CARE Ukraine Crisis Update

Progress report: CARE crisis fund

As of June 22, CARE has raised more than $119 million toward our goal of $150 million.

This support has allowed CARE International to reach more than 416,000 people in the region.

CARE has been providing vital supplies and services like food and hygiene kits, temporary accommodations, evacuation support, cash assistance, and psychosocial support.

Across the region, CARE is working through approximately 25 partner organizations.
As conflict drags on, refugee needs deepen

Media reports now may lack images of fleeing Ukrainian refugees at the Polish border, but this doesn’t mean the refugee situation has become less dire. On the contrary, there are signs that the situation of refugees is even more fragile and deserves the keen attention of humanitarians.

Trauma and its aftermath

Many faced shelling and witnessed atrocities, often barely avoiding disaster themselves. Diana from Mariupol talks about living on a basic bread of flour and water and drinking boiled river water to survive. Reports are surfacing that many internally displaced Ukrainians face acute hunger and have been forced to drink from contaminated water sources.

Additionally, the journeys of refugees have become much more difficult as they pass hostile forces and cross through numerous checkpoints. One female bus driver at the Hrebenne border crossing, who constantly ferries refugees from Lviv to Warsaw, said one group had watched murders from the bus windows and were heavily traumatized.

Of the more than four million Ukrainians that have crossed the border into Poland, 11 million have stayed there. About 90% of those are women and children. CARE has seen evidence that there is fatigue both in the Polish government and general population to maintain their support of refugees, which is not unexpected. However, Polish volunteers and NGOs are still working hard, and we are proud to continue supporting them.

Helping women navigate unfamiliar systems to get help

As Ukrainian refugees arrive and find themselves in a completely new place, they can find foreign health and legal systems and hard to navigate. In Poland, CARE has partnered with local organizations primarily specializing in helping women with their specific needs.

With CARE’s help, they have expanded their capacity to cater specifically to the added Ukrainian population:

• Through our partnership with Federa, CARE is helping pregnant and struggling Ukrainian women find health services in the complicated Polish health system. CARE and Federa are helping Ukrainian refugees with pre- and post-natal care, including the hiring of a Ukrainian gynecologist.

• Polish Migration Forum (PMF) provides broad services from direct support to migrants (psychological, job market, legal) as well as trainings (for teachers, psychologists, government officials). CARE’s partnership will focus on supporting their women’s program which includes childbirth classes and support groups for mothers of young children. PMF is expanding its programs to specifically support women and children fleeing Ukraine, including hiring Ukrainian speaking midwives and psychologists.

• CARE’s partnership with Autonomia focuses on supporting their Solidarity Feminist Center in Krakow – safe space services and activities for all women, including women from Ukraine; and violence prevention activities through building capacity to prevent, recognize and respond to violence.

Our efforts and commitment to helping Ukrainian women in Poland is adaptable; in addition to expanding services, we found that many refugees did not know about many services available to them. In response, we gave out more than 6,000 info cards and placed them at refugee centers and border crossings. The cards, available in Ukrainian, Russian, Polish and English, outline the specific services available and the hotlines and websites of service-providers.

Working with partners, CARE has reached:

- 380,932 people in Ukraine
- 27,902 people in Poland
- 6,000 people in Romania & Moldova
- 2,080 people in Georgia

CARE is also providing support to Ukrainian refugees in Germany and Slovakia

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After school, then what?

In Poland, where the school year wrapped up in late June, the summer of 2022 is not like the prior summer, with many Ukrainian refugees also released for the seasonal break. So CARE has responded with the Summer in the City program in Lublin, Poland, which will provide workshops and other recreational activities during the summer months for Ukrainian and Polish children across the country.

These programs not only help integrate Ukrainian kids into Polish society but also provide childcare for Ukrainian families who have found employment in Poland. The program will become a part of ongoing after school programming offered to Ukrainian refugees in Poland to support them to stay employed.

BY THE NUMBERS

9,152,696 refugees fleeing Ukraine since Feb. 24¹ (Up 34.56% from May 29 update)

6.3 million internally displaced² (Down 21.25% from May 27 update)

Neighboring countries receiving refugee influx:

1. Poland: 4.51M
2. Russian Federation: 1.64M
3. Hungary: 950K
4. Romania: 832K
5. Moldova: 532K
6. Slovakia: 589K
7. Belarus: 17K

6,520 civilians injured³ (Up 32.63% from June 1 update)

380 healthcare facilities damaged or destroyed⁶ (Up 41.26% from May 31 update)

2,315 education facilities damaged or destroyed⁷ (Up 26.02% from May 26 update)

SOURCES
¹UN High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), July 13, 2022; ²International Organization for Migration (IOM), June 23; ³UN High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), July 12; ⁴UN High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), July 11; ⁵UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), July 13; ⁶World Health Organization (WHO), July 10; ⁷Multiple Sources, July 8