

On 5 March 2022, amidst the escalating conflict in Ukraine, children at the Lviv-Holovnyi railway station in Lviv, western Ukraine, waiting to board an evacuation train to Przemysl, Poland.



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Reporting Period: 01 - 10 March 2022

Ukraine

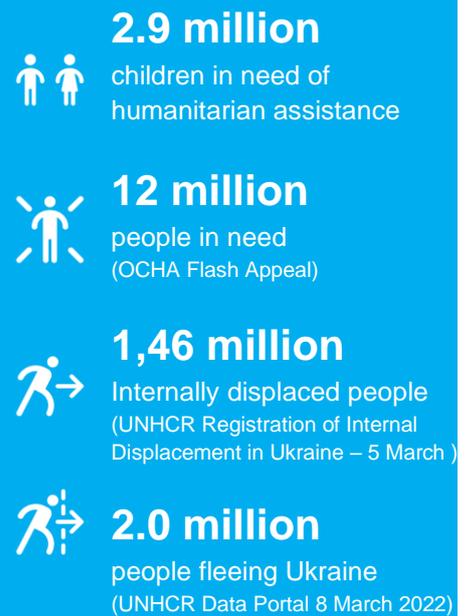
Humanitarian Situation Report No. 3



Highlights

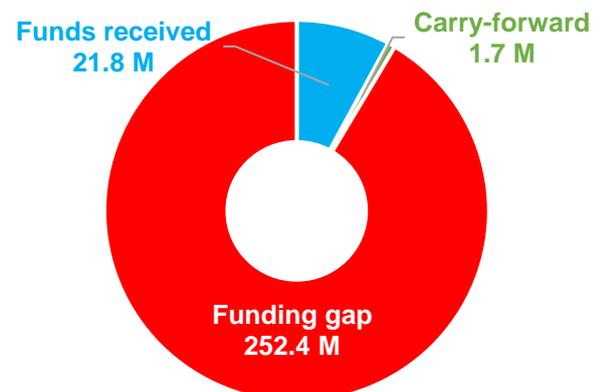
- After eight years of conflict that was limited to eastern Ukraine, the sudden and dramatic escalation of war in Ukraine has resulted in hundreds of thousands of children and their families being internally displaced.
- Continued offensive on the cities of Kyiv, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Mariupol, and Mykolaiv are forcing civilians to flee. OHCHR has recorded 1,207 civilian casualties so far, with 406 deaths (including 27 children) and 801 injuries (including 42 children).
- Nine child protection mobile teams providing psychosocial support (PSS) will be expanded to 47 to reach children across the country. 100 mobile education and early childhood development teams are being established.
- A first shipment of essential medical equipment arrived at temporary storage facilities around Kyiv, to be distributed to 20 hospitals and health care facilities in the most affected areas, ensuring access to essential medical services for 20,000 pregnant women and families with children.
- A humanitarian cash transfers programme is being developed to meet the basic needs of over 265,000 households with children. Social Behavior Digital content for caregivers has reached 13.5 million people with critical information including explosive ordnance risk education, immunization, breastfeeding, and PSS.
- Given the urgency and scale of needs, and the complexity of the crisis, on 5 March 2022 UNICEF activated its Level 3 emergency procedures to ensure adequate scale to address the increasing needs of children in Ukraine. To kick start urgent response, UNICEF mobilized an internal loan of USD 5.75 million from UNICEF's Emergency Programme to immediately procure critical health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education and child protection supplies and dedicated to support Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and abuse (PSEA) rapid scale-up of PSEA efforts.

Situation in Numbers



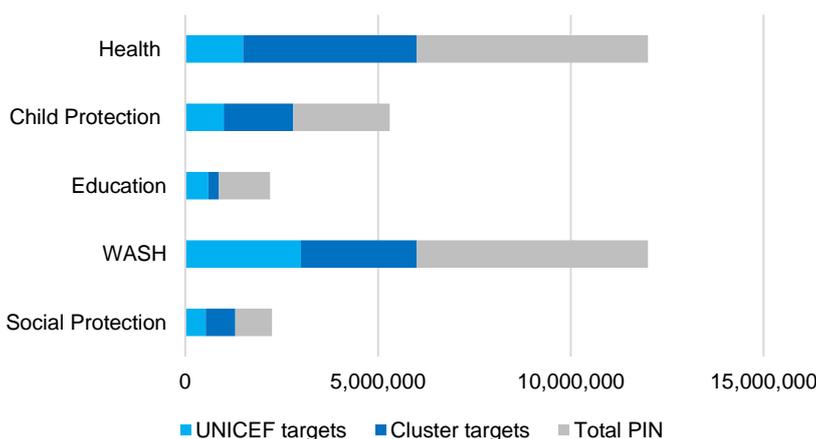
UNICEF Appeal 2022

US\$ 276 million



*Funding available includes funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors.

Population in Need, UNICEF & Cluster Targets



Funding Overview and Partnerships

Under its recently updated 2022 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Ukraine Crisis Appeal, UNICEF requires USD 276 million to sustain life-saving services and support for women and children affected by the sudden and dramatic escalation of war in Ukraine. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all private and public sector donors who have generously contributed to the humanitarian response in 2022. The HAC currently has a funding gap of USD 252.4M, and there is urgent need for additional resources to ensure that hundreds of thousands of children and their families, who are fleeing from their homes and at increased risk of violence and abuse, psychological trauma and family separation, can access critical child protection support, basic services (WASH, health and nutrition, education) and can benefit from social protection assistance, including multipurpose cash, to help them meet their basic needs. To initiate response efforts, UNICEF has immediately mobilised an internal emergency loan of USD 5.75 million to facilitate the urgent procurement of critical health, WASH, education and child protection supplies and to scale up operational and human resource capacities for response in Ukraine¹.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

After eight years of conflict that was limited to eastern Ukraine, the sudden and dramatic escalation of war in Ukraine has resulted in hundreds of thousands of children and their families being internally displaced and fleeing to neighbouring countries looking for safety. OHCHR reports that 27 children have been killed, while 42 have been injured in the conflict, with numbers likely much higher as they reflect only what was able to be verified to date. Based on preliminary reports from the Ministry of Education (MoE), as of 7 March, at least 233 educational facilities across Ukraine have been damaged and destroyed. All education facilities across Ukraine are currently closed, impacting 5.7 million school-age children. The MoE is encouraging local authorities to resume education using distance learning modalities, wherever possible, starting from next week. At least 61 health care facilities have reportedly been destroyed in eight central, eastern, and northern areas of Ukraine. Transportation of children with medical conditions has also emerged as a key concern, with reports of two children having died on 7 March because it was impossible to transport them from local hospitals to the central children's hospital in Kyiv. Children and their families are in desperate need of safety, stability, systematic protection services and psychosocial care. Displacement and conflict have harmed families' livelihoods and economic opportunities, leaving many without sufficient income to meet their basic needs and unable to provide adequate support for their children. As the crisis escalates, UNICEF is scaling-up its humanitarian response in Ukraine to ensure sustained delivery of WASH, immunization and health care, education, child protection and humanitarian cash assistance.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Child Protection: Cooperation and coordination mechanisms with the State Social Service and Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) have been established, facilitating monitoring and data collection on reallocation/evacuation of children in residential care institutions and alternative care, as well as on unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Recognising that children without parental care are at a heightened risk of violence, abuse and exploitation, and that these are multiplied when they move across borders, it remains crucial to scale-up and intensify close monitoring outside Ukraine of the situation of children who have been relocated or evacuated, especially those who had been previously living in residential care and alternative family-based care in Ukraine. The Ukraine Council of Ministers issued a decree outlining the rules which must be observed regarding children from state institutions and unaccompanied children who cross the national border, and UNICEF is seeking to reinforce the implementation of this decree and maintain close coordination with neighboring countries. Related to this, UNICEF and UNHCR issued a joint statement calling for the protection of [unaccompanied and separated children fleeing Ukraine](#), urging neighbouring and impacted countries to ensure their immediate identification and registration, offer safe spaces for children and families linked to national child protection systems and expand capacity of emergency care arrangements with screened caregivers as well as other critical services for the protection of children.

To facilitate provision of critical support services for family tracing and unaccompanied children, a rapid assessment tool for unaccompanied and separated minors, based on global guide guidance, was adjusted, translated and shared with MoSP and relevant humanitarian actors. A chat bot application has also been activated to provide instructions on how to respond to cases of unaccompanied children, actions to take if a child becomes lost, how to become a volunteer family for temporary fostering, among others. The chat bot application is also linked to a hotline operated by the MoSP and supported by UNICEF, which as of 6 March had received 540 calls, most from the oblasts of Donetsk (107), Kyiv

¹ This amount is been used to support the response in Ukraine and neighboring countries

(95) and Kharkiv (50). Over 1,500 Ukrainian families volunteered to host unaccompanied and children via the chat bot in less than 48 hours and have been referred to the MoSP for follow up.

UNICEF also continues to support Ukraine's Child Helpline, which has provided online psychosocial support services to 694 beneficiaries from all regions of Ukraine since 24 February 2022. Additionally, thirteen mobile child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) teams have been providing outreach child protection services and support, phone counselling services, and referrals to state social services throughout the country.

Health & Nutrition: Life-saving equipment, first aid kits and accessories have been distributed to five maternity houses (perinatal centers) in Kyiv and Kyiv oblast to support the needs of 5,000 pregnant women and new-borns. On 5 March, [a first shipment of UNICEF humanitarian aid arrived in Ukraine](#), delivering midwifery, obstetrics, surgical medical kits, first aid bags, diagnostic and treatment equipment to temporary storage facilities around Kyiv city and Kyiv oblast. These are currently being distributed to 20 hospitals and health care facilities in the most affected areas of Chernihiv, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Poltava and Donetsk oblasts, to ensure access to essential and life-saving medical services for 20,000 pregnant women and children. In cooperation with the private sector, UNICEF has been advocating for the mobilization and delivery of mobile hospitals, telemedicine equipment, oxygen concentrators and other essential medical supplies.

UNICEF is establishing four new partnerships to facilitate delivery of health care services to affected people in Internal Displaced Person (IDP) camps, shelters and temporary congregation points (railway stations, etc.) across Ukraine.

Needs assessments and data collection are taking place in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health (MoH), regional authorities and NGOs, with UNICEF working alongside the health cluster, other relevant UN agencies and INGOs.

Given the emerging humanitarian situation and associated risks related to the nutritional status of children, UNICEF Ukraine has requested endorsement from OCHA of the official activation of the Nutrition Cluster as a standalone cluster led by UNICEF. This will facilitate strategic planning and coordination of the nutrition response and enable closer monitoring of the nutrition status of children, procurement of critical nutrition supplies and the promotion of key interventions, including appropriate nutrition and feeding practices for infants and young children. UNICEF has already developed capacities to provide leadership in country.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): The WASH cluster is operational at national level and collects information on water utilities that are affected in conflict areas, as well as data on people in need in the country with respect to WASH. A first meeting was held this past week to introduce the modus operandi, begin identifying implementing organizations and develop the intervention needs and plans. UNICEF has also been in direct contact with the Ministry of Community and Territorial Development, the National Vodakanal Association and with Emergency Services, to identify water and sanitation needs in relation to infrastructure damage.

UNICEF, in partnership with local NGO Friends Hands has delivered bottled water, family hygiene kits, baby diapers, maternal health kits, institutional hygiene kits and disinfectants to health and social institutions to provide direct assistance to affected families in eastern Ukraine. Partnerships with the private sector are also being established to provide bottled water to the most affected areas in the east of the country, while over 75,000 hygiene kits have been ordered and will be distributed to collective centers and to families in areas affected by the conflict, depending on access.

Education: To support the Ministry of Education's (MoE) plans to reactivate learning as soon as possible throughout the country, UNICEF education, early childhood development (ECD) and health teams are working to establish 100 mobile education/ECD teams that will travel across affected regions as well as be stationed at 15 permanent points in collective centres, train station as well as borders in the regions in the east of Ukraine, to reach 6,000 children. UNICEF will also distribute 160 early childhood development kits in the coming days to support the education of around 8,000 pre-school aged children.

The Government of Ukraine has expressed interest in launching "Bebbo", the mobile parenting app designed to support parents and other caregivers of children from 0 to 6 years old. The Ministry of education and science and the Ukrainian Institute of education development have endorsed the app and will actively support the adaptation and roll out in Ukraine. The app will ensure provision of reliable information and guidance to parents of young children in circumstances where access to service providers is limited. Availability in Ukrainian language will provide parents with a reliable support and guidance on how to respond to health and nutrition needs of their children, how to ensure that children are comforted and protected from traumatic experience through activities suggested by the app, how to ensure safety and protection, how to conduct learning activities whenever you are, how parents can support themselves. As the app can operate offline, families will have access to whenever they are, including in bomb shelters, at the borders, collective centers, on the move, at the check points, abroad and also by other affected families.

Social Protection: An expert team has been deployed to support the humanitarian cash transfers programme to meet the basic needs of over 265,000 conflict-affected households with children. A two-track approach will be adopted, with cash support provided to households with young children through the existing government social welfare programme (in partnership with the Ministry of Social Policy), and cash assistance provided through a humanitarian-based cash transfer system aimed at reaching children and their families who are currently not receiving government support. The response will be closely coordinated with the Cash Working Group, jointly chaired by OCHA and ACTED.

Social Behaviour: Public information requests are being gathered to better understand the challenges that children and their families are facing in the current context. Based on daily monitoring, digital content has been developed to respond to frequently asked questions and to disseminate messages to encourage positive behaviors. Some of the key messages relayed to the public through digital means include posts with information on birth registration, remote online learning opportunities, messages on safety, psychosocial support (PSS), and the importance of hygiene and immunizations. In addition, a set of content pieces on the threat of mines and unexploded ordnance was developed and disseminated online, reaching over six million people. To date, the Social Behavior digital content for caregivers has reached 13.5 million people, with the highest number of people viewing posts on explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), engaging up to 500,000 Facebook users.

Tailored digital content was complemented with print-out materials that were distributed throughout Ukraine and within refugee receiving countries at border crossing points, railway stations and IDP centers. Thematic materials that have been already developed and shared widely with the public include brochures promoting immunization, breastfeeding, PSS and EORE. Additionally, a set of early childhood development materials, including a book and a board game for children, were developed and are being disseminated among children in centers for IDPs and asylum seekers in Ukraine and neighboring countries.

In partnership with the Ukrainian Volunteer Service, UNICEF Ukraine has engaged 60,000 youth volunteers to support the response to Education, Health, WASH and Child protection needs. U-Report is being used to assess the nature and levels of humanitarian needs in different parts of the country.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF continues to lead the WASH cluster and the Child Protection sub-Cluster and to Co-Lead the Education cluster. UNICEF is an active participant in the inter-agency Cash Working Group on multi-purpose cash, which is chaired by OCHA and ACTED. UNICEF is represented on all four task teams of the cash WG ensuring coherence and coordination in the design, implementation, and monitoring of cash support interventions. UNICEF is an active member of the Health Cluster and has made an official request to OCHA to activate the nutrition cluster in Ukraine.

External Media

UNICEF is actively involved in advocacy and external media engagement to highlight the situation of children and their families in Ukraine and has deployed additional assets on the ground to facilitate this, using global and national digital channels able to reach over 12 million people on weekly basis. UNICEF continues to contribute to joint UN Ukraine communication strategy and key advocacy plans. The following are a selection of communication materials:

Press release: <https://www.unicef.org/eca/press-releases/unaccompanied-and-separated-children-fleeing-escalating-conflict-ukraine-must-be>

UNICEF Ukraine Article: [Music brings a note of comfort amidst war in Ukraine | UNICEF](#)

UNICEF ECARO: [Briefing to the UN Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine by UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell](#)

UNICEF ECARO: [Unaccompanied and separated children fleeing escalating conflict in Ukraine must be protected \(unicef.org\)](#)

UNICEF ECARO: [UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell's remarks at the UN Security Council meeting on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine](#)

UNICEF Ukraine Crisis: <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/conflict-ukraine-pose-immediate-threat-children>

UNICEF Ukraine HAC Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ukraine>

Supply & Logistics

Health and vaccine related supplies are available in two of UNICEF warehouses in Kyiv for COVID/vaccine campaigns. On 5 March, UNICEF delivered USD 465,000 worth of health supplies to hospitals and USD 100,000 worth of education

and early childhood development and adolescent supplies directly to partners; the first deliveries across the border since the conflict started.

Additional UNICEF supplies, worth over USD 19 million, have been ordered by the Ukraine team. A portion of these supplies are already en-route to Ukraine and surrounding refugee countries and include a mix of health, nutrition, education/adolescent, WASH, child protection supplies and winter clothes for children.

Next SitRep: 18 March 2022

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