

## Crisis response revision of the Republic of Moldova transitional interim country strategic plan (2022–2023) and corresponding budget increase

	Current	Change	Revised
<b>Duration</b>	<b>September 2022– August 2023</b>	<b>Six-month extension</b>	<b>September 2022– February 2024</b>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>315 000</b>	<b>31 200</b>	<b>346 200</b>
<i>(USD)</i>			
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>59 852 708</b>	<b>26 224 430</b>	<b>86 077 137</b>
Transfers	50 981 541	22 677 250	73 658 791
Implementation	2 677 989	852 854	3 530 843
Adjusted direct support costs	2 997 614	1 096 695	4 094 309
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>56 657 143</b>	<b>24 626 799</b>	<b>81 283 943</b>
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	3 195 564	1 597 630	4 793 195

Gender and age marker code\*: N/A

\* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

### Rationale

1. This budget revision will:
  - i) extend the duration of the Republic of Moldova transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) (September 2022–August 2023) by six months until February 2024 to better align with the regional refugee response plan for Ukraine (January–December 2023),<sup>1</sup> and bridge WFP operations across all three strategic outcomes until the approval of the new Republic of Moldova ICSP (March 2024–February 2026) at the Executive Board's 2024 first regular session;
  - ii) increase the number of beneficiaries under strategic outcome 1, activity 1, by 31,200, as WFP expands the provision of food assistance to meet the immediate food needs of refugees<sup>2</sup> arriving to the Republic of Moldova; and
  - iii) increase the overall T-ICSP budget by USD 26.2 million.
2. The present budget revision will continue to provide assistance in the Republic of Moldova to Ukrainian refugees, Moldovan households hosting Ukrainian refugees, and to targeted vulnerable Moldovan households.

<sup>1</sup> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 2023. *Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan – January–December 2023*.

<sup>2</sup> For the purpose of this budget revision, displaced crisis-affected Ukrainians arriving in the Republic of Moldova are herein referred to as refugees, although the official registration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is not confirmed.



## Changes

### Strategic orientation

3. There are no changes to the strategic orientation of the T-ICSP.

### Strategic outcomes

#### **Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis**

4. Through this budget revision, under strategic outcome 1, WFP will continue to provide differentiated assistance for Ukrainian refugees, for Moldovan households hosting Ukrainian refugees, and for targeted vulnerable Moldovan households that have been severely impacted by the crisis in Ukraine.
5. **Refugees:** WFP will continue to provide food assistance to Ukrainian refugees arriving at the Ukraine–Republic of Moldova border and to Ukrainian refugees residing in the refugee accommodation centres.
6. To continue to meet the immediate food needs of Ukrainian refugees arriving at the Ukraine–Republic of Moldova border, under the present budget revision, the overall number of beneficiaries targeted under activity 1 will increase by 31,200. This budget revision will retain WFP's agility to scale-up the emergency food assistance response should it be required to meet the immediate food needs in case of a sudden influx of up to 100,000 additional Ukrainian refugees.
7. **Moldovan households:** WFP will also continue to provide cash assistance to Moldovan households hosting refugees and to targeted vulnerable Moldovan households. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, WFP will identify the most vulnerable Moldovan households using the data from existing partner assessments and through secondary data sources, like the National Bureau of Statistics, to assess the needs and conduct vulnerability profiling. Among households receiving support from either of the two Government social assistance programmes, *Ajutor Social* (social protection support to the poorest) and *Ajutorul pentru perioada rece a anului* (cold season benefits), WFP will provide complementary assistance for the most vulnerable. Targeted households will be selected from the social protection services database, and will include those which have a member categorized as falling within a priority vulnerable group, as identified by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (such as people with a disability, older persons, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, those with three or more children, and single parent households).
8. There are no direct beneficiaries under strategic outcomes 2 and 3.

#### **Transfer modalities**

9. Under activity 1, and through the six-month extension in time of the T-ICSP, WFP will continue to provide differentiated assistance to Ukrainian refugees, to Moldovan households hosting refugees, and to targeted vulnerable Moldovan households.
10. **Refugees:** Refugees arriving at the Ukraine–Republic of Moldova border will be provided with a one-off voucher with a value of USD 7 per person, while those residing in the accommodation centres will be provided with hot meal vouchers valued at USD 10 per person per day.
11. In the case of a sudden influx of Ukrainian refugees, immediate food assistance would be provided through one-off vouchers with a value of USD 14.



12. **Moldovan households:** WFP will continue to provide Moldovan households hosting refugees with multi-purpose cash with a value of USD 40 per person per month (USD 120 per household).<sup>3</sup> This transfer value is designed to cover 100 percent of the food gap identified through WFP monitoring analysis and the government-set minimum food subsistence level.<sup>4</sup>
13. WFP will continue to provide the most vulnerable Moldovan households with multi-purpose cash assistance with a value of USD 36 per household per month. This transfer value is in line with the Moldovan Government's social protection reform priorities, and is designed as top-up assistance (targeting the most vulnerable households) to coincide with winter-period social assistance provided by the Government.

### **Partnerships**

14. During the period of extension afforded through the current budget revision, WFP will continue to collaborate with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to ensure the design, implementation and monitoring of assistance are in line with the rollout of the new social protection reforms. WFP will continue to work closely with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support the ministry in the extension of the social assistance programme to Ukrainian refugees and in the rollout of reforms in line with national priorities.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

15. Over the extended period of the T-ICSP, and to inform the forthcoming ICSP for the Republic of Moldova, WFP will focus on enhanced food security, nutrition and vulnerability analysis using information made available through existing assessments conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics and other United Nations agencies, including the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNHCR and the resident coordinator's office. Where information gaps exist, WFP will collect relevant household food security and vulnerability related data in coordination with partners.

### **Accountability to affected populations, protection risks, restrictions of gender and disabilities**

16. WFP will ensure that conflict analyses are systematically updated in coordination with the resident coordinator's office and other humanitarian actors, and that conflict sensitivity risks are routinely discussed within programme and management structures in order to capture lessons learned and enable continuous review and adaptation of programmatic approaches. WFP will ensure that embedded gender inequalities leading to systematic barriers in accessing humanitarian assistance are considered and are in full compliance with the leave no one behind principle through a more people-centred, gender-sensitive and inclusive approach. To integrate gender-based violence prevention and response in a more holistic service package, WFP will continue to work closely with the United Nations Population Fund and UN-Women in the provision of assistance.

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<sup>3</sup> February 2023 post-distribution monitoring indicates an average of three members per household.

<sup>4</sup> National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova. 2022. [Living standard of the population](#).



**Proposed transition/handover strategy**

17. In accordance with the agreement under the Grand Bargain,<sup>5</sup> WFP will continue supporting national first responders, including ministries assigned and emergency cells established by the Government in the Republic of Moldova. WFP will implement a sustainable localization approach to strengthen local capacities ensuring sustained impact of WFP interventions, by strengthening national systems and empowering communities, think tanks and research institutions to address challenges that are key to achieving sustainable development. Where feasible WFP will seek to enhance institutional capacities, including through the strengthening of national social protection systems.

**Risk management**

18. Should there be a sharp influx of Ukrainian refugees into the Republic of Moldova along the border, through contingency and scenario planning, WFP is ready to engage with the Government and the United Nations-led general and sectoral coordination mechanisms to ensure the needs of these crisis affected populations are met.
19. High inflation as a result of the global economic and energy crises affecting Europe and the Republic of Moldova may lead to increasing food-insecure populations. WFP will address this through advocating additional resources to scale-up the response in-country, to continue support to Ukrainian refugees, and to increase assistance for Moldovan households hosting refugees and for the most vulnerable Moldovans.

**Beneficiary analysis**

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY							
Strategic outcome	Activity	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	1 (without overlaps)	Current	135 147	88 441	44 820	46 592	<b>315 000</b>
		Increase/ (decrease)	13 167	10 386	3 734	3 913	<b>31 200</b>
		Revised	148 314	98 827	48 554	50 505	<b>346 200</b>

<sup>5</sup> Inter-Agency Standing Committee. [The Grand Bargain \(Official website\)](#).



## Transfers

TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY					
	Strategic outcome 1				
	Activity 1: unconditional resource transfer				
Beneficiary type	Crisis-affected populations				
Modality	Cash 1	Cash 2	Value voucher 1 (contingency)	Value voucher 2 (snack)	Value voucher 3 (hot meals)
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)	0.40	1.33	1.929	7	10
Number of feeding days per month	30	30	7	1	30

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE			
Food type/cash-based transfer	Current budget	Increase	Revised budget
	Total (USD)	Total (USD)	Total (USD)
Cash-based transfers	39 463 333	20 625 000	60 088 333
<b>Total (food and cash-based transfer value)</b>	<b>39 463 333</b>	<b>20 625 000</b>	<b>60 088 333</b>

## Cost breakdown

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)				
	SDG target 2.1/ WFP strategic outcome 1	SDG target 17.9/ WFP strategic outcome 4	SDG target 17.16/ WFP strategic outcome 5	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	
Focus area	Crisis response	Resilience building	Crisis response	
Transfers	22 452 250	175 000	50 000	<b>22 677 250</b>
Implementation	761 834	78 357	12 663	<b>852 854</b>
Adjusted direct support costs				<b>1 096 695</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>24 626 799</b>
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)				<b>1 597 630</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>26 224 430</b>

**TABLE 5: OVERALL T-ICSP COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)**

	SDG target 2.1/ WFP strategic outcome 1	SDG target 17.9/ WFP strategic outcome 4	SDG target 17.16/ WFP strategic outcome 5	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	
Focus area	Crisis response	Resilience building	Crisis response	
Transfers	64 733 791	1 875 000	7 050 000	<b>73 658 791</b>
Implementation	3 248 041	180 412	102 391	<b>3 530 843</b>
Adjusted direct support costs	3 594 787	109 427	390 094	<b>4 094 309</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	71 576 619	2 164 839	7 542 485	<b>81 283 943</b>
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	4 652 480	140 715	-	<b>4 793 195</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>76 229 099</b>	<b>2 305 553</b>	<b>7 542 485</b>	<b>86 077 137</b>