

# Russian Federation

July 2024

**Presence:** The UN Refugee Agency has been working in the Russian Federation since 1992. It currently operates through a Country Office located in Moscow.

**Legal Framework:** The Russian Federation is party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. The national refugee law was adopted in 1993.

As of 30 June 2024, **230 refugees, 13,933 temporary asylum status holders** and **3,368 asylum-seekers** were registered by the Ministry of the Interior (Moi) of the Russian Federation.

## KEY FIGURES ON REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

**1,212,585\***

refugees and displaced persons from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine recorded in Russia as of 30 June 2023

**UNHCR missions in 2024:** 16 missions carried out to 16 regions (Tatarstan, Bryansk, Vladimir, Rostov, Tver, North Ossetia-Alania, Kaluga, Krasnoyarsk, Novgorod, Arkhangelsk, Krasnodar Krai, Penza, Chelyabinsk, Omsk, Mordovia, Komi)

### UNHCR and partners response in 2024:

**25,341** refugees provided with information through telephone counselling/hotline of UNHCR and Partner NGOs

**21,756** refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

**13,837** refugees received protection services in border regions (Kursk, Belgorod, Voronezh, Rostov)

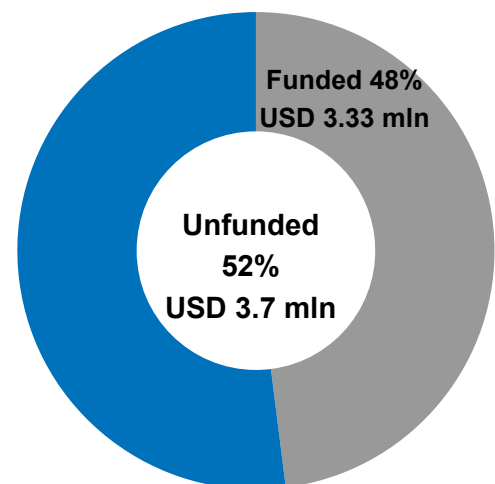
**7,596** refugees received protection services in other Russian regions (including Moscow and Saint Petersburg)

**UNHCR missions from 2022-2024:** 63 missions in 43 regions

## FUNDING (AS OF 31 JULY 2024)

**USD 7.0 million**

requested for the operation in Russia in 2024



UNHCR representatives visiting a medical point at a Temporary Accommodation Point in Mordovia © UNHCR



UNHCR meeting with refugees from Ukraine in Komi © UNHCR

- **Mission to Omsk.** From 8-11 July, UNHCR visited Omsk region, where meetings with refugees from Ukraine living in and outside of Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) were organized in cooperation with the Ministry for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Disaster Relief (EMERCOM). UNHCR visited a TAP and met with 23 refugees. Residents with children shared that they received assistance through the state-provided “maternity grant”. UNHCR also conducted a participatory assessment with refugees from Ukraine who live on their own, with the help of the regional branch of the Russian Red Cross (RRC). Refugees raised questions on the calculation of pensions and assessment of their work history. Officials from the Ministry of Labor and Social Development and the Social Fund had one-on-one meetings with refugees on pension issues.
- **Mission to Mordovia.** From 15-18 July, UNHCR visited the Republic of Mordovia, where meetings with refugees from Ukraine living in TAPs were organized with support from the Regional and Federal Offices of the Commissioner for Human Rights. UNHCR visited two out of nine TAPs in the region and met with 34 refugees. Refugees of retirement age receive pensions, though some do not correspond to their actual work experience. In the case of families with many children, they receive a 20 per cent discount when purchasing real estate and a 30 per cent discount when paying for utilities. Regional funds also cover the cost of attending kindergarten, and meals for refugee children at kindergartens and schools. Following the meetings, the representative of the Federal Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights took applications from refugees about pension issues. The regional office of the RRC informed refugees about the possibility of applying for humanitarian assistance, such as food packages.
- **Mission to Komi.** From 22-25 July, UNHCR visited the Republic of Komi, where meetings with refugees from Ukraine living in and outside of TAPs were organized in cooperation with EMERCOM. UNHCR visited two TAPs in the region (Syktyvkar and Ukhta localities), met with 15 refugees in the TAPs and also conducted a participatory assessment (PA) with refugees from Ukraine who live on their own. Several health-related issues were raised during the PA. The representatives of the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Protection took note of these matters for further action. The regional Commissioner for Human Rights registered the requests for assistance from refugees regarding pensions.
- **Participatory Assessment in Moscow, jointly with “Faith Hope Love” NGO.** On 12 July, UNHCR and partner organization “Faith Hope Love” facilitated a participatory assessment with refugee children of different nationalities in Moscow to identify needs and possible support from various stakeholders. Issues for discussion included access to education, Russian language courses, extracurricular activities, relations with local communities, maintenance of ties and contacts with other refugee groups from the same countries and overall access to services. Most children have access to education. The children who attend school have adapted well and integrated into school life. Several school subjects cause difficulties, but children find support at school to overcome them. UNHCR and its partner continue to explore solutions to provide additional support to refugee children.
- **Participatory Assessment in Noginsk.** On 14 July, UNHCR and Civic Assistance Committee NGO conducted a participatory assessment meeting with refugees from Syria (adults and children) in Noginsk, Moscow region, with a view to familiarizing with their situation and identifying categories of people with specific needs who may need additional support. Issues for discussion with children were similar to those discussed with refugee children in Moscow. Among key issues discussed with adults were the importance of education for refugee children from Syria and legal pathways to regularization of stay and further integration. UNHCR and its partner will follow up on the issues raised by refugees at the PA meeting.

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