

# 365 DAYS OF WAR AND DISPLACEMENT FOR UKRAINE'S CHILDREN

One year since the war in Ukraine escalated, over **7.9 million children** are paying for the consequences of a war not of their own making.

With your generous support, we have been able to help millions of children and their families.

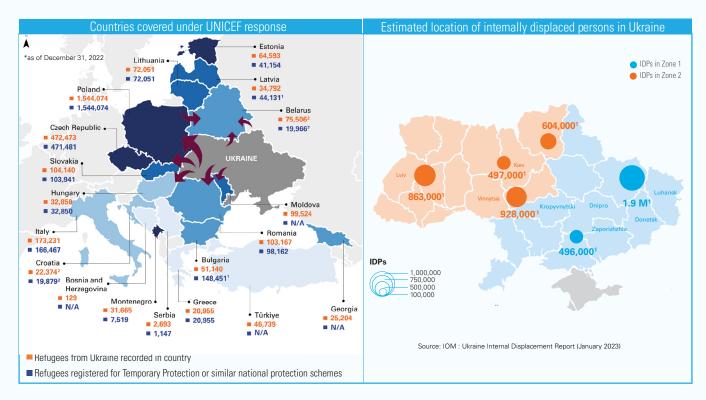
# The impact of the war

Since the war in Ukraine escalated on 24 February 2022, many children have been separated from their homes, friends and loved ones. They have witnessed acts of violence and destruction and undergone untold trauma. To date, a reported 438 children have been killed and 838 injured, and the real numbers are likely far higher. Amidst the vast destruction, thousands of primary and secondary schools and over 782 health facilities have been damaged or destroyed. Access to basic services such as education and healthcare is significantly curtailed, pushing a generation of children to the brink.

Deep into the winter, strikes on civilian infrastructure have led to widespread power outages leaving 16 million people with disrupted access to water, sanitation and hygiene alongside a lack of electricity and heating. Over 5 million children in Ukraine have had their education disrupted. In an environment where three out of four children are learning online, electricity and power cuts make online learning often impossible. Danger and uncertainty are a growing part of daily life, including the threat of encounters with unexploded ordnance.



"A war is when strangers come and suddenly start to fire. Although



The effects of war have led to internal and external displacement, violence, disease, family separation and the threat of child trafficking.



recorded across Europe **4.8 MILLION** registered for temporary national protection schemes



4.1 MILLION CHILDREN in need in Ukraine









2,300 education facilities and **782** health care facilities damaged or destroyed



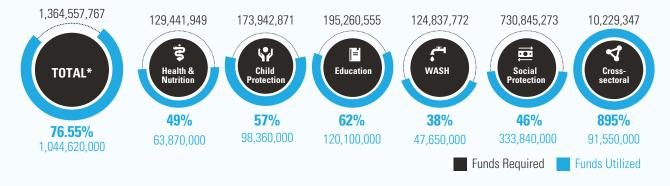
1.5 MILLION CHILDREN'S mental health impacted by war-related trauma.

# Key results for children

Your generous, timely and flexible support allowed us to swiftly scale up our response to ensure that critical services reach millions of Ukrainian children. Since the escalation of war in Ukraine, UNICEF has received **81 per cent** flexible funding from the private sector which has enabled us to achieve holistic results for children across multiple areas. It ensures that UNICEF reaches families - especially the most vulnerable children and their caregivers - with the most appropriate services and support, transforming funding into effective action for children.

With no end in sight for the war in Ukraine, flexible multi-year funding will allow us to continue to implement immediate and lifesaving support for children, as well as plan for early recovery and reconstruction programmes that support their future. Flexible funding adapts to the shifting, unpredictable nature of war, meeting children's changing needs, working across geographies, and addressing the different contexts of refugee-response countries.

Even in an unpredictable environment, amidst our urgent lifesaving response, we have also invested in activities that support and build local capacity and that rehabilitate and develop infrastructure, to ensure longterm and lasting results. UNICEF strengthened the health system in Ukraine, for example, by procuring and installing 5,186 vaccine refrigerators at 3,100 routine vaccination points, bringing vaccine access to over 15 million people. In the Czech Republic, we established new paediatric and adult outpatient centres, reaching 1,187 children and mothers. To ensure access to education in the years ahead, **123,150 children** in Ukraine will benefit from the repair of learning facilities; while in countries welcoming refugees, we continue to support access to formal and informal education including school enrolment alongside adolescent engagement and informal skillsbuilding. In partnership with the LEGO Foundation we are building the capacity of 20,000 early childhood development professionals and up-skilling 70,000 parents and caregivers with information and training opportunities in Moldova and Romania.



<sup>\*</sup>Total includes firm and agreed (awaiting signature) commitments for sale orders for supplies; purchase requisitions for services and construction; salaries and travel advances to implementing, civil society organizations and government partners, approved but not yet paid. Programmatic areas exclude these.

### **Key Results Achieved** In Ukraine In refugee-hosting countries **Health and Nutrition** 4,937,295 473,563 children and women receiving primary health care services through UNICEF supported mechanisms **Child Protection** 1,248,025 3,355,403 children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support. 1,458,203 **Education** 1,058,230 children accessing formal or nonformal education, including early learning **WASH** 5,574,624 115,544 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs **Social Protection** 224,303 53,679 people reached with UNICEF funded multi-purpose humanitarian cash transfers **Cross-Sectoral** 13,291,491 5,712,497 people reached through messaging on access to services **Partnerships** partnerships with government local authorities, civil society and financial services

# 12 Month Response Update | 4

# **UNICEF** in action for children



# **Challenge**

When the war in Ukraine escalated, armed violence intensified in nine oblasts (regions) resulting in death, injuries, and mass displacement of people across Ukraine and refugee-receiving countries, as well as severe destruction and damage to homes and civilian infrastructure. Access was an immediate challenge, as was continued shelling and violence. Of the millions of people who fled across the borders in the first weeks and months, **90 per cent** were women and children. For those who stayed, life continued underground - in subways, cellars and hospital basements, most often in freezing conditions.

"

Nobody expected the war to come. Nobody was ready for that. We had to explain to the kids things they shouldn't know. Children shouldn't know what war is."

### A father in Horishni Plavni

The war in Ukraine sparked displacement in Europe on a scale and speed not seen since World War II, requiring a coordinated response within weeks amid uncertainty and shock, across many countries that had limited to no established emergency-response capacities. UNICEF responded at an unprecedented speed - an enormous scale-up built on the relatively small existing \$14.7 million humanitarian response in eastern Ukraine, to a full scale \$1.4 billion humanitarian response in Ukraine and across 19 refugee response countries to meet the massive, sudden and diverse humanitarian needs.

With UNICEF's decades of experience working in hundreds of conflicts around the world, we were able to harness our experience and adapt it to respond in Ukraine. Rapid response teams were derived from our work in past emergency situations. The first Blue Dot hubs were set up within days based on the effective response to the 2015 European refugee crisis, a concept then adopted for the Spilno Child Spots offering respite for people in need within Ukraine.

**UNICEF was there**. In Ukraine, we had been protecting and promoting the rights of children with our partners since 1997. In the previous eight years, our programmes had enabled children to access quality health care and learning, and benefit from child-focused protection systems. In 2021 alone, for example, over half a million conflict-affected people had received household water treatment in eastern Ukraine.

UNICEF's mandate to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their full potential from early childhood through adolescence - for every child, everywhere - assures that we will remain in Ukraine working for children in partnership with government and key stakeholders.

# Supply coordination

Since 2014, there had been conflict in eastern Ukraine. The UNICEF Ukraine Country Office worked alongside Supply Division to prepare for the possible escalation of war with strategic pre-positioning of goods in Ukraine, the development of effective contingency plans, and by building relationships with local, regional and international suppliers.

While the initial route from the Global Supply and Logistics Hub in Denmark passed through Poland and then Ukraine, today UNICEF has larger strategically-located and better-equipped warehouses in the region, allowing for free positioning and fast dispatching. We have scaled up trucking personnel and frequency of deliveries from Copenhagen to warehouses in Ukraine. UNICEF staff and logisticians are continually adapting to the lack of formal distribution networks, the unpredictable nature and uncertainties of war, as well as shifting weather and logistical patterns.

Combined, these efforts have enabled UNICEF Supply Division to safely deliver more than 8,500 metric tonnes of supplies and services worth \$163 million to strategically-placed warehouses since the war began, including:

# Health

- 2 million vaccines
- 15 ambulances
- 25,359 first aid kits
- 6,272 midwifery kits
- 2,666 surgical kits
- · 314 wheelchairs
- 220 hearing aids
- 197 incubators
- 442 oxygen concentrators and ventilators

### Other items

- 47 high-performance tents
- 285,350 winter clothes sets
- 125,000 mattresses
- 221,000 blankets

# Education

- **19,751** school-in-a-box
- 13,748 recreation kits
- 9,928 early childhood development kits



- 18.7 million diapers
- 1.75 million water purification tables
- **258,825** hygiene kits
- **8,974** water tanks
- 37 water treatment plants

But it's the people of Ukraine who have been a core part of UNICEF's successful response: determined to survive this war and determined to support each other doing so.



Working together with our partners across Europe, UNICEF is able to meet the needs of millions of refugees from Ukraine.

# **Evolving zonal differentiated response strategy**

In Ukraine, in the early stages of the war, we employed a zonal approach to the humanitarian response, dividing the country into three zones. In Zone 1, in the south-east of Ukraine, which was characterized by intense and sustained war and constrained access, we worked with mobile rapid response teams and inter-agency convoys in humanitarian corridors. Fifty per cent of all WASH, health, child protection and education supplies were prepositioned therein to support children, women and other vulnerable people, including the displaced. In Zones 2 and 3 in the central and western regions, we worked with existing national systems, and collaborated and engaged with local and regional municipal authorities and civil society organizations to implement the humanitarian response. Currently, we are implementing a two zone approach - Zone 1 (in the south-east) and Zone 2 (in the central and western parts). As the war continues, our zoning is envisaged to change dependent on areas of conflict, access issues, existing resources, the efforts of government, and multi-sectoral support and outreach services.

# **UNICEF** staff

When the war escalated in Ukraine, 91 UNICEF Ukraine staff were on the ground, quickly readjusting to work out of shelters and basements amid power shortages coupled with their own personal uncertainty. Within weeks, we more than doubled our ground staff, and by the end of the year had reached 223 people working across the zonal offices. It is one of UNICEF's great strengths: in an acute humanitarian situation, as an organization we can quickly deploy experts from all over the world to support our country offices and the children who need us most.



Our colleague Yulia dropped everything to support children fleeing war in Ukraine. This is her story.

# **Our partners**

In some of the refugee-receiving countries, our established partnerships through our longstanding UNICEF country programmes have fostered an effective collaboration with each government, as well as our networks of National Committees. In other countries, response teams have been deployed to support the hosting governments to address the needs of refugees. With over 100 partnerships with host governments, civil society and youth networks at regional and national levels, we continue to expand our close relationships as well as foster new multicountry relationships. European cities like Warsaw, Prague, Bratislava and Budapest have demonstrated unprecedented solidarity in welcoming refugee children and families from Ukraine. For example, UNICEF's partnership with Eurocities - a network of more than 200 large cities in Europe - aims to ensure children and families fleeing the war in Ukraine receive the support they need and are integrated and empowered to contribute to their host communities.

# **Programmatic results for children**



# Integrated response - Blue Dots, Splinos and mobile response teams

As the war's bombing and shelling destroyed homes, schools, hospitals and other civilian infrastructure, children and their families were uprooted and sought safety in other parts of Ukraine and abroad. They made dangerous, strenuous and exhausting trips, often bringing only what they wore and could carry. They faced the risk of violence and trafficking, all shadowed by the uncertainty that lay ahead. Winter was particularly dreadful, made worse by power disruption as power stations were being destroyed.

### **Blue Dot Hubs**

In refugee-receiving countries, UNICEF and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) established Blue Dot hubs. Strategically positioned, Blue Dots continue to provide critical information and services - a beacon of safety where children can play and rest while their parents prepare for the onward journey. **Over** 40 UNICEF-UNHCR Blue Dot hubs and mobile teams have provided a safe space to 1.2 million refugees. In addition, the Digital Blue Dot platform was launched to enhance cross-boundary information exchange. Blue Dots continue to help identify and register children traveling alone, and connect them to appropriate protection services. In Poland, 529,477 people benefited from Blue Dot integrated services, including specialized treatment by mental health professionals who speak Ukrainian. Bulgaria's six Blue Dot hubs reached over 58,000 children and adults with child-friendly space, legal aid and

counselling; **80,000** children and their caregivers received similar services in Slovakia. At the onset of winter, Belarus established its first Blue Dot Hub at the border of Brest to prepare for new refugee movements.



Blue Dots have reached 548,369 people (179,265 children and 369,102 adults) with integrated services.



Over 17,940 children and 40,307 adults accessed child-friendly spaces, legal aid, and mental health support.



10,725 people including 3,209 children received assistance including mental health support.



# MOLDOVA 11 Blue Dots

Over 49,495 people, 50 percent of them children received multi-sectoral assistance and protection activities.



Over 80,000 children and caregivers received protection and mental health services.



Over 3,800 children accessed services at four Blue Dots, including safe space, protection, legal counseling, and referals.



150,000 people have sought respite at these first established Blue Dot Hubs.



"...the Blue Dot workers asked us what we needed. I got help, for which I am grateful."

## Helping children forget about the war

Elena fled to Chisinau in April with her children from Mykolaiv, on the frontlines of the war. 'We always slept dressed. I didn't know how the night would end. Across from our balcony, there were rifles and military vehicles. When soldiers shot, the house shook. That was very scary... I crossed the border on foot. When we finally arrived in Moldova, the Blue Dot workers asked us what we needed. I got help, for which I am grateful. They also had clothes, toys, notebooks, and books. Games, developmental activities, and sports helped my children forget a little about the war.' Now she herself is a social worker at the Blue Dot, where her sons paint and play football with other teenagers as she works. As long as peace awaits, Elena is grateful to be able to help other Ukrainian people. "They smile and leave happy,' she proudly shares.

# **Spilno Child Spots**

In Ukraine, Spilno Child Spots were created as a safe haven for children caught in the middle of war, to provide services including access to protection, mental health and psychosocial support, WASH supplies, health, learning and recreation. In total, over 300 Spilno Child Spots and outreach teams have provided integrated services for displaced children and their caregivers. Since 24 February, we've worked with 90 partners to reach 3.2 million individuals, including **1.2 million** children, with child protection services in Ukraine; and working with partners, we've reached 1.96 million children and caregivers with psychosocial support though art therapy, safe spaces and individual psychological consultations. About **126,298 children** benefited from case management social work and referrals based on a case plan tailored to their specific needs. With the start of winter, over 55 Spilno Child Spots were re-purposed to respond to protect children from the harsh winter through provision of warm clothing and mobile heaters.

- (( -

It's like we're returning to them the feeling of normalcy. These children had to flee their homes, leaving their schools, friends and even families. Here, a child can remember what normal childhood is."

Maria Artanova, UNICEF Crisis Response Specialist

## **Multidisciplinary Mobile Teams**

In Ukraine, access to areas in the south and east remain limited, unpredictable and dangerous, yet residents there have the greatest humanitarian needs in the country, often fearing for their lives with no protection mechanisms for children and their families. Multidisciplinary Mobile Teams are trained emergency response units deployed to provide immediate support

to children and families in hard-to-reach areas in a humanitarian crisis. UNICEF uses Multidisciplinary Mobile Teams, comprised of **70** members, and inter-agency humanitarian convoys to access populations in areas restricted by the security situation. They are able to support health, nutrition, child protection and WASH needs, among others, reaching over **930,000** people with integrated services and referring about **39,000** children and their caregivers to specialized services such as legal aid and health care. As winter descended, they distributed winter items including blankets, clothes and shoes to **500,000** children living in the frontline areas.

In 2023, UNICEF will continue providing an array of services through Spilno Child Spots and UNICEF-UNHCR Blue Dot hubs. As preparation for surges of internally displaced and refugee movements, UNICEF continues to work with technical, policy and political institutions to strengthen national, local and cross-border protection systems. Ukrainian health workers, psychologists and education professionals are continually integrated in the response where possible, while frontline workers are trained and informed in child protection measures such as gender-based violence protection and inclusive education.

"

Some people have a plan when they arrive, but many of the families need to decide what to do next. In this context, the information we are providing is crucial."

Tavita, a Blue Dot volunteer at the Przemysl train station in Poland.



In Ukraine, UNICEF mobile teams are helping families to cope amid war. A multidisciplinary mobile team is a rapid response team that provides psychosocial support for vulnerable families and children. Each team consists of a psychologist, a social worker, a lawyer and a doctor. Mobile teams work in support centres for internally displaced people and the liberated territories of Ukraine. They travel by car to the places where help is needed, but also provide remote consultations.

15-year-old Dasha is living in Izyum, Ukraine. For six months, she and her family endured isolation, starvation and fear. "The main thing is that we all remain together, that none of us had to bury and grieve their loved ones," says Dasha.

However, not everything has survived the ongoing violence – the family's apartment has been destroyed by a bombardment and Dasha's mother, who suffers from asthma, has struggled due to the lack of medication. Dasha now suffers from anxiety. Dasha was relieved when a UNICEF mobile team called on the family and asked how they could help.



# Health and Nutrition

In Ukraine, since 24 February 2022, almost **5 million** children and women have been able to access primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities and through mobile teams. A half a million caregivers of children under 2 years old have received infant and young child feeding counselling. Our pre-positioned supplies include **30,000** medical kits catering to emergencies, obstetrics and midwifery, and other medical equipment such as ventilators, sterilizers and oxygen concentrators. Our mobile outreach teams helped over **402,000** people in severely affected areas, such as Zhytomyrska Oblast, access quality care at home. They provided mental health support to over **15,000** people across 22 oblasts.

In refugee-response countries, our response has reached over 433,700 women and children, and first aid kits and other essential health items were available to 104,400 people. Our health promotion services reached 40,224 parents and guardians in Moldova, 94,000 in Romania, 43,000 in Slovakia and 30,479 people in Croatia.

## **Immunization**

Even before the war escalated, **Ukraine** had among the lowest routine immunization rates in the world, a shortage of vaccine supplies and frequent outbreaks of measles, polio, tetanus, and diphtheria. But child vaccination rates had risen from **63 per cent** in 2014 to 88 per cent in 2019 - progress that now risks dangerous reversal. Since the start of the war, Ukraine has faced widespread disruption to healthcare services, including childhood and COVID-19 immunization programmes.

UNICEF has been at the forefront of engaging with parents, health professionals and communities to increase immunization rates in Ukraine as well as refugee-response countries. Alongside our emergency and routine care, we have supported the procurement and delivery of vaccines. We have supported the Government of Ukraine's immunization campaign delivering 700,000 doses of tetanus-diphtheria vaccine and 600,000 oral polio vaccine doses. In Poland and Moldova, UNICEF has procured over 550,000 vaccine doses.

In 2023, UNICEF is seeking \$119.9 million to continue its lifesaving and health and nutrition system-strengthening response to reach 5.4 million children and families.

In 2023 and beyond, we will work with implementing partners to strengthen existing health care systems, including: the rehabilitation and reconstruction of health infrastructure; supporting skills of health professionals, parents, caregivers and the community; and strengthening our supply chains and the reach of our services. Increasing immunisation rates remains a priority, as well as ensuring access to primary healthcare and health and nutrition supplies, and promoting healthy infant and young-child feeding. We will continue to support Ukraine's neighbouring countries' health workforces with skill training and supportive supervision.



UNICEF helps hospitals across Ukraine to provide quality medical care to mothers and their children



Supplies provided to **1,005** health care facilities and maternity houses in Ukraine



Mobile health teams reached **15,000** women and children in Romania



**1,000,000** rapid antigen tests for COVID-19 delivered; **700,000** doses of tetanus-diphtheria vaccine in Ukraine



**Four shelters** in paediatric and maternity hospitals reconstructed in Lviv region



**209,720** inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) doses delivered in Ukraine



Infant and young child feeding counselling to **508,245** caregivers in Ukraine



Primary healthcare services provided to **48,947** children, women and other family members in Slovakia



Mobile response strengthened through provision of **15 ambulances** to eight oblasts in Ukraine



In Ukraine, thousands of primary and secondary schools have been damaged or destroyed among the many factors constraining Ukraine's **5.3 million students** from an education. An estimated three out of four students are studying online, dealing with limited internet connectivity and frequent power cuts. Through our Back-to-Learning initiative, UNICEF has equipped **1,000** hub schools with education supplies catering to more than **500,000** children. We support the All-Ukrainian School Online platform for distance and blended learning: **333,000** Ukrainian students and **135,000** teachers have registered on Ukraine's essential digital-learning infrastructure.

In refugee-response countries, we enhance existing systems to meet new demand. In Poland, learning materials, laptops and tablets have been distributed to schools reaching about **358,584 children**; in Romania, **15,772 children** received education supplies including school-in-a-box kits and books; in Slovakia, **10,000 Ukrainian children** were enrolled in schools and a further **10,000** provided with language learning materials.

"Schools and early childhood education settings provide a crucial sense of structure and safety to children, and missing out on learning can have lifelong consequences."

- Afshan Khan, UNICEF Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia

# Psychosocial support and education

When children are out of school, they not only lose access to education - their safety, stability, friendships, and vital social development are compromised. Conflict-related trauma and psychological stress have an impact on learning capacity - **15 per cent** of students in over **100** educational institutions have discontinued their studies because of deteriorating mental health. Our reach for students' mental health and wellbeing have facilitated psychosocial support for **3.3 million children and caregivers.** 

In training **99,000** teachers we aim to steer their focus towards supporting children's psychosocial needs while parents in affected regions will continue to receive tools to support their children's learning during difficult and challenging times. Our programmes are further addressing learning and social skills, integrating psychosocial interventions, and engaging families and communities to support children's emotional welfare.

# UNICEF is seeking \$174.9 million to ensure that 5 million children and adolescents can continue learning through to December 2023.

In 2023, UNICEF will focus on strengthening education systems with two key priorities: back to learning and restoring mental health. Embedded in these priorities are learning continuity for every child, especially those who are displaced or affected by conflict. UNICEF will continue to support education and early childhood services in schools, homes and communities; rehabilitate facilities; and use our training programmes to build teachers' and parents' skills.

Olena, a teacher and mother of four children, remembers the sound of rockets in Odesa on February 24, when her husband opened the window and said, 'Listen, the war began.' "My daughter ran from room to room, shouting 'Mom, there are bombs here'. She and her children found safety in Moldova where for two months she was "living like a robot". Then she started helping refugee children from Ukraine. UNICEF and local partner "Step by Step" have organized educational activities at a puppet theatre in Chisinau where 15,000 children have participated in language, math, art therapy and dance classes taught by Olena and nine other teachers from Ukraine. "These children have lost almost all connections with their life in Ukraine," Olena explains. "By participating in these activities, they return to their childhood, to what once belonged to them. When I came here, I received hope, a warm touch. My oldest daughter started learning Romanian, my youngest daughter made a lot of friends. Thanks to this project, I recaptured her big smile."



"I'm grateful to have the opportunity to continue my work, because I can continue my life."

Winterization

Donetsk oblasts.

transfer programmes.

The displacement of 13.6 million people in and beyond Ukraine has triggered, among other things, mass unemployment in Ukraine. The loss of livelihoods and rising poverty rates have left families unable to afford basic necessities or essential supplies, such as warm clothes and fuel for heating. Within the humanitarian sector, there is global consensus that cash transfers are often more cost-efficient and effective than distributing supplies - a crucial shortterm safety net for vulnerable families facing financial hardship, helping them to meet their basic needs with dignity and the freedom to prioritize their needs. In Ukraine, since the launch of our cash transfer programmes in March 2022, UNICEF has distributed \$290 million to over 224,303 households.

In refugee-response countries, we have been working with government social protection systems to scale up cash transfers. For example, in Moldova, with other United Nations partners and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, we scaled up government assistance by \$37 per household, covering the winterization needs of 80,000 Moldovan and refugee households.



In Moldova, 2,379 refugee households benefited from UNICEF and UNHCR cash assistance.



In Belarus, in partnership with Belarus Red Cross and Belarus Post Office, UNICEF delivered cash support to over 2.300 individuals.

In Ukraine, UNICEF and the government are currently

winterization supplies. Working with our partner, the

Association of Ukrainian Cities, we have provided 31

municipalities with funds for winter clothing, water

heaters and generators to distribute in frontline and

In 2023, UNICEF is seeking \$443.8 million worth

of cash transfers to reach 276.686 households in

In 2023, UNICEF will continue to strengthen social

countries as well as support direct cash transfer

programmes that allow families to recover their

cash transfer standards and establish criteria for

refugee-response countries to support their cash

protection systems in Ukraine and in refugee-response

means of sustenance and livelihoods. Our verification

exercises help target interventions, and we develop

Ukraine and refugee-response countries.

newly accessible areas, such as Kharkiv, Kherson and

implementing winterization activities with \$137.6

million of prepositioned humanitarian supplies

in Ukraine and a procured \$21 million worth of



UNICEF delivered cash benefits to 2,374 Ukrainian households for education assistance in Slovakia.



Cash payments have been delivered to 125 households in Hungary and 131 households in Bulgaria.

Eight-year-old Eva, whose home was destroyed by the war, poses for a room with her mother and sister amid power outages, heating problems, a lack of





Children exposed to war experience shock, trauma and despair. Those fleeing across borders are at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation including illegal adoption, child trafficking and sexual abuse. For those remaining in Ukraine, seeking safety in shelters and moving to other parts of the country causes considerable duress.

Timely and sustained mental health and psychosocial support services are essential for children and caregivers to endure and recover from the trauma they've experienced in the last 365 days. With UNICEF support, psychologists, often Ukrainian volunteers, have offered services at Blue Dots, Spilno Child Spots, with mobile teams and through a mental health support programme (PORUCH) reaching those in need, both online and in person.

In Ukraine, more than **3.3 million** children and families received support to foster their mental health, including an estimated **357,963** children with disabilities. Over **12,140** professionals and humanitarian workers have been given the opportunity or venue to work with children playing sports or doing art, helping war-affected children work through fears and find new ways of coping.

UNICEF and partners helped to identify, document and offer services to over 100,000 children who were either unaccompanied or separated from their families and guardians, identified by multi-disciplinary teams, hotline inquiries and monitoring children who had been evacuated from residential care. Some **3,406** families were trained to provide temporary care during efforts to trace and rejoin these children with their families.

**In refugee-hosting countries**, UNICEF has brought mental health services to 840,000 children and their caregivers, including over **275,000** refugees in Poland from social service workers supported by UNICEF.

UNICEF, partners and host governments helped identify over 32,000 children and facilitated their safe return to their families; 10,000 of them were provided with alternative care that ensured their safety and well-being.

### **Gender-Based Violence**

In the last 365 days, women have especially carried the burden of war. They face physical danger, sexual abuse and exploitation and violence while on the move. In Ukraine, Spilno Child Spots and integrated mobile teams have reached 400,019 women and children with services to prevent and address issues of gender-based violence. Of these, 29,500 adults accessed specialized

services provided by health, social and legal institutions; and 43,700 adults who had experienced gender-based violence were able to access mental health and psychosocial services.

**In refugee-response countries**, 311,000 women and children received health, social and legal services to prevent and address issues of gender-based violence through the blue dots.

UNICEF is seeking \$162 million to reach 4 million children and their caregivers with mental health and psychosocial support services.

In 2023, in Ukraine, the child protection programme will focus on case management of unaccompanied and separated children, those in institutional care, victims of mine action and those placed in alternative care. In refugee-response countries, UNICEF will strengthen national governments and municipalities to provide a supportive environment for refugee children including unaccompanied and separated children, children with disabilities and those evacuated from institutions Together with stakeholders, UNICEF will scale up the Blue Dots and expand the use of the Digital Blue Dot.



My goal is to provide children with a feeling of relief, to help them make friends, communicate and feel safe."

Diana Seamber, Psychologist PORUCH programme



"I love football!" exclaims 12-year-old Nastya, who fled Kyiv to a small village in western Ukraine with her mother. "I used to have weekly football classes back home and here I am doing it again, making new friends..."



Let's run to the kindergarten! Young Ukrainian children with developmental risks and delays together with their parents are finding the support they need in Slovakia

I am proud of the commitment of local officials doing every possible work to maintain water supply during these difficult times. UNICEF has prioritized providing the backup power and much needed consumables for these critical facilities. Together with our partners, with oblast authorities, we work to ensure that families have continuing access to water and to health care services."

Murat Sahin, UNICEF Representative in Ukraine

The destruction of power and water supply systems has rendered many regions of Ukraine dark and without water for households, schools and hospitals. This increases the dangers of water-borne disease outbreaks, putting lives at risk, especially as hygiene and sanitation standards deteriorate. In refugee response countries, population surges put pressure on refugee accommodations and facilities.

In Ukraine, since the war escalated, UNICEF has ensured access to safe water for **5.6 million** people; 560,000 have received emergency water by delivery of bottled water and water trucking. In November alone, an estimated 87,000 displaced people staying in community centres and temporary shelters in Luhansk, Kharkiv and Dnipro received safe drinking water. UNICEF supported the procurement of 14.25 tons of liquefied chlorine for the Kharkiv Vodokanal water system for water purification, providing 900,000 people with safe drinking water. More than **3.9 million** people have access to safe water from rehabilitated, repaired and equipped water systems that were destroyed by the war, and 1.6 million people received WASH supplies, including menstrual hygiene, hygiene kits and winter items, to prevent disease outbreaks due to poor hygiene practices and improper waste disposal among internally displaced populations.

In refugee-response countries, UNICEF reached over **100,000** people (**66,000** in Poland) with safe and adequate water and hygiene services.

More than 55,000 children accessed sanitation facilities and services including hygiene kits, menstrual health kits and winter items such as shoes, clothes and blankets as the temperatures dropped. In Bulgaria, 9,700 refugees received winter items and 5,081 people received WASH supplies. In Moldova, UNICEF ensured that Blue Dot hubs and other child-friendly spaces had adequate heating devices and that WASH infrastructure was protected from freezing temperatures.

# In 2023, UNICEF is seeking \$150.5 million to provide safe drinking water to over 5.7 million people.

Working through water utility company partnerships we established in Ukraine in 2022, UNICEF will continue working to repair and rehabilitate damaged water infrastructure in accessible areas in 2023. Evaluation and research will continue to monitor impact. As cluster lead, UNICEF will conduct close and agile coordination with national and municipal authorities, 47 member organizations and their 85 implementing partners to best support local systems and skills to deliver WASH interventions. Across the borders, UNICEF will continue to support the Blue Dot hubs to have appropriate WASH infrastructure, critical hygiene supplies and appropriate messaging as part of integrated services. In preparation for increased refugee movements, UNICEF will procure and preposition critical WASH supplies to enable scaled response at border points.



In the early days of the war, Borodianka, a small town outside of Kyiv, witnessed fierce fighting which destroyed 90 per cent of the downtown, 350 private residential buildings, 700 apartments, and important infrastructure facilities. The municipal chief engineer was among those who risked his life amid shelling to repair damage of the modular city's water supply and sewage system. UNICEF, working with Borodianka Heat and Water Utility, purchased five power generators, enabling water and sewage disposal, even in the absence



Individuals and families sometimes hold beliefs and practices that hinder uptake of certain services, for example myths around vaccines for children or reluctance towards mental health services by adolescents. Such circumstances can be made worse when refugees are in unfamiliar cultural and social settings, especially with a foreign language. Disinformation accompanied by rising costs of living can create tension between refugees and their host communities. Unchecked, this may heighten risks of abuse, violence and discrimination.

In Ukraine, UNICEF has disseminated information to over **13 million** people, such as on how to access services and explosive ordnance risk. Campaigns were carried out on social media, digital platforms, at train stations and border crossing points. In person, UNICEF reached **670** centres for the internally displaced.

More than **4.5 million** people accessed information on vaccination and **450,000** pregnant women accessed online materials on breastfeeding. At Spilno Child Spots, 'edutainment' campaigns were rolled out to support learning and social cohesion for displaced children and host communities. Other interactive learning platforms were used to provide alternative learning, for example the NUMO app that provided child-friendly content reached **4.6 million** people.

Gathering from our experience in countries around the world that host refugees, the strain of a refugee population amidst national economic stress, such as inflation and fuel crises, may begin to grow. In refugee-response countries, UNICEF's communication campaigns promote coexistence and create understanding around refugees. Our programmes ensure equitable access to services by refugees and host communities. With our partners, UNICEF has reached over 15 million people with such messaging, especially on access to services. Blue Dots; a digital platform in Poland; Viber messaging in Moldova; and social networks in Belarus are among the many ways we reach out and inform.

In Moldova, UNICEF partnered with the National School of Public Health to track issues related to refugees to mitigate tensions and strengthen social

cohesion. UNICEF launched an online campaign with social cohesion messages reaching 256,000 and engaging 1,700 people in host communities in Romania. UNICEF and Municipality of Praque conducted a campaign on social cohesion that reached over 27,000 people in Czech Republic.

Our channels allow affected children and their caregivers to provide valuable feedback that we use to make the services and interventions better. We continue to build social cohesion among refugee and their host communities by advocating for equitable access to services, regardless of origin.

To monitor accountability, UNICEF received and processed over 300,000 and over 140,000 unique inquiries and feedback messages via hotline, feedback forms, research and rapid assessments and other accountability instruments for Ukraine and refugeeresponse countries respectively.

In 2023, UNICEF is ramping up the dissemination of explosive ordnance risk education as well as information on access to services, hygiene, routine immunization and ending institutional care of children in Ukraine.



Ukrainian and Polish children speak the common language of friendship How a center in Warsaw for children with disabilities promotes



In Romania, Lilia, 7 years old, is continuing her studies in a classroom for Ukrainian children, including for children with disabilities, supported by UNICEF. Lilia has a developmental delay, but thanks to UNICEF's support, she is tutored by her Ukrainian teacher and continues her learning with her Ukrainian peers.



In 2023, under established humanitarian leadership structures, UNICEF will sustain and expand its flexible, adaptive response to the situation in Ukraine, including protection assistance, delivery of life-saving supplies, provision of essential services, enhancement of social service capacities, preparedness for additional displacements and support to government systems.

Our essential work and programmes in Ukraine continually reinforce the links between emergency response and child-centred development and reconstruction, with robust contingency plans to adapt to an unpredictable political environment.

In the east and south of Ukraine, where active conflict continues and access is constrained, UNICEF will continue to open humanitarian space for children - expanding our coverage to assure children's access to services and working in partnership with local authorities, municipalities and non-government organisations. Spilno Child Spots will continue to connect internally displaced children and their families with the social services they need. And we'll continue to work with partners to reach youth with mental health support.

It is a priority to keep children with their families and in family settings. To do so, UNICEF will continue family tracing and reunification, as well as case management of children who are unaccompanied, separated or in institutions. Cash support remains a priority, particularly for foster families, as we continue to work with non-government organizations. This vital program is harmonized with other United Nations agencies, helping to ensure that families can take care of their children in dignified conditions given the level of severe economic hardship.

In the rest of the country, where access is less constrained, UNICEF will continue to advocate so that child services are included in the country's early recovery and reconstruction plans. We ensure to meet children's needs immediately and into the future. We continue to collaborate with partners to strengthen the systems that support children's health and education such as early childhood education and child protection, to ensure all children – whether displaced within the country, or as refugees – have equitable access to services. By reaching the most vulnerable children – those with disabilities or in institutional care, for example – we assure that no child is left behind.

In response to the needs of Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring countries, UNICEF supports each

country's specific response and works with existing resources and systems in places now strained by demand. We have partnered with governments and municipalities to scale up education, health, nutrition, child and social protection in **19** countries, with our United Nations partners and UNICEF National Committees.

This year, UNICEF requires \$1.1 billion to address the immediate and longer-term needs of 9.4 million people, including 4 million children, who remain deeply impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Sector	Ukraine (US\$)	Refugee Response Countries (US\$)
Health & Nutrition	104,000,000	15,891,889
Child Protection GBViE & PSEA	111,010,000	51,278,716
Education	100,000,000	74,890,431
WASH	145,000,000	5,539,917
Social Protection	369,230,400	74,609,389
Cross-sectoral		7,289,662
Total	829,240,000	229,500,004

Flexible funding ensures timely preparedness for additional internal displacements and refugee movements. It enables UNICEF to provide, sustain and expand critical services in health, nutrition, child protection, gender-based violence, water and sanitation, and social protection alongside government relief, early recovery plans and reconstruction efforts.

Our private sector support has been unprecedented. UNICEF has received donations from over **921** businesses, **244** philanthropy partners, **141** foundations and a large base of individual donors in **47** countries.

On behalf of the children of Ukraine, we express our deepest gratitude to those who have supported UNICEF's work.

Your support has been and will continue to be essential to UNICEF's ability to reach the most vulnerable children of Ukraine, the most crisis-affected children and the forgotten children suffering the unthinkable effects of war.

Most of all, the children of Ukraine need an end to this war and sustained peace to regain their childhoods, return to normalcy and begin to heal and recover.