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UN MIGRATION

UKRAINE RESPONSE



LITHUANIA

SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

JANUARY - MARCH 2024

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This publication was made possible through the support provided by the U.S Department of State: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM).

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This report was issued without formal editing by IOM.

Cover photo: IOM's DTM Enumerator talks to refugees from Ukraine at the Migration Information Center in Vilnius, Lithuania. © IOM 2024

Citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), June 2024. "DTM Lithuania: Social Integration of Refugees from Ukraine, January-March, IOM Lithuania.

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Release date: 2 July 2024

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KEY FINDINGS

DEMOGRAPHICS



485

Ukrainian respondents



SOCIAL INTERACTION

79%

Yes



20%

No

1%

Prefers not to answer

SHARING MEALS WITH LOCALS

29% Everyday

25% Monthly

17% Weekly

4% Yearly

23% Never

2% Unknown



PARTICIPATION IN THEMATIC GROUPS*

31% Work

17% Religion



45% Hobbies

7% Social or political causes

27% Migrant resource and information centers

*Multiple answers possible

UNEQUAL TREATMENT*

73%

Yes

26%

No

1%

Unknown

GROUND(S)

91% Nationality

14% Language



21% Ethnicity

2% Gender

*Multiple answers possible

CHALLENGES*

20% Discrimination

15% Financial issues

14% Housing

14% Homesickness

12% Language

*Multiple answers possible

CHILDCARE AND SCHOOLING



83%

Enrolled in childcare



96%

Enrolled in schools

MIGRATION STATUS

91% Temporary Protection

5% Irregular



2% Work visa

1% Refugee

1% Short-term visa

ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE

31% Somewhat or very easy

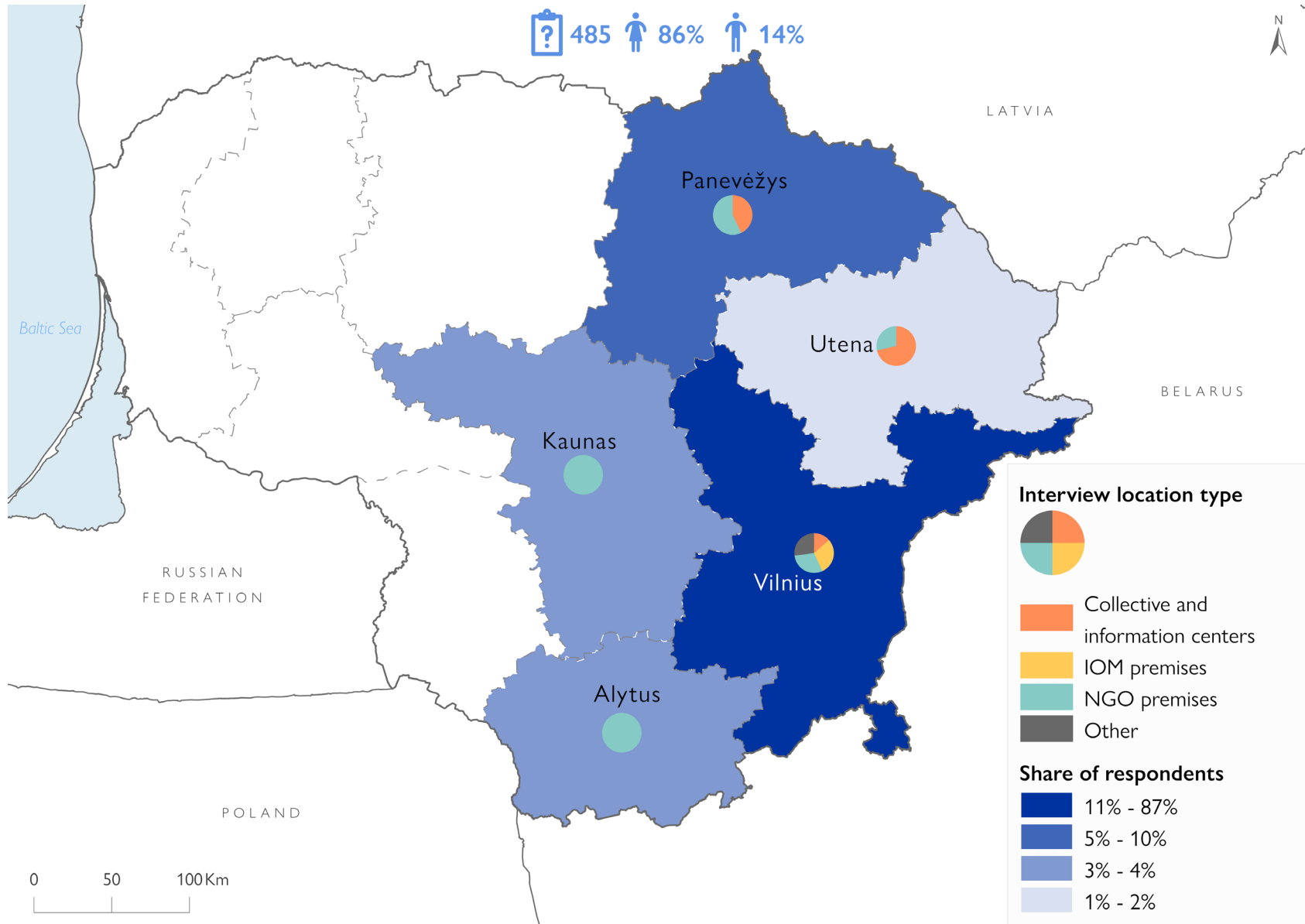
17% Neither difficult nor easy

18% Somewhat or very difficult

34% Unknown



OVERVIEW: NUMBER OF SURVEYS AND LOCATIONS OF DATA COLLECTION IN LITHUANIA, JANUARY - MARCH 2024



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix collected data through Surveys with Refugees in the Ukraine Response region from January to March 2024. In Lithuania, a total of 485 surveys were collected. This report explores different aspects of their social integration, focusing on the profiles of adult respondents, specifically those who intend to stay or have already established themselves in the country. Notably, the report highlights the

AGE AND GENDER

Among those who intend to stay for the foreseeable future (n=485), 86 per cent were women, while the remaining 14 per cent were men. The most represented age groups were between 30 and 39 years old (30%), followed by those between 40 and 49 years old (27%), and those aged 60 years and above (17%). The



HOUSEHOLD SIZE & TYPE

The most common household sizes were those of two and three persons (35% and 26% respectively). Fewer participants were members of single-person households (18%) and four-person households (16%). Five-person and six-person households were the least common (3% and 2% respectively).

Slightly more than a third of the respondents (n=485) were part of households with no children (34%). The second most common type was a household with two or more adults and at least one child (26%), followed by households with one adult and at least one child (22%), and single-person households (18%). In the case of households with one adult and at least one child, all the respondents were women, with roughly every fourth female respondent facing such a situation (26%).

SOCIAL INTEGRATION

SHARING MEALS WITH LOCALS

The respondents were asked about the frequency of sharing meals with locals who are not part of their family in the last 12 months. For over a quarter of them (29%), sharing meals with locals was an everyday activity, while for another quarter, it was a monthly occasion. Seventeen per cent shared meals once per week, and only four per cent had such an activity once per year. Almost a quarter of survey participants (23%) never share meals with locals, while two per cent were unsure.

interactions between Ukrainian refugees and local population in daily life, such as through sharing meals, engaging in conversations, and participating in common groups and activities. It also examines factors related to social integration, such as experiences of discrimination, challenges to inclusion, childcare and school enrollment, migration status, and access to legal support.

average age for the sample was 43 years old. Among women, the largest age group represented was 30 to 39 years old (31%), followed by 40 to 49 years old (27%). Among men, the most represented age groups were 30 to 39 years old (30%), followed by 40 to 49 years old (26%).

Figure 1. Respondents by age and gender (%) n=485

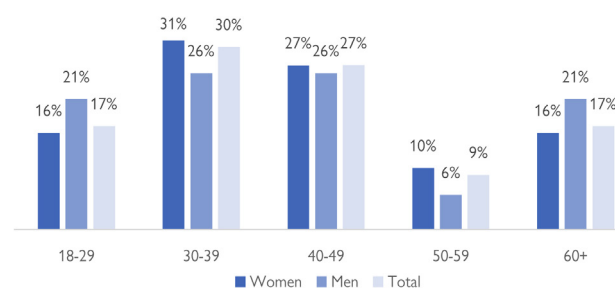


Figure 2. Respondents by household type (%) n=485

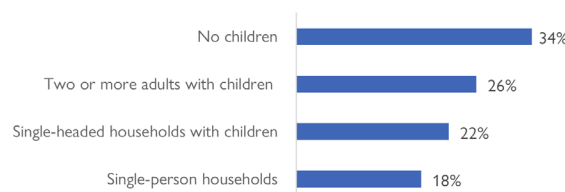
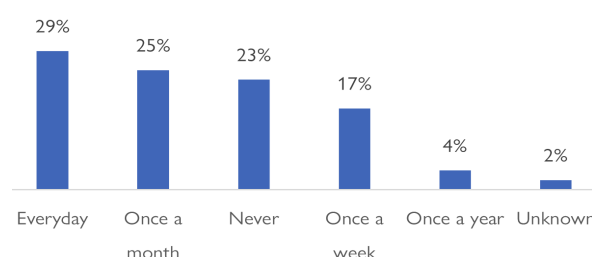


Figure 3. Sharing meals with locals (%) n=485



CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCALS

The majority of respondents (79%) had conversations with locals either by phone, online messaging apps (WhatsApp, Viber, Telegram), or text messages in the last four weeks. The range of people they contacted varied, with a third of respondents mentioning contacting between three to six individuals. Nineteen

per cent of survey participants had conversations with seven to 14 locals, while 17 per cent interacted with one to two, and ten per cent with 15 or more. Twenty per cent did not have any conversations with locals from their address book or phone contacts. One per cent preferred not to answer.

PARTICIPATION IN GROUPS

Respondents were surveyed about their level of engagement in different types of groups and associations either in person or online, which also encompassed local members to varying degrees. While 67 per cent of respondents were not involved in any work-related groups or organization, almost a third (31%) participated in such groups once a week (20%), once a month (8%), or once a year (1%). Two per cent were unsure.

Within the population participating in work-related groups (n=128), over half (59%) indicated that locals comprised half (16%), or more (43%) of the group members. Meanwhile, 41 per cent were part of groups that either had few locals (28%), none at all (9%), or they were unable to answer the question (4%).

Most respondents (76%) did not participate in any groups related to their religious beliefs, while 17 per cent were engaged weekly (9%), monthly (5%), or yearly (3%). Five per cent specified passive (inactive) participation without providing any frequency, and two per cent were unsure.

Within the population participating in religious groups (n=72), 56 per cent specified having half (21%) or more (35%) locals among group members, whereas 44 per cent were in groups where locals were either few (28%), absent (9%), or the respondents were uncertain about their presence (4%).

Participation in groups related to hobbies (sport, leisure, cultural groups) was higher, as 45 per cent of all respondents (n=485) were engaged in such groups weekly (32%), monthly (12%), or yearly (1%). Half of the survey participants were not involved in any hobby groups, while three per cent specified passive (inactive) participation, and two per cent were unsure.

Within the population involved in hobby groups (n=212), 76 per cent reported at least half (21%) or more (55%) locals among group members, while 20 per cent were part of groups with few or no locals, and four per cent were unsure.

Fewer respondents participated in groups related to social or political causes, such as voluntary organizations or political parties. Only seven per cent were actively involved either weekly (5%) or monthly (2%), while 90 per cent did not participate at all. One per cent was involved passively (inactively), and two per cent were unsure. Among respondents who were involved (n=29),

Figure 4. Frequency of conversations with locals in the past four weeks (%) n=485

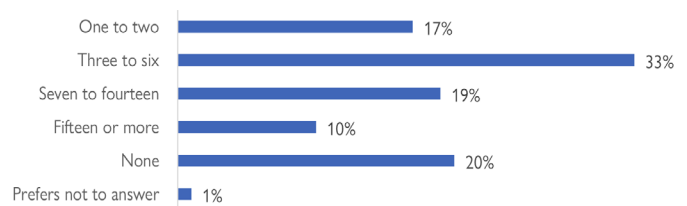


Figure 5. Participation in work-related groups (%) n=485

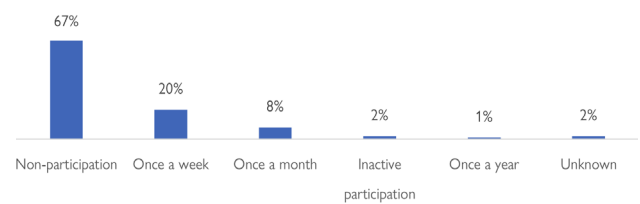


Figure 6. Participation in religious groups (%) n=485

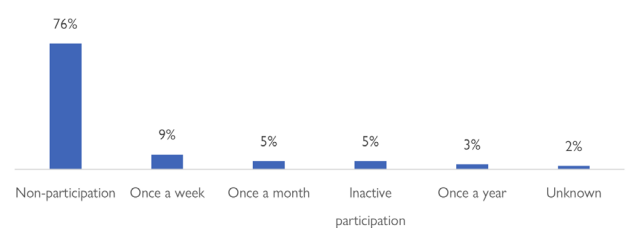
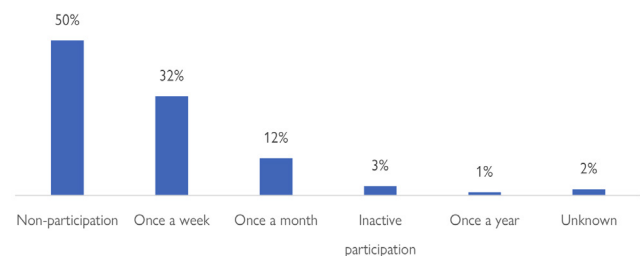


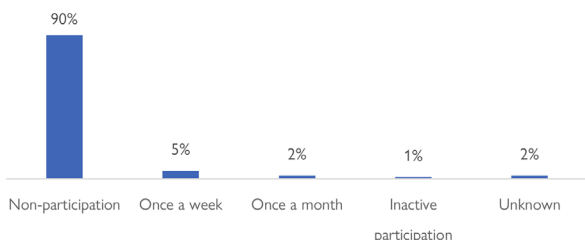
Figure 7. Participation in groups related to hobbies (%) n=485



the majority (72%) reported having half or more local members in their groups, whereas 28 per cent had few or no locals.

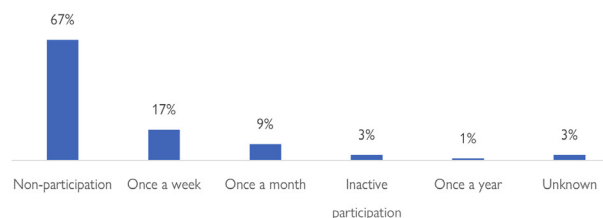
Fewer respondents participated in groups related to social or political causes, such as voluntary organizations or political parties. Only seven per cent were actively involved either a Participation in activities or groups organized by Migrant Resource Centers (MRCs) and Migrant Information Centers (MICs) was more

Figure 8. Participation in groups related to social/political causes (%) n=485



common, with 27 per cent participating weekly (17%), monthly (9%), or yearly (1%). Sixty-seven per cent did not participate in such groups or activities, three per cent were passively (inactively) engaged, and three per cent could now answer.

Figure 9. Participation in groups related to MRCs, MICs (%) n=485



CHALLENGES

UNEQUAL TREATMENT

While the majority of respondents (73%) did not experience any unequal treatment, about one quarter (26%) reported being discriminated against, and one per cent was unsure. When asked about the grounds for discrimination (n=125), survey

INCLUSION CHALLENGES

Unequal treatment was the most significant inclusion challenge encountered in the country of destination, according to 20 per cent of respondents. Financial (15%) and housing (14%) issues, homesickness (14%), language (12%), and lack of employment (11%) were among other major inclusion challenges. Meanwhile, 36 per cent reported not facing any inclusion challenges.

CHILDCARE AND SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Among the respondents with children under the age of five (n=54), a majority (83%) had enrolled them in childcare institutions, while the remaining 17 per cent were either planning to proceed with enrollment in the future or could not find any places.

While 63 per cent of survey participants had their children enrolled in local schools, 24 per cent specified attendance of

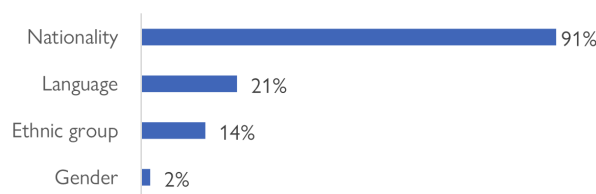
MIGRATION STATUS

Although 91 per cent of respondents were granted temporary protection under the Directive 2001/55/EC¹, a small portion (5%) remained in the host country without regular migration status. The remaining four per cent held a work visa (2%), a short-term visa (1%), and refugee status (1%).

¹ Council of the European Union and the European Council, 2022. "Temporary protection", accessed 6 June 2024, https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/common-european-asylum-system/temporary-protection_en.

participants could provide multiple answers, most often referring to nationality (91%), language (21%), and ethnicity (14%). Fewer respondents mentioned gender (2%).

Figure 11. Grounds for unequal treatment (%) n=125



Multiple answers possible

online classes. Eight per cent of children were enrolled both in local and online schools, while one per cent was homeschooled. Four per cent reported no school attendance due to lack of places, plans to return to the home country or to enroll their children in the future.

ACCESS TO LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Almost a third of survey participants (31%) specified that it was somewhat or very easy for them to access legal assistance with documentation, eviction and similar legal issues. Meanwhile, 18 per cent found it somewhat or very difficult, while for 17 per cent, it was neither difficult nor easy. Thirty-four per cent were unsure regarding the answer.

METHODOLOGY

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route.

Since April 2022, IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix has been regularly surveying people who are residing in the eleven countries included in the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine. The aim of the survey is to improve the understanding of their profiles, displacement patterns, intentions and needs. The survey is deployed in 6 countries neighbouring Ukraine – Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia, and other 5 countries in Europe, particularly impacted by the arrivals of refugees from Ukraine, including Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by four trained enumerators, with adult refugees from Ukraine (18+ years-old). Surveys were collected at selected locations (IOM and NGO premises, collective, cultural, and information centres, universities, and dormitories) in five regions of Lithuania. The survey is anonymous and voluntary, administered after obtaining consent from the respondent. Respondents can stop the survey at any time. In Lithuania, the questionnaire is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian, and the preferred language is determined by the interviewee. Only fully completed surveys are considered for analysis.

Prior to the start of the survey, all enumerators were trained by IOM on DTM standards, the use of Kobo application, IOM approach to migrants' protection and assistance, the ethics of data collection and the provision of information and referral mechanism in place.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Aim

To improve the understanding of the profiles of Ukrainian refugees who have already settled or intend to settle in Lithuania, specifically their social integration through the interactions with local population.

Location and execution

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by four trained enumerators stationed at selected locations in five regions of Lithuania. Surveys are conducted in English, Ukrainian and Russian with the help of a mobile application.

Target population

The report focuses on social integration of Ukrainian refugees who have already settled or intend to settle in Lithuania.

Regional data collection and analysis

The survey is deployed in 11 countries: 6 neighboring countries (Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia), and 5 other countries (Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) impacted by the arrival of refugees from Ukraine.



LIMITATIONS

The sampling framework was not based on verified figures of refugees from Ukraine entering through all land border points or staying in the various regions where the surveys are conducted, due to the lack of baseline information.

The geographic spread of enumerators deployed captures five regions of Lithuania. Whilst the overall results cannot be deemed as representative, the internal consistency of data collection in each country and at the regional level suggests that the current sampling framework produces findings of practical value.

While every attempt was made to capture all types of locations, the operational reality of fieldwork was confronted with different levels of accessibility of BCPs and other transit and stay locations, including the different availability of possible target individuals to comfortably spend 10-20 minutes responding to the questionnaire depending on a mix of personal conditions. Other factors more related to the conditions at a specific location and period, such as organizational changes in the entry and transit areas from national authorities, or weather conditions, also play a role.

DTM

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. The survey form was designed to capture the main displacement patterns of refugees of any nationality fleeing from Ukraine because of the war. It captures the demographic profiles of respondents and of the group they are travelling with, if any; it asks about intentions relative to the intended destinations and prospects in the country of displacement; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that the respondents expressed as more pressing at the moment of the interview.

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, several IOM's DTM tools were deployed in countries neighbouring Ukraine and in other countries particularly impacted by the new arrivals of refugees from Ukraine.

For more information, please consult:

<https://dtm.iom.int/responses/ukraine-response>



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TRACKING MATRIX