

APRIL 4, 2022

# CARE Ukraine Crisis Update

## Partner Focus by Country

Thanks to your generous support, CARE is working with carefully selected partners in each country receiving refugees, as well as inside Ukraine.

**In Romania,** CARE is working with its long-term partner SERA and the Federation of Child Protection NGOs to provide relief items and psychosocial support. In the coming weeks CARE SERA will also begin sending trucks of relief items into southwestern Ukraine including urgently needed toiletry items, food, and powdered milk.

**In Moldova,** CARE will undergo scoping missions in the coming days to assess needs, identify partners, and will be providing psychosocial training to frontline workers in the coming weeks.

**In Poland,** CARE is working with the Polish Centre for International Aid (PCPM) and Polish Humanitarian Aid (PAH), coordinating with local authorities for immediate cash assistance, longer-term plans for cash for work support, gender-based violence assistance, and psychosocial support to those arriving and staying in temporary shelters.

**In Ukraine,** CARE is guiding and supporting several partner organizations, including Charity Foundation Stabilization Support Services (CFSSS), International Renaissance Foundation (IRF), and four Ukrainian women's rights organizations, to implement programs that support women and other marginalized groups in areas of conflict in Ukraine. Aid is focused on cash assistance, shelter, and non-food items, food security, health (including sexual, reproductive, and maternal health) as well as protection.



CARE is also working through partner People in Need in Ukraine to provide food, water, hygiene items, key non-food items such as mattresses, sleeping bags, and blankets, psychosocial support and protection, and sanitation facilities at the overcrowded border crossing areas.



# 1 month of war

## 5 ways women and girls are affected by the Ukraine conflict

As with all conflicts, the crisis in Ukraine is disproportionately affecting women and girls, both within the country and those fleeing across borders. Just one month since war broke out, CARE has identified five key areas where more support and attention are urgently needed.

### 1. Exploitation, abuse, and trafficking

“Currently the incidents of trafficking we are aware of are anecdotal, which is concerning,” said CARE’s humanitarian advocacy coordinator Delphine Pinault. “The lack of information and processes to register and track people arriving in neighboring countries from Ukraine is extremely worrying.”

### 2. Risk of infant and mother mortality

An estimated 80,000 women in Ukraine are expected to give birth in the next three months, and many of them now find themselves without access to adequate maternal healthcare. Of these women, 12,000 are anticipated to require life-saving emergency obstetric and newborn care.

### 3. Psychological trauma

Around 500,000 Ukrainian refugees arriving in Poland are thought to be suffering from trauma but actual numbers are likely to be much higher. Families have been ripped apart, ordinary citizens have had to take up arms, and millions of children are at risk of missing out on education as the conflict continues and schools are forced to close.



©Adrienne Surprenant/MYOP

### 4. Heightened risks of domestic violence

“Conflict and traumatic situations often result in increased tensions within families, that can unfortunately manifest in violence, aggression or abuse,” Pinault said. “In such situations, we tend to forget that men and boys, particularly those who were forced to pick up a gun or who have witnessed atrocities, are also traumatized.”

### 5. Hunger

Food is scarce across conflict-affected areas in Ukraine. Globally, price spikes and food shortages triggered by the Ukraine crisis are having serious effects on women and girls, from Egypt to Yemen to Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. “Over 90 percent of wheat supplies in Somalia come from Russia and Ukraine. With the supply chain interrupted, we are concerned about what will happen when current supplies run out,” said Iman Abdullahi, CARE Somalia Country Director.

**“I hope that... this war will stop soon and these peace talks will be fruitful. I am so afraid to lose my family members; I can’t even bear to think about it. I want to say thank you so much for the donations.”**

– Anna, Ukrainian refugee in Issacea, Romania

## BY THE NUMBERS



**4,215,047**

refugees fleeing Ukraine since Feb. 24<sup>1</sup>  
(Up 14.70% from last week)



**6.5 million**

internally displaced<sup>2</sup>

### Neighboring countries receiving refugee influx:<sup>1</sup>

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1. Poland:</b> 2.45M<br>(Up 12.90% from last week) | <b>5. Russian Federation:</b> 351K <sup>3</sup><br>(Up 29.52%) |
| <b>2. Romania:</b> 643K<br>(Up 14.00%)                | <b>6. Slovakia:</b> 301K<br>(Up 15.77%)                        |
| <b>3. Moldova:</b> 394K<br>(Up 5.35%)                 | <b>7. Belarus:</b> 15K<br>(Up 150%)                            |
| <b>4. Hungary:</b> 390K<br>(Up 17.82%)                |  |

**2,038**

civilians injured<sup>4</sup>  
(Up 23.52% from last week)

**859**

education facilities damaged or destroyed<sup>5</sup>  
(Up 56.75% from last week)

**82**

healthcare facilities damaged or destroyed<sup>6</sup>  
(Up 28.13% from last week)

**90%** of Mariupol’s residential buildings have been affected by active fighting, with some 40% completely destroyed.<sup>7</sup>

#### SOURCES

<sup>1</sup>UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), April 3, 2022; <sup>2</sup>International Organization for Migration, March 16; <sup>3</sup>UNHCR, March 29; <sup>4</sup>UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), March 31; <sup>5</sup>Multiple sources, April 1; <sup>6</sup>World Health Organization (WHO), March 30; <sup>7</sup>Ukraine Ministry for Education and Science, March 30

# Empathy in the Ukraine refugee crisis

Andreeas Novacovici, a social worker and president of the YouHub Association in Romania, is partnering with CARE to respond to the Ukraine crisis. Through the Federation of Child Protection NGOs (FONPC), CARE supports YouHub with office containers and funds to hire social workers and psychologists to work with the most vulnerable, including children, at border entry points such as Isaccea in the east of Romania.

## ***How is YouHub responding to the Ukraine crisis?***

When the Ukraine crisis happened, we adapted our work to help those inside Ukraine and fleeing the country. We have been able to send humanitarian aid trucks to Kyiv and Lviv; we sent over beds, medical kits and blankets and clothes that people seeking shelter now in hospitals can use after long journeys. We also sent baby kits, or “victory” kits (we like to call them) for mothers with new babies.

At the border point in Isaccea, with CARE funding, we are planning to set up a base with containers for a permanent office for humanitarian aid coordination of all the items being sent over to Ukraine and also to register children that will need to stay in Romania for longer and need specialized items. The containers we will set up will also serve as well as a sleeping unit so that we can cover 24/7 shifts.

## ***What motivates you to help?***

In my organization we are all “care leavers” – people who grew up in children’s institutions and orphanages – so for us it is also personal. We know what it means to be separated from your family or to be away from your home, taken by the services and being frustrated because you don’t know where you are; passing through different homes, different shelters. We know this, we went through this, and as a result we are more empathic because of this.

In my case, from the first hour of birth, I was left in the hospital. The woman who brought me to this world left, and the only item that I have from her is the birth bracelet from the hospital which had my name – Andreeas – on it... I’m 27 years old now and for 25 years I grew up in four different institutions.

**“We know what it means to be separated from your family”**



## **DONATE NOW**

CARE partners are on the borders of Ukraine in Poland, Romania, and Moldova to meet families fleeing war with emergency aid.

