Finding Ukrainian refugees a home: What are the long term options?

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Main response gaps across host countries

Overall housing shortage
The host countries all suffer from very unregulated private rental market and a weak social sector.

Financial framework
Local landlords face too much uncertainty regarding subsidies available to them.

Locational problems
There is a mismatch between housing availability (small towns) and employment & services (big urban centers). Mid-sized cities were also overlooked to ease the distribution of refugees.

Lack of social assistance...
... And other key services such as access to schools, healthcare and language courses as well as reliable funding for NGOs.

Policy recommendations

National level
Increase the affordable housing supply in 3 major ways

- **Landlord-based**
  - Mobilize and upgrade unused and under-utilized housing.
  - Repurpose pre-existing, empty urban buildings for residential use.

- **Tenant-based**
  - Provide housing allowance for refugees to secure a dwelling independently.

- **Intermediary-based**
  - Support the establishment of social rental models, based on NGO’s initiatives and with the involvement of local authorities.

EU level
Develop a regional long-term housing strategy

- Develop a long term regional housing strategy that brings together all actors in this field to avoid secondary movement of refugees.

- Develop guidance concerning what type of affordable and social housing developments the relevant EU funds can be used for.

- Shift focus to scaling up housing supply – the scale of solutions currently deployed is too limited.

Learn more at www.habitat.org/emea/ukraine-crisis