Ukraine’s children and their families have endured 500 days of forced displacement, unthinkable loss, and relentless violence since the escalation of war in February 2022. At least 535 children have been killed – the equivalent of a child dying every day since the war escalated, mostly from bombardment. At least 1,095 children have been injured.¹

Kindergartens, schools, hospitals, and sources of water and energy have been damaged and destroyed by shelling, leaving children without access to education and health care, and putting lives at risk. Half of children in Ukraine are struggling to learn online or through a mixture of online and in person classes.² Hundreds of thousands of the country’s preschool age children are yet to step foot inside a classroom³, robbing them of the opportunity to build a strong foundation for learning.

Nearly two thirds of Ukraine’s children have been forced to flee their homes⁴. Some have fled alone, exposing them to abuse, abduction, sexual exploitation, and human trafficking. Fear, anxiety, and grief associated with violence, loss of loved ones, separation from family, and displacement persist in children’s daily lives, leaving them struggling to cope. Many children who have sought refuge in neighbouring countries remain without access to education, healthcare, and protection services.

As refugee children and families face the growing possibility of long-term displacement, anti-refugee sentiment fueled by rhetoric, policies and practices that divide societies is also growing across countries, adding to exclusion and deprivation experienced by refugee children and their families.
UNICEF’s response

UNICEF continues to respond to children’s urgent humanitarian needs and ensure children have access to health care, immunization, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, and mental health and psychosocial support. In refugee hosting countries, UNICEF continues to work with governments, municipalities, and local partners to strengthen national systems that provide refugee children and marginalized children from host communities with quality education, health care and protection.

Ukraine’s long-term recovery depends on the recovery of children who are affected by the war today. UNICEF has expanded efforts to support the government on an inclusive and child-centered and sustainable recovery, through strengthening child protection, education, and health services.

### In Ukraine

- **1,825,043** Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- **3,484,689** Children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- **5,574,930** People accessing safe water for drinking and domestic needs
- **6,790,642** Children and women accessing essential primary health care interventions in UNICEF-supported facilities and through mobile teams

### In countries hosting refugees

- **1,406,525** Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- **1,669,803** Children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- **36** UNHCR/UNICEF Operational Blue Dots
- **118,625** People accessing safe water for drinking and domestic needs
- **542,949** Children and women receiving primary health care services through UNICEF supported mechanisms

### Resources needed to continue our support for children

As hostilities continue unabated, UNICEF requires financial backing to meet the humanitarian needs inside Ukraine and support the country’s recovery, and to strengthen national systems to meet the needs of refugees and other vulnerable children in refugee-hosting countries.

- **$1.05 billion required for 2023**
  - Funding: 42%
  - Funding gap: 58%