Ukraine

In eastern Ukraine, some 3.4 million people, including 430,000 boys and girls, are living along the 420-km contact line. These people are bearing the brunt of the five-year, protracted conflict, with direct threats to their physical and mental well-being, and limited access to basic services. In one of the world’s most mine-contaminated areas, fear of stepping on a landmine is a daily reality for conflict-affected communities. The area is also prone to freezing temperatures in winter, which further increases vulnerability. Water infrastructure is relentlessly targeted in the fighting, with a total of 67 incidents so far in 2019, threatening access to safe water for millions of people. Access to learning is also imperiled, with 23 education facilities damaged in 2019 compared with 16 in 2018. With no resolution in sight, children and their families require continuous psychosocial support and protection services, including for gender-based violence and violence against children. Ensuring access to basic services, including safe water supply, sanitation, hygiene and education, remains a priority. Given the disturbingly low immunization rates and high HIV prevalence, access to essential health services, especially for children and women living with HIV, is of critical importance.

Humanitarian strategy

In 2020 and 2021, UNICEF’s strategy in Ukraine will focus on protecting children and realizing child rights on both sides of the contact line. Responding to the urgent needs of 800,000 children and their families, UNICEF will continue to strengthen social protection and psychosocial support, as well as health, education and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. The capacities of local professionals, authorities and civil society actors will be enhanced to strengthen preparedness and accountability to affected children. UNICEF will improve access to quality, inclusive, age- and gender-sensitive social services for children and families to increase their resilience to protection-related risks, including through cash-based interventions. UNICEF will work with humanitarian partners to target those closest to the contact line, while also strengthening educational and community-based systems to support those impacted by the conflict. This bridging of humanitarian action and development programming will be central to UNICEF’s approach. As lead agency for the WASH and education clusters and the child protection sub-cluster, UNICEF will continue to advocate with parties to the conflict to comply with international humanitarian law and child rights standards. This includes intensifying advocacy efforts with the Government to endorse and implement the Safe Schools Declaration.

Results from 2019

As of 31 August 2019, UNICEF had US$7.1 million available against the US$21.1 million appeal (33 per cent funded). The provision of water treatment chemicals and pipes to water utility companies facilitated uninterrupted access to safe water for 1.3 million people. Over 90,000 children, women and persons with disabilities benefited from hygiene promotion activities and the distribution of hygiene kits. After comprehensive assessments, UNICEF completed the rehabilitation of seven educational facilities in areas along the contact line, ensuring safer learning environments for over 3,000 children and reaching some 7,100 children and educators with life-skills education. Mental health and psychosocial support services reached more than 25,000 children, youth and caregivers, and over 25,000 children and families received mine risk education. UNICEF also carried out the first-ever needs assessment on mine victims. Mobile teams provided psychosocial support and referral services to over 1,500 survivors of gender-based violence; trained over 900 community professionals; and provided awareness and prevention sessions to 3,500 people. UNICEF supported 1,000 vulnerable women and children under 5 years through an e-voucher system, while a polio campaign for three cohorts in non-government controlled areas (NSCAcs) is planned for late 2019. Over 500 children living with HIV received comprehensive care services.

Humanitarian Action for Children

Total people in need 3.4 million
Total children (<18) in need 430,000
Total people to be reached 800,000
Total children to be reached 128,000

2020 programme targets

Health
• 20,000 mothers and children under 5 years benefiting from direct health service provision
• 50 health facilities supported with the provision of medical supplies and equipment

WASH
• 800,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
• 70,000 people provided with critical WASH-related supplies and/or awareness
• 15,000 people provided with improved access to adequate sanitation

Child protection
• 30,000 boys, girls and caregivers reached with psychosocial support
• 5,000 children and women accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions
• 150,000 children and their families receiving mine risk education
• 5,000 community professionals gained enhanced capacity on child protection

Education
• 36,500 girls and boys benefiting from education and early learning supplies and rehabilitated inclusive schools and kindergartens
• 13,000 girls and boys benefiting from conflict-sensitive, risk-informed and life-skills-based education delivered by trained teachers

HIV and AIDS
• 1,000 people living with HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis provided with financial support through cash or vouchers for health care expenses
• 800 HIV-affected children provided with continuous care and support services
### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster 2019 targets</th>
<th>Cluster total results</th>
<th>UNICEF 2019 targets</th>
<th>UNICEF total results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mothers and children under 5 years benefiting from direct health service provision</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>208,235</td>
<td>24,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant and lactating women reached with infant and young child feeding counselling</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facilities supported with the provision of medical supplies and equipment</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization coverage of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella and polo vaccines</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- People benefiting from repairs/maintenance/replacement of the pipes/tanks/pumps of existing centralized piped water supply systems: 925,950
- People reached with hygiene promotion messages: 1,223,832
- People in social institutions benefitting from direct improvements to the reliable provision of sufficient water of adequate quality: 73,000

### CHILD PROTECTION

- Boys, girls and caregivers reached with mental health and psychosocial support: 50,000
- Community professionals gained enhanced capacity on child protection risks and vulnerabilities: 1,300,000
- Children and their families receiving mine risk education: 110,000

### EDUCATION

- Children in conflict-affected areas have access to basic education and early childhood education and care: 23,500
- Boys, girls and educators reached with life-skills education and information on educational options: 10,500

### HIV AND AIDS

- Pregnant women provided with HIV diagnostic tests to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV: 95%
- Parents living with HIV with access to uninterrupted antiretroviral treatment: 250
- Children living with HIV, reached with home-based care: 200

### Funding requirements

In line with the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan, UNICEF is seeking US$9.8 million to respond to the needs of conflict-affected children and families in Ukraine. UNICEF is sharpening its focus on those most in need of assistance and protection, especially in NGCAs. This funding will enable UNICEF to fulfill its commitments to children on access to education, WASH, psychosocial support, health and HIV and AIDS services. Humanitarian initiatives will be complemented by development efforts to strengthen capacities. In 2021, UNICEF will monitor how the situation evolves and adjust its funding requirements accordingly.

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1. All UNICEF results are as of 31 August 2019. All sector results are as of 30 June 2019, as cluster reports are on a quarterly basis.

2. Although results are low as of 31 August, UNICEF is in the final stages of planning a polio vaccination campaign for children in NGCAs, which will benefit over 50,000 children in 2019.

3. WASH sector targets and results are set and reported against the cumulative indicator of “number of people benefiting from WASH interventions,” covering water supply, hygiene awareness and kit distribution and improvements of WASH facilities in social institutions.

4. Targets were overachieved due to an extension of UNICEF’s core funding in this area, allowing UNICEF to support key water facilities with chemicals for water treatment for 12 months instead of the seven months planned.

5. Results on WASH rehabilitation of conflict-affected social institutions are lower than the targets due to the chronic lack of funding for WASH in general, and for these activities in particular.

6. Child protection sector targets and results are set and reported against the cumulative indicator of “number of children, caregivers and community professionals benefiting from child protection services,” covering psychosocial support, training of community professionals and mine risk education.

7. In relation to the provision of psychosocial support, UNICEF is facing funding challenges, as well as the limited absorption and technical capacity of partners in NGCAs, and the high sensitivity of the local authorities, requiring low-profile intervention modalities.

8. The lower than planned results for mine risk education are due to the late arrival of funding but will be compensated for through the intensification of activities in the last quarter of the year.

9. Due to limited data availability, UNICEF estimated the targets. During implementation, UNICEF has identified and supported greater numbers of patients living with HIV.