



Ukraine

Four years into the violent conflict in eastern Ukraine, 500,000 children remain in need of immediate humanitarian assistance.¹ Daily breaches of the ceasefire agreement have left more than 200,000 children and their families at risk of regular physical violence.² Since the beginning of the conflict, more than 700 educational facilities and 130 medical points have sustained damage due to shelling.³ Ceasefire violations also frequently damage and disrupt critical water, sanitation, electrical and heating infrastructure, challenging access to safe drinking water for 3.4 million people in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.⁴ Educators and social workers increasingly struggle to meet the psychosocial support needs of more than 100,000 boys and girls. Health service networks remain either seriously disrupted or completely severed which, when combined with already low vaccination rates, raises the risk of disease outbreaks.⁵ The conflict-affected Donetsk region has among the highest rates of HIV infection in Europe. Humanitarian access to non-government-controlled areas remains challenging. Although explosive remnants of war are concentrated along the front lines, they continue to pose a danger to children throughout Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

Humanitarian strategy

UNICEF will continue to strengthen the resilience of children, provide life-saving support and build the long-term capacities of communities and institutions in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine. UNICEF remains committed to ensuring access to gender-specific and age-sensitive education, as well as safe learning spaces with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, community-based protection services and immediate psychosocial support for the most vulnerable boys and girls. Primary health care services along the front lines will be supported through partner mobile teams, community engagement and cash voucher systems. Treatment of adults and children living with HIV and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV remain key objectives, as does the promotion of infant and young child feeding in emergencies. Displaced and host communities facing serious constraints to accessing safe drinking water will be supported through the provision of chemicals for treatment plants, emergency repairs of damaged infrastructure and the creation of alternative decentralized water sources. UNICEF will continue to lead the WASH and education clusters and the child protection sub-cluster and contribute to the health cluster, and HIV/AIDS and mine action sub-clusters. Collaboration with governments and partners will also be strengthened at all levels.

Results from 2017

As of 31 October 2017, UNICEF had US\$14.7 million available against the US\$31.2 million appeal (47 per cent funded).⁶ UNICEF collaborated with non-governmental organizations and utility companies to ensure access to safe drinking water for more than 962,000 people in both government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas through the provision of reagents and equipment for the repair of damaged infrastructure. Some 160,000 people living in the settlements closest to the front line, including 30,000 children, benefitted from cash vouchers and hygiene education. More than 82,000 children, youth and caregivers living within 15 km of the front line received psychosocial support through schools, mobile teams and community-based outreach. Life-saving mine-risk education reached more than 700,000 children and their families. More than 138,000 boys and girls benefitted from the rehabilitation of 87 schools and kindergartens and the provision of educational materials to the most vulnerable school facilities within 5 km of the front lines. In addition, more than 3,800 parents and teachers received training on life skills and education in emergencies. UNICEF remains the main provider of life-saving antiretroviral drugs, covering more than 11,000 people in non-government controlled areas.

Humanitarian Action for Children

unicef 

Total people in need:

3.4 million

Total children (<18) in need:

500,000

Total people to be reached:

2 million

Total children to be reached:

300,000

2018 programme targets:

Nutrition

- 20,000 mothers in affected areas with improved knowledge on the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding

Health

- 20,000 pregnant women and newborn children accessing quality maternal health services

WASH

- 1.8 million people with improved water quality through the provision of effective water treatment mechanisms and the emergency repair of WASH infrastructure
- 190,000 boys, girls and parents accessing hygiene supplies and having knowledge of basic hygiene practices

Child protection

- 100,000 children and caregivers accessing immediate psychosocial support services
- 500,000 boys, girls and their families having received mine risk education
- 5,000 community professionals trained to identify and respond to key child protection issues, including gender-based violence

Education

- 32,500 boys and girls in conflict-affected areas accessing basic education and early childhood education and care
- 98,500 boys, girls and educators received life-skills education and information on educational options

HIV and AIDS

- 16,000 HIV-positive patients accessing uninterrupted antiretroviral treatment
- 30,000 pregnant women provided with tests for the diagnosis of HIV to prevent mother-to-child transmission

	Sector 2017 targets	Sector total results	UNICEF 2017 target	UNICEF total results
NUTRITION				
Pregnant or lactating women reached with infant and young child feeding counselling ⁱ			20,000	1,380
HEALTH				
Pregnant women and newborns have access to emergency health services ⁱⁱ			20,000	
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE				
Conflict-affected people with access to safe drinking water ⁱⁱⁱ	2,500,000	2,210,796	1,900,000	962,347
People with access to hygiene supplies and knowledge of basic hygiene practices	520,000	337,878	200,000	159,696
CHILD PROTECTION				
Affected children, youth and caregivers provided with psychosocial support	121,075	154,261	100,000	82,962
Children and their families who received mine risk education			500,000	712,290
EDUCATION				
Children in conflict-affected areas have access to early childhood education and care and basic education	248,000	177,553	220,000	138,576
Parents and teachers received life-skills and education-in-emergencies trainings	4,930	3,939	4,000	3,825
HIV AND AIDS				
Pregnant women provided with HIV diagnostic tests to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV			30,000	22,906
HIV-positive patients with access to uninterrupted antiretroviral treatment			16,000	11,517

Results are through 31 October 2017 unless otherwise noted.

ⁱ Results achieved are lower than initially planned due to lack of funding during the first 9 months of the year.

ⁱⁱ UNICEF focused on the provision of water treatment chemicals to additional water treatment plants, which increased the population's access to safe drinking water.

Funding requirements

UNICEF is requesting US\$23,599,000 to meet the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected children in eastern Ukraine in 2018. The funds received in 2017 were instrumental to UNICEF's response in Ukraine, and the funding urgently requested for 2018 will allow UNICEF to continue to address the critical humanitarian needs of children and women. Continued and timely donor support will facilitate the provision of critical mine risk education, psychosocial support, and access to education, quality maternal health services, antiretroviral drugs and WASH services for the most vulnerable children in non-government controlled areas and on both sides of the front lines.

Sector	2018 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	300,000
Health	1,800,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	13,619,000
Child protection	3,200,000
Education	3,050,000
HIV/AIDS	1,130,000
Cluster/sector coordination	500,000
Total	23,599,000

¹ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2017 Ukraine Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2016.

² United Nations Children's Fund Ukraine, 'The Children of the Contact Line in East Ukraine: An assessment of the situation of children and their families living in government-controlled areas along the contact line in the East Ukraine Conflict Zone', UNICEF, June 2017, available at: <www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/assessments/children_of_the_contact_line.pdf>, accessed 5 December 2017.

³ Education Cluster Attacks on Schools Database, 2017.

⁴ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2017 Ukraine Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2016.

⁵ REACH, 'Area Based Assessment', September 2017; and United Nations Children's Fund Ukraine, 'The Children of the Contact Line in East Ukraine: An assessment of the situation of children and their families living in government-controlled areas along the contact line in the East Ukraine Conflict Zone', UNICEF, June 2017, , available at: <www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/assessments/children_of_the_contact_line.pdf>, accessed 5 December 2017.

⁶ Available funding includes funds received against the current appeal year of US\$11 million and US\$3.7 million carried forward from the previous year.

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