

THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN ROMANIA: 18 MONTH REPORT



OVERVIEW OF RESPONSE IN ROMANIA



Non-Food Items
8,225
Individuals reached



Humanitarian Movement
20,000
Individuals reached



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
2,600
Individuals reached



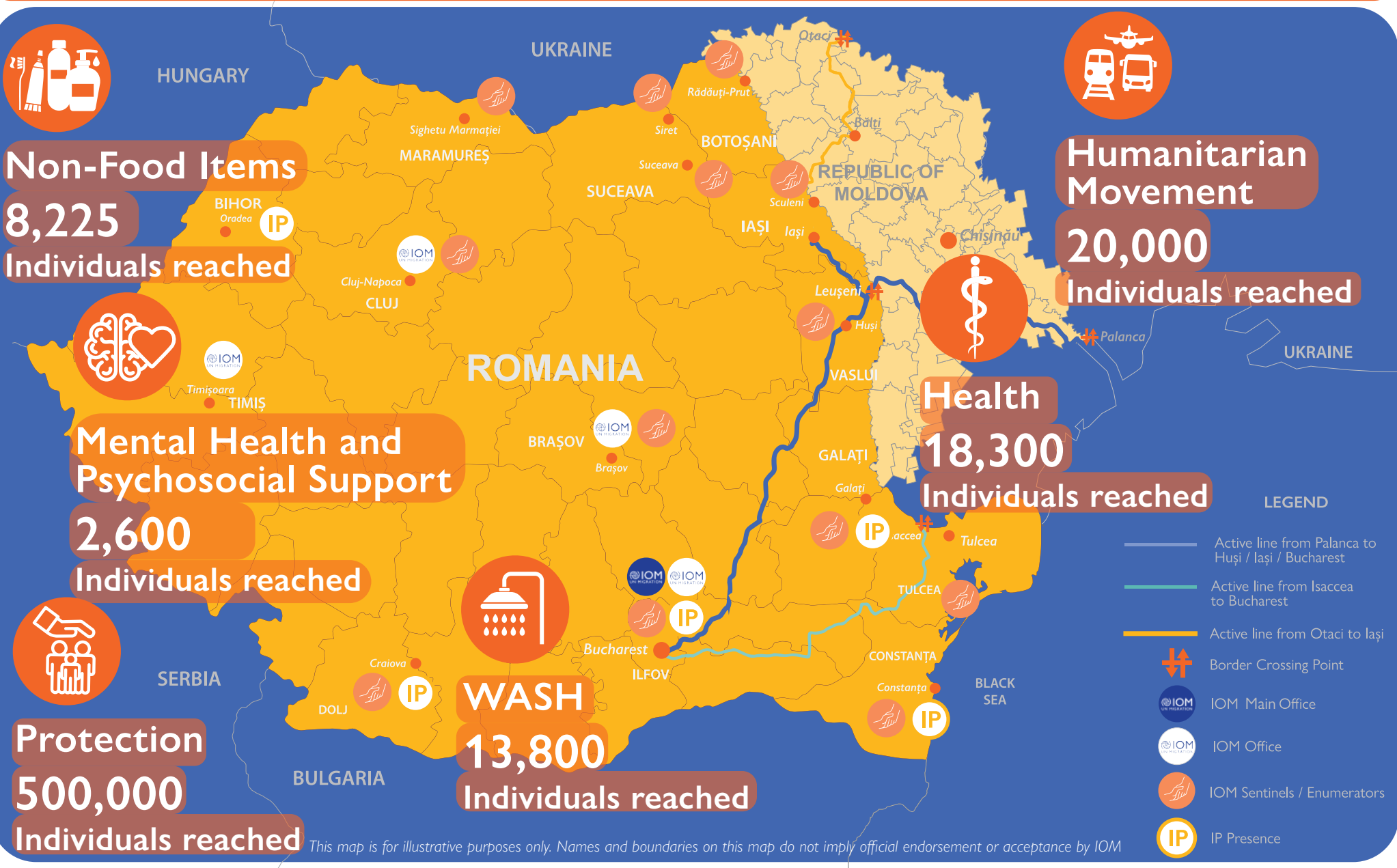
Health
18,300
Individuals reached



Protection
500,000
Individuals reached



WASH
13,800
Individuals reached



- LEGEND**
- Active line from Palanca to Huşi / Iaşi / Bucharest
 - Active line from Isaccea to Bucharest
 - Active line from Otaci to Iaşi
 - Border Crossing Point
 - IOM Main Office
 - IOM Office
 - IOM Sentinels / Enumerators
 - IP Presence

This map is for illustrative purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM



Ukraine Response: Finding Hope in Romania

The war in Ukraine has seriously affected people's access to crucial services including water, electricity, heating, health care, education, and social protection, disproportionately impacting the lives of people who live in inaccessible and hard-to-reach areas. The war has also taken a toll on the most vulnerable, particularly those in the war-stricken areas, displaced people, elderly people, women, and children, and those living in poverty. As one of the neighbouring countries, Romania was the first country that millions of Ukrainians fled to. As of July 2023, over 5.5 million people entered Romania, and over 138,000 of these had received Temporary Protection.

IOM Romania acted immediately, launching the Ukraine Response. Though this, we provide humanitarian assistance; organise safe and orderly movements; deliver assistance and capacity building to organisations, authorities, and frontline responders in key areas of the humanitarian response, including protection; ensure access to information and counselling; provide screening for vulnerabilities; support with distribution of non-food items (NFIs) and hygiene products; provide medical, mental health and psychosocial support; as well as provide educational, socio-relational, and other inclusion activities.

Humanitarian Movement: Moldova - Romania

Throughout the Ukraine Response, IOM Romania has provided ground transportation for people fleeing from Ukraine at the Ukrainian–Moldovan border, safely bringing them to locations within Romania. The fast-track transfer lines have been jointly developed by IOM and UNHCR, together with the Governments of Romania and the Republic of Moldova. IOM Romania also runs a humanitarian bus line to Bucharest from the border crossing with



Ukraine at Isaccea. To date, these bus lines have helped to safely transfer over 20,000 unique individuals.

IOM Romania has assisted in onward travel to final destinations in locations outside of Romania for persons with vulnerabilities. Internal transfers between cities in Romania have also been provided to over 300 persons, including medical cases.



Health Assistance and Capacity Support

IOM Romania continues to facilitate access to healthcare providers and specialists, through medical evaluations, prescriptions, recommendations, and referrals. Since 24 February 2022, IOM Romania has provided health services to more than 18,200 persons, 6,900 medical evaluations, and made in excess of 3,000 referrals to specialised care. IOM Romania also assists with the provision of eyeglasses, hearing aids, and other equipment for refugees and migrants.

With Romania currently hosting well over 100,000 Ukrainians, the public hospitals, and social institutions are facing unprecedented pressure. To develop the capacity of the health system to deal with this increased pressure, IOM Romania has supported public health units around Romania with vital medical equipment. IOM has provided over 25,700 medical items and pieces of equipment to 45 hospitals in 16 counties across Romania. The items include urgently needed medical devices; syringes, gowns, gloves, and surgical equipment; drug test kits; and more.

Additionally, IOM Romania has assisted over 2,600 people with mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) in the past 18 months.

Counseling, Protection and Information

IOM Romania continues to utilise its 360-degree approach in assistance to those fleeing Ukraine. This helps us to reduce vulnerabilities by taking a holistic approach that includes information and counselling, protection, legal counselling, health assistance, socio-cultural activities, and transport.



This approach also relies heavily on the use of enumerators in the DTM network, conducting regular data collection to ensure that the support provided is tailored to meet the needs of the affected population.

Throughout the Ukraine Response, IOM Romania has provided protection information to over 500,000 people, and assisted over 40,000 people through the Sentinel network, a group of intercultural mediators.



Inclusion Programming and Feeling Welcome

IOM Romania's efforts over the past 18 months have continued to evolve. The first months were crisis response – dealing with the immediate, short-term needs. Today, while still assisting those who continue to flee supporting their humanitarian movement and other basic needs, the centre of attention has shifted towards inclusion. Inclusion means ensuring the people now residing in Romania have access to the services and information they need, not only to access their legal entitlements, but also to feel welcome and included.

This involves working with the Government, host communities and partner organisations to enhance inclusive practices across Romania.

This approach saw us launch our Ukraine Information Centre in Bucharest, as well as expand our network of Sentinels, offices, and partners across the country.

To assist in issues with the language barrier, IOM Romania and partners host Romanian language lessons for adults and children all over the country, aimed to help with their inclusion in the workplace, schools, and communities. Over 12,000 people have registered with IOM for integrated support (information, counselling, livelihoods, etc.), 1,750 have taken part in language training, and 2,500 have participated in socio-relational/wellbeing activities.

Looking to the Future

IOM Romania has recognised that those Ukrainians who have made Romania their home for now must be supported and included until they are safe to go home. Therefore, as the context and the needs of those now living in Romania evolve, so too must our response.

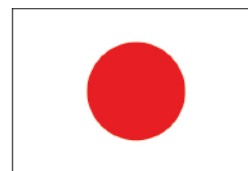
To keep pace with the evolution of needs, IOM will continue to use the DTM enumerators to track trends and needs – ensuring accountability to, and effective engagement of, affected people. IOM will also maintain and develop its network of partners and offices across the country, to ensure a fair distribution of assistance and inclusion programming.

The future is in inclusion and through strengthening the capacity of the local authorities to provide sustained support to Ukrainians and other foreign nationals residing in their host communities.

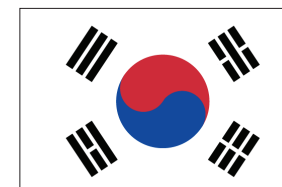
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