Within the framework of its response, UNICEF continued to provide critical supplies, including lifesaving treatment to people living with HIV in non-government controlled areas (NGCA) of Ukraine along with capacity strengthening of health and education professionals to deliver services to children on both sides of the contact line. During March, 8,894 children in 37 educational facilities benefitted from life skills education in both government controlled areas (GCA) and NGCA. Access to safe drinking water for 2,856 children attending 9 schools and kindergartens was significantly improved through installation of reverse osmosis systems. UNICEF continued to provide psycho-social support to children and their caregivers, including survivors of gender-based violence, reaching over 500 individuals.

The continued shelling of civilian infrastructure including risks faced by civilian workers managing the water system, also affecting education, health and social institutions remains a key concern.

**Summary Analysis of Programme Response**

**HEALTH & NUTRITION**

In March, UNICEF enhanced the capacity of 43 healthcare workers on neonatal resuscitation in Donetsk Oblast GCA, conducting 3 comprehensive trainings and providing e-vouchers for essential medicines and

1 The UNICEF target includes children and their families who received psychosocial support services, professionals trained in identifying and responding to key child protection issues and mine risk education (MRE), whereas the Cluster target does not include beneficiaries of MRE.

2 The UNICEF target includes boys and girls in conflict-affected areas accessing basic education and early childhood education and care, and boys, girls and educators received life-skills education and information on educational options.
treatment to 104 beneficiaries along the contact line of Donetsk GCA. This included 41 children under five, 22 pregnant and lactating women, 16 new mothers and 17 trauma patients.

WASH
UNICEF continued to supply liquefied chlorine gas, sodium hypochlorite and activated carbon and started to supply aluminum sulfate to 6 filter stations and 10 production departments of Voda Donbasa. In Avdiivka, a sewage pump was replaced for the sewage station serving the city residential areas with a total population of 10,000 people. Water pipes were replaced benefitting 52 residents from 24 private houses in the city. Reverse Osmosis Systems were installed in 9 schools and kindergartens and one ambulatory in Luhansk oblast GCA improving access to safe drinking water for 2,856 children and patients of the medical institution. A total of 5,790 children, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups received hygiene kits in the towns and villages of Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (GCA) located along the contact line.

CHILD PROTECTION
Through 15 mobile teams, UNICEF provided psycho-social first aid and referral services to 568 survivors of gender-based violence and to 53 children (26 boys, 27 girls, 2 children with special needs) affected by violence in Donetsk and Luhansk areas (GCA). By the end of March, 253,168 adults and children accessed the online campaign on Mine Risk Education in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. The campaign featured three animated videos teaching children mine safety rules - [https://bit.ly/2iRdKg7](https://bit.ly/2iRdKg7). Among those reached, 75% (189,876) of the total viewers were children aged 13-17 y.o.

EDUCATION
UNICEF’s partner, "Friends Hands," distributed sporting equipment (footballs, hand balls, sleeping mats) and craft supplies (chalk, flipcharts) for 8,894 children in 37 educational facilities, located in 0-5 km contact line of GCA – Yasynuvatskyi, Kostiantynivskyi, Mariinsky and Volnovaskyi rayons of Donetsk oblast, as well as Stanychno-Luhanskyi, Novoaidarskyi and Popasnianskyi rayons of Luhansk oblast. Educational kits were provided to 200 children from Schastya school #2 (Luhansk oblast, GCA). UNICEF continued to place emphasis on Life Skills Education (LSE) having provided online training to 696 teachers for the benefit of 20,000 children residing in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

HIV & AIDS
To ensure uninterrupted Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) for people living with HIV in NGCAs of Donetsk and Lugansk oblasts, UNICEF continued to procure and distribute life-saving anti-retroviral medicines (ARVs) and commodities. Since January 2018, 18,210 people received HIV-related services including 10,426 persons living with HIV on ARV treatment and 7,784 pregnant women received HIV counselling and testing.

Media & External Communication
A feature on Life Skills Education, implemented in schools in eastern Ukraine in partnership with ECHO was developed and disseminated in March - [Workshops help children in eastern Ukraine cope with conflict](https://bit.ly/2iRdKg7). UNICEF led a series of initiatives dedicated to World Water Day by highlighting humanitarian needs in the WASH sector in Ukraine including the organizing of a competition of children’s drawings on importance of sustainable water use. UNICEF continued to raise the visibility of children living along the ‘contact line,’ through its social media platforms that have a combined following of over 95,000, with daily sharing of information.
Security

The intensity of shelling remained relatively consistent throughout the month. While no casualties were reported, mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to threaten the safety of children and their families living on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts.

Funding

The total humanitarian appeal requirement in the Ukraine is US$23.6 million, and as of March 2018 UNICEF has available US$3.4 million, including funds received in the previous year. Currently the appeal is 85 per cent underfunded. While under-funding is affecting the continuity of UNICEF emergency assistance for children residing in conflict affected areas on both sides of the contact line, the limited/reduced funding available for NGCA is impacting the continuity of UNICEF response. As a result, since late 2017, an increasing number of critical activities are on hold including support to child protection centers, basic education, psychosocial support and access to safe water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds Available</th>
<th>Funding Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Funds Received Current Year</td>
<td>Carry-Over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>89,525</td>
<td>1,710,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>13,619,000</td>
<td>856,424</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>3,200,000</td>
<td>635,066</td>
<td>2,564,934</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>3,050,000</td>
<td>252,277</td>
<td>2,823,095</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>1,130,000</td>
<td>442,264</td>
<td>687,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster/sector coordination</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>59,407</td>
<td>787,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,599,000</td>
<td>311,684</td>
<td>3,126,253</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total funding available includes total funds received against current appeal plus carry-forward

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UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine

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