

Moldova Fact Sheet

May 2024



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

Introduction

HIAS Moldova was established in May 2022, two months after the full-scale invasion in Ukraine, which led to a large movement of refugees into neighboring countries. As of December 2023, approximately 1 million refugees have arrived in Moldova, of which about 114,000 remain in the country—accounting for around 4% of the total population. The majority of refugees in Moldova are women and children. Only about 28% of the overall refugee population has legal status or pending temporary protection applications, which grant access to vital medical and social services.

HIAS, together with local partners and host communities, works to empower forcibly displaced people in urban and rural areas so they can rebuild their lives through economic inclusion, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, community integration and protection services, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

HIAS Programs and Focus

Working closely with partner organizations, and refugee and local communities, HIAS is present in north and central Moldova. To respond to the ever-changing context, the local team is currently transitioning from an emergency humanitarian-focused response toward medium-to-long-term sustainable interventions.

Community Integration

HIAS Moldova promotes inclusion and social cohesion through education and community initiatives, such as non-formal after-school classes in chess, logic games, and language classes in English and Romanian for both refugee children and adults. Community social workers at our local partners provide information and

necessary support to vulnerable communities, including Roma refugees.

Economic Inclusion

HIAS Moldova promotes access to dignified and sustainable livelihoods through technical and vocational training in various employment sectors and



Members of HIAS Moldova's Economic Inclusion program participate in an awards ceremony for refugee women from Ukraine. (HIAS Moldova)

is piloting the Business Skills Development Program for refugee women and girls. HIAS' Economic Inclusion programming in Moldova also includes start-up investment to support businesses, financial inclusion, and wage employment facilitation.

GBV and MHPSS

GBV prevention and response and MHPSS are cross-cutting priorities in all interventions in Moldova. To reduce and prevent GBV, HIAS Moldova enhances



Community Integration

We promote inclusion and social cohesion through education and community initiatives.



Economic Inclusion

Our programming includes start-up investment to support businesses.



CB-MHPSS

We partner with local NGOs to establish mobile teams conducting group sessions for women and children.

the capacity of local public authorities, including public social services, as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to address GBV. To aid vulnerable individuals in various regions of the country, HIAS has partnered with local NGOs and established three mobile teams offering legal and MHPSS services. These mobile teams also conduct group sessions for children and women, creating safe spaces for activities that promote mental health and psychological well-being.

Local Partners

HIAS Moldova acknowledges the expertise and knowledge of local service providers, and therefore is committed to enhance the capacity of local partners in GBV prevention and response, MHPSS service provision, and economic inclusion. Local partners in Moldova include [Agudath Israel](#), the [Association for Student and Youth Initiatives' Support in Moldova \(ASIST\)](#), Association for Entrepreneurship Education and Development (AFAD), [CASMED](#), [Fiecare Contribuie Pentru Schimbare \(FCPS\)](#), [Invento](#), [Jewish Community of Moldova \(JCM\)](#), National Roma Center, and SOS Autism.

HIAS in Africa and Eurasia

HIAS advocates for the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, other displaced populations, and local host communities in Africa and Eurasia. As part of a comprehensive regional response to meet the urgent needs of these populations, HIAS' programming in the region is focused on protection, gender-based violence prevention and response, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and economic integration and community engagement.

HIAS currently has programs in three countries in Africa (Chad, Kenya, and South Africa) and six countries in Eurasia (Greece, Israel, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Ukraine). Across the region, HIAS partners with a wide range of government agencies (U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State Bureau for Populations, Refugees and Migration), UN entities (UNHCR, World Health Organization), the private sector (Moderna), and other non-governmental organizations and local partners.

Contact

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