

COUNTRY CHAPTER

# LITHUANIA



# > At a Glance

## Country Planned Response (January 2025 - December 2026)



**60,000**

refugee population planned for assistance



**20.6M**

total financial requirements in USD



**12**

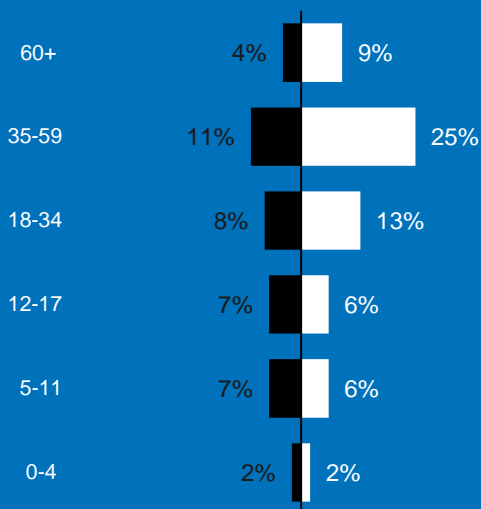
RRP partners

### Population planning figures

CURRENT POPULATION AS OF DECEMBER 2024	POPULATION PLANNED FOR ASSISTANCE	
	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
Refugee Population	55,000	60,000

### Age and gender breakdown

■ Male ■ Female



**6%**

People with disabilities



**61%**

Women and girls



**39%**

Men and boys



**31%**

Children

## Part 1: Current Situation

### Situation Overview

As of November 2024, Lithuania had cumulatively registered more than 91,000 refugees from Ukraine, with more than 47,000 of them currently holding valid temporary residence permits as beneficiaries of temporary protection. This is about 3.3 per cent of the entire population. This influx remains the largest in Lithuania's history.

Since the beginning of the conflict in 2022, Lithuania has shown strong commitment to receive and support refugees fleeing Ukraine. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour coordinates the overall refugee response, with municipalities and civil society playing direct roles in receiving and supporting refugees. The approach to date has focused on the inclusion of refugees from Ukraine into the national education system of Lithuania, public services, and the employment market. The collaborative efforts of the Government, civil society, and Lithuanian communities has focused on a comprehensive whole-of-society approach for the reception and protection of Ukrainian refugees.

Despite the whole-of-society approach and tailored assistance focused on immediate needs as well as services available for people with specific needs, refugees continue to face challenges to be able to fully support themselves and their families.

The RRP has been developed in partnership with Government and NGO partners to respond to these ongoing challenges, while recognizing the importance of international collaboration. RRP partners in Lithuania will complement the government response working in partnership with government initiatives to support Ukrainian refugees. Given the small number of partners operating in Lithuania, specific sectors are not established, therefore key activities will be organized around four strategic objectives as outlined in this plan.

### Country Risks and Needs

In 2024, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, in collaboration with UNHCR, organized NGO consultation workshops to assess the key needs of refugees in Lithuania. The workshops identified several challenges, including social integration, access to mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), language learning, and enhancing social cohesion.

The 2024 Socio-Economic Insights Survey (SEIS) shows that while most refugees from Ukraine in Lithuania experience stable living conditions and supportive communities, 15-20 per cent face difficulties that require targeted help. These challenges primarily include the need for livelihoods support, language courses and accommodation assistance. Currently, 13 per cent of refugees still live in collective accommodation, and 53 per cent of households are sharing a single room. Access to healthcare and medicines remains a concern, especially for those with disabilities or chronic illnesses, with 17 per cent of individuals reporting constraints in accessing health care and 40 per cent not having health insurance. NGOs also report a continued high demand for humanitarian support and the importance of ongoing programmes like individual social counselling, assistance in accessing government services, and cash assistance.

Seamless integration of refugees from Ukraine into the Lithuanian labour market resulted in high employment rates, but concerns persist about potential de-skilling and downward mobility, as many have taken up low-skilled positions as temporary work. Employment support programmes, including those offered by NGOs, are crucial to help refugees secure jobs that match their skills and qualifications.

The need for mental health and psychosocial support remains high, with 26 per cent of refugees from Ukraine reporting mental distress impacting their daily lives. Half of those experiencing mental distress sought support, and the majority reporting improved well-being after receiving help. Women, especially those over 60, are more often affected, but older women tend to seek help less frequently. The role of NGOs in facilitating access to government services, along with efforts to reduce the stigma around seeking professional psychosocial support, will be crucial in overcoming remaining barriers.

Lithuanian language learning remains a critical issue. According to the 2024 Socio-Economic Insights Survey, 25 per cent of refugees from Ukraine in Lithuania understand basic Lithuanian, and 31 per cent are interested in taking language courses within the next six months. With limited state-funded language programmes currently available, NGOs will continue to play a crucial role in bridging the gap, connecting refugees to resources and offering essential language support.

While most refugees from Ukraine report positive interactions with local communities, they still struggle to form strong social ties. The 2024 Socio-Economic Insights Survey showed that 31 per cent of refugee children have no friends in the host community and 30 per cent of refugees experienced discrimination or hostility related to language or nationality. NGOs can help address these gaps by organizing social activities and community-building initiatives that promote understanding between refugees and local citizens.

## Part 2: Country Response and Solutions Strategy

### Strategic Objectives and Cross-Sectoral Responses

Given the small number of partners operating in Lithuania, specific sectors are not established. Therefore, the collective cross sectoral response of RRP partner activities will be structured around the four strategic objectives as outlined below and aligned with government priorities. Further details of the specific activities which will be undertaken by each partner are provided in the partner activities table.

#### **Strategic Objective 1: Support Lithuania to ensure that refugees have continued access to protection, legal status, and rights, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups and including age and gender considerations.**

In 2025 and 2026, partners in Lithuania will implement initiatives aimed at enhancing refugee access to legal status, protection and fundamental rights. Protection monitoring will identify challenges faced by refugees, guiding advocacy with Lithuanian authorities to address systemic

barriers. Community empowerment initiatives will enhance refugee resilience, while counselling services will assist refugees in navigating state institutions and accessing essential information on legal processes, documentation, rights and services.

To support vulnerable groups, partners will organize seminars for refugee women on gender-based violence (GBV) and provide tailored case management and institutional mediation for women at risk. Social worker consultations will deliver essential information for refugee families with children and pregnant women, including referrals to essential services. To meet the basic needs of refugees with specific needs and new arrivals, partners will provide multi-purpose cash assistance, temporary accommodation and rental assistance. Psycho-social support will prioritize parents and pregnant women with workshops and awareness-raising activities on parenting and mental health. Partners will deliver MHPSS training to social workers, educators and Ukrainian mental health professionals, and develop rehabilitation protocols to ensure effective healthcare and MHPSS delivery to affected refugees. These efforts aim to strengthen Lithuania's refugee response, ensuring refugees have effective access to protection, legal status and rights.

**Strategic Objective 2: Support Lithuania in their efforts to include refugees in national systems – decent work, social protection, health, education, child protection services – with a particular focus on outreach and inclusion of vulnerable groups and including, age gender and disability considerations.**

UNHCR and partners in Lithuania will advance the inclusion of refugees in national systems, with particular focus on vulnerable groups. Key efforts will aim to enhance access to employment, social protection, healthcare, education and child protection services. To enhance access to employment, partners will deliver tailored training on entrepreneurship, digital literacy and language skills, alongside employment case management and networking opportunities with local employers and state representatives. Small grant programmes will support refugee-led social projects and businesses, while women's leadership programmes will enhance economic opportunities for refugee women.

Efforts towards effective inclusion of refugee children and youth into the national education system will focus on psychosocial support and educational assistance, including after-school tutoring and language classes. Vulnerable groups, such as large families and people with disabilities, will be supported with financial assistance to address urgent needs and mitigate harmful coping strategies. Community support initiatives will raise awareness on exploitation and human trafficking, while digital literacy workshops will promote digital inclusion and counter disinformation. Additionally, a network of health mediators will support refugees in accessing health services, ensuring their effective inclusion in the national health system.

Through these targeted interventions, UNHCR and partners aim to strengthen refugee resilience and facilitate their meaningful inclusion in Lithuania's national systems.

### **Strategic Objective 3: Strengthen social cohesion between refugee communities and their hosts in Lithuania.**

In 2025 and beyond, UNHCR and partners in Lithuania will work to strengthen social cohesion between refugees and host communities through inclusive activities.

To support social integration, partners will implement family mentorship and friendship programmes, fostering connections between refugees and host community members. These initiatives will strengthen social networks, promote community support and encourage cultural exchange. Refugee-led initiatives and dialogue platforms will further facilitate mutual understanding and promote empathy.

Capacity-building efforts will focus on empowering local community leaders and professionals to engage effectively with refugees. This will include cultural sensitivity training for municipalities, educators and front-line workers, as well as grants to support community-led initiatives. Joint capacity-building programmes will engage both local and refugee communities in shared learning, enhancing skills and fostering collaboration. Mobile youth worker teams will engage refugee youth through social inclusion activities such as volunteering and informal education.

MHPSS activities will be integrated into these efforts to enhance resilience and well-being. Collaboration between local and refugee mental health professionals will focus on promoting emotional resilience, providing psychosocial support and strengthening community bonds. As part of this, partners will also provide training to refugee mental health specialists, enhancing their capacity to deliver support and care within their communities. By fostering social connections and supporting community-driven solutions, UNHCR and partners will contribute to building inclusive communities that promote mutual understanding.

### **Strategic Objective 4: Advance the localization of the response in Lithuania, by supporting national and local civil society, municipalities and local authorities, as well as coordination structures, sharing and building capacities and supporting sustainable programming.**

The RRP for the Ukraine situation aims to foster a whole-of-society, inter-agency approach for an effective response. In Lithuania, UNHCR and partners will coordinate activities that complement Government efforts, focusing on localization through capacity-building among national and local actors.

Through targeted capacity development initiatives, UNHCR will support partners in delivering assistance and addressing service gaps, empowering them to take greater ownership of the response. Partners will also play a crucial role in strengthening the capacity of national and local actors, including delivering Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training for first-line workers and conducting awareness-raising campaigns to help refugees recognize and respond to SEA risks. Additionally, partners will provide MHPSS training for mental health professionals working with refugees and conduct health system needs assessments to identify and address gaps in health services for refugees.

Partners will carry out protection monitoring and data collection to assess refugee needs and integration challenges, which will inform advocacy with Government authorities to enhance

services and integration efforts. Coordination of RRP activities will align with the Government's comprehensive approach to the Ukraine refugee situation, ensuring a cohesive response. By consulting and supporting the capacity of national and local actors, partners aim to advance localization, ensuring a sustainable and effective response to the challenges faced by refugees in Lithuania.

### Cross-Cutting Priorities of the RRP

- Accountability to Affected Populations
- Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)
- Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)
- One-Refugee Approach
- Sustainability
- Government Ownership

*Read more in the Regional Overview p.21*

## Partnership and Coordination

In Lithuania, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (MSSL) performs the lead role in the coordination of Government response, including refugee-inclusive policy implementation. Among other activities, the Ministry hosts interagency meetings, where a spectrum of government and civil society actors update each other on the latest developments in the response and informally discuss any needed specific actions. The MSSL is also the key government interlocutor for civil society response actors more generally. Given this coordination forum, those RRP partners that form part of the government-led inter-agency meetings will capitalize on the coordination mechanism in place and utilize it strategically for the purpose of advancing specific RRP objectives. UNHCR will also facilitate government and civil society interactions and exchanges as needed on specific topics such as conducting needs assessments and supporting planning activities. Partner's resource mobilization activities will be supported using information management tools to strengthen visibility and donor engagement on behalf of RRP partners, including refugee-led organizations.

## Country Coordination Structure





## Part 3: Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

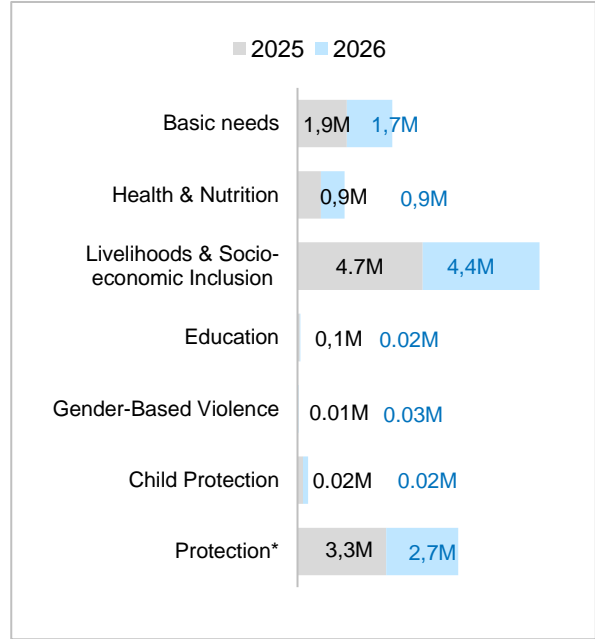
### Budget summary by type at country level

PARTNER TYPE	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN USD		
	2025	2026	TOTAL
<b>UN agencies</b>	7,606,357	6,842,669	14,449,026
<b>IFRC and Red Cross</b>	581,609	488,636	1,070,245
<b>National NGOs</b>	1,829,595	1,586,695	3,416,290
Faith-based organizations	927,695	786,695	1,714,390
Refugee-led organizations*	774,800	624,800	1,399,600
Woman-led organizations*	801,900	800,000	1,601,900
<b>International NGOs</b>	850,000	850,000	1,700,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,867,561</b>	<b>9,768,000</b>	<b>20,635,561</b>

\* One organization can be classified in multiple sub-categories (women-led, refugee-led, faith-based, etc.), the individual sub-categories can therefore not be added to arrive at the total.

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which also collaborate with implementing partners additional to those listed here.

### Budget summary by sector at country level








\* Includes Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence

## Budget summary by partner at the country level





Partner	Year	Protection (excluding CP & GBV)	Child Protection (CP)	Gender-Based Violence (GBV)	Education	Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion	Health & Nutrition	Basic Needs	Total in US\$	TOTAL
<b>UN Agencies</b>										
UN International Organization for Migration	2025	335,000	-	-	-	2,295,000	525,000	725,000	3,880,000	<b>7,460,000</b>
	2026	285,000	-	-	-	2,095,000	525,000	675,000	3,580,000	
UN World Health Organization	2025	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000	<b>120,000</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,000	
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	2025	2,584,610	-	-	-	1,091,747	-	-	3,676,357	<b>6,869,026</b>
	2026	2,046,327	-	-	-	1,146,342	-	-	3,192,669	
<b>IFRC and Red Cross</b>										
Lithuanian Red Cross	2025	-	-	-	-	186,200	302,436	92,973	581,609	<b>1,070,245</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	186,200	302,436	-	488,636	
<b>National NGOs</b>										
Artscape	2025	-	-	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000	<b>80,000</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000	
Atviros Tautos (Open Nations)	2025	-	-	-	-	314,800	-	-	314,800	<b>629,600</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	314,800	-	-	314,800	
Caritas Lithuania	2025	-	-	-	-	278,078	-	508,617	786,695	<b>1,573,390</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	278,078	-	508,617	786,695	
Frida	2025	16,500	-	11,000	24,350	35,250	-	-	87,100	<b>222,300</b>
	2026	49,300	-	26,300	24,350	35,250	-	-	135,200	
Order of Malta Relief Organization	2025	22,000	-	-	57,000	62,000	-	-	141,000	<b>141,000</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Refugee Council of Lithuania	2025	-	-	-	-	100,000	-	-	100,000	<b>100,000</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ukreate Hub	2025	50,000	-	-	-	310,000	-	-	360,000	<b>670,000</b>
	2026	-	-	-	-	310,000	-	-	310,000	
<b>International NGOs</b>										

Partner	Year	Protection (excluding CP & GBV)	Child Protection (CP)	Gender-Based Violence (GBV)	Education	Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion	Health & Nutrition	Basic Needs	Total in US\$	TOTAL
Save the Children	2025	116,477	201,529	-	-	-	-	531,994	850,000	<b>1,700,000</b>
	2026	116,477	201,529	-	-	-	-	531,994	850,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,621,691</b>	<b>403,058</b>	<b>37,300</b>	<b>105,700</b>	<b>9,118,745</b>	<b>1,774,872</b>	<b>3,574,195</b>	<b>20,635,561</b>	<b>20,635,561</b>

## RRP Monitoring Framework

Sector	Indicator	Target		
		YEAR 1	YEAR 2	
	Protection	# of individuals who have been supported in accessing protection services	<b>8,000</b>	<b>7,610</b>
	Child Protection	# of children provided with child protection services	<b>745</b>	<b>745</b>
	Gender-Based Violence	# of individuals who benefitted from GBV programmes	<b>140</b>	<b>210</b>
	Education	# of children and youth supported with education programming	<b>105</b>	<b>80</b>
	Health and Nutrition	# of individuals supported to access health services	<b>120</b>	<b>70</b>
	Health and Nutrition	# of health care providers trained to provide services to refugees	<b>250</b>	<b>300</b>
	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	# of individuals participating in MHPSS services and activities	<b>7,050</b>	<b>7,050</b>
	Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion	# of individuals who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	<b>24,260</b>	<b>23,160</b>
	Basic Needs	# of individuals who received assistance for basic needs	<b>8,050</b>	<b>7,500</b>

## Partner Activities in Lithuania

Sector	Partner	Activity Short Description	Contact
<b>Basic Needs</b> 	IOM	Providing rental assistance and NFIs for vulnerable migrants and humanitarian aid for newly arrived refugees, including food cards, temporary accommodation. Conducting data collection on needs.	<a href="mailto:inese@rigabiennial.com">inese@rigabiennial.com</a>
	Caritas Lithuania	Providing NFIs and assistance for school preparations, along with financial support for medications not funded by the government and newly arrived families.	<a href="mailto:erika.panova@caritas.lt">erika.panova@caritas.lt</a>
	Save the Children	Providing Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) for refugee families with children and pregnant women to cover basic needs and prevent negative coping strategies.	<a href="mailto:indre.liudanskiene@savethechildren.org">indre.liudanskiene@savethechildren.org</a>
	Lithuanian Red Cross	Offering Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) for accommodation to refugees and asylum-seekers.	<a href="mailto:justina.karaliute@redcross.lt">justina.karaliute@redcross.lt</a>
<b>Education</b> 	FRIDA	Organizing children's summer camps and teenage education series on adolescence challenges.	<a href="mailto:info@frida.lt">info@frida.lt</a>
	Order of Malta Relief Organization	Providing after-school tutoring for Ukrainian children, including conducting needs assessments for parents. Offering language lessons and clubs in Vilnius and Marijampole, along with adult tutoring and support.	<a href="mailto:ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt">ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt</a>
<b>Health &amp; Nutrition</b> 	Lithuanian Red Cross	Delivering MHPSS for refugees, including individual counselling and psychoeducational group activities.	<a href="mailto:justina.karaliute@redcross.lt">justina.karaliute@redcross.lt</a>
	IOM	Supporting war veterans' rehabilitation through MHPSS, developing best practice protocols, maintaining a health mediators' network, and organizing MHPSS training for professionals.	<a href="mailto:akurpyte@iom.int">akurpyte@iom.int</a>
	WHO	Providing MHPSS support for Ukrainian refugees, including health needs assessments and health promotion campaigns.	<a href="mailto:zurlytei@who.int">zurlytei@who.int</a>
<b>Livelihoods Inclusion</b> 	Refugee Council of Lithuania	Organizing entrepreneurship workshops enhancing digital skills, cybersecurity knowledge, and business language classes.	<a href="mailto:lina.grudulaite@refugeescouncil.org">lina.grudulaite@refugeescouncil.org</a>
	Caritas Lithuania	Providing case management involving social workers, psychologists, and lawyers, including consultations, financial aid, psychosocial support, language lessons, and mentorship programs.	<a href="mailto:darte.pelse@providus.lv">darte.pelse@providus.lv</a>
	Open Nations	Organizing family camps for emotional support and integration, the Resilient Community Architect Programme, social performances, and cross-cultural gatherings.	<a href="mailto:svitlanazaluzhna@gmail.com">svitlanazaluzhna@gmail.com</a>
	FRIDA	Conducting digital literacy and disinformation workshops, language practice clubs, and cultural engagement activities.	<a href="mailto:info@frida.lt">info@frida.lt</a>
	Lithuanian Red Cross	Offering cultural orientation courses, language clubs, and socio-economic inclusion support through employment case management.	<a href="mailto:egle@redcross.lt">egle@redcross.lt</a>
	IOM	Developing community leader skills, providing grants for inclusivity, capacity-building for municipalities, and operating the Migrant Information Center.	<a href="mailto:akurpyte@iom.int">akurpyte@iom.int</a>
	Ukreate Hub	Organizing community-led networking events, workshops by mental health professionals and women entrepreneurs, a small	<a href="mailto:eugenija.kovaliova@olf.lt">eugenija.kovaliova@olf.lt</a>

Sector	Partner	Activity Short Description	Contact
		grant programme, and a "Women Leadership and Advocacy Academy."	
	Order of Malta Relief Organization	Conducting capacity-building trainings and inclusion events for refugees and migrants.	<a href="mailto:ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt">ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt</a>
	Artscape	Strengthening social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities through various activities.	<a href="mailto:aiste@artscape.lt">aiste@artscape.lt</a>
	UNHCR	Facilitating inclusion through community outreach and engagement.	<a href="mailto:swest@unhcr.org">swest@unhcr.org</a>
 <b>Protection</b>	FRIDA	Organizing seminars on the Lithuanian legal system for Ukrainian women, along with providing psychological counselling and referral services.	<a href="mailto:info@frida.lt">info@frida.lt</a>
	Save the Children	Offering social worker consultations for refugee families, individual psychosocial support, positive parenting sessions, and group activities.	<a href="mailto:indre.liaudanskiene@savethechildren.org">indre.liaudanskiene@savethechildren.org</a>
	IOM	Conducting capacity-building for first-line workers on PSEA along with running a migration hotline and awareness campaigns on trafficking risks.	<a href="mailto:akurpyte@iom.int">akurpyte@iom.int</a>
	Ukreate Hub	Providing financial support and capacity building for organizations offering psychosocial support to displaced Ukrainians.	<a href="mailto:eugenija.kovaliova@olf.lt">eugenija.kovaliova@olf.lt</a>
	Order of Malta Relief Organization	Conducting psychological sessions in Kaunas and Vilnius to address common mental health issues among beneficiaries.	<a href="mailto:ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt">ina.venckaite@maltieciai.lt</a>
	UNHCR	Offering individual counselling and referrals for refugees to relevant services. Conducting protection monitoring for refugees, advocating with authorities, and ensuring access to legal counselling and representation.	<a href="mailto:swest@unhcr.org">swest@unhcr.org</a>