August 2022 marks the sixth month since the Russian Federation invaded Ukraine on the 24 February 2022. As heavy fighting continues in the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, widespread destruction of infrastructure, loss of life, and displacement are still being reported. There are daily reports of shelling in Kharkiv city and Kharkivska Oblast, resulting in damage to civilian buildings and multiple civilian deaths and injuries, as well as destruction of crops. In the past week alone, one thousand homes were cut off from gas when shelling damaged a gas pipeline.

The total number of verified civilian casualties since February 2022 has exceeded 12,000. The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) has verified that, as of 24 July, 5,237 civilians were killed (2,019 men, 1,379 women, 164 boys and 143 girls) and 7,053 injured, but the actual totals are believed to be considerably higher.

The war in Ukraine has exacerbated price increases for cereal grains and food prices globally, becoming a great threat to food security in the global south.

On 23 July, one day after the agreement on grain shipments via Black Sea ports was signed in Turkey between Ukraine and Russia, the southern port of Odesa was hit by Russian missile strikes. The attack was condemned by UN Secretary-General António Guterres, but there have since been more attacks in the Odeska oblast, resulting in the deaths of 21 civilians and injuries to 50 others. The port city of Mykolaiv in neighboring Mykolaivska oblast also suffered from multiple shellings, which destroyed a warehouse serving as a humanitarian aid storage facility. Despite the disruption, there is now a glimmer of hope in easing the mounting global food crisis as the first grain shipment left the port on 1 August. Dmytro Kuleba, the foreign minister of Ukraine, referred to it as “a day of relief for the world,” particularly for nations at risk of food shortages due to disrupted supplies.

IOM is concerned about ongoing internal and cross-border displacement resulting from the war and continues to monitor the situation. On 1 August 2022, IOM in Ukraine released the seventh round of its Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, which recorded 6.64 million internally displaced persons in Ukraine as of 23 July, indicating an increase of 370,000 IDPs (6 per cent) since round six on 23 June. Critically, the report noted a rising need for financial support, NFI, hygiene items, and food since previous rounds. Of all respondents currently in their place of residence, 18 per cent indicated they returned following a minimum of two weeks of displacement, equivalent to an estimated 5,547,000 returnees and a slight decrease from the estimate from Round 6. As the crisis continues to evolve, and with ongoing displacement, it underlines the need for a continued humanitarian response as well as long-term solutions.
To mark the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, IOM Summer Youth Schools graduates organized an outdoor event in Ivano-Frankivsk.

In total, through its partnership with Airbnb, IOM has provided

| SHELTER | 84,793 safe nights provided across neighboring countries in partnership with Airbnb |
| HEALTH | 18,175 total persons have received direct medical attention in Ukraine |

IOM continues to expand its support for internally displaced persons in need of direct medical care. Over the last two weeks, in partnership with Sheptytsky Hospital and UK-Med, IOM provided primary healthcare services to 2,426 internally displaced persons and host communities in four oblasts in Ukraine, bringing the total number of beneficiaries receiving direct medical attention to 18,175 persons (7,311 men and 10,863 women) since the start of the war.

As part of the organization’s health response, IOM physicians conduct pre-departure health checks (PEC) for persons transiting the humanitarian Green Corridor between Moldova and Romania and those departing on IOM-facilitated flights to other countries. Since 24 February, IOM has conducted 13,932 PECs and provided stabilization treatment to 388 persons in Moldova prior to transport.

In addition, IOM teams in Ukraine and Moldova are continuing to assist with the transportation of and support for medically vulnerable cases to European countries through the TRANSMED initiative.

IOM provides life-saving shelter assistance and non-food items to affected populations in Ukraine and neighboring countries. In Ukraine, IOM’s mobile repair teams have completed light and medium repairs, including on WASH infrastructure, on five collective centers this week, with ongoing renovations in seven centers. Technical assessments to support further programming were completed in 14 centers alongside distributions of non-food items, including cots, blankets, and kitchen sets, across 24 regions.

IOM continues to provide shelter solutions to displaced Ukrainians in neighboring countries. For example, in Romania, 1,081 persons have benefitted from short-term accommodation through Airbnb while in Hungary, almost 200 persons have received medium- and long-term housing through IOM managed accommodation. IOM also provides shelter support to TCNs affected by the conflict. Since 5 April, 1,126 persons, including 248 TCNs, have been matched with cost-free accommodation across Poland.

In total, through its partnership with Airbnb, IOM has provided 84,793 safe nights to persons across Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia.

IOM seeks to support people to meet their immediate needs in a way most suited to their preferences. IOM continues to provide conflict-affected persons with multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) across Ukraine, with 125,954 displaced people and host community members registered and 83,829 assisted to date. IOM recently paused registrations and distributions due to funding constraints, however, operations will resume in the upcoming days for MPCA, cash, and vouchers covering winterization, rent, and shelter rehabilitation. IOM Ukraine is continuing collaboration with the Ministry of Social Policy at the national level and coordinating with officials at the oblast-level to expand cash-based assistance to eastern and southern Ukraine.

IOM seeks to reach at least 80,000 additional people with MPCA by the end of the year and expand its activities to include cash grants for collective centres, cash for rent schemes, vouchers for shelter, and cash for winterization.

IOM also continues to provide MPCA and sectoral cash assistance in neighboring countries. In Moldova, IOM has assisted 3,426 refugees, TCNs, and host families with vouchers to cover basic needs, with similar operations in Belarus and Ireland. In Slovakia, IOM provides assistance to caregivers of Ukrainian adults living with disabilities, while IOM provides MPCA in Poland, Bulgaria, and Romania.

IOM deploys trained psychosocial mobile teams that are linguistically and culturally capable of serving vulnerable refugees and third country nationals. In Ukraine, IOM provided psychological support to 1,450 persons during the reporting period, with MHPSS support provided to 4,515 persons (1,937 men and 2,579 women) since the start of the war. In Poland, five Psychosocial Mobile Teams working in eight long-term stay centers in Warsaw have been providing direct assistance to residents. Since April, IOM Poland has provided psychological first aid (PFA), individual psychosocial counselling, group sessions, social counselling, and community engagement activities to a total of 7,168 persons. Since the start of the conflict, across Moldova, Hungary, Romania, Belarus, and Slovakia, IOM provided counselling services to 4,403 persons.
In neighboring countries, IOM continues to provide hygiene kits and water to affected populations in collective centers and to partners. Since the start of the conflict, IOM Romania has distributed 46,382 WASH items to refugees while in Poland, IOM has distributed 20,302 units of water to conflict-affected persons.

Over the reporting period, IOM in Ukraine has carried out 30 WASH assessments in six regions to support collective centers with the installation of water treatment units and repair small water supply and sanitation systems. In addition, IOM distributed household hygiene kits to IDPs in central and northern Ukraine, covering the needs of more than 20,000 people.

HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORT

In the coming weeks, IOM will continue to support an on-going movement assistance operation to bring supplies into Ukraine. In neighboring countries, IOM is rolling out displacement tracking to ensure data and information management to support programme implementation and to contribute to joint analysis.

The main countries where Ukrainians and TCNs crossing back to Ukraine from Moldova spent time are Moldova (63%) and Non-EU countries (28%): Europe (7%), Bulgaria (14%), Romania (8%), Turkey (8%), Germany (7%), Azerbaijan (7%), Spain (5%), Italy (4%), Poland (4%), Greece (3%), and Other (40%).

IOM also organizes and facilitates charter flights from Moldova and Poland to requesting European countries for vulnerable refugees and TCNs. To date, a total of 1,798 persons have been transferred by air and train by IOM, in coordination with UNHCR, to Austria, Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, Netherlands, Italy, Ireland, Portugal, and Norway.

HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT

In close coordination with national authorities, IOM supports border agencies in effectively responding to changing mobility trends to facilitate safe and inclusive cross border movements. During the reporting period, IOM in Moldova organized the handover of approximately USD 800,000 worth of equipment, including document verification equipment, border control booths, vehicles, and generators, to the Moldovan Border Police.

For more information about the particular challenges faced at the border and how IOM is responding there, see the Borders in Focus section below.

750 refugees registered with seven Migrant Integration Centers across Romania

As the need for mid- to long-term solutions for refugees in host countries rises, IOM is working at different levels to address livelihoods and inclusion.

In Romania, IOM supports refugees through seven Migrant Integration Centers (MICs) in major cities across the country. MICs have a key role in providing information on employment pathways, support with health and education registration, language courses, counselling, and other tailored assistance. To date, over 750 Ukrainians are registered with the centers and approximately 100 persons regularly attend language courses provided there.

In Poland, IOM provides regular language courses, interview practice sessions, and support for persons living with disabilities throughout their job search. On 28 July, IOM held a presentation on labor rights and employment pathways in Poland, with an additional workshop to be held in the coming weeks.

In Greece, IOM and the Ministry of Migration and Asylum have included Ukrainian nationals in IOM’s HELIOS project, a successful initiative that has been supporting refugees’ integration through a coordinated approach addressing needs and inclusion opportunities.

On 28 July, IOM Romania released a Profiles and Inclusion Survey based on 6,029 interviews, which provides detailed information on onwards movement and labor intentions as well as estimates on social security coverage for refugees and TCNs.

Meanwhile, Poland and Moldova released reports focusing on displacement and border crossings. In its latest Displacement Survey, conducted from 7 June to 18 July with UN Women, IOM in Moldova found that the majority of those crossing the border originally resided in Odessa (43 per cent), with many people also arriving from Kyiv (15 per cent) and Vinnitsa (14 per cent), among other oblasts.

IOM Poland released its Crossings to Ukraine Survey on 1 August, which found that among those who intended to do a short visit to Ukraine, 55 per cent wanted to meet with family members, 31 per cent wanted to collect personal belongings, 18 per cent wanted to help family members or friends in Ukraine, 16 per cent intended to help someone to reach the border, and about 15 per cent intended to bring supplies into Ukraine.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

IOM has distributed 46,382 WASH items to refugees in Romania since the start of the war.

In neighboring countries, IOM continues to provide hygiene kits and water to affected populations in collective centers and to partners. Since the start of the conflict, IOM Romania has distributed 46,382 WASH items to refugees while in Poland, IOM has distributed 20,302 units of water to conflict-affected persons.

LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY

IOM distributes hygiene kits to IDPs in Ivano-Frankivsk. © IOM Ukraine 2022

HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT

IOM has an active presence in 29 border reception areas in six countries.

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DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

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HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORT

Since the start of the war, IOM’s humanitarian movement assistance has expanded to include movement activities aimed at decongesting border areas. IOM continues to support the humanitarian Green Corridor between Palanca, Moldova and Husi, Romania to alleviate traffic at border crossing points. To date, a total of 11,768 persons have been transported through the Green Corridor in coordination with UNHCR and local authorities.

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IOM Ireland has supported 46,760 persons with the issuance of Temporary Protection Directive documents.

Responding to increased vulnerabilities and protection risks faced by conflict-affected persons, IOM’s protection portfolio spans the provision of direct service delivery, assessments and referrals, capacity building, and case management, as well as public information and awareness raising. Since the start of the war, IOM has provided general and specialized protection assistance for 17,090 persons in Ukraine.

Building on the success of its Youth Summer Schools, IOM Ukraine supported four events organized by alumni in Vinnytsia, Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv regions to mark World Day Against Human Trafficking and to raise awareness on the risks of human trafficking. To disseminate regular information on counter-trafficking and provide legal counseling to refugees and TCNs, IOM operates hotlines in Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Moldova, Lithuania, Slovakia, Belarus, Czechia, and Hungary. To date, IOM Ukraine has provided 81,957 consultations through its national toll-free migrant advice and counter-trafficking hotlines, which now also provides consultations in Arabic.

In Slovakia, IOM staff assist crisis-affected people at information points at two highly transited border crossing points and three primary reception centers. The mission also maintains a hotline and website through its Migration Information Center (MIC) to provide information and legal counseling, providing support to 3,759 Ukrainians and 3,088 TCNs since the start of the war. As of 2 August, the MIC website had recorded 365,266 users and 1,027,720 page views.

In countries where access to the border is limited, such as Belarus, IOM has set up several direct referral pathways to locate refugees and third country nationals, identify their needs, refer them for assistance, and provide support. Thus far, IOM in Belarus has assessed and provided vulnerability screenings, counselling, and information to 730 persons referred by government and civil society institutions. Since the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) in March 2022 and related national legislation to support access to social services for refugees and vulnerable TCNs, IOM has provided direct case management support and assistance with registration when requested by respective governments. In Ireland, IOM continues to provide assistance to refugees and TCNs entering the country through five points of entry. The mission assists refugees in completing social security forms and provides interpretation and referrals for national child protection services (TULSA) and the Health Service Executive. Since the start of the war, IOM has supported 46,760 persons with registration and issuance of TPD related documents.

As the available support for displaced Ukrainians expands, IOM is scaling up information campaigns on TPD registration and rights and benefits under the directive. In Romania, to date, IOM’s mobile team has organized a total of 18 information sessions reaching 776 Ukrainians in collective centers, with an additional six sessions specifically for government actors, IOM staff, and other service providers on obligations and responsibilities under the TPD. In coordination with local authorities and NGO partners, IOM also provides rapid vulnerability screening assessments in collective centers and shelters organized by local municipalities. In Hungary, IOM screens refugees and TCNs and refers vulnerable persons for tailored assistance. Since the start of the war, IOM has assisted almost 6,000 persons through information provision and referrals in Hungary.

IOM also provides direct support to TCNs and assists with strengthening the capacity of humanitarian partners to identify protection risks and the needs of TCNs. In Ukraine, IOM has provided information, advice, referrals, and assistance to over 3,500 TCNs to date, while 1,080 TCNs have received voluntary return and onwards movement assistance across Poland, Belarus, Hungary, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania, Czechia, and Germany.

Marianna, together with her husband and three children, survived heavy shelling by missiles in Kharkiv, Ukraine. When the explosions became too much to bear, they eventually fled their home a month and a half after the start of hostilities. Recalling how they helped their neighbours to hide from the rain of missiles landing around their apartment building, she explains: “We dismantled all the furniture and used it to close the windows. Instead of furniture, we put blankets, bedspreads, and everything we had on the floor. We housed 15 people in a two-room apartment, and all of them came at night and knocked when the shelling began. I remember the day when I hid in a corner, holding my one-year-old daughter Sonia next to me, and struggling not to scream,” Marianna recalls.

When a neighbouring building was destroyed by a missile, the family decided it was finally time to leave. Although they intended to travel to Chernivtsi, the family did not arrive before the curfew was initiated. Eventually, they found temporary shelter in a collective center for internally displaced persons in Vinnytsia, a city in west-central Ukraine. Although the center provides a comfortable space for her family to sleep, Marianna and her family look forward to the day when they can return home safely.

See full story here.
HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT IN FOCUS

Overview: Why HBM?

Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) is a foundational component of IOM’s collaboration with governments in response to the war in Ukraine. Adapting IOM’s Immigration and Border Management (IBM) programming, HBM encompasses the promotion of operational and technical efficiency and border integrity while enhancing the working environments for border personnel, and safe and dignified border crossing procedures that uphold the rights of all individuals before, during, and after the onset of a humanitarian crisis. Central to these functions is the ability of key personnel to identify cases of potential exploitation and unique vulnerabilities of various groups, such as unaccompanied or separated children, which may otherwise be obscured by the scale and pace of cross-border displacement.

HBM also enables the movement of life-saving humanitarian supplies, access for first responders, access to consular services and identity documents, and critical VAT exemptions, and provides a solid basis to initiate diplomatic discussions for cross-border cooperation between states. Such agreements can work to maintain trade and economic vitality, support reconstruction efforts, and reach affected populations.

IOM’s Interventions

In the first four months of the war, over 7 million people fled Ukraine into neighbouring countries, increasing usual border crossing volume by 1500% at times. Traffic at many border crossing points, both out of and into Ukraine, continues to be significantly higher than before the crisis. As one of the primary responders in Ukraine and neighboring countries since the beginning of the crisis, IOM has had active presence in 29 border reception areas in six countries surrounding Ukraine. Border management capacity was scaled up and protection-sensitive acceleration procedures were introduced both in Ukraine and neighbouring countries for those traveling by road, rail, river, or sea ferry.

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IOM’s strategy is based on comprehensive assessments of border capacities, which inform IOM’s recommendations to states and subsequent interventions. Since February, IOM has carried out dozens of assessments at border crossing points (BCPs) across Estonia, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Poland and Slovakia. The resulting analysis covers topics from emergency response policy and impact on safety and access to services, material, and staffing needs. Interventions range from specialized expertise for child protection and mental health support, to engineering works to optimize traffic flows as well as export capacity of agricultural goods in support of the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes.

Outlook and Proposed Way Forward

Whether the conflict escalates or is resolved, significant cross-border movements will continue in both the short- and long-term, requiring a sustained response. IOM will maintain special attention to unique vulnerabilities of persons transiting in either direction and assess how the evolution of the conflict and possible changes in legal provisions impact safety and accessibility. HBM will focus on preventing the expansion of criminality across borders and adopting a strategic approach for small arms and ammunition control, while maintaining considerations for ongoing movement of conflict-affected people and their continued protection needs.

Border management activities are already an integral part of the recovery model for Ukraine, as articulated in Ukraine’s National Recovery Plan, and merge capacity building, emergency preparedness and response, reconstruction, and bilateral and regional cooperation to resume growth and stability. Given the limitation on sea exports, a focus on the western borders and corridors will continue, with IOM prepared to scale up technical assistance to the government of Ukraine, including the establishment of new BCPs where appropriate. This assistance will enable further access routes in the event of a resolution of hostilities and support border authorities to facilitate safe and orderly movements.

Displacement figures source: UNHCR, governments, as of 1 August 2022 and since 24 February 2022
IOM’s Operational Presence in Ukraine

LEGEND

- IOM Country office
- IOM Sub offices

Estimated IDPs per macro-region (DTM GenPop Round 7)

- East: 1,936,000
- West: 1,333,000
- Centre: 1,118,000
- North: 1,118,000
- South: 667,000
- Kyiv: 473,000

IOM Activities by Oblast and Sector

- Site support
- Humanitarian Border Management (HBM)
- Livelihoods and resilience
- Supply chain
- Humanitarian movement assistance and emergency transport
- Protection
- Shelter / Non-Food Items (NFI)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)
- Food and nutrition
- Logistics
- Cash-Based Interventions (CBI)
- Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)
On 28 April, IOM launched its Revised Flash Appeal for Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries, which requests USD 514 million over the course of nine months to meet the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP), refugees, 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. As of 04 August, IOM has received approximately USD 217.3 million, which represents confirmed funding and is exclusive of USD 1 million from the Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM) and USD 0.3 million in reallocated funds.

In Ukraine, IOM has secured a new 4,000 square meter warehouse in Dnipro, which will facilitate last mile deliveries to affected populations in the east of the country. During the reporting period, IOM delivered seven tonnes of items as part of a 50 tonne interagency convoy in Zaporizhzhia, the 6th interagency convoy that IOM has participated in from Dnipro.

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

IOM’S REVISED FLASH APPEAL

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