REGIONAL UKRAINE RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT #9 21 MARCH 2022

6.48 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

3.39 million

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

186,470

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

350 million USD

FUNDING REQUIREMENT





SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since the start of the Russian Federation's military operation in Ukraine on 24 February, major attacks have been reported across country, 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 clashes in Mariupol, Sumy, Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Sievierodonetsk and Northern Kyiv. Between 24 and 19 March, the OHCHR recorded 2,361 civilian casualties, including 902 people killed, however, these figures are likely to be considerably higher (source: OCHA). On 20 March, a missile struck a shopping centre in northern Kyiv, destroying the building and resulting in the death of at least eight people. Meanwhile, in the Sumy region, shelling of a chemical plant led to a leak in a 50 tonne tank of ammonia on 21 March, with one person at the chemical plant injured.

Ukraine has rejected a demand from the Russian Federation to surrender the city of Mariupol, which has been the centre of continued shelling over the past week. The Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine called for the negotiation of a humanitarian corridor from Mariupol, as food and drinking water have become increasingly scarce for civilians trapped in the city. As of 21 March, only eight humanitarian corridors have been

agreed upon by the governments of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, limiting opportunities for civilian evacuation in the midst of continued shelling.

The increasing intensity of the war has contributed to growing internal displacement and cross-border movement. As of 19 March, over 3.3 million people have left Ukraine and crossed into neighbouring countries. IOM estimates that the war has already resulted in the internal displacement of around 6.48 million people. Under the European Union's Temporary Protection Directive, Member States are working to provide immediate support and resettlement pathways for Ukrainian refugees, while humanitarian partners in coordination with consular authorities and participating governments have begun facilitating repatriation services, temporary relocation, and resettlement for displaced third country nationals. For both crisis-affected people outside of Ukraine, as well as internally displaced people, access to information on the availability and location of life-saving humanitarian aid, legal residency and employment, transportation, and the evolving situation in the country and at border control points remains limited. IOM, together with NGO partners and local authorities, is establishing information points, sharing updated information on local services, and expanding its network of information hotlines and referral pathways.

IOM RESPONSE

UKRAINE

Despite mounting operational and security challenges, IOM, UN agencies, and humanitarian partners are scaling up operations so they can move as and when access and security allow for humanitarian operations to be rolled out in the hardest-hit areas.

Between 9 March and 16 March, IOM conducted a representative nationwide assessment of the general population in Ukraine 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.

Alongside ongoing needs assessments and discussions with local authorities, IOM Ukraine continues to distribute nonfood items (NFI) to displaced persons. The mission intends to distribute 7,900 hygiene kits to the most vulnerable IDPs in Zakarpattia over the next several days; this is in addition to the 18,000 blankets previously distributed. Despite relocation of staff across the country, IOM is committed to remaining in Ukraine and supporting the humanitarian response. To date, IOM is active in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Uzhorod and coordinates six warehouses (in Ukraine and Slovakia) totalling 10,180 square meters, with an additional two warehouses under negotiation. This weekend, 12 trucks carrying a USAID-BHA consignment of kitchen sets, blankets, and water bladders departed from the Logistics Cluster warehouse in Poland for Lviv. The mission has also received a consignment from UKAID of six inflatable shelters via the warehouse in Rzeszow, Poland and is awaiting a second truck.

Staff Capacity: 289 (Kyiv-based staff have been relocated to



IOM Ukraine is present at temporary reception centres across the country to provide support to IDPs and third country nationals. © IOM 2022

other parts of the country)

MOI DOVA

From 24 February to 21 March, approximately 33,931 third country nationals have entered Moldova from Ukraine according to the Ministry of Interior and the Moldovan Border Guard in coordination with IOM Moldova.

The mission has received several requests by partners and stakeholders to support the delivery of protection services, including counter trafficking information and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). On 18 March, IOM attended the second gender-based violence (GBV) sub-group coordination call to discuss the most prominent GBV risks and the concern of trafficking in persons. Participants agreed on the need to rapidly adapt the National Referral Mechanism for GBV survivors to the crisis context. On 19 March, IOM distributed over 16,000 information leaflets at Palanca Border Control Point (BCP) that provided information on how to claim asylum in Moldova and Romania. The leaflets were also shared with the Moldovan authorities and humanitarian partner for further dissemination.

To supplement protection activities, IOM Moldova is also focusing on the provision of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) at BCPs and temporary accommodation centres. On 19 March, IOM and its partner NGO, "Doctors with Africa (CUAMM)," visited Palanca BCP to assess the coverage of medical and MHPSS needs in coordination with local authorities and other humanitarian actors operating at the border. The assessment also included the transportation hub, where IOM currently facilitates humanitarian transportation from Palanca, Moldova to Husi, Romania through the "Green Corridor."

Staff Capacity: 51

POLAND

From 24 February to 21 March, approximately 89,197 third country nationals have entered Poland from Ukraine according to the Ministry of Interior and the Polish Border Guard, in coordination with IOM Poland.

IOM Poland has established a new office in Młyny and has begun coordinating with partners and stakeholders to provide immediate protection and humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected people. The mission is also engaged in ongoing discussions on methods for safely referring and providing temporary safe spaces for unaccompanied minors. Discussions were supplemented with the provision of a counter-trafficking awareness raising session at Młyny reception centre with representatives of five organizations working at the site. The mission also conducted brief interviews and a needs assessment at the site with both Ukrainians and third country nationals, identified an urgent need for laundry services, and

distributed hygiene kits, clothing, and baby hygiene items to Ukrainian Roma families at the reception centre.

The mission continues to provide consultations to conflict-affected people through IOM Poland's Infoline. From 24 February to 20 March, IOM provided 671 consultations for 429 women and 242 men, of which 419 persons were Ukrainian nationals. Consultations were provided in Ukrainian (250), Polish (251), Russian (172) and English (60) and the majority of inquiries were related to legal stay, visa extensions, legal employment, PESEL numbers, establishing a temporary legal guardian for a minor, and legal travel within the Schengen Zone.



Over 6,000 displaced persons fleeing Ukraine and requiring assistance arrived at Medyka BCP on 19 March. © IOM 2022

IOM Poland remains concerned about the situation of third country nationals fleeing the war in Ukraine and regularly provides aid in coordination with relevant consular or local authorities. On 19 March, IOM assisted with a flight for 230 Ukrainian nationals relocating to Portugal and with a flight of 16 Lebanese nationals and Ukrainian dependents to Lebanon. IOM also provided return assistance to a Kenyan national departing to Kenya. Alongside relocation and return assistance, the mission actively provides information and legal advice to requesting third country nationals. IOM provided information on transportation and accommodation in Belgium to one Iranian national and is also coordinating with local Roma associations in Poland and Germany to provide information to requesting Roma families at the reception centres.

As operations scale up, IOM Poland is expanding its presence near Budomierz. The mission distributed 50 hygiene items to beneficiaries and provided 70 persons with general orientation information on transportation services and access to accommodation in Polish cities. The mission is working to scale up the distribution of non-food items (NFI) at all reception centres and is coordinating closely with humanitarian partners, such as the Polish Red Cross, to quickly identify and respond to emerging needs.

During the reporting period, the mission received a delivery of 60 thermal blankets, to be distributed to beneficiaries at reception centres, and materials necessary for the establishment of an Information Point in Budomierz. To support the expansion of IOM presence along the border, the mission is in the process of recruiting six additional local staff.

Staff Capacity: 39



IOM Slovakia assesses the needs of persons at the Michelovce Transit centre. © IOM 2022

SLOVAKIA

From 24 February to 21 March, approximately 17,313 third country nationals have entered Slovakia from Ukraine according to the Slovak Republic Border Guards in coordination with IOM Slovakia.

IOM Slovakia's warehouse in Kosice is currently operating as an important logistics hub for deliveries to Ukraine. Two trucks with IOM procurements from Turkey arrived in Kosice this weekend with 8,000 blankets while one truck from Greece arrived with 792 hygiene kits, with two additional trucks from Greece on the way.

Staff Capacity: 31

ROMANIA

From 24 February to 15 March, approximately 30,494 third country nationals have crossed into Romania from Ukraine according to the General Inspectorate of Romanian Border Police in coordination, IOM Romania, and UNHCR.

From 9-20 March, IOM facilitated the transportation of approximately 10,000 persons through the established humanitarian corridor between border control points in Romania and Moldova. The corridor is the first of its kind in the Ukraine response and was established in cooperation with UNHCR and the governments of Romania and Moldova, allowing for safe and expedient travel of refugees to alleviate the pressure on border control points.

Finally, the mission is conducting exploratory meetings with the private sector to explore further collaborations in support of service provision to conflict-affected people, including meetings with Mastercard and DiPocket to support modalities for delivering cash assistance, and with UiPath, a local tech company, to explore ways to increase efficiency of services.

Staff Capacity: 28 (with an additional 22 consultants)

HUNGARY

From 24 February to 15 March, a total of 15,292 third country nationals have crossed the border from Ukraine into Hungary according to the Hungary Police in coordination with IOM Hungary.

The mission recently assisted two third country nationals, in coordination with IOM Romania, to access accommodation and transportation information in Budapest. IOM Hungary stands ready to support all conflict-affected persons leaving Ukraine.

Staff Capacity: 13

BELARUS

From 24 February to 14 March, approximately 243 third country nationals have crossed the border from Ukraine to Belarus according to the State Border Committee of Belarus in coordination with IOM Belarus.

On 18 March, IOM visited Gomel to deliver 150 bags of food items and hygiene kits to the Gomel branch of the Belarusian Red Cross (BRC), IOM's partner NGO with an established presence along the border. In coordination with BRC, IOM distributed leaflets among third country nationals with information on potential support and pathways to return to their countries of origin.

Staff Capacity: 24



IOM Belarus donates 150 bags of food and hygiene items for distribution at the border by the Belarusian Red Cross. © 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 21 March, IOM has received approximately USD 107.8 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.*

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 (including integration support), protection (including humanitarian transport), 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.











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