



Crisis Briefing for Business: Education and Ukrainian Refugees

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with GBC-Education

The Ukraine Crisis: An Overview

- Since February 24, 2022, **3,169,897** refugees have fled Ukraine.
- Of the **7.5 million** girls and boys who were living in Ukraine at the beginning of the war, **1.5 million** have fled the country in search of safety.
- There are **5.7 million school-aged** children between of 3 – 17 who are at risk of losing educational opportunities due to nation-wide closure of schools and education facilities.



The Ukraine Crisis: An Overview



As of March 17th, the countries supporting the largest number of Ukrainian refugees include:

Poland: **1.91M**

Romania: **491,409**

Moldova: **350,886**

Hungary: **282,611**

Slovakia: **228,844**

Impact on Education

- Over **400** educational facilities have been damaged, with **59** destroyed completely.
- On average, **more than 75,000** children in Ukraine have become refugees every day since the beginning of the war.
- This recent escalation in conflict – coupled with the still more widespread proliferation of small arms and light weapons – has **severely increased the risk of recruitment** of school-age adolescents into armed groups.
- School-aged children are in urgent need of psychosocial support as well as a return to learning.
- Teachers' **ability to teach** is equally impacted by the erosion of safety and loss of normalcy and they are as both affected and as educators in **need of coping strategies and tools**.

Education in Emergency – Typical Responses

- **Integration:** refugees attend schools in the host community
- **Double-shift:** harness existing infrastructure if numbers overwhelm the system
- **Continuity of Ukrainian curriculum:** taught by refugee teachers or teachers within Ukraine remotely (provides learning continuity for students; opportunities for refugee teachers)



Education in Emergency – Typical Responses

- **Non-formal education:** play, sports, drama, language, or simple reading groups to provide safe places to learn
- **Accelerated learning:** help children catch up on missed time in school and/or adapt to host country curriculum
- **Higher education institutions:** language training; skills training (links to labor regulations)
- **Internal displacement pressures:** Schools in western Ukraine, may be over-run with internally displaced children, and they may adapt some of these tactics.



Humanitarian Appeals and Education

- **UN Humanitarian Appeal: \$1.7 B total**
- **Only 2.2%** be devoted to education or about **\$11.40** per child in need.
- **Minimum benchmark: 4-6%** of humanitarian funding for education.
- **Ideal Target: 10-15%** of humanitarian funding for education (set by the European Union at the World Humanitarian Summit)



Next steps

- **Assess the ongoing developments:** the situation will continue to evolve, and responses will solidify in each country.
- **Put in place 30-day plans:** a place in school for every refugee within 30 days.
- **Mobilize funding:** We need to fund education now to avoid the “begging bowl” in the months to come.
- **Support host countries:** financing, technical expertise and support, connectivity, learning materials.
- **Support education inside Ukraine:** increase capacity in areas with influx of refugees and areas isolated due to war.

- **Collective action**, versus small, short term and one-off
- **Understanding the urgency, but acting thoughtfully**
 - Options to contribute today to share corporate timeliness; 30 days to assess and make evidence-based decisions on programming
- **Emerging areas of need:**
 - early childhood education,
 - safe places to learn and psychosocial support,
 - skills for youth / employment opportunities
 - support for teachers
 - provision of learning materials, equipment and devices for distance learning;
 - connectivity and data,
 - data management systems

Opportunities for Business

Assets	Opportunities
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support education projects and community organizations via humanitarian relief funds• Encourage employee giving and matching
In-kind and technical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More difficult to program if not substantial• Record with GBC-Education what is available; we can identify whether there is a need
Education policy reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage education in emergencies as a priority in government relations meetings• Potential issues of host country employment
Thought leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share importance of refugee education with peer companies, customers, and employees; speak to the media• Encourage public support for education
Corporate policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess opportunities for refugee employment• Alignment of business activities vis-à-vis Russia

GBC-Education Disaster Relief and Education Response Fund: Ukraine

When you engage with the Disaster Relief and Education Response Fund, we:

- Work with your company to **establish priorities** for desired action
- GBC-Education can take a **tax-deductible grant** to support emergency relief for education so you can start to tell the story publicly
- Provide a bespoke on-the-ground **situation brief** within 48 hours
- Provide a recommended **social media package**
- **Conduct due-diligence, vet and identify effective partners** to receive the funding within 30 days; we manage all contracts, safeguarding and oversight; pool resources where possible to create greater impact
- **Report back on the impact** of the funding for your company's internal and external communications.
- Collaborate with **employer Matching Gift Programs**



Thank you