### Highlights

- As of 25 March, 6.5 million people (2.5 million children)\(^{i}\) are internally displaced\(^{i}\), with 93 children killed and 120 injured\(^{iii}\).
- Humanitarian conditions, including access to food and nutrition, water and medicines, are worsening for populations in the cities of Sumy, Kharkiv, Okhtyrka, Izium, Donetsk, Luhansk, Mariupol, Kherson, Volnovakha, Svierodonetsk and Chernigiv. The humanitarian notification system\(^{iv}\) is being tested in these cities, however access remains significantly constrained.
- Life-saving medical supplies for 500,000 people have been distributed to 23 hospitals in Lviv, Vyshgorod, Kharkiv, Mykolaiiv, Kyiv city and oblast, Chernihiv, Dnipro and Zhytomyr.
- Approximately 3 million students in 10,000 schools are taking classes through the distance learning modality. An online kindergarten has reached 300,000 views on several digital platforms and online TV.
- Despite access challenges, over 50,000 people were reached with drinking water and hygiene supplies in Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Kyiv and Lviv. Equipment has reached Sumy to repair the damaged water supply system, serving 50,000 people.
- In 29 metro stations in Kharkiv, where approximately 17,400 people are seeking shelter, children and families are receiving psychosocial support, including recreational supplies. Over 4,000 people in Donetsk and Luhansk have received psychosocial support through face to face or telephone consultation and over 5 million people countrywide received information on psychosocial support through media.
- Supplies to reach 8 million people are prepositioned in Lviv, Dnipro and Kiev, ready for distribution. Additional supplies worth USD 33.5 million are en route, bringing a total value of supplies worth USD 87 million procured to date.
- As of 23 March, UNICEF has USD 155 million available against its USD 276 million ask of the UNICEF humanitarian appeal. UNICEF acknowledges and appreciates the generous contributions from all public and private sector donors to support the response in Ukraine.

### Situation in Numbers

- **2.9 million** children in need
- **12 million** people in need (OCHA Flash Appeal)
- **6.5 million** internally displaced people (UNOCHA Situation Report 23 March)
- **3.7 million** people fleeing Ukraine (UNHCR Data Portal 24 March 2022)

### Population in Need, UNICEF & Cluster Targets\(^{v}\)

![Bar chart showing population in need across different categories: Health and Nutrition, Child Protection, Education, WASH, Social Protection.]

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\(^{i}\) UNICEF estimation
\(^{ii}\) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
\(^{iii}\) Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
\(^{iv}\) Mechanism of Humanitarian Country Team to ensure safe delivery of humanitarian assistance.
\(^{v}\) UNICEF targets against OCHA Flash appeal February

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* This reflects the requirement under Pillar 1 (Ukraine) of UNICEF’s HAC appeal.
Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF acknowledges the timely and generous commitments of public and private sector partners against the overall 2022 Ukraine Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal1, including from the Governments of Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, the United States of America, the European Commission and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). Ongoing fundraising campaigns by UNICEF National Committees have generated significant, timely and flexible support from the private sector including corporate partners and individual donors.

Under the overall Ukraine HAC appeal, UNICEF is currently requesting USD 276 million2 to sustain life-saving services and support for children and their families affected by the drastic escalation of the war in Ukraine. UNICEF appreciates the quality support received so far from private and public sector partners for the emergency response. As of 23 March, UNICEF has a total of USD 155.7 million available for the response inside Ukraine. Of this amount, USD 75.8 million is flexible funding. UNICEF is grateful to key private and public sector partners that enable UNICEF to act quickly and respond strategically to where the needs are greatest, together with our partners on the ground.

This funding has enabled a timely scale up of the response to address critical humanitarian needs in Ukraine, including to deliver supplies and services in the areas of health, nutrition, WASH, child protection and education. With the continued war, humanitarian needs continue to escalate across the country, and UNICEF continues to review requirements. UNICEF is fully committed to transparency and accurate financial reporting standards, including through the Financial Tracking System (FTS) managed by OCHA.

With the situation rapidly evolving, intensified fighting, continued displacements, disruption/damage to services and with expanding needs, the humanitarian response and related financial requirements are being assessed, scoped out and revised to reflect expanded needs until the end of 2022. A revised UNICEF appeal will be launched in mid-April to reflect the expanding crises and resource requirements to address the needs of children. Continued, flexible contributions will enable UNICEF and partners to keep pace with the unfolding crises and support children directly impacted by the war.

UNICEF continues to work closely with the Government of Ukraine, UN Agencies and key humanitarian partners - Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), through established interagency mechanisms. Close consultations are also being held with Presidential advisors and key ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, as well as with mayors in several cities (including through Child and Youth Friendly Cities). Through its long-standing presence in Ukraine, UNICEF has established partnerships in key hromadas (municipalities) and will continue to expand and leverage these in all oblasts (regions) across the country to deliver the humanitarian response. UNICEF is also leveraging important private sector partnerships throughout Ukraine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The war in Ukraine continues to escalate, and as of 25 March, 93 children have been killed, and 120 have been injured, with numbers likely much higher as they reflect only what has been possible to verify to date. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), there have been 74 attacks impacting health care facilities in Ukraine since 24 February. OCHA estimates over 6.5 million people (2.5 million children) are internally displaced.

With continuing destruction of basic and critical infrastructure, disruption of basic social services and economic activity and massive internal population displacement, the scale and scope of humanitarian needs continues to worsen across the country, leaving children and their families exposed to threats and highly vulnerable. The city of Mariupol remains cut off from humanitarian assistance due to ongoing shelling from air, land and sea. Conditions, including access to food, water and medicine, are worsening for populations here, as well as for residents remaining in areas where fighting and shelling continues, including Sumy, Kharkiv, Okhtyrka, Izium, Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, Volnovakha, Sievierodonetsk and Chernigiv. There is urgent need for a ceasefire agreement to deliver humanitarian aid and facilitate safe passage of people out of these areas which are among the most critically affected in the country. The humanitarian notification system is being tested to ensure safe, rapid and unimpeded exit of internal displaced persons.

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1 In line with the OCHA Flash Appeal and the Inter Agency RRRP. UNICEF HAC appeal of USD 349 million includes Pillar 1 (Ukraine) and Pillar 2 (Refugee Outflow which covers interventions in Poland, Moldova, Romania, Belarus, Hungary, Slovakia and other surrounding countries).

2 This figure is expected to significantly with the planned revision of the UNICEF HAC 2022 for Ukraine Crisis, to address an exponential humanitarian need inside Ukraine by 15 April 2022.
humanitarian access in these cities, however access remains significantly constrained.

UNICEF’s implementing partners on the ground are facing severe constraints in accessing the most vulnerable people, due to the escalation of military clashes. UNICEF supported water trucking through Mariupol Vodakanal Company, is for example no longer able to operate and deliver safe water to people in Mariupol due to the enormous risk to the company’s staff.

Since 24 February, UNICEF procured supplies (including health equipment and essential medicines, recreational kits, hygiene kits, equipment for water supply system maintenance and education/ECD kits) to reach 8 million people, which have arrived in country. Distribution of supplies is underway and has reached some of the worst affected regions like Sumy and Kharkiv through humanitarian convoys facilitated by OCHA, and/or using railways, organized in close collaboration with local authorities. UNICEF’s close partnerships with Government are being leveraged to facilitate targeted distribution of supplies. This includes hospitals in Kyiv and reaching the widest possible network of service providers, including health facilities and maternity houses/perinatal centers. Timely delivery of supplies is being hampered due to the need to use longer routes, heavy security requirements and the comprehensive, time-consuming clearance process along the road.

In the non-government-controlled areas in eastern Ukraine, the banking system is not functional and cash transfers to partners, including staff salaries, have been interrupted. UNICEF re-programmed interventions with existing partners to address immediate humanitarian needs of children in those areas and UNICEF is mobilizing COHA3 to deliver cash.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Child Protection

The Government has officially established an intersectoral national coordination task force on child protection and UNICEF is a member. The task force is composed of line ministries responsible for children’s matters, the offices of Human Rights Ombudsman and the Presidential Commissioner on Child Rights, civil society organizations, law enforcement/justice agencies and the border patrol force. Its aim is to urgently and jointly address critical issues related to child concerns, including, border crossings, evacuations, support for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), prevention of trafficking and exploitation and tracking the relocation of children in state custody.

In Luhansk and Donetsk, since 24 February, over 4,000 people have received psychosocial support through online, face-to-face consultation, and via telephone from people and service providers sheltering in bunkers. UNICEF’s partners have already delivered baby food and hygiene items to over 2,000 children, and approximately 30,000 additional children will benefit from winter clothes that UNICEF has delivered to partners to distribute.

The UNICEF supported national toll-free Child Helpline is providing online consultations to children, caregivers and youth. On average 1,000 calls are being received per week. Among the calls received in past weeks, 34% were related to provision of information on internal displacement and evacuation issues; 21% were related to mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) wellbeing of children and 4% were about unaccompanied and separated children. More than 54% of calls were referred to other service providers, namely Social Protection Centers for family, children and youth, police and/or to free legal aid and mental health service providers and NGOs.

A hotline for the social workforce continues to provide support to children, families and caregivers, providing direct counselling services. A chatbot "dlyyna_ne_sama" for unaccompanied children is in place. Since 24 February, more than 9,000 applications for temporary fostering were received from Ukrainian families, including 240 from international organizations and 68 from international NGOs. Twelve mobile child protection teams continue operating in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in Severodonetsk, Kremminia, Novoaidar, Stanitsa Luhanska Szhastia where they are providing phone counselling to people in bunkers. As services are hampered by lack of electricity and internet connectivity the teams reached 569 people during the reporting period.

Health & Nutrition

Medical supplies for over 500,000 people for three months have been provided by UNICEF to 23 child health facilities and maternity centers in Lviv, Vyshgorod, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kyiv city and oblast, Chernihiv, Dnipro and Zhitomir. These supplies include emergency health kits, first aid kits, diagnostics and treatment equipment, midwifery, obstetrics, and surgical medical kits.

In Luhansk and Donetsk, UNICEF continues to support the most vulnerable women and children with low family income and limited access to health care, providing free medical e-vouchers enabling them to purchase medicines prescribed by their doctor. The interventions continued from February into March, with 369 families (116 children) reached in February. Results are reported at the end of each month. In Luhansk UNICEF provided medical equipment (sterilizers, scales, pulse-oximeters, distillatory, electrocardiographs, spirometers, pickfluometers) to 20 medical facilities and equipment for in-patient rehabilitation of people with mobility disorders and disabilities to nine hospitals. These supplies will enable improved medical services to over 10,000 children.

UNICEF conducted an assessment of the availability of vaccines for routine immunization at the government’s central

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3 COHA is a cash on hand account that is used under special circumstance where the need arose for an extended period to maintain significant cash funds, and/or make cash payments where normal banking services are not available.
storage in Kyiv oblast state enterprise “Ukravaccina” and has shared with Government the support that could be provided for potential procurement of vaccine stocks.

To support families with newborns who are staying in the most affected locations, UNICEF developed a “Newborn Kit” - “Pakunok-Pariatunok” consisting of the necessary items (diapers, clothes, hygiene supplies) during the first month of life. Over 15,000 kits have been procured and will be distributed among all perinatal centers and maternity hospitals in the most affected regions. UNICEF has also procured over 9,000 cartons of baby food and is delivering these through existing health and child protection partners. These supplies will benefit over 1,300 children aged 0 - 5 months.

**Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

With water supply needs in the western region currently being met through host communities or existing and still functioning services, UNICEF’s emergency water supply support is targeting the most affected areas where water systems have been damaged due to heavy shelling.

In Donezk and Lohansk, since March, in cooperation with local authorities and with the logistical support of the local NGO “Friends Hands” and “CF ADRA”, UNICEF has continued efforts to address the water and sanitation needs in community centers, social and health institutions in several locations reaching over 20,000 people with safe water through distribution of bottled water and through water trucking. Unfortunately, due to ongoing shelling, the water trucking services have now had to be halted. WASH supplies (bottled water, and a range of equipment to renovate damaged water supply systems), have been sent through humanitarian convoy and have reached Sumy, where the equipment will help to repair the water supply system, serving 50,000 people.

UNICEF also delivered hygiene kits to 26,000 people living in community centers and temporary shelters in Lviv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kyiv and in the communities in Donezk and Luhansk. 36 water boilers were installed in kindergartens, and institutional hygiene kits and rehabilitation of WASH services has benefited 10,000 people in five social institutions in Novoazovsk-2 and Yasynuvata-3.

**Education**

As of 21 March, approximately 3 million students in 10,000 schools resumed their studies through the national distance learning courses that started on 14 March. The Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) used lesson content and materials that had been developed in collaboration with UNICEF during the COVID-19 pandemic. The MoES and UNICEF are finalizing plans to roll out cash support to teachers so they can continue providing lessons through distance learning.

In 29 metro stations in Kharkiv, where approximately 17,400 people are seeking shelter, children and families are receiving psychosocial support, including recreational supplies provided through UNICEF and partner NGO “Professional Development”. 51 volunteers and educators were engaged in these activities. To date, 19 psychologists were trained to provide psychosocial support to children and adolescents in Kharkiv bomb shelters and transit camps in Poltava.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits, consisting of educational supplies to meet the learning needs of 6,000 children were provided to partners in Kharkiv and Kyiv to be delivered to social service centers. ECD kits for an additional 10,000 children have been positioned for delivery in western Ukraine in communities where internally displaced children are hosted.

**Social Protection**

UNICEF’s beneficiary registration system for its humanitarian cash transfer programme is developed and ready to be launched on 28 March. In the first phase, UNICEF aims to reach up to 51,000 conflict affected households with children with at least three months of humanitarian cash transfer support. A communication strategy for the humanitarian cash support has been developed to support awareness raising about the programme. Humanitarian cash transfer communication and registration interventions will be delivered by four existing partners engaged in UNICEF’s sectoral programmes, to connect cash with services and supplies delivered to vulnerable households. UNICEF is finalizing an agreement with a bank to make the system ready for cash transfers.

**Influencing Social Behavior**

The production of strategic messages on child protection, breastfeeding, continuity of routine immunization at the times of crisis, WASH and other topics are being disseminated on social media. The digital campaign on explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), with content ranging from static visuals to cartoons for children, has been expanded and has reached almost 500,000 unique viewers on YouTube. Another content series, on breastfeeding, including 10 content pieces, is reaching over 1,500,000 people through UNICEF’s social media channels as well as Viber and Telegram chats. An infographic on water filtration at home has been published and widely disseminated by the local media (ICTV web site, channel 5 web site, etc.) and national Telegram channels.

An online kindergarten, launched in mid-March, is gaining increasing popularity among caregivers. Five episodes have been already released and reached 300,000 views on several digital platforms and online TV. Additionally, five more Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on EORE and psycho-social support have been developed. In total, 10 PSAs have been produced to the date and disseminated through UNICEF’s digital platforms, reaching at least 5,000,000 people, and over 30 local radio stations.
Information materials on key topics have been produced for offline outreach to caregivers and families on the move, through UNICEF Child Spots Spilno, and collective centers in Ukraine. These materials have also been shared for dissemination at UNICEF Blue Dots being established in neighbouring refugee hosting countries. The set of materials has been complemented with a brochure with answers to caregivers’ frequently asked questions on the key topics.

**Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy**

UNICEF is working closely with UN agencies, government and partners under the inter-agency framework. All clusters have been activated and UNICEF is leading the WASH and Nutrition clusters, is co-leading the education cluster and is leading the Child Protection subcluster as well as the Maternal Child Health Care subgroup under the WHO Led Health Cluster. The WASH cluster is strengthening cooperation with the Ukrainian Association of Water Suppliers and the Ministry of Communities and Territories Development, in the assessment of emergency needs and preparation of the joint response plan to mitigate the negative impacts of shelling on the infrastructure, the disruption of electricity and water networks and the collapse of water supply systems in urban areas.

Following the escalation of war, UNICEF Ukraine has scaled up this capacity with 142 personnel (staff, surge, consultants) now operating from Lviv, and a few working remotely from outside the country. Through leveraging established networks, UNICEF has scaled up humanitarian response throughout Ukraine to deliver immediate life-saving assistance to children and families in the worst affected areas (eastern, northern and southern parts of the country), and is supporting local municipalities in their response to the needs of internally displaced populations in central and western parts of the country. Given the complex working environment and need for life-saving supplies and services, UNICEF’s priority for the last two weeks has remained on establishing partnerships with municipalities, widening the geographical scope of existing implementing partners and procuring and delivering critical supplies in the country. Where access exists, UNICEF has been prepositioning supplies to be ready to quickly distribute these to hard to reach areas as access is negotiated and granted. To date, partnerships have been established with 21 implementing partners to deliver a multisectoral humanitarian response.

**Supply & Logistics**

As of 23 March 2022, UNICEF has dispatched 94 trucks of supplies from its Supply Division in Copenhagen and Turkey Country Office, carrying 1,047 tons of emergency supplies to support children and families in Ukraine. These are being routed through a logistics and warehousing hub in Rzeszow, Poland. To date 63 trucks of supplies have arrived in Lviv which will address the needs of over 8 million people including 2 million children. The supplies include medicines and medical equipment, winter clothes for children, institutional and family hygiene kits, educational kits, ECD kits, and recreational kits. To date, health supplies released from the warehouse in Lviv to partners will reach over 2 million people, the recreational/ECD kits will benefit over 62,000 children and 30,000 children will be reached with winter clothes, in different locations in the east, west and centre of Ukraine.

To ensure effective distribution of supplies between regions, another three temporary supply hubs have been established in Dnipro, Kyiv and Odessa, allowing for the prepositioning of supplies closer to beneficiaries throughout the country. A partnership with the chamber of commerce is now established to involve regional governments to help distribute supplies through their channels and networks. UNICEF is also enhancing partnerships with local NGO to help distribute smaller bundles of supplies and deliver services directly to remote hospitals and places where people who have been internally displaced are staying (e.g. railway stations). UNICEF currently has available humanitarian supplies in three warehouses in the country, that can support 8 million people with health supplies and over 150,000 children and adolescents with recreational and education supplies.

Additional supplies worth USD 33.5 million are in the pipeline and should reach Ukraine in the coming weeks, bringing a total of USD 87 million worth supplies procured to the country since 24 February, including medicines, medical equipment, ambulances, nutrition related supplies, winter clothes, blankets, WASH supplies (hygiene kits, diapers, sanitary supplies, water bladders, water purification chemicals), recreational kits, ECD kits and educational kits.

**External Media**

UNICEF continues to highlight the situation of children and their families in Ukraine and advocate for their safety through external and internal media outlets. The following are a selection of communication materials produced in the reporting period:

- **Press releases**
  - [UNICEF calls for strengthened measures to protect children crossing from Ukraine into neighbouring countries](#)
  - [More than half of Ukraine’s children displaced after one month of war](#)
  - [Mental health lifeline launches for families in Ukraine](#)
  - [An online kindergarten for Ukrainian kids is now live on YouTube](#)

- **Informational materials**
  - [How to build rapport with a child traumatized by war](#)
  - [How to help an unaccompanied child during martial law in Ukraine](#)
Human Interest story
UNICEF winter clothing kits keep weary families warm in Ukraine
At the Ukrainian border, mothers share stories of loss
Childhood upended by war in Ukraine

Funding Status as of 23 March

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Next SitRep: 01 April 2022

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With the exponential need for health, flexible resources mobilized for health supplies overreaching the planned amount against UNICEF HAC 2022 for Ukraine crisis. With expanding support needs, the response actions and related financial requirements are being assessed. A revised UNICEF HAC appeal is being launched within mid-April.