

Sisters Dayana and Ilona from Kharkiv lost their parents due to rocket fire. So Ilona did not end up in an institution, her older sister took her under her care.
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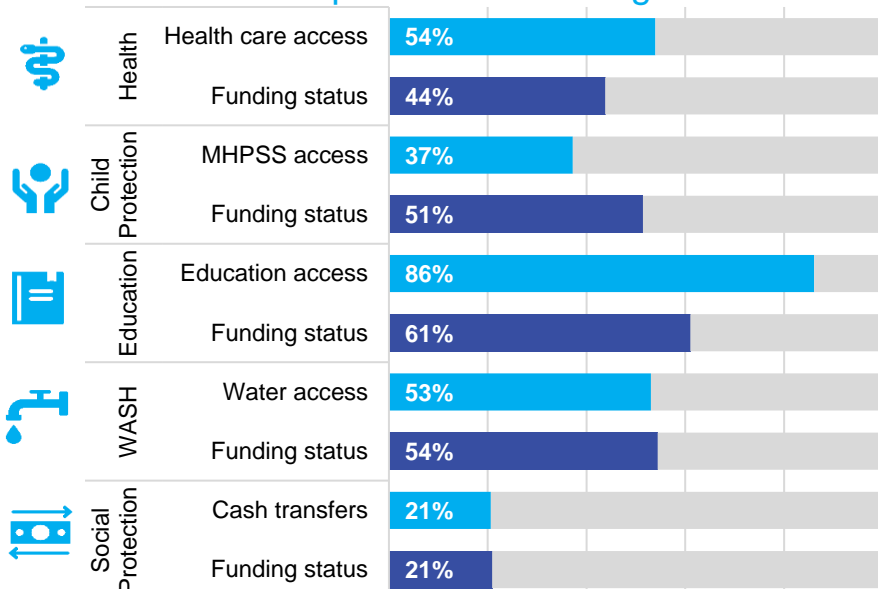


Reporting period: 1 January to 30 June 2023

Highlights

- So far this year, 2,697,329 children and women have gained access to primary health care services with UNICEF support while access to safe water has been ensured for 3,023,444 people. Additionally, UNICEF and partners have reached 666,247 children and 488,716 caregivers with mental health and psychosocial support and facilitated formal and non-formal education, including early learning, for 1,033,358 children.
- There are now 171 active UNICEF Spilno Spots which have received over 1.14 million visits this year, 677,000 of which were by children. Spilno Spots are a critical platform to reach children and caregivers with cross-sectoral services and activities including on mental health and psychosocial support, health, nutrition and safety.
- UNICEF has participated in 65 convoys to frontline communities this year. Up to 334,000 individuals have benefitted from life-saving supplies provided by United Nations agencies, including hygiene and health supplies, drinking water and equipment to support water networks from UNICEF.
- UNICEF and partners undertook an immediate and comprehensive response to the Kakhovka Dam destruction, starting with services and supplies delivered to families at railway and bus stations in Kherson, as well as in evacuee-receiving locations. Life-saving supplies have been provided to 101,000 people in Kherson and Dnipropetrovsk, and long-term water supply solutions are being supported.
- In June, UNICEF participated in a side-event on A Vision for Better Care and Child Protection at the Ukraine Recovery Conference, which focused on strengthening families and family-based care, including safely reintegrating children in institutions into family care.

UNICEF Response and Funding Status




Funding figures represent funds available for the full year, while results in some areas may be low due to designing and deploying new programming based on the latest situation.

Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Report No.29

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for every child

Situation in Numbers

 **4.1 million**
Children in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023)

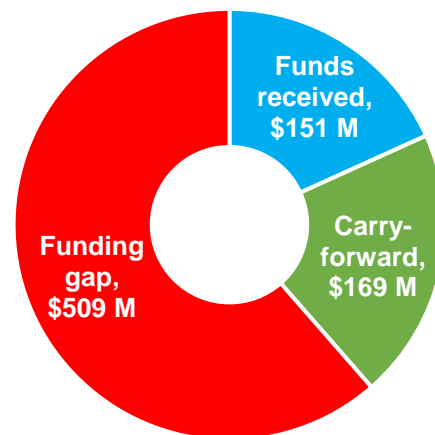
 **17.6 million**
People in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023)

 **5.1 million**
Internally displaced people
(IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, June 2023)

 **2.5 million**
Children targeted by UNICEF in Ukraine 2023
(UNICEF HAC 2023)

UNICEF Appeal 2023 US\$829.2 million

Funding status as of 30 June



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).

Funding Overview and Partnerships

For 2023, UNICEF has US\$319.7 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its [Humanitarian Action for Children](#) (HAC). This includes US\$168.6 million carried over from 2022 and US\$151.2 million newly received in 2023. The HAC was developed in line with the [Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan 2023](#), which targets 11.1 million of the 17.6 million people in need. Generous contributions have been received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations, with new funds from JP Morgan Chase, CBIZ, Illinois Tool Works, Impetus Foundation, Neighbourhood in Need Foundation, Nippon Telegraph, NTT Data Corporation, Vego Supermercados S.A.U, Ikea, Charles Schwab & Co. Inc, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, Reynolds Family Foundation, The Boston Foundation, Yarbrough Family Foundation, Axa, Yuval Noah Harari, Inamori Foundation, ArcelorMittal SA, European Investment Bank Institute, AcadeMedia, Husqvarna Aktiebolag, Stiftung Kinderförderung von Playmobil, VIESSMANN WERKE GMBH & CO. KG and Saudi E-sports Federation in 2023, through UNICEF National Committees. Important funding has also been received from the people and Governments of Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, the State of Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain the European Commission, US Fund for UNICEF, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the pooled Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

UNICEF has continued to work with the Government of Ukraine, United Nations agencies, civil society and non-governmental organizations (CSOs/NGOs) and other humanitarian partners. Close consultations are also held with Presidential advisors, key ministries (Foreign Affairs; Social Policy; Education and Science; Youth and Sports; Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development; and Health), and mayors in several cities (including through Child and Youth Friendly Cities) and the Ombudspersons Office. UNICEF has established partnerships in key municipalities and continues to expand these in all regions. UNICEF engages with 68 government, civil society and financial service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The first half of 2023 has seen several shifts in the conflict in Ukraine affecting the lives of children. The first quarter was marked by strikes on energy infrastructure, leading to power outages that interrupted water networks and access to critical services such as health and education. This was followed by a significant increase in strikes to civilian infrastructure from 8 in April to 21 in May. June was marked by the launch of the Ukraine counter-offensive.¹ Among the conflict events in June were a missile strike killing 11 people in a residential building in Kryvyi Rih² on 13 June and a strike on a restaurant in Kramatorsk killing 11 people, including three adolescents, on 28 June.³ As of 19 June, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had recorded 24,862 civilian casualties (9,083 killed and 15,779 injured) since February 2022.

The destruction of Kakhovka Dam on 6 June has had grave consequences. The estimated 4,000 people evacuated have begun returning home, however, 11,000 people in flood-affected, government-controlled Kherson and Mykolaiv Regions are forced to rely on water distribution due to water contamination. In Dnipropetrovsk Region, 210,000 people also remain reliant on water distribution as the Kakhovka reservoir, the main water source in the area, has dropped by 88 per cent.^{4,5}

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) released its latest internal displacement report, which currently shows an estimated 5.1 million internally displaced persons within Ukraine, down from 5.4 million in January.⁶ The average family has been displaced for 352 days. The top three reasons stopping them from returning home are reported to be insecurity (58 per cent); having fled from an area now under non-governmental control (24 per cent); and the destruction of their home (17 per cent).

The [Ukraine Recovery Conference](#) was held on 21 and 22 June in London. UNICEF moderated a session on Investment in Ukraine's Human Capital Recovery looking at the critical role the social sector plays in recovery. A side event was also held on A Vision for Better Care and Child Protection in Ukraine's Recovery, detailed in the Child Protection section below.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF has continued to work closely with United Nations agencies, the government and humanitarian partners under the inter-agency framework. UNICEF leads/co-leads the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Child Protection and Education Clusters, the Social Protection Sub-Group under the Cash Working Group and the Nutrition Technical Working Group and Maternal Child Health Care Sub-Group under the World Health Organization (WHO)-led Health Cluster.

¹ BBC, [Ukraine counter-offensive actions have begun, Zelensky says](#), 11 June 2023.

² Reuters, [Russian missile attack kills 11 in Ukrainian president's hometown](#), 13 June 2023.

³ BBC, [Ukraine war: Three teens among 11 killed in Kramatorsk attack](#), 28 June 2023.

⁴ OCHA, [UKRAINE – DESTRUCTION OF KAKHOVKA DAM – FLASH UPDATE #9](#), 27 June 2023.

⁵ REACH, [Emergency WASH Assessment Impact of the Kakhovka Reservoir Depletion](#), June 2023.

⁶ IOM, [Ukraine — Internal Displacement Report — General Population Survey Round 13](#) (11 May– 14 June 2023).

UNICEF continues to employ a zonal approach: In the south-east, where intense and sustained fighting and access constraints remain, UNICEF participates in inter-agency humanitarian convoys and engages with municipal, regional and local administrations and civil society partners to implement its humanitarian response. In the central and western parts of the country, UNICEF uses national systems and engages local authorities and CSOs. UNICEF is prioritizing three recovery Flagship areas in these areas: Early Childhood Development (ECD), Youth and Better Care.

As part of its **child-focused humanitarian response**, UNICEF has participated in 65 convoys to frontline communities this year. Up to 334,000 individuals have benefitted from life-saving supplies provided by United Nations agencies, including hygiene and health supplies, drinking water and equipment to support water networks from UNICEF. UNICEF multidisciplinary mobile teams (MMTs) including social workers and psychologists have begun to join missions to accompany supply distribution with essential health and protection services.

Kakhovka response: In the hours after the destruction of the dam on 6 June, UNICEF MMTs and Spilnos were deployed to railway and bus stations in Kherson to deliver humanitarian supplies and provide health check-ups for children, remote legal counselling and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). The Mykolaiv and Odesa train stations also operated as humanitarian hubs, with MMTs and Spilnos providing bottled water, diapers, internet access, charger points, hygiene kits and child protection services to 5,570 visitors (2,528 children). Support was also provided to evacuees in Dnipro, Kirovohrad and Chernivtsi. In the weeks following the destruction, life-saving supplies including bottled water, hygiene kits, jerry cans and water purification tablets have been provided to 30,000 people in Kherson and 71,000 people in Marhanets, Nikopol, Tomakivka and Pokrov in Dnipropetrovsk. Work is also underway with affected water utilities for longer-term solutions (see WASH section).

New arrivals in Sumy: UNICEF MMTs are supporting the emergency needs of the 100 to 200 returnees crossing the border into Sumy Region each day. This area hosts returnees as they transfer back to their original locations, including from non-government-controlled areas of Kherson affected by floods.

Spilno Spot Network: This year, 1.14 million people have visited the currently active 171 Spilno Spots — 677,000 of them being children. Spilno Spots continue to offer a crucial platform to reach children and their caregivers with cross-cutting services and activities such as MHPSS, health, nutrition and safety. For example, 500 edutainment boxes were disseminated across UNICEF Spilno Spots for learning sessions. Each box has different board games, educational materials, and motivational messages that complement lessons on healthy nutrition. During May and June 2023, 528 interactive lessons with 4,692 participants (2,894 girls) were conducted.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition: Across Ukraine, 1,004 attacks on health infrastructure have been verified by WHO,⁷ including 896 impacting facilities. Disruptions in health services have affected two-thirds of children,⁸ especially those in areas impacted by escalating hostilities. Access to vital services, including vaccination, screenings and early identification, has been disrupted, raising concerns about public health. The collapse of the Nova Kakhovka Dam has resulted in further health-related risks, including waterborne diseases, in an area of the country marked with a lack of available health services.

So far this year, 2,697,329 children and women have gained **access to primary health care services** with UNICEF support. This represents 54 per cent of the annual target and was made possible through distribution of medical supplies and equipment to 663 health facilities, or 27 per cent of facilities in the country. UNICEF has also deployed MMTs of doctors, nurses and psychologists who have provided health services to 2,104 girls, 1,912 boys, 10,201 women and 4,714 men in remote and hard-to-reach areas. In response to the Kakhovka Dam emergency, UNICEF, as part of the Health Cluster outbreak prevention and response, provided 2,330 kits of health supplies to support 300,000 children and women.

The **Universal Progressive Home Visiting** model has been launched in Zhytomyr, Kirovohrad, Lviv and Kyiv Regions and Kyiv City. Eighty-eight health facilities are involved, and 312 health workers have been trained. As a result, 2,175 people, including children under 3 years old, primary caregivers and pregnant women have received support and care. A recent survey conducted in Zhytomyr highlighted that 95 per cent of beneficiaries expressed satisfaction with home-visiting nurses, and 97

Figure 1: Interagency convoys 2023

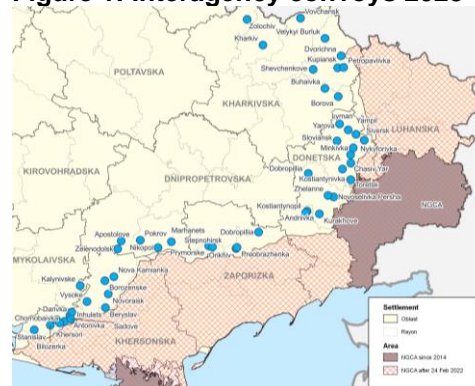
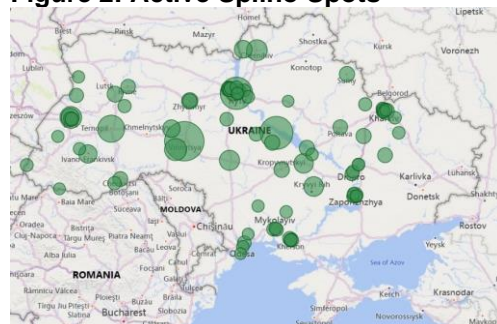


Figure 2: Active Spilno Spots



The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

⁷ WHO, [War in Ukraine: situation report from WHO Ukraine country office. Issue No. 53](#), 31 May 2023

⁸ Ukraine Health Cluster, [Ukraine: Public Health Situation Analysis](#), May 2023.

per cent expressed their desire to continue receiving such services in the future.

UNICEF has delivered 206,701 doses of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), 543,000 doses of oral polio vaccine (OPV), 695,000 doses of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine and 120,000 doses diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine. These vaccines contribute to the **national immunization system**; data on vaccination rates are expected from the national system after the end of the year. Support to the cold chain has included the delivery of 2,068 ice lined refrigerators, 1,034 freezers and 2,066 combined fridge/freezers. As of 30 June, 251,500 children and parents had benefitted from consultations on vaccination, provided by the National Hotline on Vaccination and Infant Feeding 'Jointly to Health' since its launch in July 2022.

So far this year, 866 health care professionals have been equipped with the skills – via online capacity-building sessions – to provide MHPSS services, both to health providers as well as to children and their families. These online educational events on MHPSS, streamed on UNICEF social media channels, reached over 20,000 people. 175 representatives of the Office of the President, the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Health, Social Policy, Education and Science and Veterans Affairs and the National Police received training on communication around MHPSS. Under the banner of 'Helping the Helpers,' 60 health care professionals received MHPSS services through individual and group sessions.

Finally, has so far UNICEF provided supplies to support HIV testing, prevention, monitoring and treatment for 203,000 people. Under the **Global Fund Emergency Grant** UNICEF procured and distributed HIV test kits, condoms, needles, syringes, methadone and buprenorphine as well as 203 generators to ensure the continuation of the services during power shortages. UNICEF also delivered 19 mobile clinics to the Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health to provide HIV, tuberculosis and opioid substitution therapy services and support the treatment of opportunistic infections for women and children in hard-to-reach areas.

Child Protection: Over the past six months, children in Ukraine have faced multiple, overlapping protection risks. Ten million children and their caregivers have been exposed to hostilities along the frontlines; missile strikes in urban areas such as Dnipro and Kyiv; and population movements including internal displacement and returns. The Protection Sector estimates that 15.4 million people (including 7.1 million children)⁹ face risks such as family separation; violence including gender-based violence (GBV); and risks posed by unexploded ordnance, as well as the continued need for MHPSS.



Polina at the Spilno Child Spot at the railway station in Mykolaiv. © UNICEF/Filippov

UNICEF and partners have reached 666,247 children (364,461 girls) and 488,716 caregivers with **MHPSS** so far this year, or 37 per cent of the annual target.¹⁰ Over the past six months, UNICEF has scaled up its MHPSS strategy, programming and reach, together with six national partners. This starts with a first layer of wide-reaching access for children and caregivers to safe spaces, including Spilnos, art therapy and sports workshops and psychological first aid. The second layer includes community support groups, individual consultations, positive parenting sessions, life skills training and training of professionals. At the third and fourth layers, in-depth counselling, psychotherapy and referrals are made available as needed. A key MHPSS modality is the online **PORUCH** platform, through which 150 psychologists have supported 18,631 children, parents, teachers and psychologists. Feedback from surveyed participants include 96 per cent of parents and 91 per cent of children confirming they use the techniques in daily life.

UNICEF has deployed 113 MMTs in 22 regions of Ukraine to provide MHPSS, GBV services and case management as well as to carry out needs assessments, distribute supplies and register families for cash transfers. These teams have

supported 161,115 children (66,678 girls) and 318,978 caregivers in 2023 so far, 20 per cent of whom were in hard-to-access and frontline areas. **Case management** has been provided for 40,340 children, including 10,063 children in alternative care.

The first half of the year also saw 66,729 children (38,200 girls) and 117,223 women reached through **GBV awareness-raising, prevention and/or risk-mitigation** activities. This is 12 per cent of the annual target; due to sensitivity of the intervention and limited capacity of existing partners, additional time was required to develop appropriate response programmes. Support provided so far includes 5,209 dignity kits delivered to women and girls at risk of GBV, including those affected by the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam. Through U-Report, 1,487 comments have been provided on the kits: 93 per cent felt the quality of the items in the kit was very satisfactory and 97 per cent found the items to be both necessary and useful. On 16 June, the first UNICEF-supported safe space for women and girls in Bucha was established; 16 additional spaces are planned to open this year. A range of specialized GBV trainings have been delivered for 267 frontline workers and 64 representatives of 57 CSOs (287 female) on GBV core concepts, safe referrals and GBV risk mitigation during cash interventions.

One of the major challenges in Ukraine is the high number of children living in institutions, particularly those who have been

⁹ OCHA, Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2023.

¹⁰ The need to provide sustained support for children in the east and south is expected to result in a reduction in the annual target for MHPSS during the mid-year review.

evacuated abroad, returned, or displaced within the country. It was estimated that up 91,000 children were living in institutions before February 2022. The availability of alternative family care, such as foster care, family-type care and domestic adoption, remains limited. UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Social Policy and the National Social Services providing consultations, reviews and developing drafts of changes to the primary and secondary legislation for **Better Care**. A Ministerial Study Tour to the United Kingdom was undertaken in the first half of the year with the Minister of Social Policy and Commissioner for Children Rights and their Offices. Meanwhile, at the Ukraine Recovery Conference, a side-event on A Vision for Better Care and Child Protection in Ukraine's Recovery focused on strengthening families and family-based care, including safely reintegrating children in institutions into family care. The event was attended by high-level representatives of the Ukrainian and British Governments as well as UNICEF and the European Commission. The government was able to have a dialogue with key international donors and other stakeholders on what is needed to strengthen the provision of care to Ukraine's children, including the resources required during recovery and beyond.

UNICEF and partners are monitoring the situation of 61,840 children in 39,012 **family-based alternative care** units. In April, the project team completed data collection on 3,210 children placed in 120 institutions under the Ministry of Social Policy while in May the team completed data collection on 2,101 children in 34 baby homes in Ukraine and abroad under a joint monitoring initiative of the Ministry of Health and National Social Services of Ukraine. So far this year, 500 families have been trained for temporary placement or as candidates for family-based alternative care or adoption. As a result of the trainings and advocacy, 280 children have been placed in family-based alternative care since the beginning of the year.

Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AOR) partners have reached 761,664 people, including 427,789 children (218,172 girls, 8,785 children with disabilities) with critical child protection prevention and response services as of May. Among the key services provided are 360,790 people (259,769 children) supported with MHPSS and 24,682 children (12,588 girls, 1,490 children with disabilities) who received case management. The Child Protection AOR has received only 38 per cent of its required funding; ensuring adequate funding remains a critical challenge to sustain and expand Child Protection initiatives.

The Child Protection AOR and its Case Management Working Group have developed inter-agency Operational Guidance for Child Protection Case Management and a Data Protection and Information Sharing Protocol. There are now 200 case workers trained on these approaches, increasing their capacity to handle individual cases, while harmonizing processes and approaches. A three-day training on the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+) reached 224 case workers, managers and coordinators. The system is now live and integrated with a service mapping and referral pathways, providing support for case management. To further facilitate effective implementation of child protection referrals, web-based [Child Protection Referral Pathways](#) system was launched with contacts for 57 organizations, along with 190 mobile teams and 350 referral focal points operating across 25 regions, 93 districts and 812 municipalities in Ukraine.

Education: As of June 2023, 38 per cent of primary and secondary school-aged children (1.5 million) are accessing education online only in Ukraine due to safety concerns or inadequate infrastructure. According to the Ministry of Education and Science, 30 per cent of students (1.2 million) access mixed-modality learning, and only 32 per cent (1.3 million) are in full-time face-to-face learning. This highlights the urgent need for to address the learning gaps of children. UNICEF is assisting in the development of the National Strategy on Inclusive Education and the National Catch-Up Framework and Strategy.

So far this year, UNICEF has facilitated formal and non-formal education, including early learning, for 1,033,358 children, or 86 per cent of the annual target. To support children who access education in online or mixed learning modalities, UNICEF has been promoting **digital education** and supported improvements to the national platform for blended and online learning. The modifications aim to make the platform more sustainable, secure and accessible for users with disabilities. In 2023, 369,711 students have used this platform. UNICEF has also distributed 20,000 digital learning devices to the most vulnerable children in the east and south to ensure they can access online education.

To improve learning environments. UNICEF has successfully **rehabilitated** 15 school shelters supporting 12,500 students and distributed furniture for 20,400 students in 102 schools. The distribution of teaching and learning materials has supported 293,382 children, 59 per cent of the annual target. Safety measures, such as applying anti-shatter film to windows, have been implemented in regions prone to shelling, benefiting 3,040 children across 12 schools. David, a Grade 3 student of Kurisove secondary school in Odesa where an anti-blastic film was introduced and supplies provided to support the reopening of the school, shared: *"I am so happy to be returning to school! It was such a long break, and I missed my friends and teachers greatly. I'm excited to sit in my classroom again and play during the breaks."* Windows, roofs and toilets have also been rehabilitated. The selection of schools for rehabilitation was done in consultation with local authorities and municipalities.

UNICEF has been leading a large-scale campaign on **early childhood education** and empowering preschool teachers in



UNICEF-supported school in Lviv. © UNICEF/Bohun

organizing mixed-modality learning and addressing learning loss through remedial and catch-up learning. So far, 27,500 preschool teachers have been trained while 87,055 children have been attending classes with teachers previously trained by UNICEF and partners. ECD supplies have reached 65,600 children.

A total of 226,791 children have benefitted from **MHPSS** activities across early learning and formal and non-formal education as well as through youth engagement. This is 65 per cent of the annual target; during the mid-year revision, this target is expected to increase to incorporate the newly introduced Sports for Development modality. MHPSS is also provided through 16,464 trained teachers. Faced with a challenge in assessing the training needs of teachers around MHPSS, UNICEF uncovered interesting revelations when conducting focus groups with educators from Kharkiv. It became clear that the teachers had already been through a range of MHPSS trainings and were looking for ways to bridge their remaining knowledge/skills gaps. Subsequently, UNICEF is now putting together a tailored MHPSS training programme specifically for these teachers.

UNICEF is also prioritizing access to education for children with disabilities, with 440 teachers trained on **inclusive education** and assistive technologies. Furthermore, 769 in-service and pre-service physical education teachers were trained on how to plan and arrange inclusive sports sessions. Some 130 specialists from Inclusive Resource Centres¹¹ and specialized centres were trained on assessing the needs of children with disabilities, selecting assistive products and providing developmental sessions. It is expected that over 1,400 children will be supported by these trained professionals. Webinars were conducted for 180 caregivers, providing insights on effective communication, assistive technologies, and fostering an inclusive learning environment for children with disabilities. In non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk, 150 children with disabilities were engaged in inclusive education and life skills, while 301 parents received support on nurturing care and positive parenting.

In 2023, 1,137 young people (886 girls) have joined the UPSHIFT community as part of the **Youth Flagship**, embarking on their own projects to address community issues. There are 58 active UPSHIFT teams in the Zhytomyr, 83 in Kropyvnytskyi and 27 in Lviv. The topics tackled by Upshiffters include road safety, creating spaces for MHPSS and educational activities, sex education, ecological initiatives and fostering communities of young professionals. Overall, 28,053 people (17,393 girls) have benefitted from the interventions spearheaded by UPSHIFT teams.

Four **Youth Centres** in Kropyvnytskyi and 17 centres in Lviv were established to serve as platforms for fostering dialogue between youth and authorities, drive youth-led initiatives and forge new social connections. So far, the centres have supported 48,016 young people with life skills and non-formal education activities. Acting as local hubs, the centres conducted regular visits to municipalities and organized workshops on youth participation, volunteering, anti-bullying and zero waste engaging 1,425 participants. To ensure the sustainability and integration of the Youth Centres, they are being incorporated into the regional budget. Meanwhile, Lviv city has selected UNICEF as its main partner in preparation for holding the European Youth Capital title in 2025.



[Psychology students offer mental health support to Ukrainians.](#) ©Mayorov

U-Report grew by 10,000 new users this year, marking a milestone of 101,588 users in the U-Report chat-bot community. To expand its reach, three U-Points were established as physical spaces where the U-Report community can gather and interact in rural areas. Dedicated U-Report youth advocates have played a crucial role in reaching out to new community members. They have conducted presentations in schools and universities, as well as representing U-Report at various youth events. U-Report was also deployed to support the Kakhovka Dam response: mine risk education and GBV risk education materials were sent out through the chat-bot to over 5,000 users. Programming for adolescents and youth under the Youth Flagship is set for extensive scaling up, including the decentralization of UPSHIFT interventions and setting-up U-Points in different areas of the country – giving adolescents and young people more opportunities to get involved.

The **Education Cluster** has facilitated learning for 858,912 children and teachers, against the annual target of 2,684,000 as of the end of May. Key results include 697,124 children (344,295 girls) who have received education supplies and electronic devices to support their education; 118,553 children (62,121 girls) who have received MHPSS, social-emotional learning and psychosocial first aid; catch-up classes provided for 56,442 children (29,901 girls); and 39,193 teachers and educational personnel (32,028 females) trained. Classrooms or shelters have been rehabilitated which host 44,097 students (22,515 girls), ensuring a safe and conducive learning environment. Temporary learning spaces or digital learning centres have also been established, benefiting 15,347 children (7,781 girls).

WASH: Since the beginning of the year, there has been increasing damage to critical infrastructure in Ukraine, including the destruction of the Karlivka Dam in Donetsk and the Kakhovka Dam in Kherson in June 2023, resulting in a rapidly evolving humanitarian and environmental crisis that will have long-lasting effects¹². At the same time, repeated attacks, budget cuts and

¹¹ An Inclusive Resource Centre is an educational facility that is established to provide diagnostics, rehabilitation and developmental support to children with special educational needs. There are around 660 IRCs across Ukraine.

¹² The destruction of the Kakhovka Dam affects over 700,000 people depending on the dam and its reservoir for access to safe water; at least 16,000

massive income losses – especially in cities on the frontlines – have considerably weakened WASH services, intensifying the risk of water and sanitation systems collapsing.

So far this year, UNICEF has ensured **access to safe water** for 3,023,444 people, or 53 per cent of the annual target, through technical assistance to water utilities, rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure and provision of equipment and chemicals for water treatment. In addition, 825,252 people have been reached with supplies including hygiene kits, water purification tablets and water tanks as well as through water trucking and bottled water distribution for vulnerable communities and key institutions such as collective centres, hospitals and schools. This is 33 per cent of the target for 2023.¹³

The first half of 2023 saw UNICEF sign and start the implementation of seven cooperation agreements with water utilities to improve **access to water** for populations residing in the most affected areas: Kherson (Kherson Region); Kharkiv, Balaklia and Izyum (Kharkiv Region); Voda Donbasu (Donetsk Region); and Zaporizhzhia Region. The main support provided to water utilities includes water treatment supplies and the rehabilitation of water and sanitation networks damaged by the war. These projects cover approximately 3,000,000 people. Technical assessments of eight additional utilities took place, to inform similar cooperation frameworks. This includes Zaporizhzhia City (Zaporizhzhia Region); Lozova (Kharkiv Region); and Kramatorsk (Donetsk Region) as well as fast-tracked agreements for Marhanets and Nikopol (Dnipropetrovsk Region) considering the impact of the destruction of Kakhovka Dam on their water resources, as well as Lviv, Chernihiv and Zhytomyr.

UNICEF is mobilizing its NGO partner The Tenth of April to repair facilities and distribute supplies, including in areas of Kherson affected by the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam. Seven additional partnerships with NGOs have been developed for integrated WASH interventions. UNICEF is also now equipped with long-term agreements for pipes, fittings, valves, welding/pumping equipment, reagents for water treatment and bottled water. This will enable UNICEF to more rapidly intervene and be prepared to respond to the consequences of eventual emergencies like the Kakhovka Dam destruction.

Efforts by **WASH Cluster** partners to support the restoration and maintenance of services in de-occupied areas have continued throughout the first half of 2023. Partners have reached 5.76 million people, including an estimated 1.15 million children, as of May 2023.¹⁴ This includes 4.48 million people supported through repairs to water systems (79 per cent of the annual target); 515,711 people reached with emergency water supply (24 per cent of annual target); 616,221 people provided with WASH supplies (37 per cent of annual target) and 616,829 people benefitting from district heating support and repairs (56 per cent of annual target). With reinforced coordination teams, in addition to the technical cell within the Cluster, the WASH Cluster has been tracking and developing technical solutions related to the Kakhovka Reservoir drawdown since early 2023 (given the damages in December 2022) and was well placed to respond when the dam was destroyed, for which the WASH response continues, including to water scarcity in settlements around the reservoir.

Technical working groups within the Cluster have consolidated lessons from 2022 and developed materials on topics of concern in early 2023: guidelines related to supporting district heating; the development and roll out of a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear training package for water service providers; and a training on Gender and Inclusion in WASH in addition to refinements to and development of other technical guidelines and resources. The technical cell has organized workshops with affected water utilities and WASH partners in Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv, Kherson and Mykolaiv, and provides day-to-day coordination and technical support in priority regions.

Social Protection: The poverty rate in Ukraine increased from 5.5 per cent in 2021 to 24.1 per cent in 2022 when measured against the global poverty line (US\$6.85 per person per day), pushing an additional 7.1 million people into poverty and reversing 15 years of economic progress.¹⁵ Using the national definition, household poverty is forecasted to have increased from 39 per cent in 2021 to 60 per cent in 2022 while the number of households with children living in poverty is has increased from 43 per cent to 65 per cent. Families with three or more children are forecasted to have been disproportionately affected, with 85 per cent of such families now living in poverty.¹⁶

UNICEF provides **multipurpose cash assistance** to vulnerable households with children to help meet their basic needs. Each household receives a one-time payment covering three months. This assistance has reached 41,252 households this year, supporting 153,045 people, including 81,803 children (39,020 girls). The programme has focused on households with children in newly accessible and frontline areas. As part of the Kakhovka Dam response, UNICEF provided immediate emergency cash assistance to 1,057 directly affected households (3,360 individuals) within days, families who had been supported under the multipurpose cash assistance programme. The total reach also includes 9,000 households with children with disabilities. These families registered on 'eDopomoga' a government platform where those affected by the conflict can apply for assistance, emphasizing the complementarity of humanitarian cash transfers with the national social protection system. UNICEF has been facilitating engagement with the government and the key humanitarian actors in Ukraine to improve eDopomoga and multi-

settlements in surrounding communities have been, or will be, affected. Flooding exacerbated the vulnerabilities of over 200,000 people living in downstream communities impacted, destroying homes, displacing populations, and placing additional pressure on essential WASH service provision.

¹³ Supplies have been released to cover 1.5 million people, however, detailed reporting on the beneficiaries of these supplies is on-going.

¹⁴ Includes activities funded outside of the Humanitarian Response Plan but which contribute to sectoral objectives, including in tertiary priority regions.

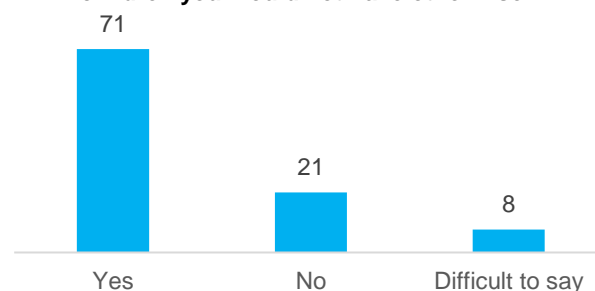
¹⁵ World Bank (2023). "Ukraine Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment: February 2022 - February 2023".

¹⁶ UNICEF (forthcoming). "Child Poverty: Impact of the War on the Situation of Households with Children".

stakeholder collaboration around it.

A **post-distribution monitoring survey** of families which received cash transfers in newly accessible areas was conducted in April 2023. The findings showed that the assistance allowed 71 per cent of the households to access goods and services for their children that they otherwise would not have been able to access. The most common uses for the cash assistance were food (74 per cent), clothing (58 per cent) and utilities (52 per cent). Ninety-four per cent of families reported using at least part of the cash on expenditures related to their children, mainly on food (71 per cent) and clothes and shoes (68 per cent). While 81 per cent of the households reported that they were able to meet at least half of their basic needs during the previous month, only 48 per cent indicated that their household had enough money to cover their basic needs for the following month, highlighting the continued need for cash assistance to households with children in need.

Figure 3: Did the cash assistance allow you to access goods or services for your children you would not have otherwise?



UNICEF works with the Government of Ukraine to strengthen the **national social protection system**. Through its leading position in the 'Perekhid' Initiative, UNICEF, in collaboration with key partners, is supporting the Ministry of Social Policy in the transition from the large-scale provision of humanitarian cash transfers to a shock-responsive, inclusive national social protection system. UNICEF is also investing in the government's capacity to implement and reform social protection at the national and local levels, including through the establishment and staffing of the Reform Office, backing its digital initiatives to reform and modernize social protection delivery systems, and helping to convene humanitarian and development partners to support social protection reform through the National Recovery Plan.

UNICEF has a 79 per cent funding gap for its Social Protection interventions. UNICEF had aimed to support 200,000 households and 60,000 children in foster families and family-type children's homes with cash assistance in 2023. However, a lack of available funding has meant that UNICEF has had to prioritize the inclusion of groups most in need in its humanitarian cash transfer programme, such as households with children in newly accessible areas and frontline areas. UNICEF will continue to fundraise for the second half of 2023, so that children and families in need can receive the support that they need, both in terms of humanitarian cash transfers and access to assistance and services through the national social protection system.

Influencing Social Behaviour: During the reporting period, UNICEF reached 6,936,612 people with messages (58 per cent of annual target), engaged 865,760 people in actions for social and behaviour change (173 per cent of annual target¹⁷) and motivated 120,727 people to share their concerns and ask questions through established feedback mechanisms (24 per cent of annual target). In June 2023, UNICEF launched a new unified Feedback Hotline "Скажи, як є" ("Tell us how it is"), designed for the beneficiaries of supplies, programmes and services. This is an important step towards further strengthening the results under the Accountability to Affected People agenda, including prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Disaster risk reduction: Two critical behaviour change communication campaigns have been rolled out with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU). The winter campaign focused on safety at home during power shortages and reached over 6 million people from December 2022 to March 2023. It ran on TV and radio, and was promoted through social media, including in collaboration with influencers. In June, a new campaign to promote safe summer holiday behaviours amongst adolescents was launched, including an emphasis on preventing both drowning and wildfires. The campaign also focuses on newly accessible areas highly contaminated by explosive remnants of war. It is being run using radio, outdoor, indoor and social media and print handouts, and has reached 5 million beneficiaries to date.

Explosive ordnance risk education (EORE): Since the beginning of the year, 568,465 children and 266,621 caregivers participated in EORE sessions in educational facilities, Spilnos and communities, and through mobile teams and SESU. Mass communication on mine safety (posters, TV, radio and social media) has reached 6,936,612 people. This was supported by 110 regional communication and press service specialists from SESU trained on digital content to effectively communicate life-saving information and 3,015 educators, social workers and frontline workers trained on the UNICEF edutainment approach. On Mine Awareness Day, UNICEF put the spotlight firmly on mine safety with a massive nationwide radio broadcast featuring the renowned demining canine Patron, carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science, State Emergency Service, and National Mine Action Centre. Following the Kakhovka Dam destruction,

Figure 4: EORE awareness starring famous demining dog Patron



¹⁷ Target to be revised; over-reach due to urgent life-saving safety campaigns with SESU.

UNICEF and the Ministry of Interior and State Emergency Service rolled out behaviour change communication on the risks of floating mines, reaching 30,000 people daily.

ECD: A national campaign supporting early development, preschool education and returning children to kindergartens has reached over 6 million people. The NUMO platform has provided digital ECD content for more than 1.3 million parents and caregivers, including preschool teachers, NGOs and Spilno Spots, with a variety of educational materials and content to support alternative learning for children aged 3 to 6 years old while kindergartens have been closed.

Health: From late 2022 through 2023, demand was generated for vaccination through the 'Protect Your Close Ones' campaign, which reached over 12 million people. Following the Kakhovka Dam disaster, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health pushed immediate behaviour change content on safe water and positive practices. A set of infographics was published, including by the largest Telegram channels, and was seen by 1.1 million people. A special content package on preventing waterborne diseases, infection control, and safe practices during floods and evacuations was developed together with the Communication Centre of the Ministry of Health and 250,000 copies disseminated in affected areas.

Supply and Logistics: UNICEF has placed US\$43.7 million worth of purchase orders to buy life-saving supplies in 2023. So far, US\$86.3 million worth of supplies have been received in Ukraine, US\$68.6 million of supplies have been dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US\$21 million of supplies were delivered directly to implementing partners in 2023; this is higher than the US\$64 million worth of supplies dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US\$8.7 million delivered directly to partners in 2022. The total value of supplies currently in pipeline is US\$29.2 million.

External Media: To ensure continuous coverage of the impact of the war on children in Ukraine and visibility for UNICEF's response, UNICEF produced 166 content pieces and leveraged global key moments in the first half of 2023 such as the International Day for Education (January), one-year mark of the escalation of the war (February), Goodwill Ambassador Orlando Bloom's visit (March), Mine Action Awareness Day and World Immunization Week (both in April), and International Children's Day (June). Advocacy for UNICEF's recovery priorities has been supported by content highlighting children's voices and special media projects on Better Care in [ELLE](#) and [NV.ua](#); UPSHIFT features, U-Report poll insights and Advisory Board application promotions for Youth; and coverage of programme activities that promote the importance of ECD. Two special media projects on [health](#) and [mine awareness](#) were made with gazeta.ua.

UNICEF Ukraine also worked with internal and external partners to include key messages calling for continued support for children in Ukraine in high-level advocacy moments like the [Ukraine Recovery Conference](#) and [High-Level Meeting on Child Protection hosted by the Swedish Presidency of the EU Council](#). Since the start of 2023, UNICEF Ukraine has responded to 141 local and international media requests, including 20 interview requests in the immediate aftermath of the Kakhovka Dam destruction. Seventy-five pieces on the impact of the Kakhovka Dam emergency, UNICEF's response and life-saving messages for affected populations have been published in [local media](#) and on digital channels, with 5.2 million social media impressions.

Human Interest Stories



[Drone helps family from flooded island to survive](#)



[UNICEF mobile teams reach families in need](#)



[Six-year-old whose parents died in shelling finds new family](#)



[Health facilities in Odeska receive over 350 vaccine refrigerators and freezers](#)

Annex A: Programme Results (January to June 2023)

Sector		UNICEF and IPs Response		
		2023 target	Total results	Change
Health (14,600,000 people in need)				
Number of children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities and through mobile teams ¹⁸		5,000,000	2,697,329	481,912
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles		257,340	- ¹⁹	-
Number of primary caregivers of children 0–23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling		300,000	73,837 ²⁰	72,834
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA (3,400,000 people in need - Child Protection)				
Number of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	3,100,000	1,154,963	209,376
	Girls		364,461	63,466
	Boys		301,786	50,033
	Women		377,739	72,283
	Men		110,977	23,594
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions		1,550,000	183,952 ²¹	26,615
Number of children who have received individual case management	Total	124,000	40,340 ²²	6,765
	Girls		19,652	3,207
	Boys		20,688	3,558
Number of children, young people and caregivers accessing explosive ordnance risk education and received information on preventive practices		10,000,000	6,936,612	-
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers		1,700,000	357,053 ²³	-
Education (5,300,000 people in need)				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	1,200,000	1,033,358	650,591 ²⁴
	Girls		509,093	319,963
	Boys		524,265	330,628
Number of girls and boys benefiting from supplied education, early child and recreation kits or learning		500,000	293,382	7,972
Number of children accessing psychosocial support, social and emotional learning, or life skills education		350,000 ²⁵	226,791	37,285
Number of teachers and educational personnel trained to address learning loss through remedial and catch-up learning		30,000	28,372	720
WASH (11,000,000 people in need)				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs		5,700,000	3,023,444	154,000
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies		2,500,000	825,252 ²⁶	224,829
Social Protection				
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers		200,000	41,252	1,994
Number of children in foster families and family-type children's homes assisted with multipurpose humanitarian cash transfers		60,000	- ²⁷	-

¹⁸ This result is calculated based on the delivery of supplies from UNICEF to implementing partners.

¹⁹ Vaccination data is published by the Ministry of Health at mid and end year.

²⁰ Based on new reporting of caregivers reached through the Universal Progressive Home Visiting model and national hotline.

²¹ Due to the sensitivity of this intervention and limited capacity of partners, additional time was required to develop appropriate response programmes.

²² Constrained due to changing focus from rapid humanitarian case management (mainly referrals to specialized services) to more in-depth and longer-term case management under Better Care programme (return, reintegration, tracing, reunification of child)

²³ Reporting pathways continue to be developed across programme sections; this indicator is expected to increase in the second half of the year.

²⁴ Increase based on the operationalization of a partnership to support the platform for online education as well as the distribution of 452 kits to help reopen school shelters, a pre-requisite to reopening of any school.

²⁵ Target to be reviewed at mid-year considering the capacity of partners to roll out additional training and reach additional children.

²⁶ Supplies have been released to cover 1.5 million people, however, detailed reporting on the beneficiaries of these supplies is on-going.

²⁷ UNICEF has an 84 per cent funding gap for its Social Protection in 2023. A lack of available funding has meant that UNICEF has had to prioritize the inclusion of groups most in need, such as households with children in newly accessible areas and frontline areas.

Influencing Social Behaviour				
Number of people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services		12,000,000	6,936,612	-
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/ clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms		500,000	120,727	9,749
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		500,000 ²⁸	865,760	65,113

Annex B: Funding Status as of 30 June 2023

With humanitarian needs still acute, the UNICEF HAC appeal reflects resource requirements under Pillar 1 to reach vulnerable children and families in Ukraine with essential services and life-saving supplies. Continued, flexible contributions mean that UNICEF and partners can act quickly and respond strategically to where the needs are greatest.

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Resources received (current year)	Carry-over	US\$	%
Health and Nutrition	104,000,000	16,422,113	29,134,589	58,443,298	56%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	111,010,000	36,986,837	20,092,284	53,930,879	49%
Education	100,000,000	27,104,161	33,931,587	38,964,252	39%
WASH	145,000,000	44,772,049	34,152,841	66,075,110	46%
Social Protection	369,230,400	25,875,548	51,247,615	292,107,236	79%
Total	829,240,400	151,160,708	168,558,916	509,520,775	61%

Next monthly SitRep: August 2023

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²⁸ Target to be reviewed during the mid-year review process.