

Lithuanian experience: Municipal response to welcome and integrate Ukrainian refugees in Akmenė District municipality

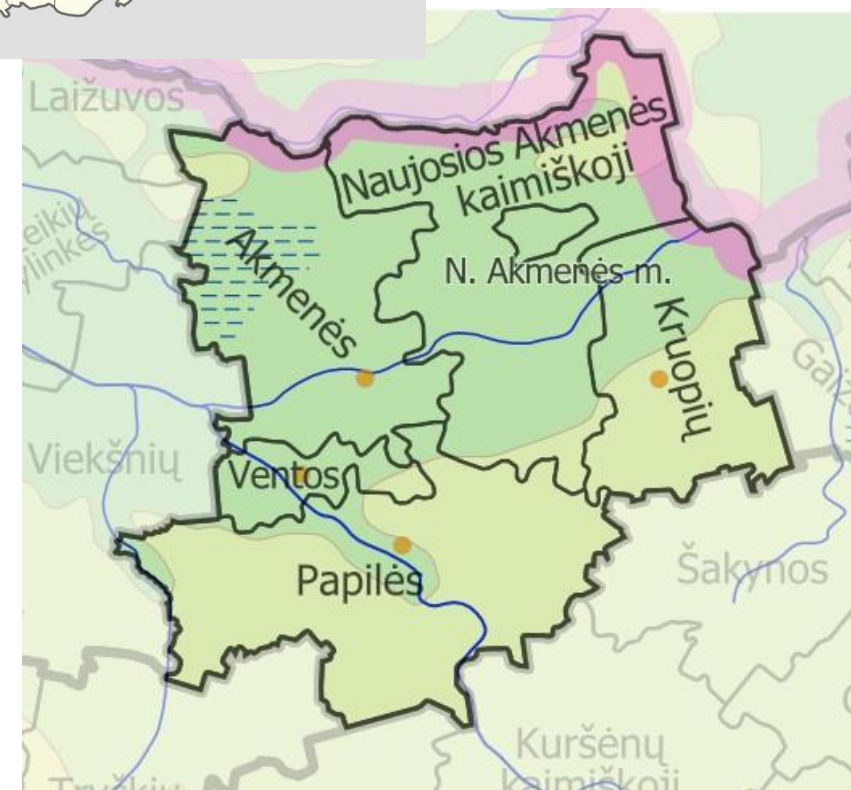
Inga Vismantienė, Deputy Mayor of Akmenė District municipality

2023 October 24, Tallinn



FACTS & FIGURES

- **Location:** Akmenė District Municipality is situated in the northwestern part of Lithuania, near the border with Latvia. The District is divided into **6 elderships**. Elderships function as municipal districts.
- **Population:** **20275 inhabitants** (Statistics from 2023.09.01). Part of the population has foreign background.
- **Economy:** The economy of the Municipality is primarily based on agriculture and industrial activities.
- **Industry:** The district was historically known for its limestone and dolomite deposits and manufacturing construction material - cement, concrete. Investments to Akmenė FEZ reached more than 220 mln. Euros this year.

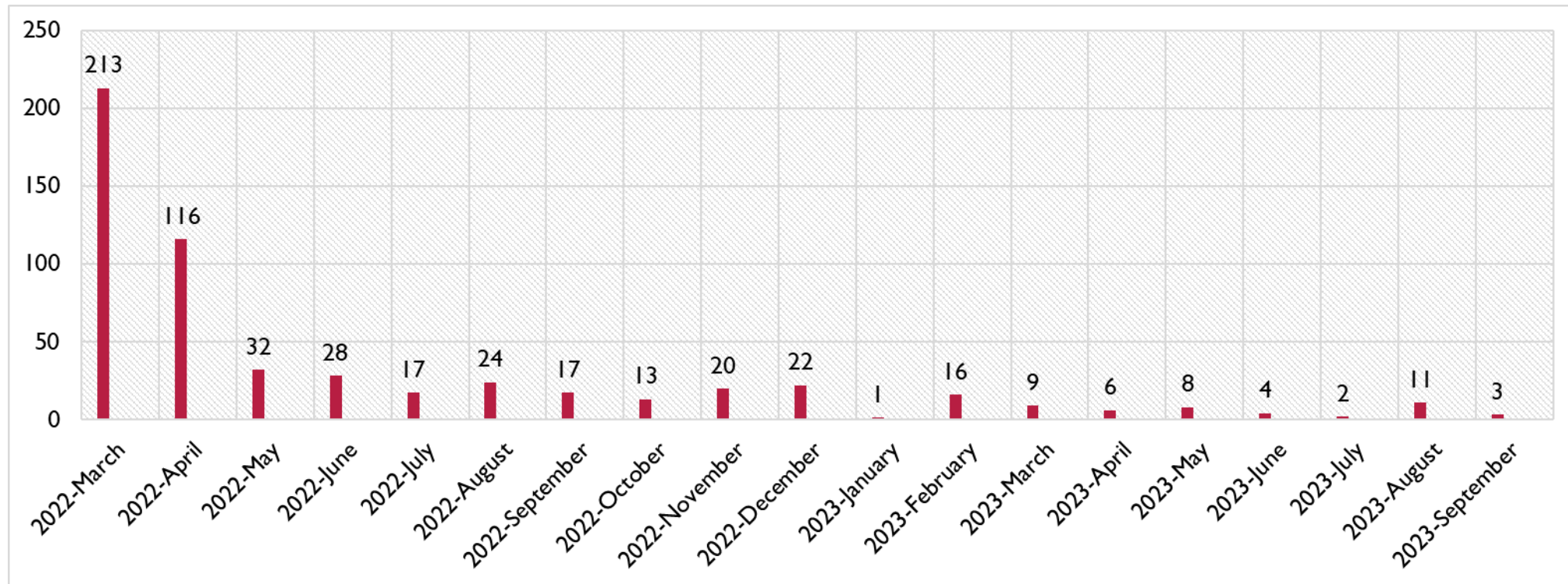


WAR REFUGEES FROM UKRAIN

All-time	0-5 years old	6-17 years old	18-64 years old	65+ years old
81 781 Ukrainian citizens 99 % <small>Lithuania total</small>	5 828	20 693	50 868	4 392
Yesterday	0-5 years old	6-17 years old	18-64 years old	65+ years old
39 Ukrainian citizens 100 % <small>Lithuania total</small>	4	3	30	2
Last 7 days	0-5 years old	6-17 years old	18-64 years old	65+ years old
209 Ukrainian citizens 99 % <small>Lithuania total</small>	25	35	140	9
Previous 7 days	0-5 years old	6-17 years old	18-64 years old	65+ years old
236 Ukrainian citizens 100 % <small>Lithuania total</small>	24	44	161	7

- Officially registered refugees in Lithuania since February 2022.
- **52 658** have Temporary Residence Permit.
- Latest statistics from Lithuania State Data Agency dated 2023-10-20.
- <https://osp.stat.gov.lt/ukraine-dashboards>

WAR REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE IN AKMENE MUNICIPALITY



WAR REFUGEES FROM UKRAIN IN AKMENE MUNICIPALITY

AK!

AKMENĖS
KRAŠTAS

Date	0-3 years old	4-6 years old	7-17 years old	18-69 years old	70+ years old	Total number
2022-06-27	24	30	108	195	12	393
2022-08-31	28	34	122	218	12	414
2022-11-30	26	38	123	252	12	451
2022-12-31	27	38	122	264	12	463
2023-01-31	27	38	121	262	14	462
2023-02-28	27	39	119	267	14	466
2023-03-31	27	39	121	277	14	478
2023-04-28	27	37	124	278	14	480
2023-05-31	27	36	127	281	16	487
2023-06-30	31	35	135	291	19	511
2023-09-30	28	34	136	296	22	516
2023-05-31	Minors: 190: - preschool age: 63, - school age: 127.			Adults: 297		Total: 487 (increase per month 7)
2023-06-30	Minors: 201: - preschool age: 66, - school age: 135.			Adults: 310		Total: 511 (increase per month 24)
2023-09-30	Minors: 198, - preschool age: 62, - school age: 136.			Adults: 318		Total: 516 (increase per 3 months 5)

ORGANIZING THE CRISIS

- The Municipality administration started a dedicated team with one dedicated coordinator.
- Members of the team came from various fields and departments:
 - social services,
 - health care,
 - education,
 - welfare,
 - IT and communication.
- Not mandatory also participated:
 - employment agency,
 - business association,
 - NGOs.
- 6 elders participated for better management of information.

CREATING OUR INTEGRATION ECOSYSTEM

DEDICATED TEAM OF ADMINISTRATION

COORDINATOR

**MIGRATION
SERVICES (MIGRIS
REGISTRATION)**

ACCOMODATION

HEALTHCARE

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

SOCIAL BENEFITS

**DECLARATION OF
LIVING PLACE**

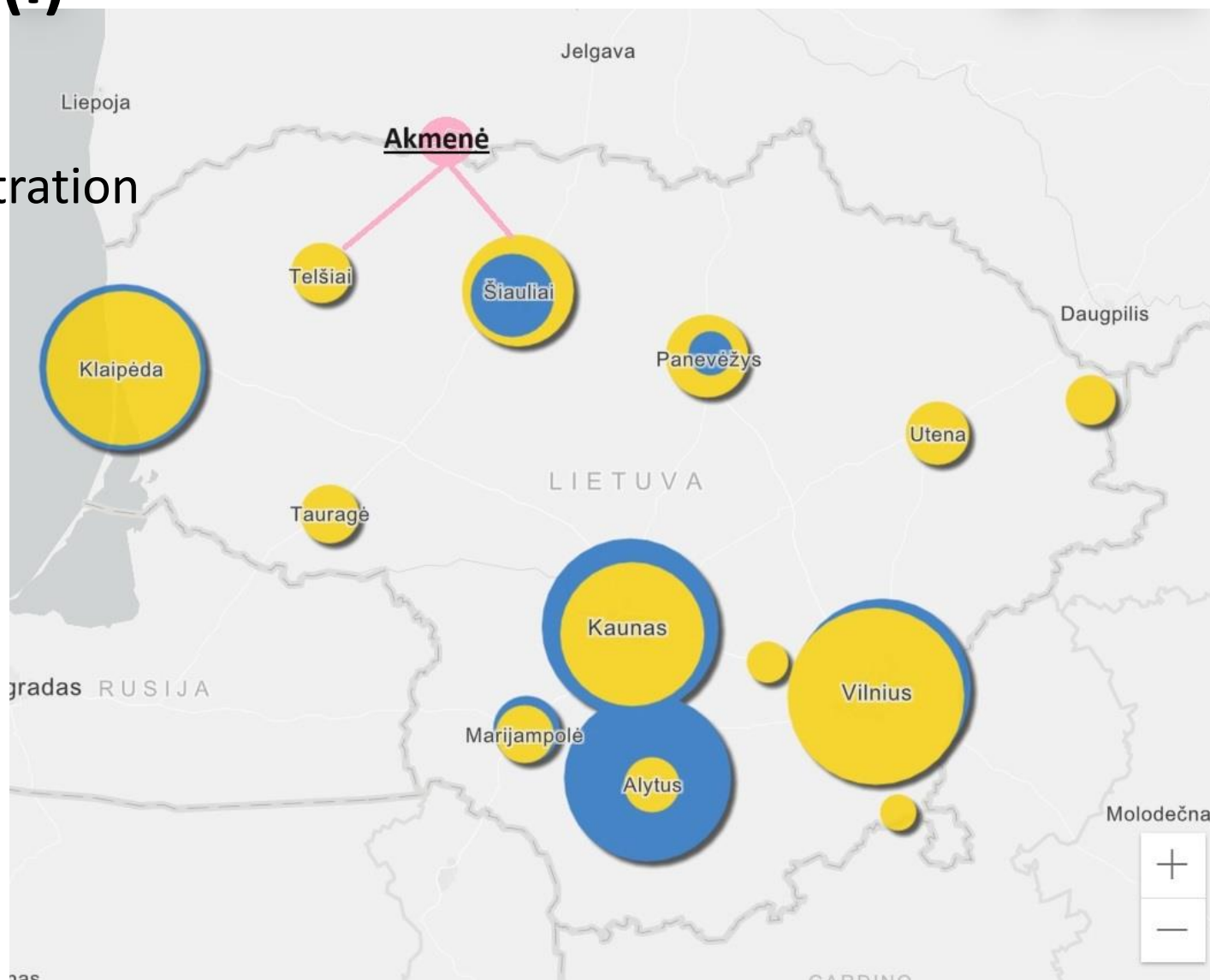
EDUCATION

**HELP FROM NGOs
(MAISTO BANKAS,
CARITAS, IOM)**

LANGUAGE

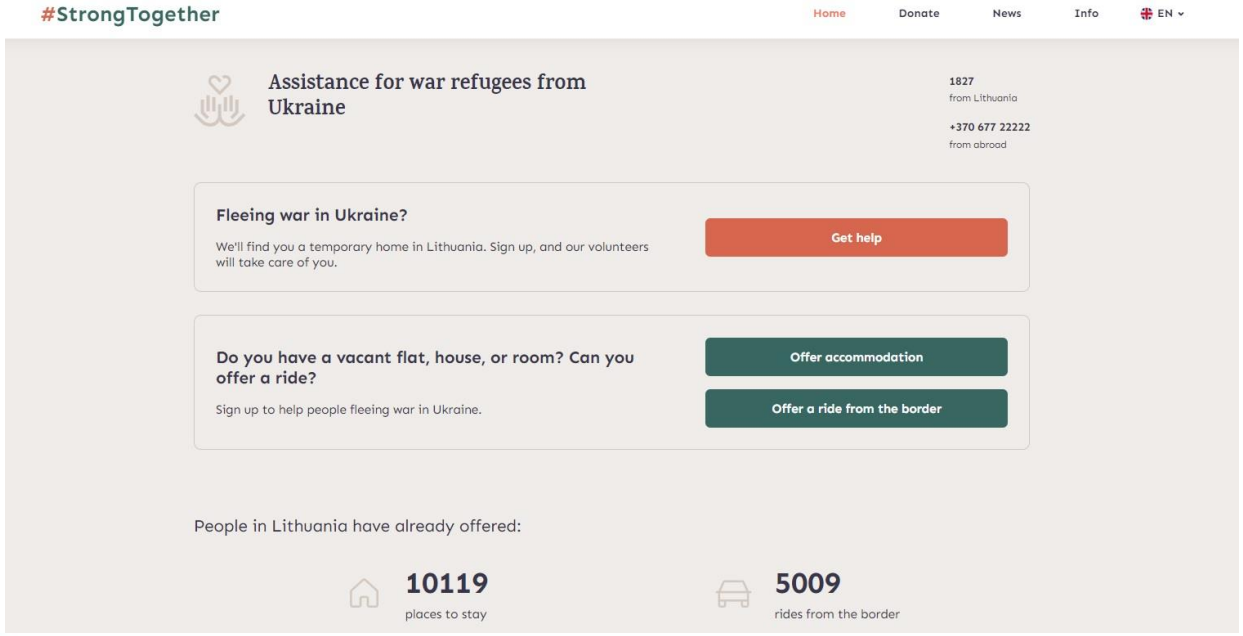
CHALLENGES (I)

- Reception, registration



CHALLENGES (II)

- Housing:
 - private;
 - municipality;



 Akmenės rajono savivaldybė
25 February 2022 · 🌐

Akmenės rajono savivaldybė kviečia registruotis gyventojus, kurie savo namuose ar kitose jiems priklausančiose patalpose galėtų priimti karo pabėgėlius iš Ukrainos.

🔵 Turint galimybę apgyvendinti pabėgėlius, prašome kreiptis nurodytais kontaktais:
Mero patarėja Inga Vismantiene
Mob. 8 645 54 590
El. p. inga.vismantiene@akmene.lt

Parodykime, jog visa Lietuva yra kartu su Ukrainos žmonėmis! 💙💛

#AK! #StandwithUkraine See less

👍 52 2 💬 81 ➦

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share 🌐

CHALLENGES (III)

- Education system – 200 children;
- Challenge vs Possibility;
- Language courses:
 - 97 participants with volunteer teachers
 - 11 participants with the assistance of employment agency at the beginning.
 - 50 participants now.



CHALLENGES (IV)

- Employment;

Date	Job seekers	Employed through employment agency	Total number of employed	Work places available for UA in municipality
2023-07-10	50	59	321	9
2023-07-24	58	49	321	11
2023-08-07	49	60	325	5
2023-08-21	44	60	326	6
2023-09-04	43	60	323	4
2023-09-18	53	60	323	6

- Program for women for skill development and entrepreneurship organised by employment agency (kitchen staff).

CHALLENGES (V)

- Lack of inter-institutional cooperation and collaboration;
- Not enough of data sharing from institutions;
- Shortage of strong NGOs.



BŪKIME STIPRŪS KARTU!

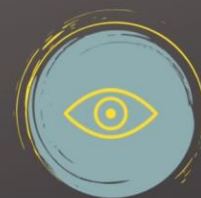
**PARAMOS UKRAINIEČIAMS
ŠĄSKAITA**

Akmenės rajono savivaldybės administracija
Adresas: L. Petravičiaus a. 2, Naujoji Akmenė
Kodas: 188719391
A/s: LT44 4010 0433 0001 0109
IBAN: LT44 4010 0433 0001 0109
SWIFT: AGBLLT2X
Paskirtis: Parama ukrainiečiams
Bankas: Luminor
Tel. (8 425) 57 133, el. p.: info@akmene.lt

FUTURE PLANS

- Reinforce local level reception and integration capacities.
- Create local level integration action plan.
- Build skills and knowledge regarding inclusion and diversity across the Municipality.

ASPIRATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY



VISION

AK - our
opportunities and
success



MISSION

A creative and
innovative city for
30 000 people

ON THE WAY TO THE FUTURE

- We are learning...
- Participating in projects and creating networks of integration practitioners from the Nordic countries.
- Promoting existing integration practices from other countries.



THANK YOU!

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