

A two-year-old Oleksii and his mother fleeing from hostilities in Donetsk region. ©UNICEF/ Filippov

Ukraine
Humanitarian Situation Report No. 62

unicef for every child

Reporting period: 1 January to 30 September 2026

Highlights

- The third quarter of 2026 brought the heaviest civilian toll in Ukraine since the opening weeks of the full-scale invasion. The number of child casualties verified in 2026 (809) has now surpassed the total verified child casualties for all of 2025 (744), highlighting the alarming impact of the escalation of the war on children in recent months.
- Winter 2026-2027 is expected to be the most dangerous winter for children in Ukraine since the start of the full-scale war. UNICEF has accelerated winter preparations, providing US$45 million to the Ministry of Social Policy and Family Unity's Humanitarian and Resilience Account to cover 104,000 households with a one-time winter cash transfer. District heating systems have been strengthened for 3.2 million people, and 22 health facilities have newly-installed energy back-up systems, benefiting 200,000 people. Further urgent support to water and heating systems, health facilities, schools and families will be rolled out by the end of the year.
- Recent tests results show that one-third of 15-year-old students are 1.5 years behind in science and math, and half are two years behind in reading. So far this year, 124,928 students have participated in UNICEF-supported catch-up classes.
- UNICEF and partners have reached 375,137 people with mental health and psychosocial support this year, including 219,023 children. In an August UNICEF survey, nearly half of people (46 per cent) reported emotional exhaustion almost every day.

Situation in Numbers

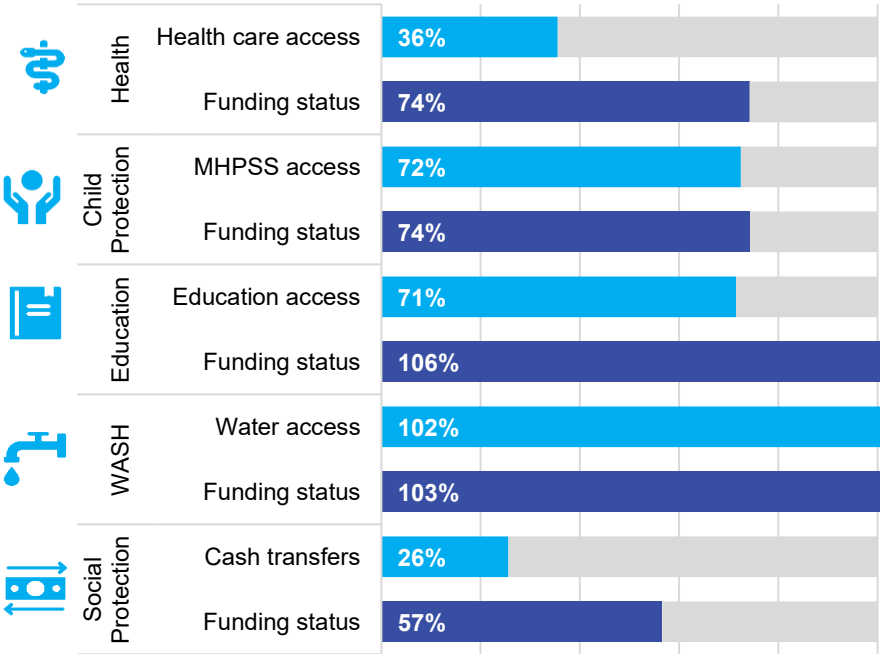
2.2 million
Children in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Response Plan 2026)

10.8 million
People in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Response Plan 2026)

3.5 million
Internally displaced people
(IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, August 2026)

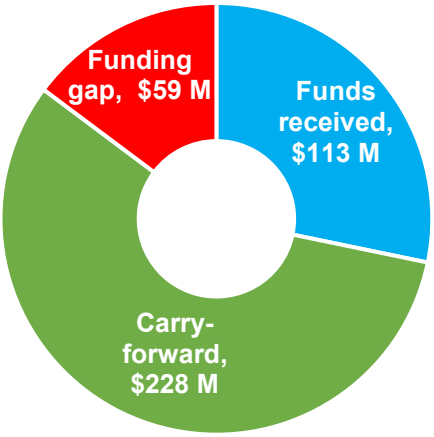
752,000
Children targeted by UNICEF in Ukraine 2026
(UNICEF HAC 2026)

UNICEF Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2026
US$400 million

Funding status as of 30 September



The overall HAC funding gap status does not represent gaps by sector. For further details by sector, please refer to Annex B.

Figures reported to the FTS may differ for the same period due to in-process allocation of flexible funding.

This reflects the requirements for Pillar 1 (inside Ukraine).

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The third quarter of 2026 brought the heaviest civilian toll in Ukraine since the opening weeks of the full-scale invasion. The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission verified 448 civilians killed and 2,675 injured in July – the highest monthly figure since March 2022 – and 372 killed and 2,349 injured in August; casualties in the first eight months of the year already exceeded the whole of 2025 and were 55 per cent higher than the same period a year earlier. The number of child casualties verified in 2026 (809) has now surpassed the total verified child casualties for all of 2025 (744), highlighting the alarming impact of the escalation of the war on children in recent months. If trends continue, over 1,200 child casualties will be verified in 2026 – nearing the 1,386 verified in the first year of the full-scale invasion.

Long-range missiles and drones caused almost half of all civilian casualties in August, mostly in cities far from the front, while glide bombs killed or injured nearly 2,500 civilians in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia regions in the first eight months of the year. Jet-powered drones and ballistic missiles compressed warning times and kept Kyiv under air-raid alert for 33 of 48 hours in late-September; civilians in the capital were killed or injured on 16 of the first 24 days of September, a frequency not seen in any previous month of the war. Displacement accelerated as the front moved towards the Sloviansk–Kramatorsk belt: about 93,600 people, including 4,800 children, remained in government-controlled Donetsk on 1 September, down from 192,600 in January.

Winter 2026-2027 is expected to be the most dangerous winter for children in Ukraine since the start of the full-scale war. Attacks on civilian infrastructure intensified ahead of the heating season, including strikes on combined heat and power plants (CHPs) in Kherson, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa and Sumy. Naftogaz recorded 293 attacks on its gas facilities in 2026 by mid-August – more than in all of 2025 – and a single strike on 2 September left more than 350,000 households in Odesa region without power. On 30 September, a massive combined attack on Kyiv's energy infrastructure triggered emergency power cuts, reduced water pressure across the city and water cuts in some districts, providing an early indication of how strikes on the electricity grid can rapidly disrupt essential urban services ahead of winter.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF is working closely with United Nations agencies, the government and humanitarian partners under the inter-agency framework including through the Humanitarian Country Team and Humanitarian Operations Coordination Groups at regional level. UNICEF leads/co-leads the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Education Clusters. In addition, UNICEF co-leads the Education, WASH and the Social Protection Sectoral Working Groups (along with the Cash - Social Protection Linkages Task Force). UNICEF also provides technical support for the Education in Emergencies Working Group and is ensuring strong Child Protection technical capacity under the Protection Cluster. Along the frontlines, where intense and sustained fighting and access constraints remain, UNICEF engages with municipal, regional and local administrations, as well as local NGO partners to implement its urgent humanitarian response. In parallel, across the country, UNICEF uses existing national systems and engages local authorities and civil society to ensure a child-focused recovery. Flagship priorities include Better Start (integrated early childhood development, care and education), Better Learning and Skills (maximizing the potential of children and youth), Better Care (a family for every child) and Better WASH (water, sanitation and heating).

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF has US$340.9 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal of US$400 million. This includes US$227.9 million carried over from 2025 and US$113.0 million received in 2026. The HAC was developed in line with the Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) 2026, which targets 4.1 million people, with a funding requirement of US$2.3 billion. Generous contributions have been received from the people and Governments of Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as from the European Union, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Funding has also been received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations.

UNICEF works with the Government of Ukraine, United Nations agencies, civil society, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other humanitarian partners. Close cooperation is ensured with key stakeholders including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Social Policy and Family Unity, Education and Science, Health, Youth and Sports, Culture, Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development, Economy, Finance, regional administration, city councils in several cities and the Ombudsperson's Office as well as the State Emergency Services of Ukraine (SESU). UNICEF has established partnerships with the concerned municipalities and will continue to expand them. UNICEF engages with 307 government, civil society and service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health: During the first nine months of 2026, UNICEF-supported **mobile medical teams** reached 3,328 people in Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv and Sumy regions, including 1,547 children (785 girls) and 1,781 adults (1,387 women). In the third quarter, services were expanded to Sumy region, extending access to essential health care to another conflict-

affected area. Of the total, 1,842 people received mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) consultations (73 girls, 59 boys, 1,278 women and 432 men). Additionally, 288 first responders received individual and group psychological consultations.

Following the increased intensity of air strikes, UNICEF **restored and protected essential health services** by replacing damaged windows and medical equipment, installing anti-blast safety film and metal roller shutters and repairing fire safety systems in regional children's and perinatal hospitals, primary health care and rehabilitation facilities in Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa and Ternopil. UNICEF also rehabilitated the Odesa Regional Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Chornomorsk Branch, a subnational vaccine storage facility, after it was damaged by a drone. Overall, these interventions helped maintain access to safer and more resilient health services for 55,000 children and caregivers.

Paediatric rehabilitation services reached 3,028 children (1,367 girls) during the first nine months of 2026. In quarter three, the programme expanded to two additional hospitals in Nikopol and Kherson, extending the existing network of Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Odesa and Mykolaiv. UNICEF also strengthened the quality of rehabilitation care by delivering equipment (braces, mobility aids, sensory stimulation items) to Kharkiv Regional Children's Hospital. A training manual on caregiver inclusion in paediatric rehabilitation treatment was finalized and piloted at Odesa Regional Children's Clinical Hospital.

Child Protection: So far this year, UNICEF and partners have supported 26,069 children (12,629 girls) with integrated **case management**, reaching children affected by displacement, family separation, injury, disability and psychosocial distress. Following airstrikes and other attacks, UNICEF-supported partners provide a package of psychological first aid, case management, referrals, emergency assistance and links to sustained support. UNICEF-supported humanitarian NGO partners assist children and families affected by attacks, evacuation and displacement. Government providers refer children and caregivers facing heightened protection risks to these NGO services where unavailable locally and NGOs refer families back to statutory social services for continued case management. This two-way referral pathway strengthens rather than substitutes state capacity, helping to connect emergency assistance with specialized care and longer-term follow-up.



Psychologists from the UNICEF mobile team talk to 7-year-old Maksym after a strike in Pisochyn ©UNICEF/2026

UNICEF has reached 417,777 people, including 277,008 children (143,088 girls) and 140,769 adults (91,212 women) with **landmine and other explosive weapons prevention** activities through NGO partners and in cooperation with SESU. In response to the increased air strikes beyond frontline areas, UNICEF expanded the geographic coverage of its Mobile Safety Classes, reaching 8,469 children (4,238 girls) during the third quarter with face-to-face safety education across 14 regions and Kyiv city. In total, from January to September 2026, Mobile Safety Classes have engaged 327,251 children (159,371 girls). Meanwhile, a nationwide summer safety campaign promoted safer behaviour in relation to mines and explosive ordnance as well as fire and water hazards. Indoor advertising and printed materials reached 805,859 people while digital safety and emergency preparedness content through UNICEF and SESU social media channels reached 3,341,478 adolescents, parents, and caregivers.

The second wave of UNICEF's nationwide survey covering 13,328 children and caregivers, showed that increased exposure to UNICEF mine-safety materials was associated with better knowledge and decision-making. In areas where there is a greater risk of encountering explosive ordnance, children exposed to neither school-based safety lessons nor UNICEF materials were more than twice as likely to demonstrate weaker safety knowledge and unsafe decision-making as children exposed to both (22 per cent compared with 9 per cent). They were also more likely to hold multiple misconceptions about explosive hazards (38 per cent compared with 22 per cent).

UNICEF and partners reached 144,895 individuals (41,673 girls, 35,291 boys and 67,931 women) with **GBV prevention, response and risk mitigation interventions**. Services included GBV case management, psychosocial support, referrals, prevention and risk mitigation delivered through static services, mobile outreach and community-based approaches. UNICEF further strengthened the capacity of 78 psychologists, social workers and other frontline professionals to provide specialized support to children who have experienced violence, including sexual violence. Training activities equipped psychologists from social and child protection services, educational institutions, civil society organizations and other specialized services to recognize trauma and retraumatization and assess the effectiveness of support provided.

From January to August 2026, **Child Protection workstream partners** reached 255,229 people including 150,585 children (46,681 girls) with child protection interventions. MHPSS remained the largest intervention, reaching 159,160 people, including 93,904 children followed by targeted life-saving information (57,414 people including 26,985 children), case management (20,972 people including 19,504 children) and protection-related transportation and essential items (10,778 people including 5,389 children). Evacuations from frontline areas intensified during the third quarter. More than 120,000 people were registered through supported transit and reception points between January and mid-September, with July recording the highest monthly evacuation volume of 2026. Donetsk accounted for 46 per cent of registered movements, with children representing 15 per cent of evacuees. Increased movements placed pressure on transit centres, particularly in Lozova and Pavlohrad. Child

Protection priorities included prevention of family separation, identification and safe referral of children at risk, MHPSS, case management and continuity of support between departure, transit and receiving locations.

Education: Results from the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025, released in September 2026, show that a significant proportion of 15-year-old students in Ukraine have not reached foundational competency levels in core subjects. Approximately one-third of students did not achieve the baseline level in science, while around half fell below the baseline in mathematics and reading. Compared with the OECD average, these results are equivalent to a learning gap of two years in reading and one and a half years in mathematics and science.

So far this year, 124,928 children (64,244 girls) have participated in UNICEF-supported **catch-up programmes**. During the summer break, 45,404 children (22,374 girls) participated in intensive learning programmes to maintain learning continuity and mitigate further learning losses before the start of the new academic year. Baseline and endline assessments of 20,829 learners in catch-up programmes in Dnipropetrovsk showed an 86 per cent improvement in their learning outcomes. Teachers reported increased learner engagement, improved confidence in core subjects, stronger motivation to participate in both in-person and online learning, and greater interaction with peers and educators.

UNICEF continued to support **safe and secure education facilities** to enable access to in-person learning amid ongoing attacks. Shelters were rehabilitated in 21 education facilities (schools and kindergartens), allowing 9,759 children (4,593 girls) to return to face-to-face education in facilities that had previously relied on remote learning modalities. Shatter-resistant film was installed in 42 facilities attended by 27,361 students (12,899 girls) and emergency repairs completed for 4 schools and 1 preschool directly damaged by attacks, allowing 1,812 students (886 girls) to safely return to school. UNICEF also invested in furnishing and equipping protected learning spaces, including shelters and underground educational facilities, enabling them to function as safe and child-friendly learning environments. Provision of classroom furniture and equipment improved the quality, accessibility and comfort of 83 shelters in learning facilities used by 24,514 students.



Shelter-based kindergarten in Zaporizhzhia. ©UNICEF/2026

Quality **early childhood education** for young children living in war-affected areas was delivered through the 2x2 model. Over the summer, the regular 2x2 model was intensified through a 3x3 modality, providing three-hour, in-person sessions three times per week. So far this year, 15,979 children (8,178 girls) have benefited from these structured opportunities to learn, socialize and develop critical cognitive, language, and socio-emotional skills. The programme also strengthened local capacity by equipping preschool educators with skills to deliver quality Early Childhood Education and Care and MHPSS, while engaging parents and caregivers in supporting children's development at home.

Inclusive education services for 1,189 children with disabilities were provided through community-based and mobile service delivery models, including psycho-pedagogical assessments, rehabilitation services, individualized learning support, and referrals, particularly for children living in remote, underserved and conflict-affected communities. UNICEF supported mobile Inclusive Resource Centre teams and strengthened inclusive education systems through mentoring networks, capacity-building, and model inclusive learning environments.

Between January and August 2026, **Education Cluster partners** reached 161,601 children (82,417 girls). Under Strategic Priority 1 (frontline response), partners reached 66,969 children including 34,154 girls through rapid catch-up and remedial learning; social and emotional learning support; and school shelters and rapid repairs. In response to air strikes, under Strategic Priority 3, 86,880 children including 44,309 girls were supported through school rehabilitation and repair and social and emotional learning.

The Education in Emergencies Technical Working Group (EiE TWG) under the Education Sector Working Group held its second national meeting on 1 July, bringing together 35 participants from the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES), United Nations agencies, international and national NGOs and donors. The meeting reviewed the group's coordination arrangements, national winterization preparedness for the 2026/27 academic year and progress on the transition from the Education Cluster to the nationally led EiE TWG. Work also continued establishing a nationally-owned EiE Information Management system to provide the data infrastructure needed to track implementation of the Strategic Framework, which is aligned with MOES priorities for 2026-2028, and to strengthen evidence-based decision-making as coordination functions shift toward national systems.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: In a new UNICEF survey conducted in August, 46 per cent of people nationwide reported experiencing emotional exhaustion, tension or fatigue almost every day, while 73 per cent rated their emotional and psychological well-being at 0–6 on a 10-point scale. Nearly half (48 per cent) of respondents reported needing psychological support, counselling or support groups while 54 per cent believed that more information about where to seek help would make it easier for people to access support.

UNICEF and partners provided 375,137 individuals, including 219,023 children (113,799 girls) and 156,114 caregivers (121,998 women) with **MHPSS** so far this year including individual and group psychological support, parenting support, structured psychosocial interventions and referrals to specialized services. Through PORUCH, a UNICEF-supported online MHPSS platform, and partner-delivered services, UNICEF also strengthened the capacity of frontline service providers through training, supervision and structured MHPSS approaches, supporting more consistent and standardized psychosocial interventions at community level. UNICEF-supported community-based and mobile services continued operating despite attacks, displacement and access constraints, helping sustain psychosocial support and follow-up for children and caregivers affected by prolonged exposure to the war. Pre- and post-assessments of the structured "Children and War" programme showed a 52.6 per cent reduction in distress levels among 328 participating children, providing evidence of improvements in psychosocial wellbeing.



Repair of the main heat network to ensure heat supply and hot water delivery to 100,000 residents in Kharkiv. ©UNICEF/2026

Water, Sanitation and Heating: From January to September 2026, UNICEF enabled access to **safe water and sanitation** services for 5,066,825 people, including 383,124 girls, 407,246 boys, 2,276,626 women and 1,999,829 men, representing 102 per cent of the annual target. The annual target was exceeded due to the scale of the response required in cities such as Kyiv and Odesa during the escalation of the conflict, not originally factored into targeting. Interventions included rehabilitation of water and wastewater infrastructure and provision of critical repair and operational equipment. In eastern and southern Ukraine, support to critical treatment, transmission and wastewater infrastructure helped 60 utilities maintain essential services despite repeated attacks and power disruptions.

Preparedness for the 2026–2027 winter was integrated throughout the response rather than treated as a stand-alone activity. In anticipation of further attacks on energy infrastructure and critical water supply assets, including water intakes, treatment facilities and transmission systems, UNICEF worked with utilities and local authorities to strengthen operational preparedness and continuity arrangements. Support included emergency repair materials, backup equipment, treatment reagents, alternative power solutions, contingency stocks and rapid restoration capacity. Support to 28 district-heating utilities and heating service providers in 12 regions benefited 3,222,799 people through network repairs, pumps, frequency converters, mobile boilers, water-treatment systems and backup energy equipment.

UNICEF provided **critical WASH supplies and emergency services** to 592,540 people in 20 regions, representing 105 per cent of the annual target. This overreach reflects the increased water service disruptions caused by strikes on water and power infrastructure. Assistance included hygiene supplies, hygiene vouchers, water trucking and bottled water for frontline communities, evacuees and households affected by attacks or service disruptions. The hygiene voucher programme enabled 16,007 people in frontline Kherson and Mykolaiv regions to obtain essential hygiene items through local retailers, supporting household choice while also sustaining local markets. Between 7 August and 4 September 2026, third-party monitoring (604 beneficiary interviews and 10 shop visits) found near-universal redemption and very high satisfaction among both beneficiaries and shops. The main gaps were a voucher value that only partly met household needs, and distance and safety risks in reaching shops. The team continuously reassesses the security situation and considers safety and accessibility as part of the shop selection criteria. As safety concerns increase, UNICEF will consider reverting to in-kind supply if feasible and preferred.

UNICEF maintained a strong focus on communities facing the **acute emergency water service disruptions**. In Slovansk, where insecurity prevented sustainable repairs, UNICEF and its partner delivered 288,000 litres of water to approximately 5,000 people. Across Donetsk, intensified hostilities and repeated strikes on water and power infrastructure continue to threaten services, amid ongoing evacuations and increasingly frequent outages. UNICEF and partners are maintaining emergency water supplies through water trucking, boreholes and storage, while supporting alternative water intakes, repairs to filtration facilities, critical supplies, fuel and decentralized systems to sustain minimum services. In Kherson, water trucking continued for approximately 6,600 people without reliable access to potable water while utilities worked to restore services.

To date, 100 institutions have received improved, inclusive and child-friendly WASH services. Interventions covered schools, health care facilities, collective centres and social institutions through rehabilitation of WASH systems, heating improvements, solarization and essential equipment. Twenty-two health facilities serving 200,000 people have energy back-ups in place in advance of the winter season in Chernihiv, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv and Odesa regions. In Dnipropetrovska and Zaporizhzhia regions, works in five educational facilities and a children's hospital improved conditions for more than 13,500 people, while rehabilitation in collective centres and educational facilities in western Ukraine improved WASH and heating conditions for displaced families and children.

The WASH Cluster continued critical evidence generation, prioritization, coordination and advocacy for the most urgent water, sanitation and heating gaps. Quarter three was marked by a significant escalation in strikes on power and water supply systems. The Donetsk water crisis deepened. Following the destruction of the Raihorodok dam and the decline of the Maiaky intake, Kramatorsk and Sloviansk became dependent on the 2DWW pipeline and the Bilenke well field, both of which remain under

sustained attack. Kramatorsk remained on 12-hour rationing throughout the quarter. From mid-September, Sloviansk moved to supply once every two days, with outages of several days in some areas. The reliability of the electricity supply, on which water pumping and treatment depend, deteriorated at an accelerating rate. Evacuation-related WASH needs were a priority in the South, as newly evacuated people from Kherson required immediate access to safe drinking water, hygiene assistance and functioning WASH services at transit and collective sites. Continued partner coordination is needed to ensure rapid response, avoid duplication and maintain contingency capacity for sudden increases in displacement following strikes or deteriorating security conditions.

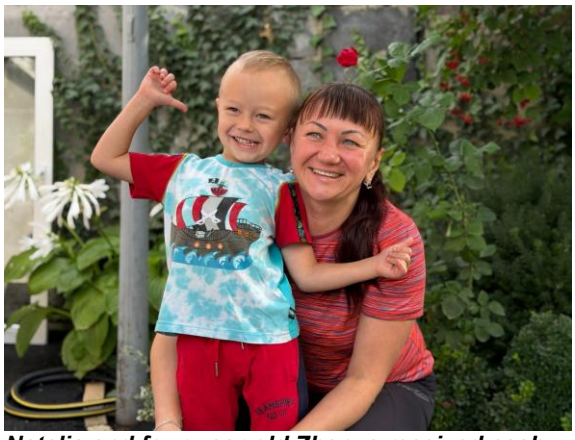
Partner delivery continues to be driven by the impact of strikes, with 1,502,584 people reached under SP3. WASH partners also reached 2,122,102 people in the most affected frontline areas, concentrated in Kramatorsk, Sloviansk, and accessible areas of Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv and Sumy regions. Sustained delivery was possible in these areas because of three conditions: established partner presence, functioning local authorities and operational utilities able to receive, install and maintain equipment. Settlements closest to the frontline remain underserved, similarly, due to insecurity, access restrictions and declining partner presence as organizations relocate or scale down operations. These areas increasingly depend on a few local actors and on assistance delivered through local authorities. The remaining populations, mostly older people and people with disabilities, are exposed to prolonged interruptions in water supply and heating.

Social Protection: During the first nine months of 2026, UNICEF provided humanitarian cash transfers to 41,455 households[1] through direct and government delivery systems, supporting 104,300 people, including 56,167 children (27,203 girls). UNICEF's cash-based assistance programme consists of four cash interventions: multi-purpose cash assistance, emergency protection cash assistance, shock-responsive cash assistance and winter cash assistance.

Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) reached 8,819 households affected by sudden conflict-related shocks, supporting 21,785 people, including 4,788 children (2,250 girls). Of these, 1,394 households received assistance due to mandatory evacuations, while 7,425 households received MPCA following air strikes. The assistance provides households with flexible support to address their basic needs following conflict-related shocks.

Emergency protection cash assistance was provided to 993 households, supporting 3,171 people, including 1,400 children (673 girls), following serious conflict-related incidents directly affecting children and other household members. The assistance is provided as part of a holistic child protection case management approach.

Shock-responsive cash assistance reached 16,690 households, supporting 49,742 people, including 29,763 children (14,447 girls). Out of these households, 4,768 households received assistance through UNICEF's direct delivery modality, while the remaining 11,922 households received the cash support through social protection departments – promoting localization and reinforcing sustainable, government-led systems. This assistance supported vulnerable families affected by damage to social infrastructure, resulting in emergency disruptions in access to essential services such as electricity, heating and water.



Natalia and four-year-old Zhenya received cash assistance after their house was damaged in an air strike. ©UNICEF/2026

Winter cash assistance remains a central component of UNICEF's humanitarian cash response. As part of the 2025-2026 winter response, in the first quarter of the year, UNICEF supported 7,232 vulnerable households with children in frontline areas, covering 22,162 people including 12,427 children (5,953 girls). In addition, UNICEF also expanded the government's warm winter support programme to cover 7,745 children with severe disabilities in nine frontline regions with a one-time cash transfer. The assistance was delivered through the Humanitarian and Resilience Account of the Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity, which is a formal mechanism for donors and humanitarian partners to channel earmarked resources for emergency cash delivery through government systems.

Building on UNICEF's role as the second-largest humanitarian winter cash actor over the previous two winter seasons, and its work to strengthen linkages between humanitarian cash and government systems as co-chair of the Cash and Social Protection Linkages Task Force, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity in designing the **2026-27 winter cash programme**. The winter response uses a hybrid delivery model, reflecting the evolution and gradual transition towards government systems where appropriate: vulnerable households living within 0-20 km of the frontline are supported through national systems, namely the Humanitarian and Resilience Account financed by UNICEF and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, while vulnerable households in the 21-50 km frontline zone are supported directly by humanitarian partners.

As part of the response, UNICEF provided US$45 million to the Ministry's Humanitarian and Resilience Account, expected to support 104,000 households with the one-time cash transfer of UAH 19,400. This assistance will help families prepare for

[1] Some families receive more than one cash transfer – for example, in response to a strike and to prepare for winter.

another tough winter season and cover essential costs such as heating, fuel and electricity, helping them maintain warmer and safer living conditions for children despite the ongoing war and disruptions to essential services. The programme was formalized through a government decree, and almost 100,000 vulnerable households in the 0-20 km frontline have been registered to date, with payments started in early October and continuing throughout November. UNICEF has established risk mitigation, assurance and monitoring arrangements, including access to payment data on a rolling basis and independent post-distribution monitoring to verify assistance, payment amount and beneficiary eligibility.

Supply and Logistics: From July to September 2026, three UNICEF warehouses were damaged by military strikes in Kyiv and Dnipro, destroying critical humanitarian supplies, including supplies prepositioned to support vulnerable children over the coming winter. So far this year, UNICEF placed US$66.6 million worth of orders to purchase life-saving supplies. US$43.3 million worth of supplies were received in Ukraine. US$16 million worth of supplies were dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US$20.9 million of supplies were delivered to implementing partners directly from local vendors in 2026. The value of supplies currently at stock at UNICEF-controlled warehouses is US$0.9 million with US$31.7 million of supplies in the pipeline.

Communication and Advocacy: In early 2026, UNICEF intensified communication and advocacy on the extreme winter and the fourth anniversary of the full-scale war, highlighting worsening conditions for children, UNICEF's response and years of investment in essential services. During the second quarter of 2026, UNICEF used social media, press releases and high-level advocacy to highlight the devastating impact of intensified attacks on children and families, communicate its response on the ground and call for the protection of civilians, homes and essential services.

UNICEF continues to communicate the impact of war with powerful storytelling. September advocacy centred on the impact of attacks on learning, including a Palais briefing from a school in Sumy. Emergency, humanitarian cash assistance and winter preparedness content also showed how UNICEF was helping families and essential services prepare for colder months. Over the past nine months, UNICEF has reached more than 13 million people across its digital platforms through 3,270 content pieces. Fifty international media engagements have strengthened UNICEF's voice with and for children, while positioning the support and work of partners and donors front and centre of the response.

Human Interest Stories and Press Releases



How the kindergarten with a new shelter is operating in Zaporizhzhia



When health and lives depend on electricity



How studying at a music school supports the mental health of children on the front line



After a cold winter and remote learning, schools in Chernihiv region prepare for a new winter

Next SitRep: January 2027

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Annex A: Programme Results (January–September 2026)

Sector		UNICEF and IPs Response		
		2026 target	Total results	Change
Health (4,470,000 people in need)				
Number of children and caregivers accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities, and through mobile teams and home visits		176,500	62,761	39,907
Child Protection and GBViE (2,480,000 people in need - Child Protection)				
Number of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	517,900	375,137	147,353
	Girls		113,799	44,445
	Boys		105,224	41,502
	Women		121,998	49,630
	Men		34,116	11,776
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions		325,920	144,895	53,552
Number of children who have received individual case management	Total	54,293	26,069	10,751
	Girls		12,629	5,204
	Boys		13,440	5,547
Number of children and caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions		616,154	417,777	294,007
Education & Skills (850,000 people in need)				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	197,166	140,907	33,663
	Girls		72,262	17,491
	Boys		68,645	16,172
Number of children accessing protective learning environments		275,970	120,668	77,499
WASH (6,430,000 people in need)				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs		4,954,698	5,066,825	1,492,030
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies		563,337	592,540	193,356
Number of institutions provided with child friendly, gender sensitive and inclusive WASH facilities		171	100	35
Number of people benefiting from restored or maintained heating services		2,038,315	3,222,799	552,755
Social Protection				
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)		162,000	41,455	3,986
Cross-sectoral				
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations		1,071,380	609,555	184,190
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		1,000,000	608,381	196,031
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms		140,000	151,870	28,549

Annex B: Funding Status as of 30 September 2026

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Resources received (ORE/current year)	Carry-over (ORR and ORE)	US$	%
Health and Nutrition	$10,403,122	$1,808,302	$5,908,927	$2,685,893	26%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	$89,579,613	$23,123,655	$43,444,246	$23,011,712	26%
Education	$59,429,027	$22,070,363	$40,930,038	-	-
WASH	$143,247,002	$45,885,629	$101,451,799	-	-
Social Protection	$97,495,935	$19,036,063	$36,157,681	$42,302,191	43%
Total	**$400,154,699**	**$112,961,442[2]**	**$227,892,691**	**$59,300,566**	**15%**

[2] Includes $1.04 million pending allocation