

## **Federation-wide National Society Response Plan**

### **MGR65002 Ukraine and impacted countries crisis Emergency Appeal**



*Latvian Red Cross volunteers with displaced people from Ukraine prepare borscht in Adamova, Rezekne region, Latvia on summer 2023. (Photo: Latvian Red Cross)*

Emergency appeal No: [MGR65002](#)

Timeframe of this response plan: 1 April 2023-31 December 2025

Number of people to be assisted: 3,900

**Federation-wide funding requirement: 1.36 million CHF**  
**IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: 1.36 million CHF**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / TRANSITION STRATEGY

Latvia continues to be both a destination and a transit country for displaced people from Ukraine. 45,299 displaced people from Ukraine have been registered with the Latvian Ministry of Interior (CAK- Civil Support Information Registry) for temporary protection. The number is expected to increase throughout 2023 and beyond.

The Latvian Red Cross (LRC) is the largest humanitarian organization in Latvia with its countrywide presence of 10 local branches and a network of 1,300 volunteers and more than 2,000 staff members.

The response operation focuses on addressing the immediate and changing needs of the displaced people from Ukraine in Latvia through:

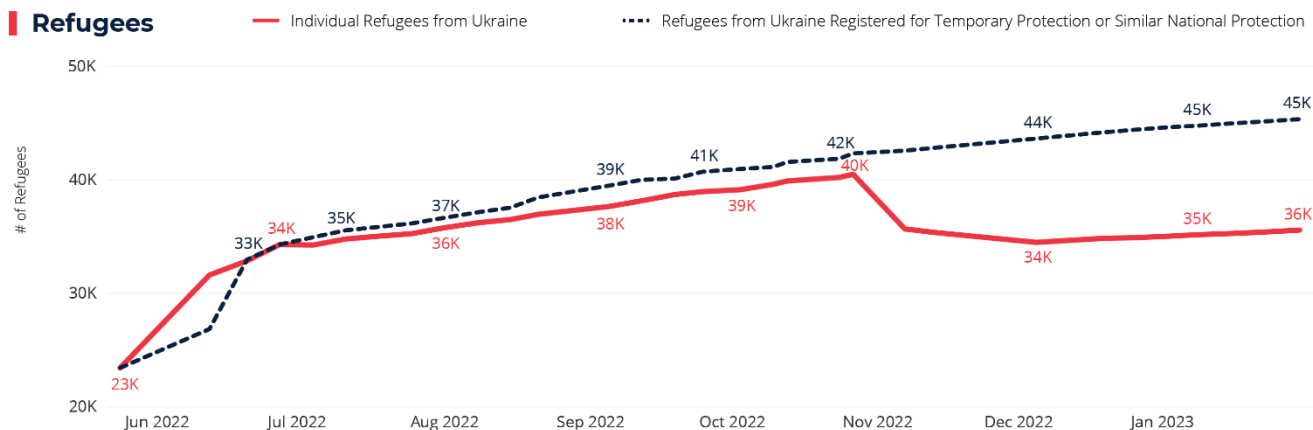
- Timely and efficient provision of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA),
- Participatory and inclusive Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) through Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSS) and social integration targeting people in vulnerable situations with particular attention devoted to parents and children (through Case Management).
- Continuous evidence-based advocacy for increased attention and support to displaced people from Ukraine.
- Development of First Aid programme and public health awareness campaign.
- Transportation services for people with disabilities.

The operation accommodates an increased focus on Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) as cross-cutting priorities throughout the operation and will further invest in organizational and programmatic capacity strengthening in the areas of CVA, resource mobilization, case management, migration and information management.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND TARGETING

The humanitarian impact of the crisis and resulting needs

### Refugee Situation and National Society Priorities Latvia



### National Society Priorities



Shelter



CVA



Health



PGI



Relief



CEA



45,299

Total number  
of Registered  
Refugees

Data Source: IFRC, UNHCR; Date Produced: 2/10/2023

Disclaimer: Statistics are compiled mainly from data provided by authorities. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures represent an estimate. Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis.

As of 20 December 2022, a total of 218,080 displaced people from Ukraine were reported at entry through Latvia's external (non-EU) borders by the Latvian Ministry of Interior<sup>1</sup>, and 45,299 have been registered with the Latvian Ministry of Interior (CAK- Civil Support Information Registry) for temporary protection as of February 2023<sup>2</sup>. Also, 35,243 refugees are believed to be present in the country<sup>3</sup>. Holders of temporary protection have the right to reside in Latvia, healthcare, employment, financial aid, and education, and ensure the personal and property rights and interests of unaccompanied minors in Latvia.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) carried out a survey on displacement patterns, needs, and intentions of displaced people from Ukraine (including both Ukrainian citizens and third-country nationals (TCNs)) between 1 July to 2 December 2022, which showcased that the essential needs reported as financial support (72 per cent) and transportation support (49 per cent). This was followed by the need for employment (46 per cent), support to return home (40 per cent), language courses (38 per cent), and general information (40 per cent).<sup>4</sup>

Most displaced people from Ukraine surveyed reported that they entered Latvia by land border from the Russian Federation (62 per cent), followed by those who entered from Lithuania (27 per cent), Estonia (8 per cent), or by flight (3 per cent). Less than one per cent entered via Belarus.

Based on data analysis in a different recourse in Latvia there are around 40 000 displaced people from Ukraine (data are changing weekly) – approximately 45 per cent of them are women, 31 per cent are children under 18 years, and 24 per cent are men. Around 50 per cent of all there are young mothers, children with disabilities and fewer opportunities, and older people. In November 2022, some 4,611 displaced families from Ukraine received a social allowance for families with one or more children.<sup>5</sup>

Since 24 February 2022, the Latvian Red Cross (LatRC) has been responding to the needs of displaced people from Ukraine with humanitarian aid, food parcel delivery, first aid, information about health issues, and provision of online and face-to-face informative support. LatRC's volunteers and staff teams are providing psychosocial and practical support in regional branches for displaced people from Ukraine.

The range of services provided is wide from clothing, and footwear, and even for the new-borns. The assistance also includes over-the-counter medicines, food, hygiene, and school supplies packages, and aids have been distributed and consultations and assistance are offered to integrate displaced people from Ukraine into Latvia.

LatRC also provides accommodation and mentoring- PSS, support for finding work, individual accommodation, school and kindergarten for kids, afterschool activities etc. for approximately 200 displaced people from Ukraine since March 2022. The LatRC continues the form of support to the provision of assistance in the establishment of an independent place of residence, which could become increasingly in demand, in cases when displaced people move to a more independent place of residence. Considering that the majority of displaced people from Ukraine are persons from vulnerable groups (single mothers with kids, old or disabled people), only a small number (less than 20 per cent) of them have legal work and incomes in Latvia. Most displaced people from Ukraine in Latvia are living on social benefits. **Obscurity about future, small income and lack of affordable flats/private housing opportunities are the main reasons for living in common accommodation places.** Employment negotiations are ongoing and whom some displaced people from Ukraine have already entered into employment contracts with the LatRC.

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<sup>1</sup> [IOM. Ukraine response – Latvia – Refugees from Ukraine and TNC. December 2022.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [UNHCR. Ukraine Refugee Situation. 10 January 2023.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [UNHCR. Ukraine Refugee Situation. 10 January 2023.](#)

<sup>4</sup> [IOM. Ukraine response – Latvia – Refugees from Ukraine and TNC. December 2022.](#)

<sup>5</sup> 25.11.2022 Ministry of Interior of Republic of Latvia letter

Apart from practical and psychosocial support, LatRC provides great support for different integration activities for displaced people from Ukraine including activities for kids, language training, integration events, creative workshops, etc. In 2022, LatRC supported approximately 10,000 displaced people from Ukraine each month.

The LatRC has been actively involved in the refugee support Coordination Group of non-governmental organisations, where extensive support activities for displaced people from Ukraine are organised in cooperation with each other. On 23 May, the LatRC met with Prime Minister Krisjanis Karins along with other non-governmental organizations that provide daily assistance to displaced people from Ukraine to discuss about needs of displaced people from Ukraine.

**Prioritization: Needs and specific groups that National Society in country are responding to**

LatRC will prioritize displaced people in most vulnerable situations – mainly single mothers, children with disabilities, and seniors, who have lived in Latvia for more than 120 days (the end date of primary support based on the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians). This target group has not the same integration options, and often is left out of the labour market and has difficulties to adapting, integrating, and sometimes surviving in current circumstances. The needs of these vulnerable groups will be addressed through the provision of aid in these sectors:

- Health and care: Provision of primary health care services and First Aid.
- Shelter, housing and settlements: Support on housing and household items.
- Cash and voucher assistance: Provision of cash cards.
- Protection, gender and inclusion: setting up child-friendly spaces.
- Community engagement and accountability: Establishing a feedback mechanism for the National Society.

**CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE**

**National Society capacity**

*For details on the National Society's ongoing response to the crisis, please refer to [IFRC GO](#).*

<b>National Society role in the national response</b>	<p>The Latvian Red Cross is one of the largest humanitarian and non-governmental organisations in Latvia. The LatRC operates throughout the territory of Latvia as a voluntary assistant to state institutions and municipalities in the field of humanitarian activities, social support, by providing assistance on a daily basis and in the cases of disasters, including armed conflicts. The role of LatRC is declared by the Latvian Red Cross Law and State emergency plan, where all LatRC human and technical resources have been listed. After the call for help from State institutions, for example, State Boarder Guard, LatRC is providing the needed assistance according to LatRC mandate.</p> <p>During the Ukraine response, LatRC works in close cooperation with State institutions, including municipalities and other NGOs. LatRC is an active member of Refugee Support Coordination Group and a helper at the Support Centre for Ukrainian Citizens in Riga, Latvia. LatRC staff and volunteers are covering the basic needs of displaced people from Ukraine, by distributing humanitarian aid (clothing, footwear, furniture, etc), food, hygiene (including for babies) and school supplies packages (FEAD), and technical aids. LatRC has helped municipalities to accommodate refugee families. LatRC staff and volunteers are providing informative, psychological, and consultative support on different services, social support programs, employment rights, education systems, etc.</p>
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<b>Key areas of scale-up and strength</b>	The focus will be on increasing the operational capacity of LatRC in cooperation with local municipalities with the aim to support people in need with cash/voucher assistance. LatRC's strength is its 12 active local branches with the needed technical and human capacity to manage activities and provide assistance close to where the target group lives. Cash and voucher assistance will supplement the already existing services for displaced people from Ukraine in Latvia.
<b>Areas of new / additional capacities developed</b>	LatRC has no experience in providing cash and voucher assistance. It will be a completely new programme across the country, which is interesting and LatRC is eager to implement it. LatRC has devolved recourses to plan, organise and implement this programme from HQ to branch level with this programme, LatRC will be not only able to prepare local capacities of branches to ensure timely and effective humanitarian assistance, but as well as to act according to the needs of displaced people from Ukraine.

## National Society partners

The IFRC Regional Office for Europe in Budapest is coordinating the response operations and provides support to strengthen the capacities of the National Societies of the impacted countries. To ensure support and operational coordination needs, on 14 April 2022, the IFRC deployed an Ops Manager for Baltic Countries to support RCNSs in response and in institutional preparedness building. Additionally, the IFRC has established a cluster office in Warsaw to cover six European countries, Poland, Ukraine, Moldova, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Finnish Red Cross is supporting the coordination of the Evacuation Readiness project being implemented by the Latvian Red Cross, along with other Baltic National Societies which is strengthening capacities to operate evacuation centres in coordination with various emergency support services.

Name of Partner	Health & Care	Integrated Assistance	Protection & Prevention	NS Capacity Building
IFRC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Finnish RC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICRC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Scenario Planning

Scenario	Impact	Mitigating actions
<b>Large-scale newly arrived displaced people from Ukraine (10,000 + people) in Latvia</b>	Need of new/additional activities related to newly arrived displaced people. Lack of staff.	Pre-planning recourses and consultations with IFRC.

<b>Limited funds</b>	Delayed assistance, lack of support for marginalized groups	Adjustment of the Operational Strategy and publication of an update developed in coordination with IFRC standards to be part of the regional Emergency Appeal
<b>Price increases due to inflation</b>	Decreased value for planned support	Adjustment of the Operational Strategy and publication of an update developed in coordination with IFRC

## People to be assisted


### Overall sex and age breakdown of people targeted

Sex-age group	Total
Males Over 18 years of age	380
Males Under 18 years old	900
Females Over 18 years old	190
Females Under 18 years of age	2,430
<b>Total number of people to be assisted</b>	<b>3,900</b>

## ONGOING AND PLANNED OPERATIONS

### HEALTH & CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

#### (MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 <b>Health &amp; Care</b>	Overall target: 1,000	
	Female > 18: 120	Female < 18: 630
	Male > 18: 50	Male < 18: 200
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Most marginalized displaced people are provided with high-quality health and care services including MHPSS.</b>	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Activities</b>	
Primary health services and/or referral to public health institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information about health promotion and prevention (including MHPSS) in two health rooms in Riga.</li> </ul>	
People trained in First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide First Aid training for 200 displaced persons from Ukraine.</li> </ul>	

# INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

## (SHELTER, HOUSING AND SETTLEMENTS, MULTI-PURPOSE CASH)

 <b>Shelter, Housing and Settlements</b>	Overall target: 400	
	Female > 18: 70	Female < 18: 200
	Male > 18: 30	Male < 18: 100
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Communities in crisis-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions.</b>	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Activities:</b>	
Relief assistance for basic needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision and distribution of household items.</li> </ul>	
Temporary collective shelter/accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a full range of support and mentoring for displaced people from Ukraine during their stay in two Red Cross accommodation facilities.</li> </ul>	
Temporary individual shelter/accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide housing - dormitories for displaced people from Ukraine and MHPSS in Latvia up to 200 persons. Support includes also full mentoring for residents, Latvian language course, integration activities, free time activities for families with kids.</li> </ul>	
 <b>Cash and Voucher Assistance</b>	Overall target: 2,500	
	Female > 18: 1,933	Female < 18: 0
	Male > 18: 567	Male < 18: 0
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>The most marginalized displaced communities have their needs addressed through the use of cash assistance.</b>	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Activities:</b>	
Conditional and/or unconditional cash and voucher assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct CVA training for participants from the seven National branches</li> <li>Dissemination of the Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA): support the acquisition, transportation / delivery / management / disposal of 2,500 cards (and other delivery mechanisms), and consolidation and reconciliation of CVA programmes. The cash cards assistance is aimed to support</li> </ul>	

	<p>affected people to cover practical expenses after the reduction of state aid after 120 days in Latvia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dissemination of successful experiences, best practice exchange and lessons learned from CVA in a migration context (case studies, videos).</li> </ul>
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## PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

### (PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION)

 <b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion</b>	Overall target: 600	
	Female > 18: 100	Female < 18: 250
	Male > 18: 0	Male < 18: 250
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>The different people impacted, displaced by or fleeing the crisis are safe from harm including violence, abuse and exploitation, discrimination and exclusion, and their needs and rights are met.</b>	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Activities:</b>	
Children welcomed in child-friendly spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide child-friendly spaces in the Red Cross regional branches in Adamova, Rezeknes, Daugavpils, Vecbebri, and Kokneses regions. Activities will be aligned with the Movement standards.</li> </ul>	
 <b>Community Engagement and Accountability</b>	Overall target: 300	
	Female > 18: 40	Female < 18: 200
	Male > 18: 20	Male < 18: 40
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>The diverse needs, priorities and preferences of the affected communities guide the response ensuring a people-centered approach through meaningful community participation.</b>	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Activities:</b>	
Establishing NS feedback mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish one feedback mechanism for the LatRC.</li> </ul>	
Collecting community feedback and using it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise primary data collection system for the displaced people from Ukraine programme/situation in Latvia.</li> </ul>	



## ENABLING APPROACHES

### NATIONAL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING, COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS



#### National Society Strengthening

**Objective:**

**National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and their auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well defined and recognized.**

**Priority Actions:****Activities:**

Logistic Development Support

- Support on the improvement and expansion of the Logistic Development of LatRC warehouse.

Other

- Support to cover LatRC operational costs.



#### IFRC Secretariat Services

**Objective:**

**The IFRC is working as one organization, delivering what it promises to National Societies and volunteers, and leveraging the strength of the communities with which they work as effectively and efficiently as possible.**

**Priority Actions:****Activities:**

Operational Management

- Establish a presence in Latvia with the IFRC Operations Manager's office in the LatRC as well as a Program Coordinator to support the Baltic National Societies in implementing the operation under this emergency appeal.
- As requested, enhancing the support to the LatRC, especially in sectors that did not exist before the crisis through the extension of support from the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation Office.



#### Coordination and Partnerships

**Objective:**

**Technical and operational complementarity is enhanced through cooperation among IFRC membership.**

Priority Actions:	Activities:
Movement Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In case of the future presence of Movement partners in the country, a coordination meeting platform will be established to ensure active engagement among the Movement partners supporting the LatRC.</li> </ul>
External Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accompaniment of LatRC in coordination meetings with UNHCR and other external agencies.</li> </ul>

## Quality and accountability

*For the operation's Federation-wide indicator framework and data collected, please refer to [IFRC GO](#).*

Evaluation of the project will first be monitored by the team in charge of their implementation. For that purpose, LatRC will use tools that allow it to plan in advance, continuously assess progress, identify blocking points early, and quickly escalate information to all included partners.

Monitoring and Evaluation will be done by sharing trustworthy information and concrete recommendations drawn from surveys conducted among displaced people from Ukraine, observation of the implementation of our activities, documentation of lessons learned and best practices, and feedback received from the communities and other stakeholders.

## ANNEX 1: NATONAL SOCIETY RESPONSE PLAN – FEDERATION-WIDE FUNDING REQUIREMENT THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS

	Total	NS Fundraising	Through IFRC
<b>FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</b>			
<b>Planned Operations</b>			
Shelter and Basic Household Items			
Livelihoods			
Multi-purpose Cash	861,386		861,386
Health and Care	324,825		324,825
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	15,975		15,975
Community Engagement and Accountability	10,650		10,650
Education			
Migration			
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0		
Environmental Sustainability			
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>0</b>		
Coordination and Partnerships			
Secretariat Services			
National Society Strengthening	149,137		149,137
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,361,974</b>		<b>1,361,974</b>

## Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

### In the Latvian Red Cross

- **Secretary General:** Uldis Likops; email: [uldis.likops@redcross.lv](mailto:uldis.likops@redcross.lv); [secretariat@redcross.lv](mailto:secretariat@redcross.lv)

### In the IFRC

- **Ukraine and Impacted Countries Crisis Regional Operations Manager:** Lorenzo Violante; email: [lorenzo.violante@ifrc.org](mailto:lorenzo.violante@ifrc.org)
- **Operations Manager for the Baltic Countries:** Lana Kuduzovic; email: [ana.kuduzovic@ifrc.org](mailto:ana.kuduzovic@ifrc.org)
- **Head of Country Cluster, Ukraine, Moldova, Poland, Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia:** Stephane Michaud; email: [stephane.michaud@ifrc.org](mailto:stephane.michaud@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **Regional Office for Europe, Head of Partnerships and Resource Development:** Andrej Naricyn; email: [andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org](mailto:andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Regional Office for Europe, Head of Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management:** Stefano Biagiotti; email: [stefano.biagiotti@ifrc.org](mailto:stefano.biagiotti@ifrc.org)

### Reference



Click here for:

- [Link to the Emergency Appeal and updates](#)