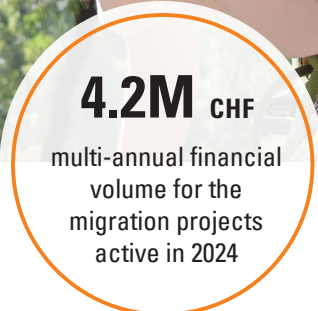
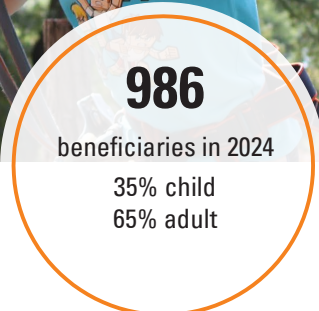




# Children and Youth on the Move in Hungary



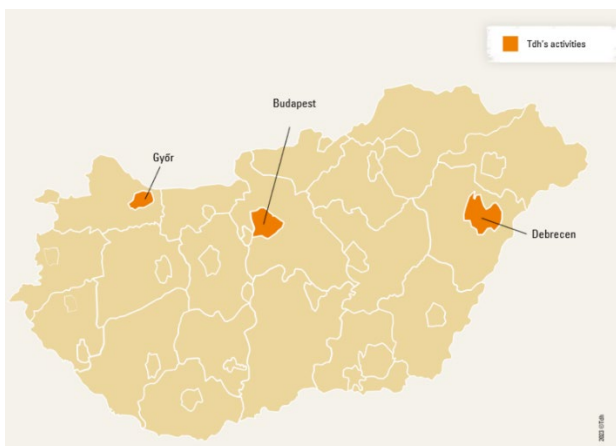
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## In 2024...

- **68,459** refugees, and **137** stateless persons
- **1.7 million** children, with **18.1%** at risk of poverty and social exclusion
- Only **29** asylum applications, a **95%** drop since 2019
- **41 000/ 38 000** Ukrainian refugee TP requests approved
- **2,147** refugees, and **1,249** asylum seekers abroad

## Map of CYM intervention



## Context

### Country of origin

From 1989 to 2024, the population in Hungary has decreased from **10.4 million to 9.6 million**. Emigration has slowed since 2019, but **employment abroad remains the main reason for leaving**, with around **5.3% of Hungarians** living abroad. At the same time, approximately **20,000 people return annually**, mainly for family reunification.

### Country of destination

There were **403,112 immigrants** in Hungary by the end of 2023, arriving mainly for **employment, education, and family reunification**. By April 2024, there were nearly **100,000 foreign workers**, primarily from the **Philippines, Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan, India, and Russia**. Hungary hosts around **65,000 refugees from Ukraine**, 80% of whom are women and children. Of **41,000 Temporary Protection requests**, **38,000 were approved**.

### Country of transit for refugees and asylum seekers

Hungary remains a **transit country** for migrants heading to Western Europe, but its **strict border controls** have sharply reduced asylum access. More than **380,000 pushbacks** occurred at the Hungary–Serbia border between **2016 and 2023**. The **embassy system** introduced in 2020 requires asylum seekers to apply through Hungarian embassies abroad, discouraging applications from **Third Country Nationals (TCNs)**. Asylum requests have dropped by **94% since 2019**. TCNs fleeing the war in Ukraine without proof of legal residence there were **denied Temporary Protection**, in violation of **EU law**.

### Human trafficking

About **8% of Hungarian children** live in state care, facing **high risks of trafficking and exploitation**. In 2023, authorities identified **163 victims**, including **25 children and 8 foreign nationals**. **Roma girls in children's homes** remain especially vulnerable to **forced prostitution**, both within Hungary and abroad. Children represented **16% of all identified trafficking victims**, yet public awareness and protection measures remain limited.

## Roma communities in Hungary

Roma children face high levels of discrimination, with their families' disproportionate levels of poverty, social exclusion, and segregation. They do not have access to the same levels of healthcare, education, and social integration as other Hungarian children. Roma children are overrepresented in social services, in the criminal justice system, and in foster care, and face a high likelihood of future unsafe migration.

## Tdh CYM Projects in Hungary

In 2024, the **4 CYM projects** that were coordinated from Hungary focused on:

- Preventing **violence against child migrants** from happening in the first place, through promoting **protective factors** and a **culture of safeguarding**
- **FabLab: Empowerment** of disadvantaged children and youth to take control over their lives by using an **innovative environment** of creation and skill-building
- Strengthening the **overall response** to the Ukrainian war of **frontline actors in Hungary** through capacity building, strengthening protection services and integration
- **MHPSS** services and awareness-raising, including among non-professionals
- Providing **refugees children and families from Ukraine** quality child and family support services, including with financial and non-food essential items

### Local partners

Public institutions, local NGOs

## Alignment with Theory of Change

**Target groups:** Focus on children and youth in pre-mobility, on the move, and fixed in the migration process

**Information (Pathway 1):** Learning and mainstreamed within and beyond the actors involved

**Protection (Pathway 2):** CYM are better protected and accompanied along migratory routes and in crisis contexts

**(Re)integration (Pathway 3):** CYM are better integrated in their society

**Advocacy (Pathway 4):** Multi-stakeholder coordination is established to strengthen community level safety nets and resilience

**Differentiation approach:** Resilience and Innovation Facilities

**Priority areas of intervention:**

1. Strengthening systems and services
2. Enabling CYM and their families as actors in their protection, development, and advocacy

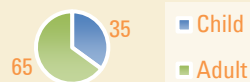
**Transversal expertise:** Child Protection

**Institutional priorities:** Gender and Diversity, Innovation

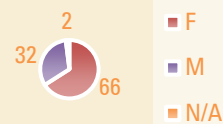
## CYM 2023 Key Data in Hungary

→ In 2024 Tdh's CYM activities reached **986** beneficiaries through **4** projects

### Age (%)



### Gender (%)



**659** children, youth, families, and communities' members affected by migration have benefited from training, counseling, or awareness-raising sessions



**909** children and youth (re)enrolled in formal or non-formal education services thanks to Tdh projects assistance.



### Contact

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Sources: Tdh, IOM, UNHCR, HRW, Amnesty International



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