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Finding Ukrainian refugees a home:

What are the long term options?

Research commissioned by Habitat for Humanity with the Metropolitan Research Institute.

February 2023

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

EU level

Develop a regional long-term housing strategy

- 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 NGOs' initiatives and with the involvement of local authorities.

- 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