



UKRAINE SITUATION

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January-December 2023

COUNTRY CHAPTER

BULGARIA





Bulgaria Planned Response (January-December 2023)



BULGARIA

Part 1: Current Situation

Situation Overview

Since the escalation of the conflict in February 2022, more than 977,000 refugees have crossed into Bulgaria as of end-December, based on official data from the State Agency of Refugees and Chief Directorate of Border Police.¹ Among them, some 149,000 have requested and received temporary protection which grants refugees with access to a number of rights and national social protection networks and public services. The average number of daily arrivals and departures remain similar to each other (3,120 arrivals per day/3,020 departures per day). As of end-December, some 50,200 refugees from Ukraine currently remain in the country,² and reside mostly in the coastal area and larger cities, including Sofia and Plovdiv. New arrivals mainly enter Bulgaria via the Romanian-Bulgarian border (63 per cent), and through the Durankulak and Ruse border crossing points, and are dispersed across the country. Based on Government of Bulgaria temporary protection registration data, most refugees are women and children (respectively 50 per cent and 36 per cent), and older persons make up 12 per cent. The risks of gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), forms of human trafficking and protection risks facing children remain high.

The national accommodation policy, which currently benefits some 9,800 refugees from Ukraine, has been extended by the Government of Bulgaria until 24 February 2023. Vulnerable new arrivals who have no means are expected to be accommodated in State and municipal facilities. A care-taker government has been in place in Bulgaria since 22 June 2022, and a taskforce created in mid-November 2022 under the new administration meets with the participation of UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, the Bulgarian Red Cross (BRC) and key responders.

The Bulgaria chapter of the regional RRP represents the strong commitment of 18 humanitarian partners to work jointly and through a coordinated response on the challenges affecting refugees and third-country nationals (TCN) fleeing Ukraine and in need of international protection,³ as well as affected host communities. A significant emphasis of the inter-agency response in Bulgaria is focused on supporting the Government in providing key protection services, livelihoods support and inclusion opportunities. With the possibility of an increase in refugee numbers in 2023, the

¹ Government of Bulgaria State Agency for Refugees, Temporary Protection registration database, <https://ukraine.gov.bg>, 30 November 2022.

² This figure is an estimate based on the number of arrivals and departures of Ukrainian nationals from Bulgaria tracked by the Chief Directorate of Border Police. The Government of Bulgaria does not deregister TP holders who have left the country, and the Border Police does not check the TP status of departing Ukrainian nationals. The targeted population planning figures for 2023 take into account the estimated numbers of refugees who remain in country and those expected to seek temporary protection next year.

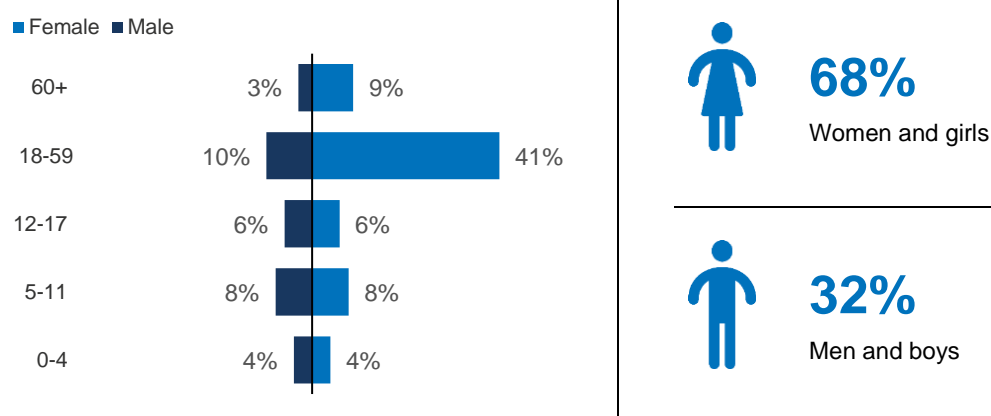
³ These include nationals of Russia, Moldova, Armenia, Turkmenistan, Belarus, and others.

authorities' response efforts will be complemented by coordinated interventions of UN agencies, national NGOs, civil society actors, community-based and faith-based organizations and the International Federation of the Red Cross in a coherent and consistent manner.

Population planning figures

Bulgaria	Refugees registered for Temporary Protection as of end- Dec 2022 ⁴	Targeted population in 2023
Refugee Population	149,268	200,000

Age and gender breakdown⁵



Country Protection Needs, Vulnerabilities and Risks

While further needs assessments, profiling and intention surveys will be conducted, the greatest needs currently faced by refugees and third-country nationals in need of international protection, either in-transit or at destination, based on currently available data are:⁶

- Basic humanitarian needs, including access to food, health, nutrition, accommodation and core relief items;
- Protection needs, including information and counselling on rights, access and availability of services, legal assistance, child protection, GBV, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), support to persons with specific needs;
- Access to national systems, quality education and strengthened socio-economic inclusion, such as support to integrate into the labour market.

⁴ This figure may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons, or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe.

⁵ Calculations based on the Temporary Protection registration database.

⁶ This includes findings from UNHCR's Age, Gender and Diversity focus group discussions and data from site-profiling of government accommodation facilities which can be accessed at: [Opsmap Bulgaria \(cartong.org\)](https://opsmap.bulgaria.cartong.org).



Ukrainian refugee Olga, 35, and her 10-year-old daughter Anya, from the city of Dnipro, sit in their room in the Severina Hotel in the Bulgarian Black Sea resort of Sunny Beach. © UNHCR/Dobrin Kashavelov

Strengthening refugees' access to health services has been identified as a crucial need, as a shortage of medical supplies, stretched capacity for service delivery and limited health insurance coverage afforded through temporary protection present significant barriers. This includes supporting the nutrition needs of children, lactating mothers, older people and other vulnerable individuals, which the Government has highlighted as a gap. The provision of winter-related core relief items continues to also be a priority need. Across the response, communication with communities on available services and government support is a significant gap. As a top priority, there is a need to enhance communication with the refugee community and access to information for refugees on the available services, including health, education, employment, and state social services; monitor barriers to access; and advocate for inclusion in national systems.

Part 2: Country Protection and Solutions Strategy

Bulgaria's Protection and Solutions Strategy will focus on the inclusion of refugees in national protection services and interventions to support their integration into society. National authorities will continue to have the overall responsibility for refugee protection – as well as the inclusion of refugees in national services and the larger community – with the support of a range of civil society actors, local NGOs, UN Agencies and other international organizations. RRP partners will promote the inclusion of refugees in government-led longer-term solutions within the strategies of the State Agency for Refugees and local/regional authorities based on vulnerability identification and intention assessments. They will also support the Government in conducting various needs assessments and profiling surveys to ensure continued accommodation and basic needs for the most vulnerable refugees before the governmental accommodation programme is currently scheduled to come to an end in February 2023. RRP partners will ensure reception standards are guaranteed by strengthening reception capacity and conducting protection monitoring of arrivals to ensure access to territory, rights, and services on a non-discriminatory basis, including for TCNs.

Interventions to facilitate protection and solutions will align with and complement the government social welfare system, aiming to address the gaps for the most vulnerable categories and support unmet specific needs. In coordination with national institutions and counterparts, the protection response will be harmonized to ensure integration of refugees into national social and economic systems, including through conducting gap analyses between legal and practical access to government benefits and services. In addition, RRP partners will engage in advocacy to eliminate barriers to accessing social protection schemes and public services. Concurrently, refugees will be supported with access to information, legal and social counselling, and eligibility advice in navigating governmental administrative procedures. Fostering social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities will remain an important cross-cutting response priority across all interventions to ensure longer-term social stability of refugees in Bulgaria. RRP partners will work in cooperation to promote the social inclusion and civic engagement of refugees and the local community, especially adolescents and youth, for social cohesion and peaceful and resilient societies.

Interventions will be focused on key locations which host the largest numbers of refugees, namely Burgas, Dobrich, Plovdiv, Ruse, Sofia, and Varna. The provision of Blue Dot services – i.e. legal aid, MHPSS, protection etc. – in six key locations of Burgas, Dobrich, Ruse, Sofia and Varna, will remain a priority. More locations will be considered, should additional needs be identified. Assistance will target the most vulnerable groups, including those who may be at risk of harmful coping mechanisms. It will also target those at risk of sexual exploitation, abuse, GBV and trafficking, children at risk – as well as those with MHPSS needs, older persons and persons with disabilities, and LGBTIQ+ persons. Strengthening the capacity of the education system together with national partners and key stakeholders is a priority for the integration of refugee children, including supporting schools in creating an environment supportive of integrating refugee children and adolescents in mainstream education as well as through extracurricular activities and non-formal education (including language acquisition, skills-building, civic participation and sports activities). Strengthening health systems, supporting the national health workforce, supporting immunisation efforts and providing MHPSS to refugees, many of whom are likely to remain in the

country, will also be a priority. Communication with communities will be further developed and strengthened to ensure greater information-sharing and combatting disinformation and stigmatisation.

Country Strategic Objectives

The RRP in Bulgaria supports the operationalization of the overarching regional RRP Strategic Objectives (SO). It aims to uphold rights associated with temporary protection or similar legal status in Bulgaria; to ensure a whole-of-society approach in line with the Global Compact on Refugees, recognising in particular the critical role played by national and local actors, including government ministries, municipal authorities, NGOs and community-based organizations; and engaging with and strengthen community-level protective mechanisms.

SO1: Ensure refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis

RRP partners will aim to monitor access gaps and advocate for inclusion in government services. In partnership with the government, partners will ensure that refugees have access to dignified reception conditions and essential protection services (protection, legal assistance, child protection, GBV response, provision of information, community-based MHPSS). RRP partners will also ensure that refugees have access to – and know how to access – the government accommodation scheme and social protection as well as formal education for children. Partners will support the Government's provision of accommodation, including through site monitoring. All of the above will be closely tied to RRP partners' efforts to improve refugees' access to information on the services available to them. RRP partners will develop a clear strategy and coordination mechanism on communication with communities to ensure greater information-sharing and combat disinformation and stigmatization. This will help partners to reinforce two-way communication systems and ensure that refugees are able to provide feedback and participate in the development of programming.

SO2: Pave the way toward solutions and expand access to social and economic opportunities

To support the socio-economic inclusion of refugees, RRP partners will seek strategic partnerships and promote interlinkages with development actors and the private sector. Partners will focus on job market assessments linking the findings to refugees' skills and provision of job counselling, as well as capacity building initiatives. RRP partners will also work closely with local authorities to facilitate job placement of refugees in local businesses. All of these priorities will aim at enhancing the self-reliance of refugees.

SO3: Ensure that refugees with specific needs continue to have access to targeted support and assistance, while also engaging with and strengthening community-level protection mechanisms

RRP partners will support the most vulnerable refugees with heightened protection risks and specific needs through targeted assistance. Partners will work with communities to strengthen the identification of persons with specific needs and ensure safe referrals to specialized services. RRP partners will also support the government to ensure that social protection services are age, gender and diversity sensitive – and accessible for those who may be at higher risk, including persons with disabilities, older persons, LGBTIQ+ individuals, GBV survivors, victims of trafficking, children at risk and survivors of abuse, exploitation and violence including unaccompanied and separated children. Partners will also complement and enhance government services by providing targeted support including psycho-social support and strengthening community-level protection mechanisms.

SO4: Advance social cohesion between refugee and host communities through targeted interventions

In close coordination with local municipalities and civil society organisations, RRP partners will aim to strengthen interventions that promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. This will include awareness raising for local stakeholders on diversity and non-discrimination. Partners will support local authorities to develop policies and services to facilitate refugee inclusion and integration. RRP partners will also support opportunities to enhance inclusive communities, including safe spaces, activities for social, cultural and recreational events, and positive dialogue and information exchange between refugee and host communities. This aims to enhance community-based support for refugee reception and integration.

All the above will be to build on, enhance and scale up national protection capacities by supporting and working with community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, civil society and informal networks established by refugees and host communities to build on their resources, capacities and improve reach and sustainability of reception and inclusion initiatives.

Blue Dots in Bulgaria

UNHCR, UNICEF together with Bulgarian Red Cross and Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, have jointly opened six Safe Space, Protection and Support Hubs, commonly known as Blue Dots, where refugees are supported with essential services, safe spaces, protection, and legal assistance – as well as referrals to other specialized service providers. Back-to-school and learning information campaigns have been organized in partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, regional education, and health departments as well as NGO partners to ensure children's smooth enrolment and transition to the next school year.

Sectoral Responses

PROTECTION



Various protection activities will be provided by RRP partners, including:

- Identify and facilitate access of persons at heightened risks to appropriate services
- Legal information and assistance, including representation and counseling
- Protection monitoring
- Information on access to social and basic services
- Adolescent and youth engagement

Capacity building for local authorities to strengthen their knowledge on identifying and working with persons with specific needs and for service providers to capacitate their knowledge and skills on national arrangements and procedures for access to temporary protection holders.

All protection interventions will mainstream mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and community-based mechanisms. Blue Dot Hubs will provide key protection services and information for refugees with referrals for specialized services, with a particular focus on children at risk, persons with disabilities, those at risk of trafficking, survivors of GBV and refugees from the LGBTIQ+ community. The minimum package of services will include basic psychosocial support, legal aid and counseling, child and family friendly spaces, identification of vulnerabilities and protection risks and appropriate referrals.

RRP partners are closely supporting local authorities and communities in working with adolescents to address young people's needs and empower them to reach their full potential and become agents of positive change. This includes engaging and mobilizing young people to participate and contribute positively to their communities; skills-building; MHPSS support; and systems strengthening for meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes on national and local levels.

Sub-Sector: Child Protection



Priority will be given to strengthening the Government's child protection systems and services, including national, regional, and local authorities' capacity to support children at risk and families, including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). This will include supporting the Government with documentation and identification of children at risk; best interests procedures; psychosocial support; family tracing and reunification; and alternative care arrangements. To support the above, appropriate capacity building to authorities as well as frontline professionals will also be provided. Interventions will ensure that children at risk have access to specialized services, social support and access to child-friendly information. RRP partners will provide UASC and caregivers with MHPSS, legal aid and information sessions in relation to the temporary protection, asylum and family reunification procedures. Support will also be provided for parents and caregivers to strengthen and expand their knowledge, skills and capacities on providing nurturing and responsive parenting and

caregiving for young children, and to facilitate their access to social services including health and developmental monitoring of young children.

Sub-sector: Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



RRP partners will prioritize strengthening GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response activities to ensure GBV survivors, including SEA and survivors of trafficking for sexual exploitation, have access to quality support services, GBV prevention programmes are in place and that all other sectors are supported to mitigate the risks of GBV within their interventions. RRP partners will support the government in reviewing and strengthening the existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on GBV prevention and response adopted by the State Agency for Refugees and ensure a comprehensive multi-sectoral response. The revision of the SOPs will include establishing and reinforcing GBV referral pathways.

RRP partners will continue to provide quality services to survivors of GBV, including SEA and trafficking for sexual exploitation, and work closely with other response sectors, including health and legal, to ensure a survivor-centered, multi-sectoral quality response. They will also implement prevention activities that include empowerment, establishing community-based prevention mechanisms, engaging men and boys in GBV prevention, awareness raising and information sessions. Partners will collaborate with local actors, particularly including women-led and refugee-led organizations, on the implementation of these planned activities to strengthen the community-based response.

RRP partners will support other sectors' GBV risk mitigation efforts, including by providing capacity development to frontline responders and community members on safe disclosure and referral of GBV survivors. This will also include support in assessment and analysis, including safety audits as relevant for each sector (Education, Basic Needs, Health and Nutrition, Livelihoods and Socioeconomic Inclusion).

Additionally, RRP partners will work in cooperation with government institutions, non-governmental organizations and other actors to reduce the risks of trafficking and provide targeted support to victims of trafficking, in collaboration with the National Commission for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings.

EDUCATION



The Bulgaria RRP will continue to prioritize the integration and inclusion of Ukrainian children and adolescents in the formal national school system to ensure the continuity of their education, including early learning. Some 19,250 refugee children from Ukraine currently reside in Bulgaria, but only a small number of those are

enrolled in Bulgarian schools.⁷ RRP partners and the government, including at the municipal level, will work together on back-to-school information campaigns to ensure the smooth enrolment and transition of children into the formal national education system in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. This will include advocacy for removal of barriers in access to education, contributions to capacity building in Bulgarian schools to host refugee children, and provision of learning materials for refugee children in preschool and primary school. Support will also be provided to teachers, social workers and psychologists working closely and supporting refugee children. Partners will engage service providers, host communities and refugees for social and behavioral change for inclusion in education.

RRP partners will support Bulgaria's national policy on Bulgarian language certification. In particular, there is a lack of state funding for free language classes and free certification of language skills for refugees. As this has been identified as a gap and a key first step of integration for refugees of all ages, RRP partners will provide language classes (Bulgarian, English, Ukrainian) for children. Digital education will also be explored.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION



The health response will prioritize supporting the national health response in providing timely and appropriate public health interventions, including emergency first aid response, basic health care, MHPSS services, information on accessing local health systems and informing on hygiene and public health measures. RRP partners will conduct refugee population needs assessments aimed at informing the national health system response. RRP partners will also build the capacity of health actors to ensure they have the necessary knowledge and skills to respond to the needs of GBV survivors, including clinical management of rape.

In Bulgaria, focus group discussions with refugees from Ukraine have found that a very small percentage minority of respondents are registered with a general practitioner due to various reasons, including lack of information about the health system, inability to pay health insurance, inability to find a general practitioner who would take them as a patient and lack of translation. Other difficulties include a lack of medical assistance in resort towns on the coast where many refugees are accommodated as well as a lack of assistive devices (wheelchairs, crutches etc.) for persons with disabilities. In light of the above, RRP partners will provide awareness raising and appropriate information on accessing medical care services including for persons with disabilities – as well as counseling on Infant and Young Child feeding for caregivers, and health promotion through community workshops. RRP partners will provide primary health care services including through mobile teams for vulnerable populations (e.g. pregnant women and children). Partners will also provide psychosocial support (particularly for caregivers of young children) including psychological first aid, physiotherapy and speech therapy for those with disabilities or specific needs, early intervention for children with developmental difficulties and disabilities, and transportation assistance to access health facilities to vulnerable refugees. The most vulnerable

⁷ Government of Bulgaria State Agency for Refugees, Temporary Protection registration database, <https://ukraine.gov.bg>.

will also be supported with medication and the costs of medical exams. For those in need of specialized MHPSS, timely identification, referrals and consultations will be provided. Capacity building on MHPSS for all frontline workers, including local authorities working with refugees, will also be provided. Partners will also monitor the access of refugees to health services in coordination with the public authorities to reinforce capacities where necessary, while responding to shortages of medical staff, health facilities and medical supply chains.

LIVELIHOODS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION



RRP partners' livelihoods interventions will reinforce access to jobs and employment opportunities and will include related childcare services and skill building for young people to facilitate refugee and host community members' ability to access decent work. To promote livelihoods, RRP partners will assess local markets for employment opportunities for refugees complemented by trainings and courses to enhance their practical skills. RRP partners will establish peer support networks, provide employment counselling, and support pilot employment initiatives. Direct support will also be provided for female refugees and refugee youth to enhance their employment and entrepreneurship competencies, including demand-driven vocational training for employment in the IT sector, such as business development and financial services. At the same time, RRP partners will continue to advocate with and expand partnerships with the private sector for the inclusion of refugee populations in employment opportunities. The private sector will be engaged on ongoing activities to identify potential collaboration and expansion of initiatives.

Priority will also be given to activities focusing on integration of refugees within the community. As national authorities do not provide comprehensive Bulgarian language courses to temporary protection holders – which are key for access to employment, integration and inclusion – activities will include Bulgarian and English language classes for adults. Social cohesion activities in community and education centres will target both Bulgarian and Ukrainian youth and be complemented by psychosocial support.

Furthermore, RRP partners will work with government authorities to improve data collection and analysis as well as monitoring and evaluation of refugees' socio-economic situation.

Highlights

Language training and employment-enabling support is being provided by community-based organizations and enthusiastic volunteers for adults of all ages. These include Bulgarian and English language courses, with positive feedback that this support contributes to employment opportunities. Additional resources will serve to expand the territorial coverage and increase learning hours and class places of language training programmes provided by community-based organizations that have proved highly effective in linking refugees with decent work.

BASIC NEEDS



Based on identified needs, partners will provide hygiene kits and WASH kits, with a particular focus on vulnerable refugee female headed households. Food vouchers and cash for emergency accommodation will also be provided to mitigate any imminent protection risks. For the winter months, the inter-agency response will include one-time cash assistance to the most vulnerable refugee households to meet their most basic additional household needs to survive the winter, as well as the provision of core relief items such as blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, winter clothes and baby formula. RRP partners will also support the Government's efforts to provide dignified accommodation for refugees in state facilities, based on site profiling and joint inter-agency needs assessment.

RRP partners will support the Government in scaling up accommodation capacity including for temporary shelter while supporting local authorities in identifying additional reception facilities to accommodate those with both immediate and longer-term needs. The conditions of reception and accommodation facilities will be monitored to ensure safe and accessible conditions for all arrivals, including persons with specific needs, and to support national authorities on any identified gaps.

Across the response in Bulgaria, food, rental, and basic needs support continue to be priority needs. RRP partners will provide cash for protection in support of unmet specific needs, complementing but not replacing government social protection schemes. This will be accompanied by strong protection advocacy for inclusion and the continued provision of protection services. The provision of cash for protection and cash for winterization is an important protection intervention to mitigate the risk of exploitation and other protection risks. While Bulgaria is a member of the EU, it has yet to receive a budget allocation for the refugee response to cover some of the most vulnerable categories of refugees in the government social assistance programmes.

Country Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

Accountability to Affected People (AAP)



RRP partners will ensure Accountability to Affected People through both traditional and creative means, exploring online tools. RRP partners will furthermore support the Government to have a communication and community engagement strategy for the response. Effective and accessible feedback and response mechanisms will be put in place and socialised with communities, with inter-agency referrals and collective approaches as needed. Identification and protection referral for persons with disabilities and older persons with additional or specific protection needs, including access to counselling, sign language interpretation, referral to medical services, replacement of lost or damaged assistive devices, will be key. RRP partners will identify misinformation and disinformation through community engagement in digital and analogue channels to further inform appropriate messaging and engagement.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)



Sexual exploitation and abuse directly contradict the principles upon which humanitarian action is based, inflict harm on those whom the humanitarian and development community protect, and jeopardise the credibility of all assistance agencies. In Bulgaria, RRP partners work closely with the Government to mitigate and prevent risks as well as to ensure a robust complaints mechanism is in place and further strengthened. This includes establishing PSEA focal points in each organization, joint SEA risks assessments, partner capacity assessments, capacity building and training as well as community outreach and awareness raising on the risks of trafficking and SEA with the refugee community. Information on SEA and risks of trafficking are being distributed at entry points and Crisis Centres.

PSEA is an integral and cross-cutting component of the RRP and is mainstreamed across the response to assist and protect refugees fleeing from Ukraine. The emergency is also characterized by several specific risk factors, such as an exceptionally high incidence of family separation and a prevailing percentage of female-headed households, as well as a wide range of actors involved in the response, some of whom have limited experience with PSEA. These risks may be further compounded by increasing socio-economic vulnerabilities, difficulties in finding suitable accommodation, and potential fatigue among host States and host communities as the crisis continues.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



In Bulgaria, there is an important need for multi-layered community-based and specialized MHPSS services. MHPSS will be mainstreamed across all sectors as a priority response. Interventions will support refugees' access to MHPSS services while also strengthening community-level support by the government and humanitarian actors. Key priority areas for MHPSS are: 1) capacity building of government and frontline staff working in Protection, Child Protection, GBV, Health, Education and other sectors; 2) strengthening and integrating community-based MHPSS interventions into the national Mental Health Strategy and its action plan; and 3) enhancing coordination between RRP partners, the Government at central and provincial levels, academia, other I/NGO and professional organizations, the donor community and inter-ministries. Referral mechanisms will also be strengthened among service providers to cover multi-layered MHPSS interventions. All MHPSS activities will be planned, implemented and evaluated in alignment with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines on MHPSS in Emergency Settings, which will be translated into local languages for the government and frontline service providers.

RRP partners will coordinate MHPSS interventions with the Bulgarian Ministry of Health and under the national Mental Health Strategy (2021-2031), and the national Mental Health Advisory Board. The Inter-Agency Coordination group will also enhance linkages and coordination of MHPSS interventions in the RRP with other relevant government ministries, including the Ministries of Social Protection, Education and Labour. Additionally, an MHPSS Technical Working Group will be formed to ensure coordination and provision of evidence-based, culturally adapted and community-based MHPSS services.

Partnership and Coordination

In Bulgaria, the Refugee Coordination Model has been activated in support of the Government's efforts with an established inter-agency coordination working group led by UNHCR. Sectoral discussions co-led by UNHCR, RRP partners and the Government will continue focusing on protection (including sub-sectors on child protection and GBV), education, basic needs (comprising shelter/accommodation, NFIs, WASH), health and nutrition, and livelihoods and socio-economic inclusion. Within the Inter-Agency Coordination group, an Accommodation Task Force is being activated to support the Government's assessments and needs for accommodating new refugee arrivals. An inter-agency Cash Working Group and MHPSS Technical Working Group are also being convened. The interim Council of Ministers has formed a new Task Force for the Ukrainian Refugee Response, focusing on inter-ministerial coordination related to the general refugee response. Meanwhile the inter-agency coordination group will closely communicate with the Government Task Force on thematic issues in support of national plans.

The Refugee Coordination Forum will continue to promote coherence and complementarity between the 2023 RRP and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027 as well as the 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF). The 2023 RRP will count on the response of 11 national NGOs, four UN agencies, the IFRC/RF, one faith-based organization and one regional organization. Projects under the RRP will bridge the humanitarian response and longer-term development planning to build resilience at the individual, community and institutional level. The participation of refugees and women-led organizations will be reinforced. RRP partners will jointly work on joint assessments and monitoring of activities as key priorities, that help all actors ensure a needs-based response. The inter-agency Multi-Sector Needs Assessment and regional protection monitoring will also help identify key needs and priority areas for intervention in each sector.

Partners involved	18
UN Agencies	4
National NGOs	11
IFRC&RC	1
Faith-based Organizations	1
Regional organizations	1

Note: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with implementing partners to carry out RRP activities. See 'Budget Summary by Partner' for partner breakdown per type.

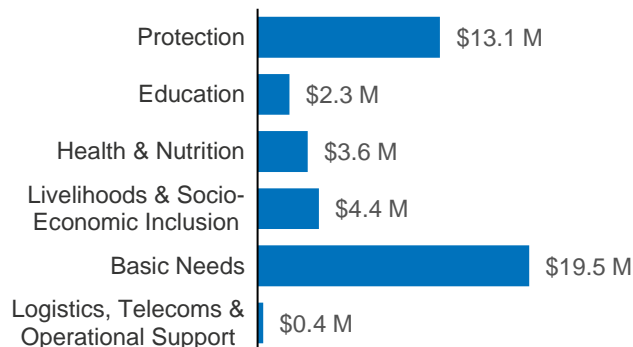
Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

Total financial requirements in USD



\$43.4 M

By sector in million USD



Total Protection requirements	\$13,070,721
Other protection activities	\$11,056,539
GBV	\$633,736
Child Protection	\$1,380,446

Total Cash Assistance requirements*	\$18,853,999
Protection	\$1,500,000
Basic Needs	\$17,353,999

* This is a breakdown by sector of the requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance and protection in line with UNHCR's CBI Policy 2022-2026. Cash assistance is used as a cross-cutting modality across the various sectors, including protection, and is budgeted for accordingly and in line with a basic needs approach. As the modality of choice of the people we serve, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide important protection outcomes.

By partner type

Partners involved	18
UN Agencies	\$28,964,226
National NGOs	\$2,874,532
IFRC&RC	\$7,000,000
Faith-based Organizations	\$3,949,600
Regional Organizations	\$598,900

Partner/Acronym	Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	Basic Needs	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Total USD
UN Agencies							
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	8,824,540			2,905,000	7,624,802		19,354,342
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	1,381,583	1,369,084	836,583		581,584	401,900	4,570,734
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	2,000,900	187,250	267,500	240,750	989,750		3,686,150
World Health Organization (WHO)			1,353,000				1,353,000
National NGOs							
Aid for Ukraine	75,000	151,800		414,200	206,520		847,520
Ak-Nordost			25,000				25,000
Association Energy			112,211				112,211
Bulgarian Helsinki Committee	166,972						166,972
Dignita	18,500						18,500
Foundation for Access to Rights	173,340						173,340
Pituary Foundation			81,300				81,300
Reachout Foundation		42,193					42,193
Situation Centre Open Doors		297,000	77,500	118,075			492,575
Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation	61,607			34,200			95,807
Za Dobroto Foundation	168,279	276,930	81,078	15,423	277,404		819,114
IFRC & Red Cross/ Crescent Societies							
Bulgarian Red Cross	200,000		900,000		5,900,000		7,000,000
Faith-based Organizations							

Partner/Acronym	Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	Livelihoods & Socio-Economic Inclusion	Basic Needs	Logistics, Telecoms & Operational Support	Total USD
Caritas Bulgaria					3,949,600		3,949,600
Regional Organizations							
International Centre for Migration Policy Development				598,900			598,900
TOTAL	\$13,070,721	\$2,324,257	\$3,621,961	\$4,438,759	\$19,529,660	\$401,900	\$43,387,258