



Humanitarian **Action for** Children

On 28 February, 2022, a young girl finds safety hiding in an underground shelter in Ukraine.

### **Ukraine Crisis**

#### HIGHLIGHTS<sup>1</sup>

- · Significant escalation of the armed conflict in Ukraine has resulted in increased humanitarian needs and population displacement within and outside of the country. The situation is rapidly evolving; and hostilities have led to destruction of key infrastructure and disruption of basic social services and economic activity. A number of children have been caught in the crossfire and have been injured and killed, highlighting the extremely vulnerable situation children are in. The conflict in Ukraine poses an immediate and growing threat to the lives and well-being of the country's 7.5 million children.
- UNICEF is rapidly scaling up its multi-secotral response to the increasing humanitarian needs in Ukraine and among refugees in neighboring countries. Ensuring the protection and welbeing of women and children is central to UNICEF's response efforts. Multipurpose cash transfers will be undertaken to support vulnerable households with children. UNICEF will also provide safe water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as the resumption of primary health care and nutrition services and will work to enroll displaced children in local education programmes.
- UNICEF is appealing for \$349 million to provide critical life-saving support for children and their families. This includes US\$ 276 million to respond to immediate needs within Ukraine and US\$ 73 million for humanitarian needs in neighbouring countries. This funding will help to support over 3.5 million people, including 2.2 million children.

**IN NEED** million million people<sup>2</sup> children<sup>3</sup>

2018

TO BE REACHED

million million

people

children

#### KEY PLANNED TARGETS



# 1.5 million

children and women accessing health care



# 3 million

people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water



# 1 million

children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



273,250

households reached with UNICEF funded multipurpose humanitarian cash transfers

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** 

**US\$ 349** million

2018 2022

#### **HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS**

Significant escalation of the armed conflict in Ukraine has resulted in increased humanitarian needs and population displacement within and outside of the country. The situation is rapidly evolving; and hostilities have led to destruction of key civilian infrastructure and disruption of basic social services and economic activity. A number of children have been caught in the crossfire and have been injured and killed, highlighting the extremely vulnerable situation children are in. The conflict in Ukraine poses an immediate and growing threat to the lives and well-being of the country's 7.5 million children. The operating environment in Ukraine has become extremely complex. Access constraints, clashes, shelling and air strikes and rapidly changing front lines are posing significant challenges to UNICEF and partners in delivering critical life-saving services to vulnerable children and families.

Children are in shock, and desperate for safety. Hundreds of thousands are on the move, the majority being women and children. Displacement places women and children at increased risk of gender based violence, abuse, psychological trauma, and family separation. The most vulnerable children, including children living outside of their families or in institutional care, unaccompanied and separated children, and children with disabilities, are particularly impacted by deterioration in the availability and quality of support services. Several educational facilities have been damaged over the past week and schools have been closed since 21 February. Centralized and decentralized WASH services and infrastructure, particularly in eastern Ukraine, have been damaged leaving over a million households without water. Displacement is leading to emerging water, sanitation and hygiene needs, especially in communal shelters.

Child and maternal health have been severely impacted with many health facilities running out of supplies, including water. Access to essential immunizations is likely to further deteriorate, exacerbating the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The nutritional status of children is expected to decline as families resources are stretched and nutrition services become inaccessible. Further outbreaks of measles and polio are possible, particularly given the number of people on the move and overcrowding in temporary shelters. Significant psychological trauma is likely to impact children's mental health.

The protracted armed conflict, widespread displacement, and over-stretched national systems and services will leave thousands of children in need of humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian needs are rapidly multiplying; the most pressing needs are emergency medical services, critical medicines, health supplies and equipment, safe water for drinking and hygiene, and shelter and protection for those displaced from their homes. Children in Ukraine and those who have fled to neighboring countries need urgent support now.

SECTOR NEEDS4



### 12 million

people in need of health assistance



### 12 million

people lack access to safe water



### 2.9 million

children in need of protection services



## 2.3 million

people in need of income support



# 2.2 million

children need education support

#### STORY FROM THE FIELD



A Ukrainian refugee family with 11 children entered Romania at the Isaccea border crossing. They left the country by bus, and then took the ferry to arrive in Romania. "We are 12 children, but one of my sisters is now in Odessa with our father", says David, one of the eldest brothers. "In Odessa... there are a lot of fights. Today we heard really loud sounds and we decided to leave our city and we came here. Here we will wait for our sister to come from Odessa, and then we will go together to Poland or Germany", says David.

A refugee family with 11 children entered Romania at the Isaccea border crossing.

#### **HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY**

To respond to the increasing humantiarian needs in Ukraine and among refugees in neighboring countries, UNICEF is working to rapidly scale up its multi-sectoral humanitarian response leveraging its presence, experience and established partnerships. UNICEF is working with partners and other UN agencies in Ukraine and in neighboring refugee hosting countries.

Within Ukraine, UNICEF will work with partners to resume child protection services and will replicate the 'Blue Dot' child friendly spaces for critical support to children and families on the move. Interventions focusing on the prevention of, and response to, gender based violence, will be integrated into UNICEF's mult-sectoral response. UNICEF will work with partners to set in place multipurpose cash transfers to support vulnerable households with children, and to meet a broad range of financial needs. UNICEF will resume water trucking where infrastructure is damaged, and will work with partners to provide WASH supplies, and re-establish water and sanitation facilities in communities and where people are seeking shelter. In education UNICEF will work with partners to resume learning for displaced children, and children on the move. This will include temporary enrollment of children in local education facilities and within safe learning spaces. UNICEF will support resumption of health and nutrition services in local health facilities, including primary healthcare in communities and through mobile health teams. Additional support will include the provision of health supplies and procurement and safe delivery of essential vaccines. UNICEF will continue to support the ongoing polio outbreak response, increase COVID-19 vaccination rates, and prevention of a measles outbreak.

In neighbouring refugee hosting countries, UNICEF is reactivating the "Blue Dot" safe spaces that provide crucial support to families on the move. UNICEF will also scale up health and nutrition support, focusing on the provision of essential services for children and prevention of disease outbreaks. UNICEF will provide humanitarian cash transfers to vulnerable households with children, including those who are in transit. UNICEF is planning to provide sanitation interventions in shelters, and will distribute hygiene kits, and support trainings on infection prevention and control. UNICEF will support children's continued access to education through support for recreational activities, integration of children into the national education system, and provision of education kits for children on the move.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ukraine/situation-reports

#### 2022 PROGRAMME TARGETS<sup>5</sup>



#### **Health and nutrition**

• 1,500,000 children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities



#### Water, sanitation and hygiene

 3,000,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs



#### Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

• 1,000,000 children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



#### **Education**

 600,000 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning



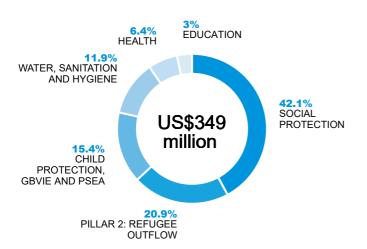
#### **Social protection**

- 25,000 households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and/or funding
- 273,250 households reached with UNICEF funded multipurpose humanitarian cash transfers

#### **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2022**

UNICEF is appealing<sup>6</sup> for US\$ 349 million to prevent a further deterioration of the welfare of children and their families in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries to ensure the provision of critical life-saving support. This includes US\$ 276 million for immediate needs within Ukraine covering a 3-month period, and US\$ 73 million for needs in neighbouring countries covering a 6-month period. These amounts are an estimate based on initial assessments, and funding requirements may require adjustment based on the evolving situation and corresponding humanitarian needs.

Flexible contributions from donors will enable UNICEF and partners to take prompt actions to meet the growing needs and fulfill the rights of children and their families affected by the Ukraine crisis.



Appeal sector	Revised 2022 HAC requirement (US\$)
Pillar 1: Ukraine	275,928,500
Health	22,200,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	41,500,000
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	53,912,500
Education	11,250,000
Social protection	147,066,000
Pillar 2: Refugee Outflow <sup>8</sup>	73,120,000
Total	349,048,500

#### **ENDNOTES**

- 1. UNICEF's public health and socio-economic COVID-19 response, including programme targets and funding requirements, is integrated into the standalone country, multi-country and regional Humanitarian Action for Children appeals. All interventions related to accelerating equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines fall under the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) global appeal.
- 2. 12 million in Ukraine and 4 million in neighboring countries in need of humanitarian assistance. This estimate does not include the number of affected people which is much higher.
- 3. Estimates based on 18% of the affected population are children. This number is children in need of humanitarian assistance. This estimate does not include the number of affected children which is much higher.
- 4. Estimate based on OCHA flash appeal sector needs
- 5. These targets are only for the Ukraine in-country response
- 6. UNICEF funding requirement is for 3 months for Ukraine (in-country response) and for 6 months for refugees outflow. UNICEF 's requirements are in line with the OCHA Flash and the Inter Agency RRRP appeals.
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- 8. UNICEF's funding requirement and response plan for refugees is aligned with the interagency RRRP. UNICEF's refugee response will cover interventions in Poland, Moldova, Romania, Belarus, Hungary, Slovakia and other surrounding countries.