The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to coordinate the global emergency response to save lives and protect people in humanitarian crises. We advocate for effective and principled humanitarian action by all, for all.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- After more than two weeks of intense fighting, civilian casualties continue to mount across the country. Between 4 a.m. on 24 February and midnight on 9 March, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) reports at least 1,506 civilian casualties, including 549 killed.

- On 9 March, the maternity and children’s wards of a prenatal hospital in the centre of Mariupol were destroyed in an attack. Less than a kilometre away, explosions later that day damaged a university and city council building in the city, adding to the scores of homes, grocery stores and other critical infrastructure damaged or destroyed. The civilian toll has yet to be confirmed.

- On 9 March, Ukraine’s state-run nuclear company Energoatom announced that all nuclear facilities in the Chornobyl exclusion zone were without power, warning of a possible nuclear discharge. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) later reported that there has not been any critical impact to the safety of Chornobyl, adding that the plant’s fuel storage pool and volume of cooling water remain sufficient to effectively remove heat without electricity.

- Since 24 February, an estimated 4.2 million people have been forcibly displaced during the Ukraine crisis. This includes 2.3 million refugees who have fled to other countries, as reported by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and an estimated 1.85 million people internally displaced, according to the Ukraine Protection Cluster. The Protection Cluster further reports that the largest locations of internally displaced people (IDP) are in Zakarpatska (500,600), Lvivska (386,900) and Volynska (169,500) oblasts in the west and north-west of the country. The displaced populations – mainly women, children and older persons – face significant protection risks and require urgent multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance that is tailored to their specific needs.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has confirmed at least 24 attacks on health facilities, health workers and ambulances, killing at least 12 people and injuring 17 more. Amid harsh winter temperatures, WHO says that displaced people face growing risks of hypothermia, frostbite, respiratory diseases and mental health issues, adding that the current conditions on the ground are ripe for the growth and spread of infectious diseases.

- International humanitarian organizations continue to rapidly scale up their response activities against the ever-growing scope and scale of needs across Ukraine. Still, access and security constraints prevent humanitarian organizations from reaching those most affected, with local authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society actors better positioned to respond to people in need quickly and effectively. However, these organizations need safe and predictable windows of silence and safe passage in and out of affected communities, along with access to streamlined additional funding, to sustain and expand life-saving response activities.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

After more than two weeks of intense fighting, civilian casualties continue to mount across the country. Between 4 a.m. on 24 February and midnight on 9 March, OHCHR reports at least 1,506 civilian casualties, including 549 killed. OHCHR also reports 608 casualties in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts (99 killed and 370 injured in Government-controlled areas, GCA, and 24 killed and 115 injured in non-Government-controlled areas, NGCA) and 898 civilian casualties in other regions of Ukraine.

The actual number of civilian casualties across Ukraine is likely much higher, as reports in some locations experiencing intense fighting in recent days are still pending corroboration. In Mariupol (Donetska oblast, east) alone, local authorities claim that around 1,300 civilians have been killed since the military offensive began on 24 February.

On 9 March, a 12-hour ceasefire agreed to by both sides of the conflict largely failed to facilitate the wide-scale evacuation of people trapped in dire conditions across Ukraine. While evacuations did get underway in five of the six cities agreed to for the safe passage of civilians,2 including Enerhodar (Zaporizka oblast, south) and Sumy (Sumkska oblast, north-east), there was limited movement of people out of the worst-affected areas, like Mariupol (Donetska oblast, east) and the satellite towns of Kyiv (north).

2 Enerhodar to Zaporizhzhia (Zaporizka oblast, south-east); Mariupol (Donetska oblast) to Zaporizhzhia (Zaporizka oblast, south-east); Volnovakha (Donetska oblast) to Pokrovsk (Donetska oblast); Izium to Lozova (Kharkivska oblast, south-west); Sumy to Poltava (Poltavska oblast, central Ukraine); and Kyiv oblast (Boryspilanska, Bucha, Hostomel, Irpin, Vorzel) to the city of Kyiv through Stolanka and Bilhorodka.
In Bucha – a city of nearly 37,000 people north of Kyiv – forces reportedly blocked the evacuation of people through an agreed safe passage route as some 50 buses attempted to evacuate conflict-affected people. In Izyum – home to around 46,600 people in Kharkivska oblast (east) – local authorities reported that the safe evacuation of civilians could not be carried out as hostilities continued unabated.

Nevertheless, national authorities report that more than 51,500 people were successfully evacuated between 8 and 9 March, mainly from the cities of Sumy and Enerhodar. The Russian Federation reports that it has so far evacuated around 187,000 people from Ukraine towards Russia.

The delay of civilian evacuations from the conflict-ravaged city of Mariupol has left hundreds of thousands of people trapped in a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis. On 9 March, attacks on civilian infrastructure in the already-devastated city escalated. Attacks reportedly destroyed the maternity and children’s wards of a hospital in the centre of Mariupol. The civilian toll has yet to be confirmed.

Less than a kilometre away, explosions later that day damaged a university and city council building in Mariupol, adding to the scores of homes, grocery stores and other critical infrastructure damaged or destroyed amid the ongoing military encirclement of the city. For nearly two weeks, the affected population has remained without safe water, electricity, and access to the most basic supplies, like food and essential medicines, that are in desperately short supply.

Fighting in Kyivska oblast continues to flare up in new localities, while others have been under continued attack almost since the beginning of intensified hostilities over two weeks ago. In Nemishaieve – a small town of around 7,800 people – residents have reportedly been sheltering in their homes amid relentless shelling that has left the town without water, electricity and heat since 28 February. As of 9 March, the town is without gas supply as well, further exacerbating already dire conditions.

On 9 March, the announcement of Ukraine’s state-run nuclear company Energoatom that all nuclear facilities in the Chornobyl exclusion zone were without power, possibly triggering nuclear discharge, served as an ominous reminder of the potentially catastrophic public health and environmental impacts of the ongoing conflict. Fortunately, IAEA reported that there has not been any critical impact to the safety of Chornobyl, adding that the plant’s fuel storage pool and volume of cooling water remain sufficient to effectively remove heat without electricity.

Between 24 February and 8 March, WHO confirmed at least 24 attacks on health facilities, killing at least 12 people and injuring 17 more. Amid harsh winter temperatures, WHO says that displaced people face growing risks of hypothermia, frostbite, respiratory diseases and mental health issues, adding that the current conditions on the ground are ripe for the growth and spread of infectious diseases. Amid the ongoing military offensive, WHO has delivered around 81 tons of medical supplies to Ukraine and surrounding countries and is establishing a pipeline to ensure that much-needed relief support reaches health facilities and affected people in the hardest-hit areas.

International humanitarian organizations continue to rapidly scale up their response activities to match the ever-growing scope and scale of needs across Ukraine. The Ukrainian Red Cross has already delivered around 400 tons of humanitarian aid to affected people, including food, hygiene kits, medicines, blankets and tents. Still, access and security constraints prevent humanitarian organizations from reaching those most affected, with local authorities, non-governmental organizations and civil society actors better positioned to quickly and effectively respond to people in need. However, these organizations need safe and predictable windows of silence and safe passage in and out of affected communities, along with access to streamlined additional funding, to sustain and expand life-saving response activities as soon as possible.

GENERAL COORDINATION

- The Government of Ukraine has set up a Coordination Centre for Humanitarian and Social Affairs to coordinate the response of NGOs and international humanitarian organizations. The Cabinet of Ministers will facilitate relations with diplomatic missions, international organizations and donors to ensure the coordinated delivery of humanitarian assistance to Ukraine.

- The humanitarian community in-country continues to coordinate response activities through already-established and well-functioning country-level coordination mechanisms. OCHA, on behalf of the UN Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator and recently appointed Crisis Coordinator, is facilitating inter-cluster coordination through the Humanitarian Country Team.

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Since 24 February, the Logistics, Emergency Telecommunications, and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters have been activated in Ukraine, adding to the six clusters and three sub-clusters and working groups already activated in the country. The activation of these clusters will help streamline coordinated response efforts as UN agencies and humanitarian partners aim to rapidly scale-up response activities in an extremely challenging response environment.

At the cluster level, UN agencies and humanitarian partners are establishing inter-agency working groups to ensure a coherent response to sector-based needs, capitalizing on synergies across response activities and limiting duplication. To ensure a well-coordinated and effective humanitarian response, OCHA is rolling out its time-tested Who does What, Where (3W) response tracking and monitoring tool to help partners identify potential synergies and close response gaps.

In an increasingly complex response environment, systematic windows of silence and safe passage in and out of affected areas are urgently needed to facilitate the evacuation of civilians and to reach those hardest hit by the ongoing conflict. Additionally, the implementation and monitoring of safe passage for the quick and secure transportation of humanitarian cargo and convoys will be essential to an effective response.

To this end, OCHA and the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) have established an inter-agency operations cell, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator and the recently appointed Crisis Coordinator, to facilitate the safe passage of humanitarian personnel and goods delivered by the humanitarian community into the hardest-hit areas.

RESPONSE

Multi-sectoral response

On 8 March, the Prime Minister informed that 3,000 trucks carrying 20,000 tons of humanitarian aid arrived in Ukraine. Moreover, 12 wagons and seven trucks of humanitarian aid supplies arrived in Kharkiv.

The Russian Federation reports that it has delivered more than 1,420 tons of humanitarian cargo, including first aid kits, essential goods, medicines and food, to Chernihiv, Donetsk (NGCA), Luhansk (NGCA), Kyiv, Kharkiv, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia since the escalation of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. This includes a reported delivery of around 35 tons of assistance to Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia on 10 March.

According to the spokesperson of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, humanitarian assistance worth $791,000 was sent to the Ukrainian Red Cross on 9 March.

The Turkish Red Crescent Society set up a logistic centre for humanitarian aid in Chernivetska oblast and will continue delivering humanitarian supplies to the centre. So far, 13 trucks were reportedly sent to Ukraine. Supplies are distributed by train with the support of the Ukrainian Red Cross. The support includes shelter equipment, mobile soup kitchens, medicines, baby food and hygiene items.

Education

According to the Education Cluster, following the closure of schools countrywide due to ongoing hostilities, access to education has been impacted for around 5.7 million children and adolescents between 3 and 17 years of age.

According to the Ministry of Education and Science, as of 8 March, more than 240 educational facilities have been damaged or destroyed, although this figure has yet to be verified. The number of children with no access to education is now estimated to be well over 500,000.

Teachers, education personnel, same as caregivers and students are in need of acquiring coping strategies and tools to allow for the continuation of education. There is a need to deliver training, targeting teachers, volunteers and administrative staff, on life skills, emotional support, conflict resolution, non-violent communication, as well as psychosocial support.
Ongoing response:

- Eight additional partners in child protection and education have been identified, and efforts are ongoing to scale up the response in case management, psychosocial support for children and families and to provide psychosocial first aid training to teachers.

- Thirteen mobile teams are providing psychosocial care to children and caregivers in GCA, as well as case management support for the most vulnerable families with children, including those at risk of gender-based violence (GBV).

- Psychosocial support and other protection services are currently being provided online from basements until the security situation allows face-to-face service provision. An additional five teams composed of psychologists, health and/or social workers providing first aid and psychological support in affected areas are currently being supported by partners.

- In coordination with the Ministry of Social Policy and State Social Service, hromadas and other partners, UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is supporting training on emergency preparedness, case management for vulnerable children and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), targeting social workers and staff of various institutions for children (e.g., baby homes, child-care institutions, family type institutions, detention facilities for children in conflict with the law).

- There are ongoing efforts to provide learning opportunities, including by private entities. Since these efforts are undertaken on a private basis, there is reportedly no official quality control.

Planned response:

- Education Cluster partners are working on prepositioning educational materials in warehouses in Kyiv for further dissemination once the situation allows.

- UNICEF is exploring the possibility of replicating the success of the ‘Blue Dot’ child-friendly spaces to provide critical support to children and families on the move. These spaces are being established along anticipated routes of major migration flows in coordination with local municipalities where feasible.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Most of the response efforts within the sector are constrained by the ongoing military activities, permitting only limited provision of humanitarian assistance and protection services to affected students and their caregivers, teachers and other education personnel.

- Ongoing hostilities have affected the well-being of about 580,000 teachers and education personnel across Ukraine, many of whom are feared to have fled the country. This will increase shortages of teaching personnel, especially in already hard-hit eastern parts of the country, from where many have already moved away in search of safety prior to the recent escalation in conflict.

Food Security and Livelihoods (FSLC)

Needs:

- Food items are urgently needed, especially for those most vulnerable on the move or displaced and trapped in cities experiencing active hostilities whose access to markets has been cut off, and supplies are running short as supply chains grind to a halt.

Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:

- Caritas continues to work in more than 20 locations and provide wet-food and in-kind food kits to people in need. Food kits have been created in the western parts of the country, such as Chernivtsi, Kolomyia (Ivano-Frankivska oblast) and Lviv, and transferred to the most affected locations (i.e., Kyiv, Chernihiv and Zaporizhzhia).

- As of 9 March, almost 8,000 in-kind food kits have been distributed in Boryslav (Lvivska oblast), Chernivtsi (Chernivetska oblast), Drohobych (Lvivska oblast), Ivano-Frankivsk (Ivano-Frankivska oblast), Kyiv, Novovolynsk (Volynska oblast)
and Poltava (Poltavska oblast), and almost 1,000 people have received wet food daily in Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kolomyia and Lviv.

• INGO Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH) has opened a coordination office in Lviv. The deliveries of hygiene and food from Poland are expected to reach four lorry trucks a day supply level. PAH has a 5,000 m2 warehouse in Lviv and 1,000 m2 in Kyiv and has reliable partners with warehouses in Dnipro (central part of Ukraine), Zaporizhzhia (southeast), Kharkiv and Donetsk (east). Relief items have been already shipped to Kyiv and Zaporizhzhia.

• Most of PAH 89 social workers and 15 psychologists continue working in eastern Ukraine to support the most vulnerable. Three out of 12 PAH community centres along the “contact line” are now reportedly in areas no longer controlled by the Government of Ukraine. PAH coordinated with NGCA entities and received a verbal agreement to work in NGCA areas.

**Planned response:**

• World Food Programme (WFP) is sourcing and shipping large quantities of mixed food commodities to neighbouring countries for onward delivery to the areas of Ukraine where access to food has been most affected.

• The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) plans to roll out cash+ — an assistance modality that combines unconditional, multi-purpose cash transfers with agricultural input support – to help affected households meet their basic needs while producing their own food and sustaining their productive assets.

• FAO plans to provide fodder and feed to protect livestock assets and mitigate the use of negative coping strategies, as well as short-cycle vegetable seeds to improve food and nutrition security while providing income-generating opportunities through the sale of surplus production.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

• While FSLC partners have access to money, there is no possibility to purchase large amounts of goods for further distribution.

• FSLC is working on assessing partners’ capacities and mapping partners’ presence across Ukraine.

**Health and Nutrition Needs:**

• Continuation of critical health services, including for people with long-term medication needs for the treatment of conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, as well as patients with cancer due to interruption of medical supply lines.

• Replenished oxygen reserves are desperately needed across hospitals in Ukraine, whose reserves are running low. Trauma and surgical supplies, essential medicines as well as backup generators and fuel for health-care facilities are needed.

• Continuation of immunization campaigns that have been disrupted by ongoing hostilities, including for Polio, measles and COVID-19, remains critical. There is an urgent need to restart or continue preventative measures through vaccination and continued treatment of tuberculosis and HIV, alongside scaled-up surveillance, early detection and response systems for epidemic-prone diseases.

• To help cope with this emergency, the conflict-affected population is also in urgent need of mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS). Exacerbation of chronic mental health problems and high levels of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety are likely among the affected population.

• According to the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), at the start of the crisis, there were around 265,000 pregnant women in Ukraine, some 80,000 of whom are expected to deliver over the coming three months. Perinatal and maternal hospitals in some oblasts have been severely damaged and are no longer operational, affecting access to these critical services for women. Sexual and reproductive health services must continue to be accessible and scaled-up.
Life-saving medicines (e.g., antiepileptics and insulin) and evacuation assistance are urgently needed. Vulnerable groups and their families, including the more than 2.7 million people living with disabilities – 164,000 of whom are children – and around two million people living with rare diseases in Ukraine.

Several hospitals have requested breast milk substitutes due to growing shortages. Feeding with breast milk substitutes is not affordable or sustainable for most low- and middle-income families, and there are health risks associated with the use of water to reconstitute powdered and concentrated formula, potentially resulting in increased infant morbidity and mortality. WHO is in contact with providers to supply the hospitals in need, with every item delivered being cleared by WHO Ukraine Country Office's clinical management team.

### Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:

- The Global Health Cluster has published a special issue report on the Health Cluster response activities.
- On 9 March, a hotline for patients was reportedly set up in Kyiv Oncology Centre. The Centre continues to provide assistance in the form of outpatient chemotherapy and palliative care.
- The first meeting of the MHPSS Technical Working Group (TWG) since the escalation was held on 10 March. Meeting minutes will be made available on the Health Cluster website. Please contact the working group if you are interested in joining: mhpss.twg.ukraine@gmail.com.
- The Health Cluster is launching several new technical working groups (TWGs), including on Communicable Diseases. Please send expressions of interest to Dr. Vusala Allahverdiyeva at allahverdiyevav@who.int.
- The Health Cluster’s MHPSS working group maintains online maps of MHPSS and prevention of GBV services and a list of hotlines available in Ukraine.
- Via the humanitarian corridor Enerhodar-Zaporizhzhia, insulin, other medical supplies and dry products were planned to be delivered to Enerhodar on 9 March. At the time of writing, it remains unclear whether the delivery of humanitarian assistance took place, considering the volatile security situation.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- According to the Health Cluster, there are significant access barriers due to active hostilities, martial law (curfew), limited access to medicine (availability, access to pharmacies, cost) and health-care facilities (distance, damage to roads, transportation, fuel shortages, restricted movement through civilian checkpoints controlled by military, etc.). Many isolated settlements do not have pharmacies or medical centres.
- The current exponential increase in health needs will place greater pressure on a health system already strained by the COVID-19 pandemic, suffering from a lack of maintenance and aging medical equipment, shortages of medicines and medical supplies, understaffing, and disruptions to management due to recent health reforms and decentralization.
- The supply chains for medicines, medical supplies, and common goods have been disrupted in Ukraine, creating urgent needs. Many distributors are not operational, and many governments and humanitarian stockpiles are inaccessible due to ongoing military operations. Life-saving and essential medicines, such as oxygen and insulin, personal protective equipment, surgical supplies, anaesthetics, and safe blood products, are reported in short supply. WHO has been working with partners to resolve some of these shortages.

### Protection

#### Needs:

- Protection monitoring and partner monitoring in collective and transit centres established by the authorities in Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Vinnytsia; the need for individual counselling; information on accommodation and transit collective centres in other cities; information on asylum, and information on obtaining compensation for damaged and destroyed houses.
- Scaled-up capacities at reception centres for displaced people are needed. Humanitarian needs at border areas with neighbouring countries include food assistance; access to transportation; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities; legal assistance; protection services and mental health support; and access to medicines, emergency health care and education.

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**Protection**

**Needs:**

1.85M

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• GBV actors report that while specialized services, including GBV hotlines, remain partially functional, access is extremely limited for both staff and survivors due to the ongoing hostilities and movement restrictions. Persistent challenges in accessing basic goods and services and lack of access to safe shelter leave women and girls extremely vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and violence.

• Fair treatment and protection for third-party nationals (Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Nigeria and Zimbabwe, among others) fleeing the crisis are required. States must investigate reported discrimination and mistreatment and ensure that displaced people have access to adequate protection services.

• With reports of increased unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination, mine risk education and mine victim assistance are critical as explosive ordnance contamination remains a significant source of threat to life, safety, and stability.

**Ongoing & planned response:**

• The Protection Cluster in Ukraine launched a Protection Monitoring Emergency Tool 72h after the start of the emergency. It was developed jointly with Protection Cluster partners as part of the preparedness measures. It consists of a simple Kobo questionnaire used by 23 protection partners through KII interviews and will allow the humanitarian community to obtain a more comprehensive picture of population movements, profiles, protection risks, and access to services and humanitarian assistance.

• The Protection Cluster also publishes regular Ukraine Crisis Protection Snapshots:
  - Ukraine Response – Protection Snapshot, 28 February-1 March 2022;
  - Ukraine Response – Protection Snapshot, 2-5 March 2022;
  - A Protection Monitoring Dashboard is also available: Microsoft Power BI.

• Between 3 and 6 March, the Ukrainian Red Cross supported local authorities to safely evacuate around 4,540 people from Irpin and Makariv (capital area), most of whom were women, children and older persons.

• As a smooth transit across the border is essential to reduce exposure of vulnerable migrants and refugees to protection and other risks, IOM has provided the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine 450 individual first medical aid kits, 2,000 daily nutrition rations, 343 heat fans and equipment for the enhancement of border infrastructure.

• IOM has set up a toll-free hotline for information to IDPs, started building the baseline for the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), and will continue working on it with the aim of sharing a solid evidence base to inform humanitarian programming.

• Efforts to strengthen GBV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) sub-sector coordination at national and sub-national levels are also ongoing with the respective authorities and UN agencies.

**Shelter and Non-food Items (NFI)**

 Needs:

• Scaled-up capacities at reception/transit centres for displaced people, as well as NFI and cash-based assistance, as the scope and scale of displacement increases.

**Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:**

• UNHCR and its national partner, Proliska, delivered 1,400 sqm of tarpaulin to help thousands of households affected by heavy shelling in Popasnà, Luhanska oblast (GCA), to protect their homes amid harsh winter conditions.

• UNHCR sent to Vinnytsia (Vinnytska oblast, centre) eight trucks with humanitarian aid, including blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and tarpaulins, to support people who have been displaced and severely impacted by the ongoing conflict.

• In Donetska oblast (NGCA), UNHCR and Save the Children’s local implementing partner, the Donbas Development Centre (DDC), provided shelter materials to individuals and families whose homes were damaged by ongoing fighting and to a local kindergarten that sustained conflict-related damages on the outskirts of Donetsk (Oleksandrivka).
UNHCR has delivered 130 folding beds and 40 blankets to people seeking shelter for days in bomb shelters in Sievierodonetsk, Luhanska oblast (GCA), affected by intense shelling.

IOM has delivered more than 3,000 blankets to the hardest-hit areas of Ukraine, with 15,000 blankets expected to be delivered 15,000 to western Ukraine, where the majority of displaced people are heading.

In western Ukraine, the Shelter and NFI Cluster is working on improving conditions in existing reception/transit facilities, providing NFIs together with local authorities, and on the refurbishment of buildings that could serve as longer-term collective centres.

In certain parts of the country experiencing active hostilities, including Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska oblasts in the south and Donetska and Luhanska oblasts in the east, the Cluster is providing NFI assistance to people in transit centres and, to a lesser extent, bomb shelters. Cluster partners are working to reach Kharkiv (east) and Chernihiv (north) to roll out shelter-related activities.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Partners are working on bringing in shelter-specific humanitarian cargo from abroad into Ukraine, but the process continues to be delayed by long queues at the border and formal shipment procedures. Some partners are attempting to capitalize on local procurement and delivery but faces challenges as the capacity of markets and ability to procure supplies varies in different parts of the country.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Needs:**

- Overall, in Donetska oblast, around 2.2 million people on both sides of the “contact line” receive water by schedule (i.e., limited hours per day of water supply), while some 650,000 people are entirely cut off from the water supply.

- In Luhanska oblast, around 40,000 people do not have access to the water supply, while some 350,000 have a minimal water supply by schedule (once every day or even every two days).

- Emergency WASH services are urgently required for IDPs in collective centres, especially in central and western Ukraine.

- Safe drinking water is urgently needed in Mariupol (Donetska oblast, GCA) as acute water shortages pose a grave risk to the affected population trapped in the city.

- The restoration of electricity and water supplies in the hardest-hit areas, like Mariupol, is needed to prevent the spread of communicable water-borne diseases. A critical lack of water could lead to severe dehydration that may cause hypothermia, delirium, blood pressure loss, organ failure and even death. Children, pregnant women and older persons are particularly vulnerable to the effects of dehydration.

**Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:**

- UNICEF, in coordination with the WASH and Logistics clusters, is preparing the delivery of life-saving water assistance to Mariupol.

- The WASH Cluster continues to facilitate connections between UN agencies, international NGOs and national partners in an effort to booster in-country partnerships that can be quickly operationalized.

- In Donetska oblast (NGCA), Donbas Development Centre (DDC), a national implementing partner, continues to respond to the most urgent WASH needs of affected people, including through emergency distribution of water tanks and bottled water.

- In central and western Ukraine, Caritas continues to support local authorities to provide appropriate sanitation facilities in reception/transit centres.
• Response and Development (R&D), with support from UNICEF, is carrying out the rehabilitation of critical WASH facilities in three schools and one children’s hospital in the city of Luhansk, Luhanska oblast, NGCA.

• UNICEF, with support from USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, is locally procuring supplies to support the WASH needs of around 40,000 people in central, eastern and western Ukraine during the initial weeks of the emergency response.

• UNICEF, in partnership with local NGO Friends Hands, delivered 1,530 5-liter water bottles, 360 family hygiene kits, 5,560 menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits and 10 Institutional Hygiene Kits, among other much-needed relief items, to affected people, health and social institutions in eastern Ukraine.

• IOM is planning to supply 13,000 WASH items, including 5,856 hygiene items (male), 3,840 hygiene kits (female) and 3,420 baby hygiene kits set to arrive around 14 March in Ukraine.

• UNICEF has distributed hygiene kits to 80 social institutions across Ukraine. Five thousand family hygiene kits are now stored at one of UNICEF’s implementing partner’s warehouses, ready to be distributed upon request.

• The latest WASH Cluster Incident Reports are available at: https://bit.ly/3Ku5ais

Gaps & Constraints:

• Ongoing hostilities continue to affect the functionality of water infrastructure in areas close to the “contact line”, where Voda Donbasu – the main water supplier in the Donbas region – operates.

• Key water infrastructure has been partially damaged or completely destroyed. Limited access makes it difficult to track and repair damage to WASH infrastructure.

• In eastern Ukraine, numerous rehabilitation activities for decentralized water systems have been put on hold due to limited access and insecurity.

• Lack of electricity contributes to the increasingly critical lack of water in Mariupol. Municipal authorities report that the drinking water system relies on stations pumping groundwater that requires electricity. Water treatment plants in the city also require electricity.

• Lack of solid information of the location and needs of the displaced population continues to hinder the emergency WASH response for IDPs.

• Price increases continue to limit the procurement capacity of implementing partners while growing insecurity cuts off access to prepositioned stocks.

![Multi-purpose cash](https://www.unocha.org)

Needs:

• Affected people need access to basic services, including food and hygiene items, and the rapidly changing situation calls for flexible response solutions. This includes multipurpose cash (MPC), which was identified as the preferred/default rapid response modality to cover basic needs of affected populations wherever operationally feasible.

Response:

• The Cash Working Group (CWG), co-led by OCHA and ACTED, has established four task teams to assess and plan the cash-based response. These teams will focus on targeting (led by WFP), transfer mechanisms (led by Norwegian Refugee Council, NRC), deduplication and registration (led by UNHCR) and monitoring (led by ACTED).

• The multi-purpose cash roll-out and response will be integrated into the 3W and a mapping will be conducted showing the presence and activities of cash actors in neighbouring countries.

Gaps & Constraints:
Preliminary findings suggest that MPC remains feasible in the current operating environment, with some caveats related to system functionality (e.g., liquidity and availability of market supplies) and geographical areas of intervention. For instance, while liquidity at the National Bank level does not seem to be an issue, discussions are underway to understand cash accessibility at ATMs or points of sale, which depends on internet connectivity and could be disrupted by possible power outages.

### Logistics

**Needs:**
- Strengthened logistics coordination and common platforms for information sharing and management are needed.
- A consolidated approach and the provision of shared services will be crucial to facilitate the operations of humanitarian organizations within Ukraine and in surrounding border areas, avoiding competition over assets and services and the duplication of efforts.

**Response:**
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 44.2 MT of NFIs to Lviv; the first common service organized since the beginning of the unfolding Ukraine emergency.
- The Logistics Cluster has developed a new Concept of Operations as common storage and transport services are now available in Poland (Rzeszow, Warsaw, and Lublin) and Ukraine (Lviv, Kyiv, Dnipro, and Vinnytsia).
- The Logistics Cluster-facilitated transport and storage services are up and running in Poland and Ukraine. Partners wishing to request common services can do so by submitting a Service Request Form (SRF) following the user instructions.
- Partners are invited to subscribe to the Logistics Cluster mailing list, through which all key logistics information, as well as invitations to the Logistics Cluster coordination meetings, are channeled.

**Constraints:**
- Competition over logistics assets and services within Ukraine and in border areas continues to grow as an increasing number of actors are scaling up response activities, leading to difficulties for humanitarian organizations to ensure access to logistics service providers.

### Emergency Telecommunications

**Needs:**
- Establishment of an independent network of communications for humanitarian organizations to operate without relying on national communications infrastructure, including security communications to support staff movement and safety, as well as internet access, during response operations.

**Response:**
- On 10 March, the ETC carried out an ICT assessment in Lviv to confirm the locations where secure radio communications and shared ICT services can be set up to support the humanitarian community.
- ETC partner emergency.lu is deploying staff to train the ETC team in Krakow, Poland, on the use of GATR & RANGER VSAT solutions which are currently being shipped to the country. The VSATs, along with user control and management system as well as firewall solutions, will be used to provide shared internet access to humanitarian partners.
- Equipment for security communications services will be prepositioned in Krakow and ready to be sent to Ukraine when priority locations are identified.

**Constraints:**
- Access and security are expected to be a major constraint in the ETC’s ability to implement telecommunications solutions.
Although telecommunications infrastructure remains operational in Ukraine, there are reports of hacking and jamming of telecommunications in the country. Reports of 3G and 4G mobile network coverage are positive along the Ukrainian borders, but there are signs of saturation of the network due to the influx of displaced people.

The full status of connectivity is not known in the hardest-hit areas. Security and access are expected to be a major constraint in the ETC’s ability to implement telecommunications solutions within Ukraine, while cyber security is also expected to be a response challenge.

For more information on the ongoing humanitarian response and assistance delivered, please refer to the previous Situation Reports.

USEFUL LINKS

- The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund is one of the quickest, most effective ways to directly support the most urgent, life-saving humanitarian relief in Ukraine. Donate [here](https://www.unocha.org/ukraine-humanitarian-crisis-february-2022).
- Logistics Cluster’s Service Request Form (SRF) for transportation and warehousing support: [https://bit.ly/3tuibBL](https://bit.ly/3tuibBL)
- Share information on incoming cargo and its final destination to facilitate planning from the Logistics Cluster for downstream logistics services to support partners’ response with: [alexandre.austin@wfp.org](mailto:alexandre.austin@wfp.org).
- Are you a certified psychologist, counsellor, psychotherapist or social worker, fluent in Ukrainian and/or Russian? Do you want to help affected people in Ukraine? IOM is looking to contract people like you who can work from home to provide psychological support through an established hotline. Learn more: [https://bit.ly/3Cote3y](https://bit.ly/3Cote3y).

MAKE AN IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION OF GOODS OR SERVICES

While humanitarian aid is needed urgently, OCHA urges companies to refrain from sending unsolicited donations that may not correspond to identified needs or meet international quality standards. Donors are encouraged to send financial/cash donations rather than in-kind donations. However, for businesses wishing to contribute in-kind goods or services, please reach out to (OCHA) with as much detail as possible, including what you wish to donate and how much, your time frame for delivery, details on shipping and any other conditions. We will then guide you to the most appropriate recipient organization(s). For more information, please contact Karen Smith, OCHA’s Private Sector Engagement Advisor, at ochaders-ps@un.org.


For further information on receiving OCHA Ukraine products, please subscribe to the [mailing list](mailto:sofia.borysenko@un.org) or contact Sofiia Borysenko at sofia.borysenko@un.org.

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3 Logistics partners have established a travel route from Rzeszow, Poland, to Lviv, Ukraine, and transportation solutions and storage spaces have been secured in Lviv, Rzeszow and Warsaw.