1. OVERVIEW

War in Ukraine has resulted in at least 4,302 civilian deaths and an additional 5,217 civilian injuries, as of June 8, 2022 (midnight, local time), according to the UNHCR. Actual figures are believed to be considerably higher, particularly as reports of information from areas of heavy ongoing conflict – including the Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Luhansk regions – still pend confirmation. Over 15.7 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian aid, according to estimates from the UN and humanitarian partners.

Damage and destruction to residential areas and civilian infrastructure serves as a major obstacle to people accessing essential resources, such as water and food, as well as healthcare and other critical services. Many civilians in Ukraine are sheltering without basic aid and unable to be reached or evacuated safely. Additionally, unexploded ordnance poses major peril to civilians, as nearly half of Ukraine requires demining due to the ongoing military conflict, according to SESU.

As of June 9, 2022, nearly 7.3 million border crossings from Ukraine have been recorded since war activities commenced on February 24, 2022, according to UNHCR, resulting in the largest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II. A total of 4.8 million refugees have been recorded across...
Europe, 3.2 million of whom have registered for protective status in Europe. Of the Ukrainian diaspora, 2.3 million people have returned to Ukraine, though this does not indicate a long-term return to the country as volatile conditions persist. 

More than 8 million Ukrainians (18% of total population) are currently internally displaced according to recent estimates from the International Organization for Migration (IOM). According to REACH, constant displacement of families and movement of internally displaced people (IDPs) has created significant challenge in acquiring accurate data on IDPs and their needs, limiting the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance.

2. CORE’S RESPONSE

CORE is working with international and local partners to address the urgent humanitarian needs of those affected by the war in Ukraine, with operations in Poland, Romania, and Ukraine. Its current activities include:

- Working in border towns to provide Ukrainian refugees who have fled to Poland and Romania with cash assistance to help them get access to essential items, such as food, water, and safe transit to shelter.
- Providing emergency relief supplies, including hygiene kits, as well as medication and other essential resources to meet basic needs.
- Supporting community-based refugee centers with supplies and institutional support to help them continue aiding refugees and improve living situations.
- Supporting mental health and protection services for refugees, targeting women and children.
- Assessing evolving needs of Ukrainian refugees, identifying CORE’s further engagement with relevant partners.
- Partnering with collective shelters in Ukraine to provide IDPs with critical resources, including food, water, essential resources, and cash assistance.

| 125,000 pounds of resources distributed | 37,000 individuals supported to date | $132,000 cash assistance distributed |

CORE’s mission is to empower communities in and beyond crisis.

More information: [www.coreresponse.org](http://www.coreresponse.org), and follow CORE on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
Activities

3. ACTIVITIES

Highlights:

April 30
Poland
- CORE supports local initiative Soup for Ukraine’s social integration event in Krakow with 1,000 people, offering joint dialogue workshops for Polish and Ukrainian children, food workshops and food distribution for Ukrainian refugees, and more activities.
- CORE staff supports a total of 2,102 refugees at train stations in Poland throughout April.

May 5
Romania
- CORE set up a community hub in Galati to provide informational resources
- CORE delivers 1,000 kg fresh fruits to Romexpo

May 12
Romania
- Delivery of 2 refrigerators donated by FARA to temporary shelter for refugees on Ukrainian border in Orlovka

May 23
Ukraine
- Cash distribution in Ukraine started through a local partner

May 26
Romania
- Delivery of 2,005 kg fresh fruits to Romexpo and of 28 kg fresh vegetables and fruits to Carusel

June 1
Poland
- 1,926 toys distributed within International Children’s Day activities
- Grant agreement signed with Full Market, large-scale transition center in Rzeszow

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Romania
- Delivery of 8 pallets of toys to children in Reni on International Children’s Day
- Purchasing needed supplies for the renovation of the Sports Hall Shelter in Ismail.

June 4
Poland
- First of three full day trainings on gender-based violence (GBV) was conducted by VOICE for CORE staff and shelter managers to build knowledge and capacity in protection related issues.
- Draft MoU sent to the City of Przemysl to co-manage TESCO, the largest transition/reception center in Poland

June 9
Poland
- CORE has committed $240,000 in flexible cash assistance in Poland. Beneficiaries are provided this assistance primarily through direct distribution at informal shelters.
  - $91,000 has been distributed already, to date.
  - 621 beneficiaries served; 95% of households are women-led
  - Commitment includes pledged refills of cash cards, in partnership with Mastercard and EML

Romania
- Grant agreements finalized between CORE and FARA, Carusel, Concordia and JRS for second phase of CTP implementation in Bucharest area
- Delivery of first shipment of the needed supplies for the renovation of the Sports Hall Shelter in Ismail
Resource Coordination

CORE is distributing the following resources to support refugees and those internally displaced within Ukraine:

- Food & water, kitchen appliances
- Medicine
- Basic needs – clothing, diapers, feminine hygiene products
- Shelter – cleaning supplies, mattresses, bedding, refrigerators, washing machines, renovations
- Cash assistance
- WASH – towels, soap, toothbrush/paste
- Transportation – fuel

4. NEXT STEPS

CORE’s immediate priorities for the response are:

- Continue to identify and provide technical support to grassroots community organizations and other local CBOs working to assist Ukrainian refugees and Ukrainians unable or unwilling to leave the country
- Establish new NGO and CBO partnerships for service delivery in Poland, Romania, Ukraine, and other neighboring countries as needed
- Assess evolving needs of refugees and adapt support measures accordingly
- Continue to roll-out cash assistance program at shelter locations
- Conduct assessment of cash programming to continue focus on reaching the most vulnerable
- Assess gaps for humanitarian relief within Ukraine and build partnerships with local community-based organizations to determine additional support measures
- Work with partners to operate volunteer program to continue to add capacity to relief operations in Poland and Romania