Since the Russian Federation’s invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, major attacks have been reported across the country, including in the capital, Kyiv, resulting in widespread destruction of infrastructure, loss of life, and displacement.

The situation in the country continues to deteriorate, with ongoing clashes in the eastern, northern, and southern parts of the country. In the north, Russian Federation forces have shelled Barkinove and seized the village of Zavody. In the east, there were attacks on Yampil, Severodonetsk, Popasna and Kurakhiv, and the towns of Zarichne and Novotoshkivskse were seized. In the south, Russian Federation units are conducting air reconnaissance. Meanwhile, the mayor of Mariupol, Vadym Boichenko, announced on 27 April that a third mass grave was found in the village of Staryi Krym, although it has not yet been independently confirmed.

OHCHR is reporting that between 24 February and 27 April, there have been 5,939 civilian casualties, including 2,787 people killed, though these figures are likely to be considerably higher (source: OCHA). Although civilians in conflict-affected areas remain in dire need of basic goods and social services, ongoing fighting continues to deter evacuations.

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 12.8 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDP), refugees, migrants, third country nationals (TCN) and other vulnerable populations, as well as hosting communities.

**SITUATION OVERVIEW**

**IOM’S REVISED FLASH APPEAL**
MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

In Ukraine, as of 27 April, IOM has provided support for over 20,000 individuals affected by conflict and displacement to meet their immediate basic needs through multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA). Mechanisms are now in place for registration, targeting and distribution of MPCA in five regions to reach 500,000 individuals within the first six months of the war.

In Moldova, during the reporting period, IOM distributed 525 vouchers to refugee families in Chisinau, Dubasari, and Causeni. The value of each voucher is MDL 1,000 Moldovan and can be redeemed at Linella and Fidesco supermarkets throughout the country. To date, 2,849 paper vouchers and e-vouchers have been distributed to 2,834 refugees and 15 third country nationals across thirteen districts in Moldova (Anenii Noi, Chisinau, Cimislia, Criuleni, Drochia, Ialoveni, Hincesti, Glodeni, Falesti, Balti, Roscani, Sangerei, Telenesti and Ungheni).

LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY

In Ukraine, IOM in partnership with Save the Children has delivered almost 20,000 boxes of high-energy biscuits to the Odesa Humanitarian Center in the beginning of April. This shipment of almost 2 million rations was made possible with support from USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and supplements prior distributions of emergency food kits to 7,500 beneficiaries, with support from ECHO. From the Humanitarian Center, the high-energy biscuits will be distributed to those most in need, including pregnant and lactating women, children, and elderly people, to complement their energy and nutritional intake.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

In Hungary, IOM is supporting the Municipality of Budapest through the procurement of NFIs for the accommodation run by the Municipality, including items such as washing machines and dryers (200), pillows and duvets (2,000), as well as refrigerators (100). In addition, IOM runs an accommodation facility – the Red Star Hostel – and manages Airbnb bookings. From 20-25 April, four Ghanaians checked in to the Red Star Hostel while 23 crisis affected persons (13 females, 4 males, 4 boys, and 2 girls) were provided with accommodation through the Airbnb partnership.

SITE MANAGEMENT

In Ukraine, IOM aims to support the government by providing assistance to reception and collective centers. During the reporting period, the mission provided three collective centers in Zakarpattia Oblast with hundreds of lockers for internally displaced persons. This will allow displaced people living in the centers to have access to safer and more dignified living conditions. Since the start of the war, IOM has assessed 140 collective centers in Zakarpattia.

HEALTH

In Poland, three Psychosocial Mobile Teams working in six long term stay centres in Warsaw have been providing direct assistance. During the reporting period, IOM provided psychological first aid (PFA) sessions for 28 adults and five children, individual psychosocial counselling to 50 adults (and 21 children, and group sessions to 14 adults and 15 children. Meanwhile, the mission provided social counselling to 35 adults and community engagement activities (e.g., artistic activities, Easter celebrations) for 232 adults and 196 children.

In addition, IOM’s MHPSS coordinator and social worker travelled to the border on from 19-21 April to deliver PFA training sessions for new IOM staff and volunteers. Over the course of three sessions, seven IOM staff and eight volunteers (Cadena, Médecins du Monde, Israel delegation) received
training. Requests for MHPSS continue to increase as the mission builds trust among those staying at temporary and long stay accommodation facilities.

In Ukraine, from late February to mid-April, IOM Ukraine has released three Internal Displacement Reports based on bi-weekly general population surveys, generating the first available high-level estimates on number of IDPs within Ukraine, as well as comprehensive understanding of the needs and vulnerabilities of IDPs and those who have remained at their places of habitual residence. The reports are endorsed by government partners, with assessment design and dissemination processes maximizing data use by humanitarian partners. IOM will continue to act as a key source of critical information for movement and displacement across Ukraine, and the region.

In Moldova, since 9 March, IOM has conducted 9,288 surveys with local partners, of which 1,344 were conducted from over the past week (80% women, 20% men). Ukrainian refugees represent 97 per cent of the sample. In addition, the mission has conducted 251 surveys (84% women, 16% men) with individuals returning to Ukraine from Moldova at two border crossing points (Otaci and Palanca). Finally, IOM published a displacement analysis of TCNs in the country, with demographic information and exit and entry trends.

In Moldova, IOM recently released a displacement analysis of third country nationals in the country. As of 22 April, 37,034 TCNs of 130 different countries/nationalities were registered upon entry from Ukraine: the majority were adult men (60%), followed by adult women (27%) and children (13%).

Of these, top countries of nationality by number of entries in the Republic of Moldova so far were Azerbaijan (20 per cent), China (10%), Russian Federation (10%), Turkey (7%), Israel (5%), Georgia (5%), Romania (4%), Viet Nam, Bulgaria (3%) and Armenia (3%). The highest shares of children were among nationals of the United States (34%), Israel (24%) and the Russian Federation (17%), while lowest shares were among TCNs from Turkey (5%) and Romania (6%).
In Ukraine, since 1 April, IOM’s NGO partners have conducted 301 individual consultations and 40 group information sessions on safe migration and counter-trafficking for over 800 at-risk people in six oblasts of Ukraine (Vinnytsia, Odesa, Khmelnytsky, Volyn, Rivne and Ternopil). Additionally, IOM partners have conducted more than 30 online consultations among Ukrainian refugees residing abroad via Viber and WhatsApp. To further expand IOM’s advocacy efforts, its NGO partners held eight meetings with local authorities in Lviv, Rivne and Poltava to discuss increased risks of human trafficking and strengthen awareness-raising activities on the local level in cooperation with the state social services, city administrations and other stakeholders.

In Slovakia, from 20-26 April, IOM directly assisted 229 beneficiaries (139 females and 90 males) with legal assistance, referrals, and information provision through readily available information points. During this time, the mission also provided information and legal counselling to 464 beneficiaries through its Migration Information Centre (MIC). To date, IOM has assisted 2,071 beneficiaries through the MIC email and hotline, of which 1,077 were refugees and 652 were third country nationals.

Alongside direct assistance, IOM Slovakia also provides trainings to partners on counter trafficking and related protection activities. On 26 April, 14 partners involved in service provision and related awareness raising activities at the Gabcikovo Accommodation Facility received training, including the Slovak Humanitarian Council and the Migration Office (Ministry of Interior).

In Moldova, on 20 April, IOM visited Dubasari to share information on the risks of trafficking with 124 refugees (102 females and 22 males) while four individuals received counselling on asylum status in Moldova. On 21 April, 398 refugees (275 females and 123 males) in Causeni, received information on refugee rights in Moldova, while 12 individuals received counselling on the asylum process and accessing health services.

In Hungary, IOM conducts rapid vulnerability screening assessments in the border area, including in the shelters provided by local municipalities and at the Budapest information point. From 20-25 April, IOM conducted 58 vulnerability screenings with 19 women, 6 men, 12 girls, and 21 boys. Among the total screenings, cases included children traveling with their families (33) and single female headed households (8). Additionally, IOM provided 169 persons (42 boys including 3 with disabilities, 50 girls, 9 males, 65 females, 1 older man and 2 older women) with information and counselling on available services at the border while IOM reached 148 persons (73 females and 75 males) at the Budapest information point.

In Belarus, IOM continues to provide information to requesting migrants and refugees on counter trafficking and safe migration through its hotline, run in coordination with the NGO, “Businesswomen Club.” As of 25 April, the hotline has received 198 requests for information on entry to, transit through, and exit from Belarus in connection with the war in Ukraine. From 18-25 April specifically, such requests amounted to 26.6 per cent of all consultations provided, while a week before they totalled to 19.3 per cent.
In Slovakia, from 20-26 April, the Supply Chain Unit received 52 trucks, equating to 832 metric tons of goods. From this and pre-existing supplies in the IOM Kosice Supply Chain Hub (KSCH), IOM shipped 28 trucks of goods to Ukraine (including solar lamps, blankets, hygiene kits, bedding kits, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, and other items), totalling 257 metric tons.

On the global level, flights from BHA-USAID’s third and fourth donations (24,000 unbranded blankets, 22,950 branded blankets) have arrived via Budapest and the items are being received by the Kosice warehouse.

IOM APPEAL STATUS

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. The Revised Flash Appeal is aligned with the revised inter-agency appeals for the crisis.

As of 27 April, IOM has received approximately USD 166.5 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.