



THE RESPONSE

24TH FEBRUARY 20
31TH AUGUST 22

OF THE ITALIAN RED CROSS
AFTER 6 MONTHS SINCE THE
BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT



Croce Rossa Italiana

UKRAINE EMERGENCY

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This document refers to the following period (**24th February 2022 – 31th August 2022**) and is formulated through the collection of data and information by the different Departments and Units of the Italian Red Cross. Considering the rapidity of evolution of the current crisis, this document is subject to frequent updating.

Data updated to: **August 31th, 2022**

1- The emergency context and the humanitarian role of the Red Cross Movement

On February 24th a large-scale military intervention began in Ukraine, where due to a rapid and violent escalation of hostilities between the parties, one of the worst humanitarian crises since the last post-war period is being recorded. Despite the difficulties of having evidence of the real numbers, *OCHA* has so far counted - net of armed forces and civilians who have enlisted - **5,663 civilian deaths**, including **365 children**, and **8,055 wounded**, although the actual number is most likely much higher.

Over the past month, war operations show no signs of abating: fighting has been concentrated mainly in the *Donetska* and *Kharkivska* Oblasts, while tension continues to rise around the *Zaporizhzhia* nuclear power plant.



720 injuries

VERIFIED ON HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

From a military point of view, some international bodies denounce a repeated **violation of international humanitarian law**: since the beginning of the conflict, **720** healthcare facilities and **2,405** school buildings have been hit of heavy military incursions. Moreover, the use of **cluster munitions** has also been reported despite the ban resulting from international treaties. Houses, schools, hospitals and other strategical infrastructures have been destroyed, as further vital services. Many of those remaining are the vulnerable, including people with chronic diseases who do not have access to their care.

Due to the conflict, there has been an unprecedented exodus of the population: according to *UNHCR*, more than **10.8 million** refugees have crossed the borders from Ukraine looking for safety (mainly directed to Poland, Russian Federation and Hungary), while almost **5 million** people have returned to the country.

Internally, according to the *IOM*, there are almost **7 million** internally displaced: people who have lost the use and possession of their homes. Within this framework, the *Italian Civil Protection Department* stated **158,800 refugees** who have been received in Italy and, of these, around **82%** are women and children.

52% **30%** **18%**
WOMEN CHILDREN MEN

REFUGEES IN ITALY WHO FLED FROM UKRAINE

The **International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement** guided by its *Seven Fundamental Principles* was immediately activated to provide assistance to the affected population. In fact, the specific mandates of the organizations that compose it make the Movement one of the few entities qualified to access and intervene in the territory of operations: up to *August 31th*, **38** National Societies are involved in supporting the emergency response and around **325** operators are deployed on the ground of operations. Overall, more than **4.5 million** people have been reached by the action of the Movement and the intervention of over **108,000** Volunteers involved in operations (*distribution of goods, social activities, etc.*).

The **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** (IFRC) has launched an emergency appeal with which **288** million Swiss francs have been collected in response to the crisis. The role of the Federation focuses mainly on coordinating the action of the National Societies and facilitating their interventions in relation to emerging needs, in order to ensure an overall response as synergistic as possible. So far, there is a financial support program in place for the distribution of monetary vouchers amounting to more than **24 million** Swiss francs, the shelters set up of temporary housing for more than **172,000** people, and the installation of **382** humanitarian access points for displaced and refugees.

The **International Committee of the Red Cross** (ICRC), which has been present in Ukraine since 2014, is currently particularly focused in facilitating the activation of humanitarian corridors, through constant dialogue with the parties, and in promoting the application of international humanitarian law. ICRC's staff members are, in fact, active on the front lines for civilian evacuation operations, humanitarian aid distribution and family reunification activities. ICRC has just published a report on the activities conducted in the first six months since the beginning of the conflict, highlighting in particular certain circumstances concerning the treatment of **prisoners of war**.

Throughout the country, the **Ukrainian Red Cross** (URC) was immediately mobilized to intervene activating its volunteers. So far, the URC reported more than **5.5 million** people reached, around **265,000** people assisted during evacuation operations and **1.5 million** food aid kits delivered.

Data updated to: August 31th, 2022

2- Funds raised, goods collected and use of donations

The **Italian Red Cross (ItRC)**, in response to the immense generosity and solidarity shown by the citizenship, since the end of February 2022 has activated official channels to collect funds and goods to be allocated to the emergency in Ukraine, underlining the importance of a coordinated fundraising that allows to intervene in a targeted way in response to the needs expressed by the Ukrainian population. In this regard, the main donation channels put in place are the **national campaign** in collaboration with UNHCR and UNICEF, the **official fundraising** of the ItRC and **corporate fundraising** activities, which involves organizations and companies.

Until **31th August**, **86.7%** of the donations recorded by the ItRC were *cash*, made by organisations and individuals, while the remaining **13.3%** refers to the donations of goods (*in-kind*) which are delivered to Ukraine through the continue dispatch of humanitarian convoys. As for *cash* donations made by organisations and individuals, **52%** of them relates to the official fundraising channels activated by ItRC, while the remaining **48%** refers to the support granted by companies and organisations through corporate donations. The following table shows – *month by month* – the overall incoming money flows trend:



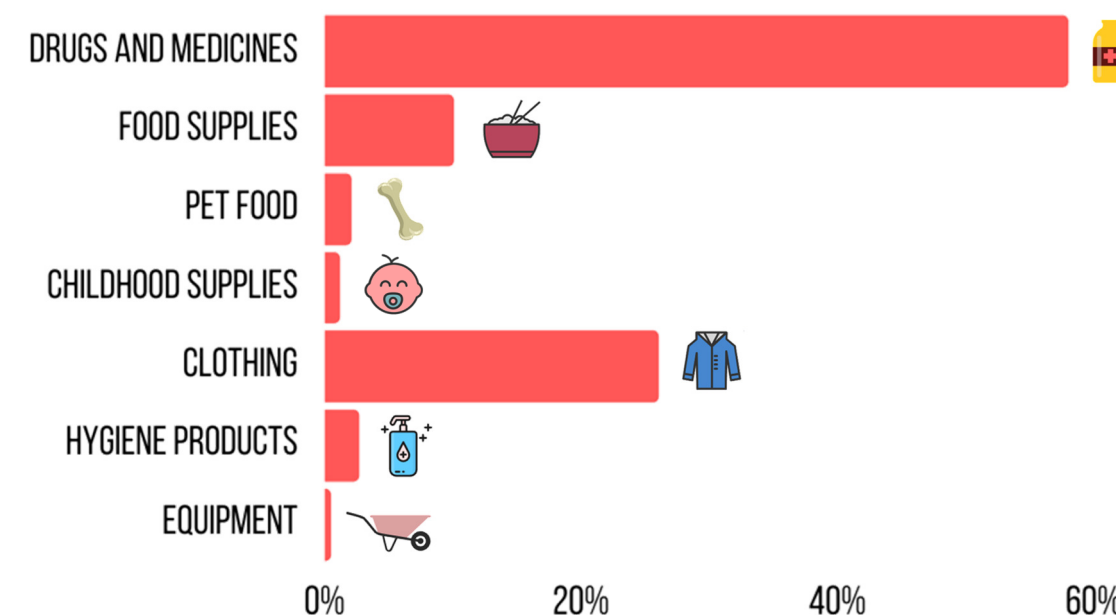
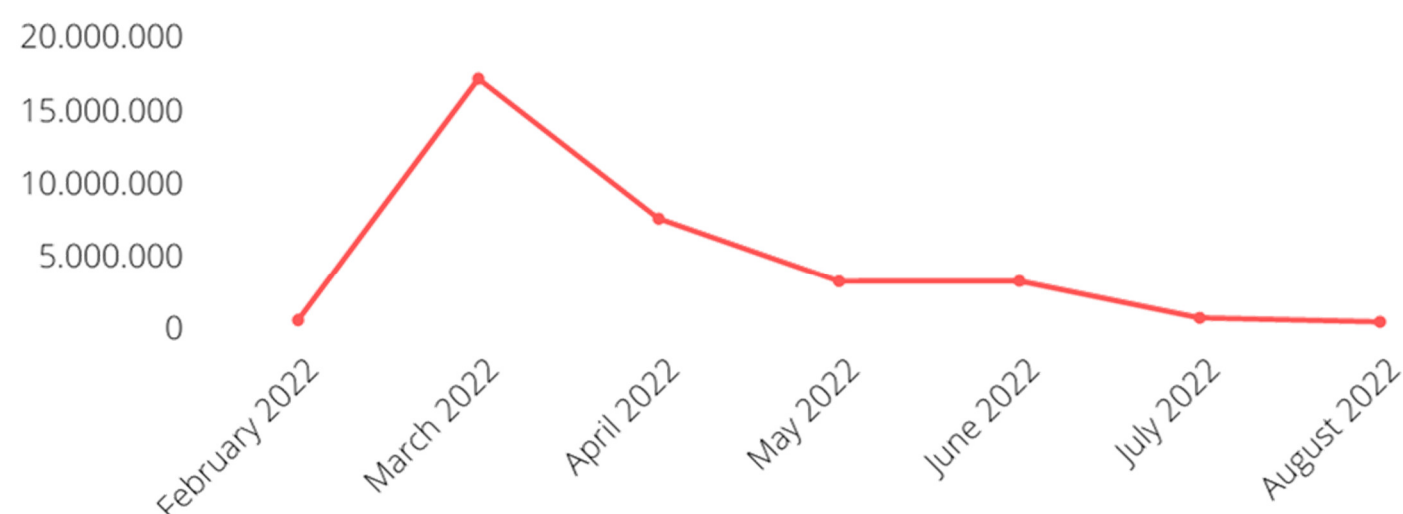
45%
FROM FUNDRAISING
ACTIVITIES



41.7%
OF CORPORATE
DONATIONS (*CASH*)

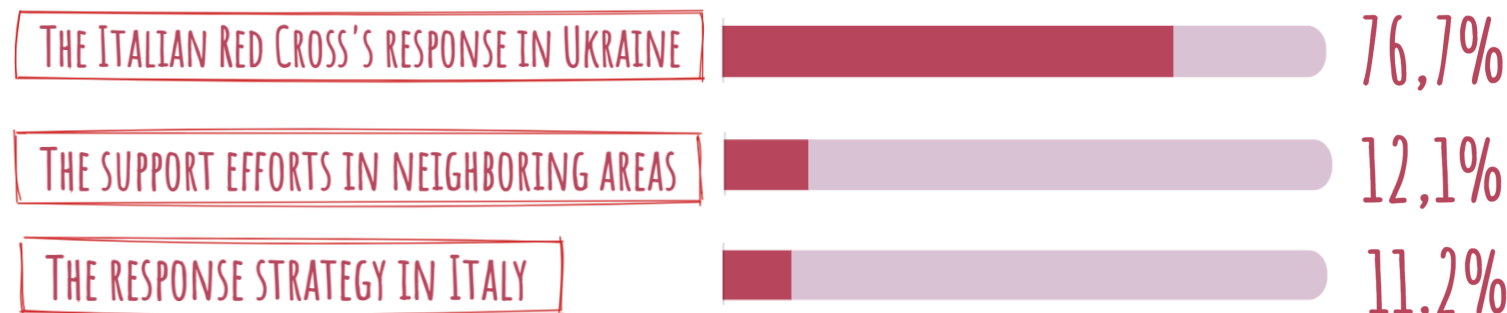


13.3%
OF IN-KIND
DONATIONS (*GOODS*)



Thanks to the collaboration of several companies willing to support the initiatives promoted by the ItRC, **1,164 pallets of goods** have been received in donation by ItRC. From the receipt of the goods to their dispatch it takes an average of **8 days** (including 4 days of travel). Upon indication of URC, it was decided to collect only priority goods (drugs, food, clothing, etc.). All the goods are collected in the ItRC' logistics hubs of storage and distributed based on a needs assessment, carried out by the Ukrainian Red Cross and the ItRC. The chart above shows the type of donations of goods received so far by the ItRC.

All donations related to the emergency in Ukraine are being used by the Association to support the emergency response activities described in the following pages. As of **August 31th**, **81%** of the total donations received have already been allocated to the above activities: the percentage **allocation of funds by geographical area of intervention** is represented graphically below.

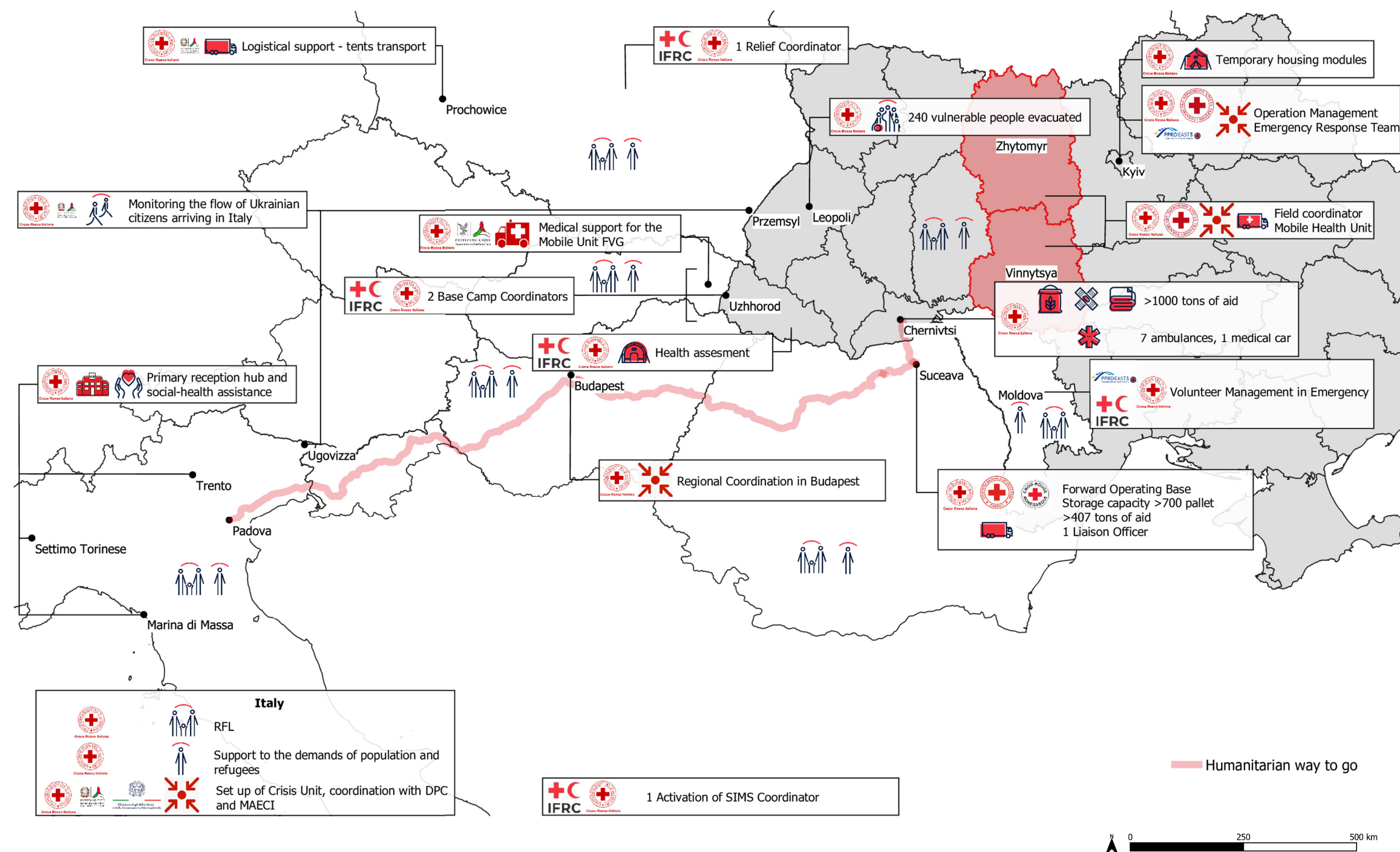


Data updated to: August 31th, 2022

3- Field operations, assistance and shelter programs

The Italian Red Cross has promptly mobilized in order to support the population affected by the conflict and has activated its **National Crisis Unit** to coordinate all the necessary measures and to ensure a **continuous humanitarian bridge**. The programs and operations are structured based on the specificities, needs and requirements that emerged from the *assessments* conducted by the operators in the field and concern both the **immediate response** and the **programmatic intervention** in the medium/long term.

While the map below summarizes the contribution of the Italian Red Cross in the field of operations, the following pages illustrate the classification of the ItRC' efforts in emergency response according to a criterion of **territoriality** (ItRC' operations in Ukraine, neighbouring regions and activities in Italy). These are continually evolving and are carried out mainly thanks to the **donations** received for the so far emergency.



THE ITALIAN RED CROSS'S RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

Data updated to: **August 31th, 2022****Convoys for the humanitarian aids supply**

Until the end of *August*, there were **33** international operations for the delivery of humanitarian aid. A total of **242** ItRC' operators were activated by the National Operations Room, who - with the dispatch of **115** vehicles deployed in mobile columns - delivered from Italy a total of **989.3 tons** of humanitarian aid to the Red Cross of Ukraine (especially medicines, clothing and food received as donations). In addition, in recent months a further **42.8 tons** of food goods have been purchased locally and transported from ItRC' operational hub in *Suceava* (Romania) for distribution in Ukraine.

**Operations of civilian's evacuation**

So far - with the support of URCS and following the authorization the National authorities - the ItRC has evacuated **245** fragile persons, suffering from physical and mental diseases, gathered by the Red Cross of Ukraine. The ItRC has organized **3** international evacuation operations, involving **204** operators and **68** vehicles. Through the Italian systems of assistance and civil protection, the people were transferred to protected facilities, including some ItRC' shelters. Furthermore, on behalf of the *Municipality of Rome*, the ItRC organized the transportation of **36** children from *Lviv* (round-trip) who were part of a summer social project.

**Strengthening the capacity of the *Ukrainian Red Cross Society***

In this context, it is essential to support those who are engaged on the front line of operations. In *Kiev* and *Vinnytsia*, the ItRC is ensuring the support of its human resources with the deployment of **1 Operation Managers**, **2 Field Coordinators** and many **experts**, to support the URC and the structuring of a national operations room (as part of a project aiming at reinforcing the capacity of URCS in the *disaster management*). Moreover, an intervention for the development of **Emergency Relief Teams (ERTs)** has been started in synergy with the *Ukrainian Civil Defense* as well as with the EU-funded project '*PPRD East 3*', aiming at reinforcing the positioning and role of URCS within the National Civil Protection System. Additional staff will be hired directly on site by URC.

**Deployment of Mobile Health Units**

The ItRC is working to develop a system of **mobile health clinics (MHUs)** and access to primary care in *Vinnytsia* and *Zhytomyr* Oblasts, following the Ukrainian Red Cross' guidelines at national and local level. Overall, **20** multi-professional mobile health units will be deployed, formed by **doctors, nurses, logisticians** and **translators** (including diagnostic screening interventions towards the population) over the most remote areas of the two *Oblasts*. Among others, this has been implemented with the procurement of some equipment to be destined to the Ukrainian Red Cross: **11 ambulances**, **1 medical car** and **1 campervan** have already been delivered. Staff recruitment and procurement of drugs and medical supplies is currently underway.

**Shelter assistance project for family units**

Following recent coordination meetings with the Ukrainian Red Cross and local authorities, a long-term project aimed at the deployment and construction of around **116 temporary housing modules (MAP)** in the areas close to *Kiev* (capable of housing more than **350** people) has been concerted. The intervention is tailored to host and to take care of displaced persons returning to the country. The project will take place in *Zhytomyr* and *Andriivka* and equipment transfer is ongoing to start logistical operations.

**Contribution to the coordinated action of the *International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement***

The ItRC is responding to the IFRC's **emergency appeal** in order to support the major **humanitarian response operations** carried out by the URC and its Sister Societies in neighboring countries. Specifically, this initiative also contributes to strengthening the organizational development of the RRCC National Societies (such as Ukraine and Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Hungary) and enhancing their **preparedness** and response capabilities, in particular by improving **volunteer management** and technical knowledge.

THE SUPPORT EFFORTS IN NEIGHBORING AREAS

Supporting the international humanitarian coordination and the European system of civil protection

In addition to first mentioned operations, the Italian Red Cross is also active in terms of international coordination in the humanitarian field, in accordance with its role of auxiliary to public authorities and as a member of the International Red Cross Movement. For these reasons, **18** ItRC' operators have been supporting the IFRC in **Hungary, Poland, Romania** and Ukraine. Furthermore, with the *Italian Department of Civil Protection*, the ItRC delivered **200 tents** to *Prochowice* (Poland), equipped to accommodate **1,000** people, while other **68** ItRC' operators have been deployed for monitoring the migration flow (*Przemysl* and *Ugovizza*), for *MedEvac* operations (urgent medical transport of Ukrainian patients) in *Rzeszow* and for logistical support to IFRC (trucking and warehouse management).

Advanced operational hub in Romania (FOB)

More than two months ago, the ItRC completed the deployment of a logistics hub in the city of *Suceava* - on the Ukrainian border. This includes the establishment of a **10.000 m² consolidation warehouse for the goods storage** (with a capacity of about **700** pallets of goods, equivalent to over **20** trucks), an **operational coordination center**, staff **training** activities, accommodation and food services for **12** operators. So far, more than **100** operators have been transited at the hub, which is part of the cooperation between ItRC and the Romanian Red Cross as well as an interchange point with RRCC National Societies and local authorities.

Supporting the Red Cross National Societies in neighboring areas

The ItRC is looking at scaling up the operation of the RRCC Movement's intervention working in bilateral with the RC of **Romania** and **Hungary**. Such support will focus, among others, on enhancing capacity in logistics and on branch development.

Besides, ItRC has deployed with IFRC an expert to support the RC of **Moldova** with volunteer management in emergencies. This activity is part of the ongoing project PPRD3 which also includes this Country that aims at strengthening the role of the National Society within the national civil protection system.

THE RESPONSE STRATEGY IN ITALY

Data updated to: **August 31th, 2022**

Pilot program of sheltering vulnerable people escaped from Ukraine

Part of the funds raised are destined to the creation of **equipped spaces to welcome and assist arriving refugees** in the Italian territory, to respond to their basic needs and to create individual intervention plans aimed at guaranteeing adequate social-health assistance or educational activities, school, social and work integration. The first activities are taking place in the ItRC' Centers "*Teobaldo Fenoglio*" in **Settimo Torinese**, "*Villa Besler*" in **Levico (Trento)** and "*CODAM*" in **Marina di Massa (Tuscany)** which implemented programmes for **164** people with physical and cognitive disabilities, evacuated by the ItRC and coming from the Ukrainian region of *Donbass*.

Work and social inclusion project for Ukrainian citizens

The Italian Red Cross will soon start a path of placement - or reintegration - into the job market for at least **100** people who, due to the conflict, fled from Ukraine and as of today are living in Italy. The initiative will involve **5** ItRC' local branches that will plan and implement **training** activities, **alphabetization** programs, professionalizing courses, **mentoring** activities and liaison with **companies**. ItRC' local branches are currently in the process of being identified and will start their activities from next October.

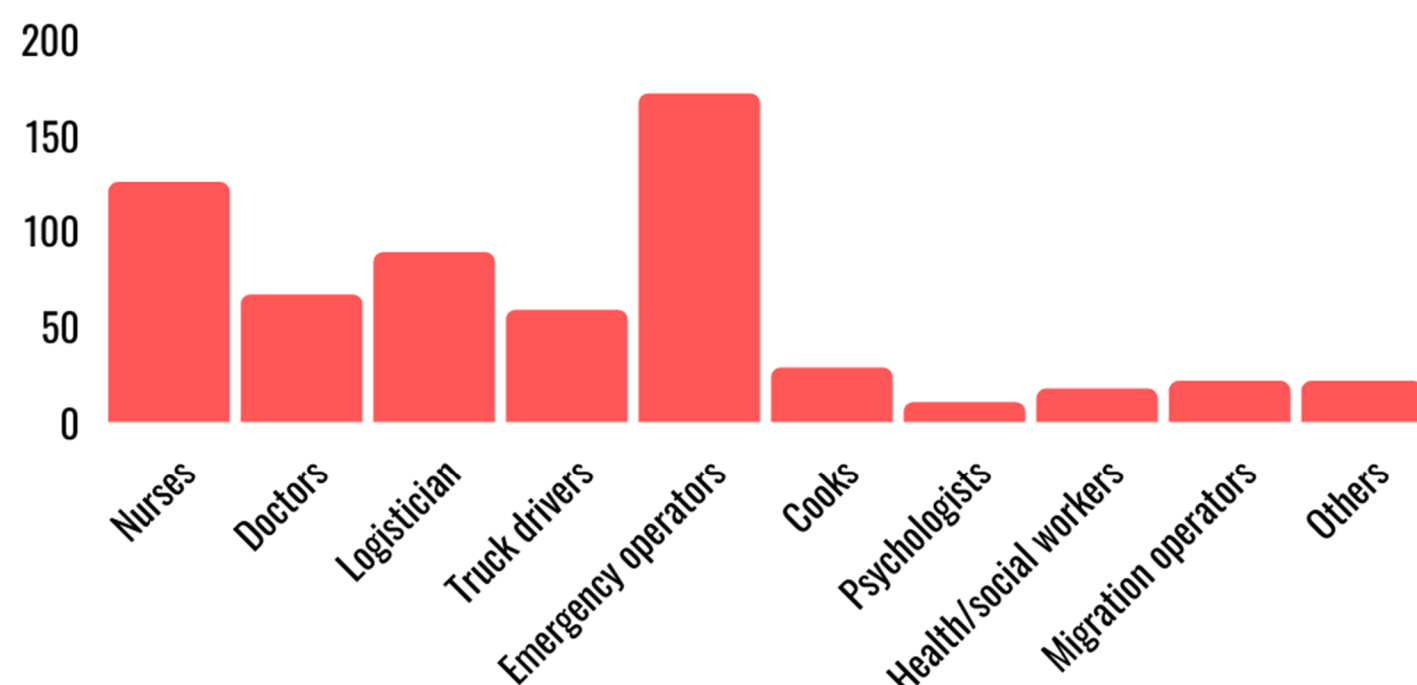
The ItRC' national response plan

Besides the operations, the ItRC has immediately activated the following support services: *(i)* the ItRC' National Response Center (first-entry channel, which has registered over **6,000** contacts); *(ii)* a specialized support channel managed by migration experts (with over **1,030** requests, mainly from private parties); *(iii)* a **psychological first aid** telephone service, available in two languages and free of charge; *(iv)* the **RFL** (Restoring Family Links) service, in order to restore and maintain family contacts interrupted during the conflict, which took over **38** cases and involved **9** RFL' Regional Offices.

Data updated to: August 31th, 2022

4- The essential commitment of volunteers in Italy and abroad

One of the main strengths of the Italian Red Cross is its capillarity presence among the communities: in this emergency context, the contribution of the volunteers is essential. To date *August 31th*, **627 ItRC' Volunteers** have responded to the call of the *National Operations Room* giving their availability to be employed in emergency operations related to the crisis in Ukraine: **433 ItRC' Volunteers** belonging to this *cluster* have already been activated in missions in Italy and abroad. The chart below shows the **professional qualifications** and **specializations** of the volunteers involved in the operations.



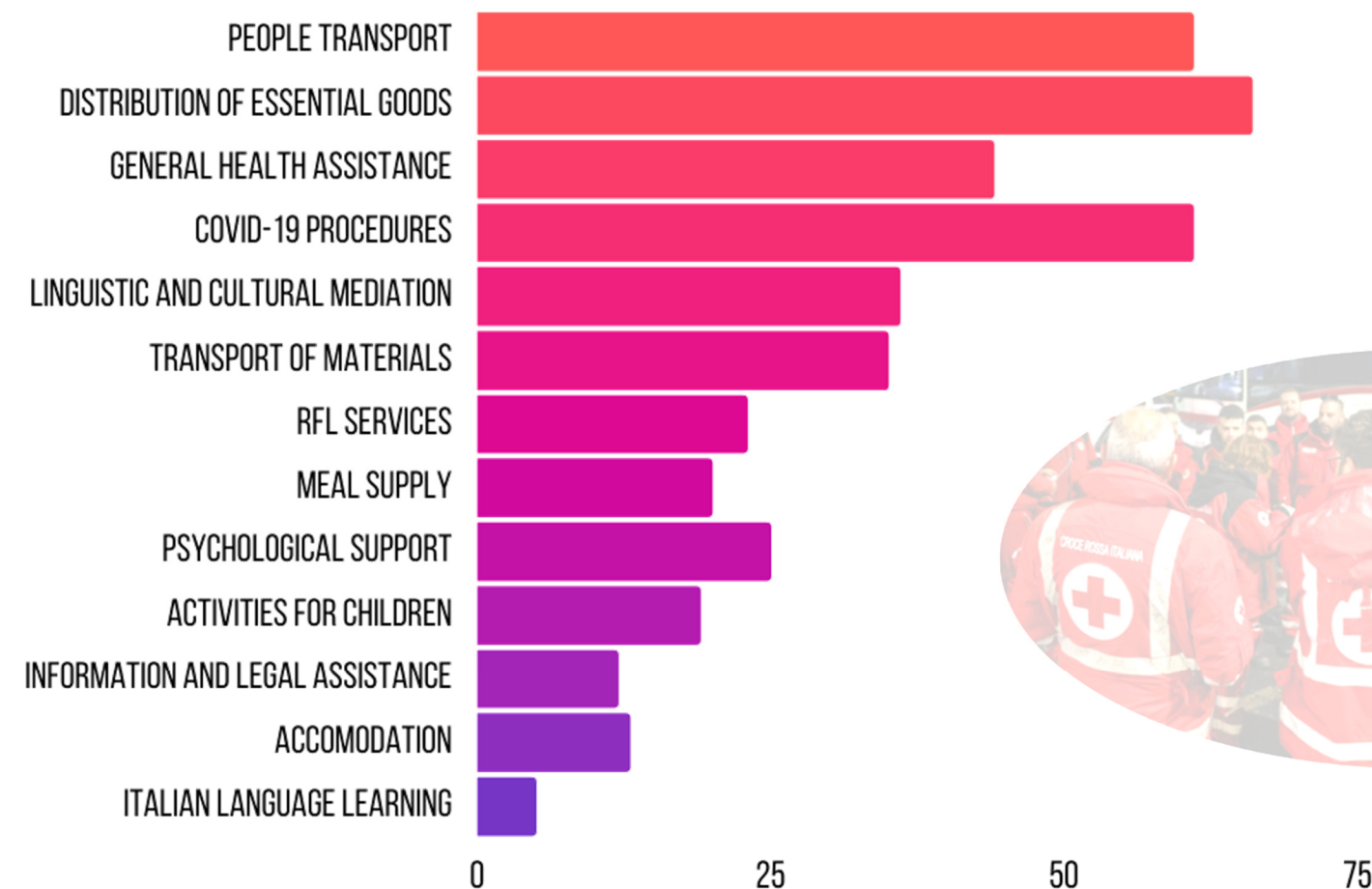
Moreover, on March 10th, the ItRC reactivated its **temporary volunteer program**, thus allowing anyone who wishes to join and who meets certain essential requirements, to acquire the status of volunteer for a limited time and for specific purposes in support of the intervention of the Italian Red Cross. So far, **1,223 temporary volunteers** have become available: a strong adhesion was recorded in the Regions of *Lombardy, Lazio, Piedmont* and *Tuscany*. They are mainly **interpreters, nurses, surgeons** and **psychologists**.

Since the arrival of the first displaced persons, the Italian Red Cross has increasingly involved its assistance activities, guaranteeing an effective and efficient response: so far, **141 ItRC' Local Branches** have been involved in delivering services and activities related to the emergency in Ukraine.

The chart beside describes the **mapping of interventions** with the territorial incidence of the most active ItRC' Local Branches (*darker colour*).



Until *August 31th*, considerable volunteer services have been carried out in the areas of **health care, people transfer** and **first arrival hubs**. Below there is the graphic representation indicating the kind of services carried out by the ItRC' Local Branches throughout the Italian country.



List of main sources**OCHA** - United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs**UN** - United Nations**IOM** - International Organization for Migration**UNHCR** - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**OHCHR** - United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**ICPD** - Italian Civil Protection Department**IFRC** - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**ICRC** - International Committee of the Red Cross**URC** - Red Cross of Ukraine Society**ItRC** - Italian Red Cross Society**RRCC** - Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

"The Italian Red Cross would like to thank all the people, organizations, companies and those who are showing great generosity by supporting the activities of the Association in response to the emergency in Ukraine. Such participation is essential in order to ensure a continuous humanitarian relief bridge and to contribute to alleviate the suffering of people affected by the conflict."



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