are host community members. The cash transfer value will amount to USD 75 per person/per month for a total period of three months and will be distributed by IOM in coordination with local authorities. As of 22 March, IOM is ready to initiate the first transfers to 500 persons.

In **Moldova**, between 21-22 March, IOM provided multipurpose cash assistance to 87 refugee families in eight centres in Chisinau. To date, 464 vouchers have been distributed in 30 centres in Chisinau, benefitting 450 refugee families and 10 families of third country nationals. The transfer value of each voucher is MDL 1000 and can be redeemed at Linella and Fidesco supermarkets throughout the country.

SITE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

IOM aims to provide support to national governments and partners in transit, reception and collective centres and with reception conditions in targeted countries.

In **Slovakia**, IOM is working to provide necessary information to refugees on their legal status and rights to better inform persons of the types of pathways available. On 24 March 2022, IOM provided an information sharing session for approximately 30 Ukrainians on temporary protection status and services available at the Kosice Hotspot. The session provided opportunities for Ukrainians to ask questions about their status, their rights and how to access services.

In **Poland**, IOM actively coordinates with local authorities as well as NGOs to provide site management support and other services. IOM recently met with the Mayor of Medyka, who



IOM staff provide information on the temporary protection directive to Ukrainian refugees at Kosice Hotspot, Slovakia. © IOM 2022

expressed the need for waste management support and requested IOM assistance at a local sports centre that is currently operating as a reception facility. The mission also met with the Mayor of Starotva to discuss improvements to a Mlyny reception centre, including additional WASH services and stronger humanitarian coordination.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

IOM continues to conduct flow monitoring and rapid needs assessments and to collect data on cross-border displacement at key transit and border crossing points, which is regularly shared with partners.

In **Ukraine**, between 9 March and 16 March, IOM conducted a representative nationwide assessment of the general population in the country to gather initial insights into internal displacement and mobility flows. Based on assessment results, IOM has calculated that as of 16 March, there are 6.48 million internally displaced persons in Ukraine. The <u>full report</u> on Round 1 of IOM Ukraine's General Population Survey was published on 23 March and provides the results of a rapid representative assessment of the general population in Ukraine.

In **Romania**, IOM is in the process of scaling up displacement tracking activities. The mission completed feasibility assessments for Bucharest, Isaceea, Albita/Husi, Lasi, Siret/ Suceava, and Sighetu Marmatiei and successfully deployed a rapid survey in Bucharest train station (40 responses).

HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT

To support national authorities with the influx of displaced persons, IOM is increasing its capacity to provide border management authorities with assistance, as requested.

In **Romania**, IOM conducted a humanitarian border management assessment mission at four BCPs along the border from 18-22 March. The assessment, conducted in coordination with the Border Police and Immigration authorities, resulted in adapted procedures to facilitate entry to Romania. Partners demonstrated strong awareness of risks

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of human trafficking and exploitation, and the necessary measures to reduce them.

HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORT

Between Moldova and Romania, IOM continues to operate the humanitarian "Green Corridor" between Palanca (Moldova) and Husi (Romania) to alleviate traffic at border control points and facilitate the rapid transport of persons seeking onward movement. On 21 March, IOM facilitated the transport of 305 persons through the Green Corridor and to date, over 11,000 people have used the Green Corridor in total. IOM has also assessed the conditions at relevant border control points for the establishment of a northern Green Corridor.

Also in **Moldova**, on 21 March, IOM facilitated the movement of 142 Ukrainian refugees departing from Moldova to Austria



The first flight of Ukrainian refugees from Moldova departs to Austria. © IOM 2022

IOM APPEAL STATUS

IOM's Flash Appeal for Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries, which was launched on 02 March 2022, requests USD 350 million over the course of six months to meet the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP), migrants, third country nationals (TCN) and other vulnerable populations, as well as hosting communities in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries, including Belarus, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. IOM has also created a separate Flash Appeal solely for Ukraine based on its inputs into the inter-agency appeal.

As of 24 March, IOM has received approximately USD 108 million, which represents confirmed funding and is exclusive of

by providing pre-departure orientation, pre-embarkation briefing, distribution of personal protective equipment (PPEs), baggage handling, land transfer, and airport assistance. This was the third flight departing from Chisinau to Vienna, carrying a total of 600 refugees, mainly women and children.

In **Belarus**, IOM organized a charter flight from Minsk to Erbil for 98 displaced Iraqi nationals through IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) program on 22 March, in coordination with the government of Iraq.

In **Ireland**, IOM has 20 staff working closely with relevant government departments to assist Ukrainian refugees and third country nationals arriving at Dublin Airport. The mission recently received another request to provide similar support in Cork and Limerick.

SUPPLY CHAIN

As humanitarian needs steadily rise, IOM continues to ensure that critical, life-saving items are made available to meet the needs of people most affected by the crisis.

In **Hungary**, IOM is currently securing warehousing facilities totalling 1,400 square meters in Debrecen, with the ability to supply IOM Ukraine with 200 metric tones of non-food items per week. This will open an additional southern humanitarian corridor and contribute to the mitigation of congestion along the supply routes from Slovakia and Poland.

USD 1 million from the Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM) and USD 0.3 million in reallocated funds.*

Intervention areas include: Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Protection, Health (including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)), Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, Food Security and Livelihoods (including integration support), Site Management Support, Displacement Tracking, Humanitarian Border Management, Voluntary Humanitarian Return for Third Country Nationals, and Supply Chain. IOM has also created a separate Flash Appeal for Ukraine based on its inputs into the inter-agency appeal.

