

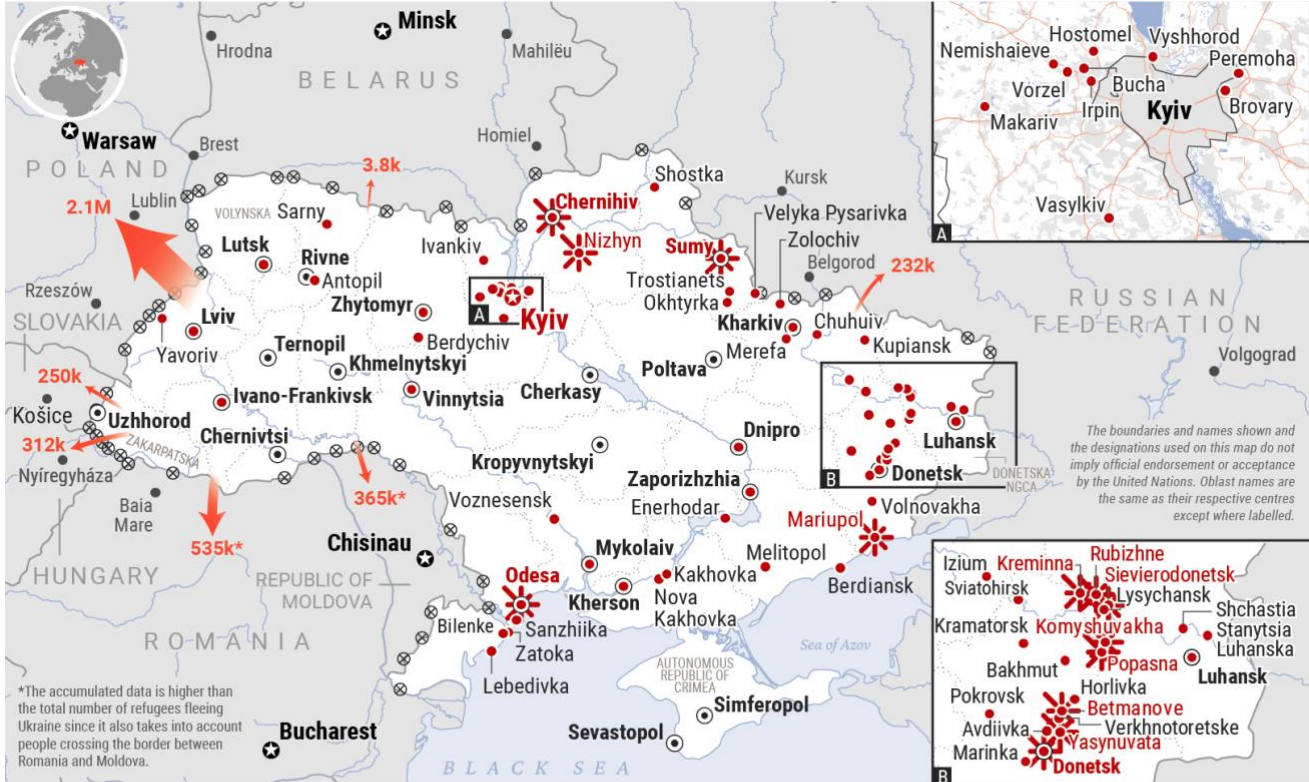
Ukraine: Humanitarian Impact

Situation Report

As of 3:00 p.m. (EET) on 21 March 2022

This report is produced by OCHA Ukraine in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 3 p.m. (EET) 18 March to 3 p.m. (EET) 21 March. The next report will be published on or around 23 March.

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- Displaced people who have crossed international borders to neighbouring countries since the military offensive began on 24 February 2022. **3.5M**
- People displaced internally since the military offensive began on 24 February 2022. **6.5M**
- Hostility (since 26 Feb)
- New hostility (19-21 Mar)
- Number of refugees from Ukraine
- Country capital
- Oblast/region capital
- Border crossing point

Sources: Border crossing points - multiple sources. Country and administrative division - UN GIS and State Scientific Production Enterprise "Kartographia". Refugee outflow - The refugee figures provided by UNHCR are based on reports received from respective government including the figures on movements to Russian Federation and Belarus. IDPs - IOM. Hostilities - public sources and local reports.

KEY FIGURES (FLASH APPEAL 2022)



12M

people in need
(Source: 2022 Flash Appeal)¹



6M

people targeted
(Source: 2022 Flash Appeal)



\$1.1B

funding required (US\$)
(Source: 2022 Flash Appeal)



38%

funded
(Source: FTS)

¹ With the scale and direction of the ongoing military operation, 18 million people are projected to become affected, including up to 6.7 million people projected to be newly internally displaced. Of the affected population, 12 million people are expected to need humanitarian assistance, and 6 million with the most urgent humanitarian needs will be assisted with the resources required under the Flash Appeal, including 2.1 million IDPs covering the initial period of three months. The Flash Appeal 2022 supersedes the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), as of 1 March.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Civilian casualties across Ukraine continue to rise. As of 20 March, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) reports 2,421 civilian casualties, including 925 killed, figures that are likely much higher. In less than a month, the confirmed civilian death toll has already reached the equivalent of 70 per cent of all confirmed civilian deaths over the last seven years of fighting in eastern Ukraine combined.
- On 19 March, an art school sheltering around 400 people was destroyed by bombing in Mariupol (Donetska oblast, east). This comes after last week's bombing of the city's Drama Theatre and Neptune sports centre – where more than 1,000 people had sought shelter amid ongoing hostilities. At the time of writing, the number of civilian casualties remains unclear.
- On 20 March, heavy shelling in the Podilskyi district of Kyiv (Kyivska oblast, north) reportedly left at least eight people dead and another injured. As clashes intensify in the capital and other areas of Kyivska oblast, a 35-hour curfew has been imposed across the oblast from 8:00 p.m. (EET) on 21 March to 7:00 a.m. on 23 March.
- Between 18 and 20 March, more than 13,000 people were evacuated from Mariupol. There are unconfirmed reports that people fleeing areas of the city allegedly controlled by the Russian Federation forces are being forced to evacuate towards non-Government-controlled areas (NGCA) and the Russian Federation with their Ukrainian passports confiscated. These alleged incidents of forced displacement would constitute a serious violation of the Geneva Conventions.
- Donetska oblast authorities (Government-controlled areas, GCA) say thousands who have fled the conflict-ravaged city of Mariupol now face starvation in Manhush and Melekine (Donetska oblast, NGCA), as they are once again trapped without safe passage out of locations where food and water are becoming increasingly scarce.
- As of 20 March, Donetska oblast authorities report damage to at least 10 health facilities, more than 320 educational facilities and nearly 1,110 residential buildings, among other critical civilian infrastructure damaged or destroyed.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Civilian casualties: Civilian casualties across Ukraine continue to rise. As of 20 March, OHCHR reports 2,421 civilian casualties, including 925 killed, figures that are likely much higher as limited humanitarian access prevents corroboration in the hardest-hit areas. In just 24 days, the confirmed civilian death toll has already reached the equivalent of around 70 per cent of all confirmed civilian deaths over the last seven years of fighting in eastern Ukraine combined – 1,320 civilians were killed between 2015 and 2021.

In Donetska and Luhanska oblasts, OHCHR reports 1,017 casualties (256 killed and 761 injured in GCA, and 55 killed and 190 injured in NGCA), and 1,404 civilian casualties in other parts of Ukraine. These figures do not reflect civilian casualties in the worst-affected cities in eastern Ukraine, including Mariupol and Volnovakha (Donetska oblast). In Mariupol alone, the number of civilian casualties has already reached 20,000 people – including more than 3,000 possibly killed – according to municipal authorities, although the actual figure remains unknown.

Overnight on 19-20 March, at least five civilians were killed, including a child, after attacks in Kharkiv (Kharkivska oblast, east). In neighboring Luhanska oblast, at least two dozen homes and apartment buildings were destroyed by attacks in Rubizhne and Sievierodonetsk that left at least three dead, including two children. Meanwhile, residential homes were allegedly shelled in the strategic southern port city Odesa (Odeska oblast, south-west) on 21 March. Local authorities have not reported any civilian casualties.

On 20 March, heavy shelling of a residential area in the Podilskyi district of Kyiv damaged four schools, six apartment buildings and destroyed a shopping mall, reportedly leaving at least eight people dead and another injured. As clashes intensify in the capital and other areas of Kyivska oblast, a 35-hour curfew has been imposed across the oblast from 8:00 p.m. (EET) on 21 March to 7:00 a.m. on 23 March.

Environmental hazards: Amid ongoing fighting, the potential for an environmental health catastrophe looms on the horizon. As of 21 March, the air pollution level in Kyiv remains categorized as **unhealthy**, with the fine particulate matter (PM2.5) concentration in the capital currently more than 12 times higher than the World Health Organization's (WHO) air quality guideline value. In a positive development, nearly half of the **Chernobyl nuclear plant's staff** were able to rotate and return to their homes on 20 March after working non-stop for nearly a month after the Russian Federation troops allegedly occupied the plant on 24 February.

On 21 March, another potentially serious environmental health concern emerged when the Sumykhimprom chemical factory in Novoselytsia (Sumska oblast, north-east) – located just 6 km south-east of the city of Sumy – started leaking ammonia after being shelled, contaminating a roughly 2.5 km-zone around the facility. Oblast authorities advised residents near the factory to seek refuge in shelters and basements for protection, as local emergency services responded to the potentially dangerous incident, which they say does not pose a threat to the approximately 250,000 people living in nearby Sumy.

Displacement: To date, nearly 6.5 million people have been forcibly displaced within Ukraine, while almost 3.4 million have fled across international borders – more than 2 million of whom have sought refuge in Poland alone. People on the move are extremely vulnerable to a myriad of potential health and protection risks, while local capacities in host communities receiving growing numbers of displaced people are already stretched to the brink.

Forcibly displaced people urgently need basic shelter and protection. Amid harsh winter conditions and the growing risk of disease outbreaks, including a new wave of COVID-19, the establishment of camp-like settings for displaced people will likely create more challenges for affected people and the humanitarian response than it will create conditions for durable solutions to widescale displacement and needs. As such, UN agencies and humanitarian partners will roll out cash-for-rent assistance as part of the wider multi-purpose cash response strategy, providing affected people with the resources they need to find appropriate accommodations and avoid the mushrooming of displacement camps across the country.

More than 12 million people remain stranded within affected areas across Ukraine, unable to leave due to ongoing clashes, destruction of bridges and roads, and a lack of resources or information on where to find safety and appropriate accommodation. These people are among the most vulnerable in Ukraine, directly exposed to heightened insecurity and almost completely cut off from basic supplies, including food, water and medicine.

Eastern Ukraine: The humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine remains the biggest concern. More than 200,000 people are now without access to water across Donetsk oblast, with new localities being affected each day. As the scope and scale of clashes in the oblast increase, there are growing concerns that all of Donetsk oblast could be cut off from the water supply in the coming weeks, leaving millions of people without access to water. As of 20 March, Donetsk oblast authorities [report](#) damage to at least 10 health facilities, more than 320 educational facilities, nearly 1,110 residential buildings, 15 heating and water facilities, 30 gas pipelines, 34 electricity facilities, 21 bridges and 18 railway facilities.

In neighboring Luhanska oblast, constant shelling has destroyed around 80 per cent of some localities, leaving nearly 100,000 users without electricity. Humanitarian needs in communities in and around the so-called contact line have grown exponentially compared to before the recent escalation, as fighting expands into new areas of Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts, exacerbating underlying needs accumulated over eight years of armed conflict.

In Mariupol, despite slowly growing evacuations, hundreds of thousands of people have remained trapped inside the encircled city for several weeks, lacking access to the most basic necessities for survival. On 19 March, an art school sheltering around 400 people was destroyed by bombing. This comes after last week's bombing of Mariupol's Drama Theatre and Neptune sports centre – where more than 1,000 people had sought shelter amid ongoing hostilities. In both instances, although some survivors have been pulled from the rubble, the number of casualties remains unknown, as hundreds are likely still trapped beneath the rubble while active hostilities hinder search-and-rescue operations.

Evacuations: Between 18 and 20 March, the Government of Ukraine says more than 23,000 people were reportedly evacuated from the hardest-hit areas of the country, including more than 13,000 evacuated from Mariupol via Berdiansk en route to Zaporizhzhia (Zaporizka oblast, south-east). There are unconfirmed reports that people fleeing areas of Mariupol allegedly controlled by the Russian Federation forces are being forced to evacuate towards NGCA and the Russian Federation with their Ukrainian passports confiscated. On 19 March, local authorities [reported](#) that between 4,000 and 4,500 Mariupol residents were forcibly moved across the border into the south-west of the Russian Federation. According to the Ukrainian [Ombudsperson](#), such incidents of forced displacement constitute a serious violation of the Geneva Conventions.

Meanwhile, the Russian Federation reported that around 347,000 people have crossed the border from Ukraine towards the Russian Federation since the escalation of hostilities, including 16,054 people during the past 24 hours. This includes people who have reportedly been evacuated and those who have crossed the border seeking refuge on their own. The UN does not have means to verify the actual numbers of people evacuated.

As conditions grow increasingly desperate, there is a growing number of spontaneous evacuations out of Mariupol and other affected cities without any security guarantees for residents fleeing ongoing fighting. Even for those fortunate enough to escape Mariupol, Donetsk oblast authorities say thousands who have fled the conflict-ravaged city of Mariupol now face starvation in Manhush and Melekine (Donetsk oblast, NGCA), as they are once again trapped without safe passage out of localities where food and water are becoming increasingly scarce.

HUMANITARIAN FINANCING

With increased donor contributions to the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF), the Humanitarian Coordinator has increased the envelope of the ongoing reserve allocation to US\$30 million. The reserve allocation aims to address the priorities

outlined in the Flash Appeal and to scale up the humanitarian response across the country. The allocation deadline has been extended and is now open for applications until 25 March 2022. For more information on the UHF, please direct inquiries to: ocha-uhf@un.org.

As of 21 March, two new multi-sectoral projects for \$6 million have been approved by the Humanitarian Coordinator. These interventions will focus on activities in food security and livelihoods, protection, shelter and non-food items (NFI), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and common services.

RESPONSE

Nearly a month into the response, life-saving humanitarian assistance continues to reach more people faster, including in hard-to-reach communities. UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has already [dispatched](#) nearly 80 trucks to Ukraine carrying upwards of 780 tons of critical relief supplies, including health supplies, hygiene kits, education and recreation supplies for children and adolescents. As of 17 March, 34 trucks have already arrived in Ukraine, with more deliveries expected in the coming days. Since 24 February, UNICEF has already [procured](#) more than \$41 million worth of relief supplies to cover the needs of more than 6.2 million people, including 1.1 million children, in Ukraine.

Between 11 and 17 March, the Danish Red Cross received more than 534 tons of relief items to its warehouses in Chernivisti (Chernivetska oblast, west). Over the same period, 290 tons of relief items, including food, water, hygiene kits, medicine and shelter items, were dispatched to seven oblasts across the country. UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has [provided](#) life-saving core relief supplies to around 24,400 people in Ukraine, with almost 5,000 people in Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts receiving emergency shelter support so far. Additionally, IOM [dispatched](#) around 28 tons worth of hygiene kits for newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Zakarpatska oblast (west), with nearly 8,000 to be delivered to the most vulnerable IDPs, including mothers who recently gave birth in Mukachevo (Zakarpatska oblast).

In addition, the Russian Federation reported that it has delivered around 4,165 tons of cargo with first aid kits, essential goods, medicines and food to population in Chernihivska (north), Donetsk, Kharkivska, Khersonska (south), Kyivska, Luhanska and Zaporizka oblasts since the escalation of the humanitarian situation.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)

Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:

- Cluster continues to work on data collection for the target population and liaise with relevant stakeholders to develop the Cluster strategy. The strategy outlines the overall Cluster goal to ensure a coordinated multi-sectoral response for the protection of IDPs residing in communal settings, improving their quality of life and dignity during displacement while advocating for transitional and durable solutions.
- In Vinnytsia (Vinnytska oblast, centre-west), UNHCR agreed with the Deputy Mayor to support the assessment of seven real estate objects under the municipal ownership for the potential establishment of collective centres for IDPs.

For more information on needs, response and gaps/constraints, please refer to the previous Situation Reports: <https://bit.ly/3Cle3ID>

Education

Needs:

- According to the [Ministry of Education and Science](#), as of 21 March, 446 educational facilities were damaged and 72 completely destroyed, although this figure has yet to be verified.

Response:

- UNICEF continues to provide learning and mental health support to vulnerable children. Together with the Ukrainian Volunteer Service, more than 60,000 volunteers are now engaged in a wide range of learning and socio-psychological support activities for children.
- In collaboration with local NGO “Ukrainian Education Platform”, 15 child-friendly spaces and 100 mobile teams of teachers have been organized in western Ukraine to support displaced children.

518

educational facilities
came under attack since
24 February

Emergency Telecommunications (ETC)

Response:

- A Telecommunications Specialist from World Food Programme (WFP) Fast IT & Telecommunications Support Team (FITTEST) will travel to Lviv (Lvivska oblast, west) on 21 March to conduct further assessments in preparation for the establishment of interagency security communications in the city. Over the course of the week-long mission, an assessment of the ICT and security communications needs in Vinnytsia will also be conducted.

For more information on needs, response and gaps/constraints, please refer to the previous Situation Reports: <https://bit.ly/3Cle3ID>

Food Security and Livelihoods (FSLC)

Needs:

- Food needs are particularly acute in Mariupol, Luhanska oblast, Chuhuiv and Izium (Kharkivska oblast), Sumska oblast, primarily in Sumy and Okhtyrka.
- Kharkiv City Council has requested urgent food assistance in the amount of 50 tons per week. If your organization may be able to provide support, please get in touch with the FSL Cluster for further details: info.ukraine@fscluster.org.

24.5K

tons of food commodities purchased by WFP to support vulnerable people in Ukraine

Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance delivered:

- WFP delivered nearly 78 tons of bread for around 260,000 affected people. In Kyiv, WFP delivered 325 tons of vegetable oil and 478 tons of wheat flour for almost 70,000 affected people. Another 107 tons of vegetable oil are expected to be delivered to Kyiv shortly.
- In Dnipro (Dnipropetrovska oblast, centre), WFP and its partners delivered around 2.2 tons of mixed canned foods to the most vulnerable people. Additionally, WFP has stockpiled around 492 tons of various food commodities in the city for onwards distribution.
- WFP has purchased around 24,500 tons of food commodities to support vulnerable people inside Ukraine. Additionally, WFP is planning to procure another 30,000 tons of food supplies to expand its emergency food response.
- WFP has delivered around 154 tons of various food products, including chickpeas, bulgur, lentils and rice, from Bucharest, Romania, to Chernivtsi.
- Humanity First has [provided](#) around 13,600 hot meals to displaced people waiting in long lines to cross into Poland. Additionally, Humanity First has provided around 1,500 breakfast sandwiches and more than 10,750 bags with hygiene kits and high-energy food.
- Last week, the international non-governmental organization (INGO) People in Need (PIN) delivered 600 tons of instant food assistance from the Czech Republic to Dnipro. The food was distributed in Donetska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Luhanska and Zaporizka oblasts. In addition, PIN has distributed 1,000 in-kind food kits to families with children and older persons in Donetska oblast, NGCA.
- In cooperation with WFP, PIN plans to distribute 15,000 food parcels in Kharkiv and neighboring locations, as well as in Sumska oblast (i.e., Sumy and Okhtyrka).
- World Vision has three shipments from Romania planned, with more than 3.14 tons of food assistance. This assistance is planned to be distributed to hospitals in Chernivtsi to serve displaced families and cover the needs of 700 people.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Significant logistics constraints, including the lack of drivers or vehicles, hamper the transfer of food and other relief items from relatively safe locations to the hardest-hit areas. The situation is particularly difficult in Luhanska oblast.
- There is a limited number of national partners available in-country, which highlights the need for establishing partnerships with INGOs and UN agencies to widen the reach of assistance.

Health

Health Situation & Needs:

- According to the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), as of 21 March, the number of verified incidents of attacks on health-care facilities in Ukraine has risen to 51 – 83 per cent of incidents recorded by WHO between 24 February and 21 March globally – resulting in 14 deaths and 36 injuries.

*For more information on needs, please refer to the previous Situation Reports:
<https://bit.ly/3Cle3ID>*

Ongoing response & humanitarian assistance **delivered**:

- Direct Relief has already [provided](#) more than 48 tons of medical aid at the request of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, with more medical [relief](#)-supplies en route to Ukraine. A FedEx humanitarian charter carrying more than 50 tons of medical aid is being organized, including an emergency field hospital [donated](#) by the US State of California and significant quantities of emergency medicines and supplies.
- WHO has sent liquid oxygen tanks and cryogenic cylinders to Kyivska and Zaparpatka (west) oblasts amid severe shortages. Additionally, WHO donated 40 chemical protection suits to Kyivska oblast authorities and an automatic haematology analyser capable of performing around 100 tests per hour to Kyiv.
- UNICEF and partners are producing strategic messaging for caregivers across the country, including 20 content series on hygiene practices, breastfeeding, immunization and other issues that continue to be disseminated through social media, already reaching around 10 million people.
- UNICEF [delivered](#) life-saving equipment and first aid kits to 14 hospitals in Chernihiv (Chernihivska oblast), Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolaiv (Mykolaivska oblast, south) and Zhytomyr (Zhytomyrska oblast, north), to address the needs of around 200,000 people, including 4,000 pregnant women and new-borns.
- The Government of Denmark provided 18 ambulances filled with humanitarian aid and medical supplies to hospitals in Kharkivska oblast.
- The Polish Centre for International Aid (PCPM) received an Inter-Agency Health Kit and five Trauma Kits donated by the German NGO Apotheker Ohne Grenzen that will be transported to Kharkiv and Kyiv.
- With support from the Government of Poland, PCPM's Emergency Medical Team (EMT) facilitated the evacuation of over 200 pediatric cancer patients from Ukraine to Poland. In addition, EMTs conducted an assessment of hospitals in Ivano-Frankivsk (Ivan-Frankivska oblast, west), Khmelnytskyi (Khmelytska oblast, west) and Zhytomyr; no EMT needs were identified as a result of the assessment. PCPM's EMT also operates an ambulance in western Ukraine, which conducted medical evaluations of patients with leukemia and students with health needs from Congo. The ambulance service with medical evacuation (medevac) capacity will be linked with the medevac system managed by the WHO and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Supply chains have been severely disrupted. Many distributors are not operational; some stockpiles are inaccessible due to the ongoing armed clashes, and medical supplies are running low. Hospitals are struggling to provide care to the sick and wounded. The majority of aid organizations are currently concentrated in the west, while the most acute needs are in the eastern and central parts of the country.
- Outreach to older people in remote areas, among the most vulnerable groups, and provision of basic commodities including water and food, and urgently needed medicines to continue treatment of chronic diseases, is hampered by security concerns and destruction of infrastructure.

51

verified incidents of
attacks on health-care
facilities since
24 February

Logistics

Response:

- The Logistics Cluster will facilitate the transport of approximately 503.7 tons of cargo in the pipeline and provide storage for around 2,550.5 m³ of relief supplies.

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. Import and customs clearance procedures continue to be a common challenge for partners.

For more information on needs, response and gaps/constraints, please refer to the previous Situation Reports: <https://bit.ly/3Cle3ID>

Nutrition

Needs:

- The Nutrition Cluster is currently updating its estimates for the population in need, taking into account the latest population movement data. According to the most recent estimates that are pending confirmation, some 300,000 children aged 0 to 11 months are in need of infant and young child food programming, the content of which is yet to be determined.
- The Nutrition Cluster prioritizes people in the areas with active fighting and IDPs, with children under the age of two considered the most vulnerable due to their high dependency on infant formula before the escalation of hostilities.

224.7K

bottles of ready-to-use infant formula for non-breastfed children procured by UNICEF

Ongoing & planned response:

- UNICEF first order of essential nutrition supplies (high-energy biscuits, micro-nutrient supplements) for children aged 0-5 and 5-23 months, pregnant and lactating women, is already in the pipeline.
- UNICEF has procured the first batch of 224,784 bottles of ready-to-use infant formula for non-breastfed children in the areas of active hostilities, which has already arrived in Ukraine. This assistance will be distributed in partnership with the Ministry of Health to the caretakers of non-breastfed children in need in the areas of active fighting.
- Action contre la Faim and Save the Children International plan to establish Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergency programmes in Chernihivska, Lvivska, Ivano-Frankivska and Zakarpatska oblasts.

Gaps & Constraints:

- As of 21 March, most of the response activities remain underfunded and are in the pipeline, while partners are working on securing necessary human resources. The Nutrition Cluster also reports a lack of local implementing partners (NGOs) and qualified personnel that could ensure the implementation of nutrition-related interventions in field locations.

Protection

Needs:

- Humanitarian corridors with sufficient security guarantees for the safe evacuation of civilians continue to be the most pressing and urgent need inside Ukraine.
- Evacuations, provision of accommodation in safe areas, information on border crossing points, family tracing and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) are among the most reported urgent needs. A local NGO providing PSS services and assistance in Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska and Zakarpatska oblast reported high levels of stress and anxiety among the displaced persons due to fear, loss of family members or friends, and family separation.

6.48M

estimated number of IDPs across Ukraine

Response:**General protection:**

- The Protection Cluster launched a protection service mapping tool to provide a comprehensive directory of protection services and assistance provided by protection partners across Ukraine and facilitate referrals by operational hotlines, non-protection actors and local authorities.
- During the past few days, Protection Cluster partners provided individual protection assistance to 3,385 people, including 1,264 people who received PSS and over 1,500 people who received protection-related in-kind assistance. At least 4,400 people have been reached by awareness-raising and information campaigns; digital explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) materials have been made available to 3.6 million people. The majority of people assisted reside in Donetska oblast and in Kyiv.
- UNICEF established and equipped [psychosocial support spaces](#) across nearly 30 metro stations in Kharkiv, where children and their families have sought shelter in the last weeks.
- UNICEF and partners' content on EORE has already reached five million people through Facebook and is now being promoted to children via Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.
- National NGO Proliska provided protection counselling services to 235 people in Donetska oblast and social accompaniment to another 364 people in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts.
- Between 24 February and 16 March, IOM provided nearly 12,100 consultations through the national toll-free migrant advice and counter-trafficking hotline ("527").
- NGO Donbass Development Centre (DDC) provided individual protection counselling for almost 260 people, while PIN provided PSS to more than 100 people in Bakhmut, Drobroplia, Kurakhovka and Sloviansk (Donetska oblast).
- In Odesa, UNHCR will install transit facilities with sleeping areas at the railway station, with five spaces for adults and five for children. In addition, UNHCR plans to organize a play area for children and their parents.
- UNHCR conducted joint technical visits to four border crossing points in Lvivska oblast (Hrushiv, Krakovets, Rava Ruska, and Shehyni), together with the Lvivska Oblast Civil-Military Administration to agree on the installation of UNHCR tents and to inform the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine about the presence of NGO partners in the border areas. In addition, UNHCR's partner NEEKA conducted border monitoring visits to two border crossing points in Zakarpatska oblast (Malyi Bereznyi and Uzhhorod), located at the border with Slovakia. NEEKA held consultations with 27 people on the border crossing for men aged 18 to 60 and their protection in EU countries.
- Reporters Without Borders and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) will distribute an initial batch of 125 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE), including bullet-proof press vests and helmets, to Ukrainian journalists.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and IFJ are working together to support the relocation of the offices of Ukraine's two journalists' unions to Poland, close to the border with Ukraine, helping to ensure that the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine, with more than 4,000 members, and the Independent Media Trade Union of Ukraine, with around 2,000, can continue to provide support to all journalists in Ukraine and neighboring countries.
- Since 24 February, Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM) in Ukraine assisted over 3,000 civilians in evacuation from Kharkiv. PCPM operates an IDP transit centre near Kremenchuk (Poltavska oblast, centre), with a daily capacity of 150 people.

Child Protection:

- UNICEF and partners continue to provide [child protection services](#), including PSS, awareness-raising on protection risks and case management support, in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Social Protection and Presidential Commissioner for Child Rights, UNICEF has rolled out a [ChatBot programme](#) to facilitate identification, screening and support to families providing temporary fostering for unaccompanied and separated children. Since 7 March, the programme has received 8,500 applications from Ukrainian families offering temporary foster care.

- UNICEF, together with the Ukrainian Child Rights Network, the Ministry of Social Policy and the National State Service, launched a hotline for social workers and vulnerable families with children and caregivers, providing life-saving information to around 2,000 people.
- Ukraine Child Rights Network carried out a needs assessment, locally procured and delivered hygiene supplies, food and warm clothes to nearly 530 children, including displaced children and those living with disabilities.
- National Child Helpline (“116-111”), supported by UNICEF, provided direct PSS and consultation to around 870 children.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The number of airstrikes affecting civilians and non-military infrastructure as well as residential areas has significantly increased, limiting humanitarian access and endangering the lives of civilians as well as humanitarian personnel operating in hardest-hit locations.

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.

Response:

- In Donetsk and Luhanska oblast, UNHCR and partners have provided nearly 5,000 people with emergency shelter support.
- To date, IOM has distributed more than 12,000 thermal blankets to displaced people in collective centres in Dnipropetrovska, Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, Mykolaivska and Zakarpatska oblasts.
- As part of meetings with local authorities and stakeholders to expand the mapping of partners and contacts for communication and coordination, UNHCR met with the Department of the Civil Defense in Lviv and agreed on mechanisms for the distribution of core relief items.
- UNHCR and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) is coordinating with local authorities to identify suitable locations for the installation of 20 inflatable tents, generators and heating systems to accommodate 200 IDPs daily in reception centres. The installations will be carried out with the support of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine.
- On 19-20 March, UNHCR delivered 1,775 blankets to five communities in Uzhhorod (Zakarpatska oblast, west).

12K

thermal blankets
delivered by IOM to
collective centres in five
oblasts

Gaps & Constraints:

- Partners are working on bringing in shelter supplies from abroad, 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 face challenges as the capacity of markets and ability to procure supplies varies in across Ukraine.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs:

- Emergency WASH services are urgently required for IDPs in collective centres, especially in central and western Ukraine. The restoration of electricity and water supplies in the hardest-hit areas is needed to prevent the spread of communicable water-borne diseases.

Response:

- In eastern Ukraine, UNICEF and its local NGO partner “Friends Hands” continue to provide water and sanitation support in community centres, social and health institutions in the hardest-hit areas.
- UNICEF is providing WASH supplies to improve access to safe drinking water and to repair damaged water supply systems. These supplies are being delivered through convoys to the hardest-hit cities like Mariupol, Kharkiv and Sumy.

- Since 24 February, UNICEF and partners have distributed bottled water, family hygiene kits and institutional hygiene kits to 17 localities in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts. Local water manufacturer (IDS Borjomi) continues to support UNICEF's WASH response through in-kind donations of bottled water in the most affected areas, including Chernihiv, Dnipro and Kharkiv, among others.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Key WASH infrastructure has been partially damaged or completely destroyed. Limited access makes it difficult to track and repair damages. Lack of electricity contributes to the increasingly critical lack of water in certain parts of the country.
- The lack of accurate information on 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 (MPC)

- In Lviv, UNHCR is rolling out a large-scale MPC programme to support IDPs in covering their basic needs such as rent, food and hygiene items. MPC support is ongoing in Lviv and will progressively be expanded to other cities and oblasts. UNHCR plans to reach around 360,000 people with MPC during the first round of enrollments.
- In Vinnytsia, the UNHCR team initiated internal discussions on an action plan for the rollout of the MPC assistance programme that started in Lviv as a pilot enrolment. Discussions were also held with ICRC regarding the coordination of cash assistance to avoid duplication of MPC recipients.

FOR NGOS

If you would like more information on how to officially launch your humanitarian response activities in Ukraine, please contact Mario Trutmann at trutmann@un.org.

HUMANITARIAN NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (HNS)

For more information on the HNS, please contact Ivane Bochorishvili at bochorishvili@un.org.

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 ocha-ers-ps@un.org.

UN VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME (UNV) RECRUITMENT

As UN agencies continue to scale-up response efforts, UNV is recruiting onsite and online volunteers to support the UN System's operations in response to the unfolding crisis in Ukraine and neighbouring countries receiving growing numbers of forcibly displaced people. Upon request, UNV can also facilitate direct recruitment and/or reassignment of currently serving UN Volunteers to support the ongoing humanitarian response. For more information on the UNV emergency response offer for UN System partners, [click here](#).

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

For further information on the content of this report, please contact:
Clara Laire, Humanitarian Affairs Officer (OCHA) at clara@un.org