



Ecuadorian returnees from Ukraine are reunited with family members. © IOM 2022 / Ramiro Aguilar Villamarín

1. BACKGROUND

The Government of Ecuador, led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, formed a Crisis Committee to protect and preserve the lives and safety of Ecuadorians who were in Ukraine when the war began. According to figures available, around 700 Ecuadorian nationals, the vast majority of which were students, were living and studying in Ukraine at the time.

Among the main objectives of the National Government are the following: facilitating the departure of citizens to Ukraine's neighboring countries by working with host countries to ensure their entry and protection, offering shelter and immediate humanitarian assistance, providing the necessary transportation and required documentation to be able to return to Ecuador, providing emotional support for people in transit and their families in Ecuador, and the creation and coordination of initiatives allowing them to continue their studies and guarantee their economic integration once back in the country.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested the support of UN Agencies, Funds and Programs in Ecuador to support national efforts in response to the multiple needs of Ecuadorian nationals who were fleeing the war in Ukraine.

THE ECUADORIAN GOVERNMENT ARRANGED
**3 HUMANITARIAN FLIGHTS
WITH 716 RETURNEES**

IOM ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE
ARRIVING FROM UKRAINE

PSYCHOSOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Psychological First Aid
Emotional Support

164 people assisted



Delivery of hygiene and biosafety kits

TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE

3
by land

6
by air

9
overland to the
Colombian border

2. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY IOM ECUADOR



Direct psychosocial assistance to provide psychological first aid, emotional support, crisis management and assistance to family members of returnees.



A psychosocial care strategy designed for the reception of returnees alongside the Ecuadorian Red Cross.



Emotional containment and offloading support for personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Delivery of hygiene kits and biosecurity supplies for returnees.



Internal transport provided in the city of Quito and interprovincial transport for returnees whose families were unable to receive them at the airport.



Together with IOM Colombia, and in close coordination with the Colombian Consulate and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 9 Colombian nationals and their three pets were transported by land from the airport to the northern border.



In partnership with the Ecuadorian Red Cross and public entities, IOM provided technical assistance for the creation of a reception procedure for Ecuadorian nationals being reunited with their families.

3. COMMITMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM



**UNITED NATIONS
ECUADOR**



Leadership and coordination to support this initiative.



Agreement on the key narratives and messages to be shared with the public.



for every child

Technical assistance for emotional containment and psychosocial support for families with children and adolescents.



Technical support with registration and the development of a rapid registration and characterization tool applied during the registration of persons from Ukraine.



unesco

Technical assistance with: recognition of Higher Education qualifications and degrees, their relevance and suitability.



OCHA
Office for the Coordination
of Humanitarian Affairs

Information management concerning reporting the situation and humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.



Feasibility assessment of accommodating and integrating the target group in employment and livelihood assistance programs, among others.

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