



# ▶ ILO's response to the crisis in Ukraine

June 2022

## ▶ Impact of the crisis on employment, incomes and social protection

The Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine is causing economic disruptions as well as widespread internal displacement and refugees flows, leading to large-scale employment and income losses. Preliminary assessments indicate that national income will drop drastically this year – between 35 and 45 per cent. According to [ILO estimates](#), 30 per cent of all jobs (or approximately 4.8 million) have been lost since the outbreak of the war.

As the conflict drags on, more Ukrainians could lose their jobs and millions could be pushed into poverty, offsetting years of development efforts. Furthermore, the crisis has had a significant impact on the Ukrainian social protection system both in terms of increased expenditure and decreased revenue.

Different regions of Ukraine are facing different challenges. Regions close to active combat zones are experiencing acute humanitarian needs. Safer areas need urgent economic stabilization and resilience building assistance.

At the same time, the large number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and refugees pose extreme integration and socioeconomic challenges for Ukraine and neighbouring countries. Support in the coming months will need to focus on both humanitarian needs and economic stabilization, as both are critical, depending on the areas of intervention and the evolution of the conflict.

## ▶ ILO's immediate response

With the support of its funding partners, ILO re-purposed part of the existing programmes for the immediate provision of humanitarian aid. In close coordination with OCHA, US\$ 1.3 million was redirected to humanitarian aid including:



**SHELTER AND MEALS\***

**UKRAINE**

▶ **10,000**

**Bed nights** plus three meals a day for IDPs at trade union centres

**MOLDOVA**

▶ **7,500**

**Bed nights** plus three meals a day for refugees at trade union centres



**CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION**

At the request of the Ukrainian Government and in collaboration with IOM and the women-led NGO La Strada



**TRAINING OF UKRAINIAN LABOUR INSPECTORS**

To facilitate the provision of psychological first-aid

▶ [Learn more about the ILO response](#)



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\*Trade unions are providing additional support through their own resources. Figures represent ILO supported actions only.

## ► What else is needed? – Six proposals to support Ukraine

ILO's planned response to the multi-faceted crisis encompasses humanitarian, early recovery and developmental approaches. It targets Ukraine itself, as well as Moldova, as the most vulnerable host country for Ukrainian refugees.

### 1. Continuation of humanitarian aid where the ILO can provide value added

Provide shelter for refugees in trade union-run facilities in Ukraine and Moldova. Aid will be delivered within the framework of the UN humanitarian and refugee response architecture. Prevention of labour exploitation and human trafficking through (1) training of labour market actors (Employers, employment services), (2) awareness raising for refugees on risks and on their rights at work, (3) better enforcement of labour law.

### 2. Inclusion of refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in labour markets and education

Support public and private employment services in Ukraine and Moldova to bring IDPs and refugees into decent jobs.

### 3. Income support

Facilitate the transition from humanitarian cash delivery to social protection, by providing technical assistance regarding coverage, adequacy, and targeting, including for populations, such as informal workers, that are not covered by existing income support programmes.

As part of the early-recovery strategy, cash for work programmes for the removal of debris or social services can be implemented in coordination with humanitarian actors and the Government, building on the ILO's expertise on [employment-intensive infrastructure programmes](#) in post-conflict settings.

### 4. Economic stabilization measures in relatively safe regions of the country

Use sectoral approaches to private sector development, including the increase of local production of aid items, local employment partnerships, support for the relocation of businesses from conflict-affected areas to safe havens, and entrepreneurship training for IDPs, refugees, and returnees.

### 5. Supporting the Priority Reforms of the Ukrainian Government

Continue to support development in Ukraine by working with the Government on priority reforms in selected areas (labour law reform, e-learning solutions for students and adult learning).

### 6. Financial support to trade unions and employers

Invest in maintaining a pluralistic and democratic society, including by upgrading essential services, such as employers' support on business relocation and business matchmaking with aid industry; trade unions's support on job referral and legal advisory services.

## ► Funding needs

The ILO has submitted reprogramming proposals to funding partners, in order to respond in a timely way to this new and rapidly changing scenario and is actively seeking additional resources to meet response needs.

### ► Ukraine response funding overview, 2022 (US\$)

■ Funding needs ■ Funds received

#### Ukraine

6.3M

2.56M

#### Moldova

5.34M

832K

As at 24 June 2022

## ► ILO's presence on the ground

The ILO Office for Central and Eastern Europe has 75 staff members, including 15 in Ukraine and manages a portfolio of US\$ 6 million in core funding for 2022-23 and US\$ 34 million in voluntary contributions, of which US\$ 13 million are for Ukraine. In Ukraine, the ILO currently benefits from financial support of:



### Contact details

ILO Office for Central and Eastern Europe  
Mozsár utca 14.  
Budapest, Hungary  
1066

T: +36 1 301 4900  
E: [budapest@ilo.org](mailto:budapest@ilo.org)