

SWISS – EUROPE
Rapid Response Fund



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Supported by the Swiss Contribution

Projects supported in 2023 under the Rapid response fund

Project's name	Organisation	Countries	Duration	Amount (CHF)	Summary
Strengthening asylum procedures and enhancing the effective socio-economic inclusion of refugees in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia	UNHCR	Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia	12 months	2'862'720.00	The project covers the fields of asylum and integration. It aims to complement and strengthen the efforts and capacity of public institutions to provide temporary protection and essential services to refugees from Ukraine, including women and children, the elderly, people with disabilities, people with medical problems, and other vulnerable groups. To this end, civil status documents, information and protection services, legal assistance and advice will be offered.
Building Bridges, Enhancing Rights and Opportunities for Ukranian Refugees in Romania and Hungary	Terre des Hommes	Romania and Hungary	18 months	2'550'000.00	The project aims to ensure that Ukrainian refugees have access to existing services and that these services are strengthened, particularly in the areas of infrastructure and integration. The project aims to train local staff in education, psychosocial assistance, children's rights and identifying the needs of vulnerable groups.
Supporting the Integration of asylum seekers, refugees and displaced persons in Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania	IFRC, Regional office for Europe	Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania	25.5 months	1'306'930.00	The project aims to support the socio-economic and cultural integration of asylum seekers as well as refugees and people who have been granted protection status (temporary and permanent) into host communities in Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania.
Supporting protection and integration of children and families in migration in Croatia	UNICEF	Croatia	24 months	860'553.38	The overall objective of the programme is to make sure that children and families with a migrant background, including refugees from Ukraine and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), have access to the Croatian national support systems. Their needs are assessed in a timely manner and then met through effective access to integrated quality protection, mental health and psychosocial support, school-based integration and early childhood measures.
Supporting socioeconomic inclusion efforts for Ukrainian refugees and Third-Country Nationals in selected European Union (EU) Member States	IOM	Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Lithuania	12 months	860'000.00	The main objective is to ensure that Ukrainian refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) have access to longer-term, decent accommodation within the framework of existing national systems. The aim is also to enable refugees to an increasing extent to participate in the social and economic life of their host countries.
Bulding a Stronger Future: Empowering Conflict-Affected communities with Enhanced Housing Access and Self-Reliance	Habitat for Humanity Poland	Poland	15 months	800'000.00	Poland hosts a very high number of Ukranian refugees. The project aims to promote the integration of communities affected by conflict (manly Ukrainians) by facilitating access to housing, including through a digital solution. In addition to direct assistance for those affected, there are also policy activities and close cooperation with national and local authorities. The HFHP aims to increase access to affordable and adequate housing for 95 conflict-affected households, comprising approximately 285 individuals, through its social rental assistance.

OBSIUR- Overcoming Structural Barriers for Integration of Ukraine Refugees	Adra CH	Poland	24 months	661'995.00	ADRA Switzerland, in partnership with ADRA Poland, plans to contribute to the socio-economic integration of Ukrainian refugees into Polish society. In addition to psychological and mental health problems, most migrants face obstacles linked to a lack of information about their legal status, access to social assistance, recognition of professional certificates and the opportunities offered by the labour market. The project offers advice and assistance in all these areas, as well as capacity-building training to overcome language barriers, particularly those related to employment. The aim is to reach 2880 beneficiaries.
Caritas Slovakia helps with Integration of Ukraniana refugees in Slovakia	Caritas Slovakia	Slovakia	12 months	614'872.00	The main aim of the project is to support integration measures for refugees from Ukraine in Slovakia. The specific aims are to ensure better access to employment through language courses and the acquisition of useful job-seeking skills. The other specific aim is to ensure better integration into the local community, particularly through recreational activities. A total of 2,000 beneficiaries will be supported.
Supporting Unaccompanied Migrant Children at the Greek borders through shelter (MERIMNA II - Shelter)	IOM Greece	Greece	10 months	500,000.00	The project aims to improve the well-being and access to fundamental rights of unaccompanied minors (UAMs) arriving on the Greek islands, by ensuring that UAMs living in Safe Areas (SAs) have access to immediate assistance in line with their needs. The project will provide support in Lesbos, Chios, Leros, Kos and Samos. The total accommodation capacity in the reception areas is 400 people and the aim of the project is to improve and maintain the 400 accommodation places for UAMs.
I.S.IDE. (II phase) – Immediate Support to IDentification and registration of asylum-seekers at Border and Immigration Offices in Italy	IOM Italy	Italy	4 months	727,000.00	In order to facilitate communication between migrants, police and immigration offices, the Italian authorities work together with cultural mediators from the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). With the Swiss funding, 56 cultural mediators were deployed in different regions of Italy, in locations with particularly high number of arrivals. The project aimed to improve and speed up identification and asylum procedures in Italy as well as to ensure that migrants receive appropriate treatment, giving special attention to vulnerable persons such as unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking. After the end of the Swiss support, the project continued with AMIF funding.
Health4AsylumsSeekers (CRO) - Strengthening emergency migration management framework for healthcare and mental health and psychosocial support of asylum seekers in Croatia	Medecins du Monde	Croatia	9 months	300'310.00	The project concerns access to medical care for asylum seekers in reception centres. It aims at ensuring that the needs and rights of asylum seekers are better taken into account. The beneficiaries are asylum seekers, particularly vulnerable, who have medical follow-up needs. Other beneficiaries of the project are the people working in the centre, particularly the police, that will receive training on the medical needs of asylum seekers as well as their own needs.