

UNICEF Refugee response programme results

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, UNICEF has been working closely with national, regional and local authorities to expand services in child protection, education, health and nutrition, WASH, and social protection. UNICEF integrates into its work the principles of social cohesion, accountability to affected populations, and gender equality in addition to non-discrimination and inclusion of persons with disabilities.



Health

17,947

Children and women received primary health care services through UNICEF supported mechanisms



Education

8,634 **17,810**

Children accessed formal or non-formal education, including early learning

Children received individual learning materials



Social and Behavior Change

1,638,295

People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services



WASH

35,422 **20,631**

People accessing a sufficient quantity of potable water for domestic needs

People reached with critical WASH supplies



Child Protection

22,068 **137,394**

Children and caregivers accessed mental health and psychosocial support

People had access to safe spaces, protection and support hubs

Acronyms: WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sources: UNICEF (as of 15/02/2023)

In the spotlight

The war in Ukraine brought additional challenges to the Romanian child protection system – with over 700,000 children having crossed the border into Romania.

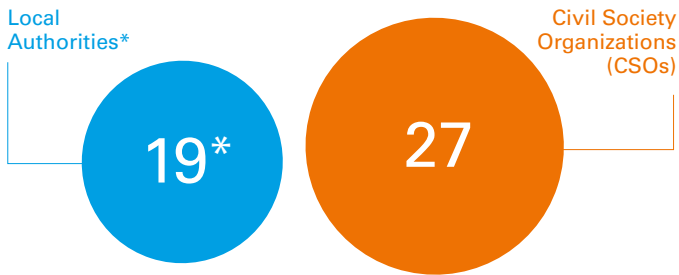
Among these, the border police and local child protection authorities identified and protected almost 5,344 unaccompanied or separated children. This was possible due to the quick response by the Prime Minister's Office with support from many actors, including the National Child Protection Authority and UNICEF.

To decrease children's risk of abuse, exploitation, and violence UNICEF supported the government to roll out PRIMERO, an open-source software to identify, register, and refer children from Ukraine to specialized services. PRIMERO helped identify and provide individual case management to 17,581 children arriving from Ukraine.



PRIMERO helps a representative of the Ilfov General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection (DGASPC) to update information about Olena and her family after they fled the war in Ukraine

Delivering through partnerships



* This includes partnerships with municipalities and local and central government.

Source: UNICEF (as of 15/02/2023)

UNICEF's partnerships with the Government of Romania, national and local authorities, UNHCR and other United Nations agencies, local and international NGOs, donors, and supra-national entities (cross-border initiatives, European Union support) have been vital to the provision of services and support to people fleeing the war in Ukraine.

The coordinated efforts of all partners enabled uninterrupted day-to-day running of an extensive network of all-encompassing services including direct assistance, protection, and referral to legal aid, medical assistance, and mental health and psychosocial support. An estimated 350,000 people have had access to services in UNICEF/UNHCR Blue Dots, safe spaces and service hubs. Nearly 150,000 people benefited from at least one service in UNICEF-supported safe spaces, protection, education and health hubs.

Stories from our work



UNICEF-supported center in Iasi provides a safe learning space for children with disabilities from Ukraine

Eugenia fled from her home in Ukraine with her three daughters Lilia (7), Anastasia (10) and Polina (3) in April 2022 and settled in Iasi, north-eastern Romania. Here she looked for a school that could accommodate the learning needs of Lilia who has a developmental delay and was feeling stressed and scared by the experience of escaping the war.

Eugenia enrolled Lilia in a UNICEF-supported centre in Iasi that provides safe and supportive learning spaces for children with disabilities. The classes have helped Lilia cope with stress and return to her usual routine. "Lilia loves her teacher and feels very comfortable during the classes. Lilia is very lucky to attend them. Being safe, I don't see why she shouldn't study," Eugenia says.

[Read more about this story here >>](#)

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Delivering through national systems

With multiple stakeholders, relatively strong economies and established national government structures in refugee hosting countries, UNICEF adopted an approach of responding to humanitarian crisis using national systems. This involved working with Government at national and sub-national levels to make sure established, but overstretched national services and systems, were expanded to host refugees - bridging humanitarian and development interventions. As a result, immediate emergency needs were met while ensuring longer-term investment in systems to support vulnerable populations, which allowed for an expanded humanitarian response and helped build systems that were more resistant to crises.

Looking ahead

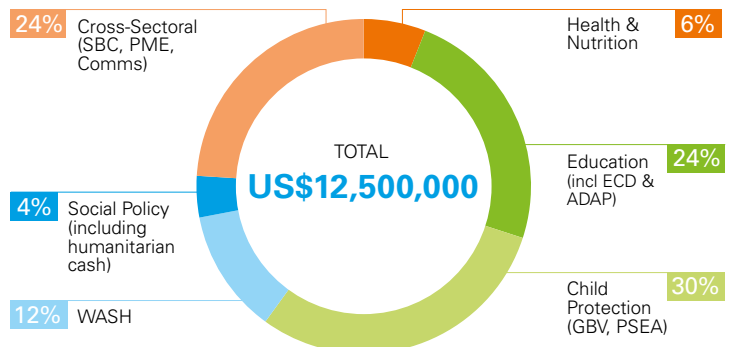


Little Lilia fled Ukraine with her mother Eugenia and two sisters shortly after the war started. While maintaining its presence at the borders, staying ready for all contingency scenarios and providing support for long-term social inclusion of refugees, UNICEF aims to progressively remove bottlenecks identified in the systemic, transversal and coordination aspects of the response.

With UNICEF/UNHCR Blue Dots not the end but rather the beginning of the refugees' journey, UNICEF will be working tirelessly with partners to expand and adapt local health, education, and protection services for children and families. UNICEF will continue to support cross-border cooperation and build long-term institutional capacities to serve all children in Romania regardless of their background.

For additional information on **UNICEF's 2023 Humanitarian response for children outside of Ukraine** please visit [UNICEF Ukraine 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children](#).

Funding requirements for 2023



Acronyms: ECD: Early Childhood Development, ADAP: Adolescent Development And Participation, GBV: Gender-based violence, PSEA: Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, SBC: Social and Behavior Change, PME: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. **Source:** UNICEF

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