

Ukraine

June 2022

More than four months since the war started, attacks on civilian populated areas and civilian infrastructure continue in eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, endangering people's lives and access to basic services as well as causing widespread trauma. Towards the end of June, an estimated 6.3 million people remain internally displaced (IDPs), representing 14 percent of the general population of Ukraine, while an estimated 15.7 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection. At the same time, people affected, including those displaced, are starting to seek medium to longer-term solutions to their precarious situations.

UNHCR has quickly scaled up its operation as part of the inter-agency emergency response and complements the Government-led response with protection services, shelter/housing assistance, cash assistance and distribution of essential items. The priority is to reach the most vulnerable where humanitarian access is possible, while also laying the groundwork for sustainable and durable solutions, working closely in coordination with state and local authorities, community-based actors and partners.

KEY FIGURES

6.3

million Internally displaced people in Ukraine*

15.7 million



People in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection*3

HIGHLIGHTS

*Delivered with partners from 24 February to 30 June 2022



People reached with UNHCR's assistance to date.



573,185

People received essential items, clothes, shelter materials and food assistance.



People received targeted protection assistance and information at border points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines.



Individuals enrolled to receive cash assistance and 391,372 individuals received their first payments.

74,313 74,313

Sleeping places created or improved in a total of 196 reception and collective centres.

Humanitarian convoys, both UNHCR and interagency, with assistance in hard-hit areas.

STORIES





Iryna Morykvas is a Ukrainian artist and children's book illustrator. She fled the war in Ukraine with her 10-year-old son to seek safety.

"Before the war, I didn't really think about security. I lived in a beautiful, peaceful city, painted a lot, met friends, travelled."

Iryna created a unique emoji – a heart with an open door - symbolizing the love and solidarity she encountered on her journey.

"When we open the door of our home to someone who needs security, we open our heart."

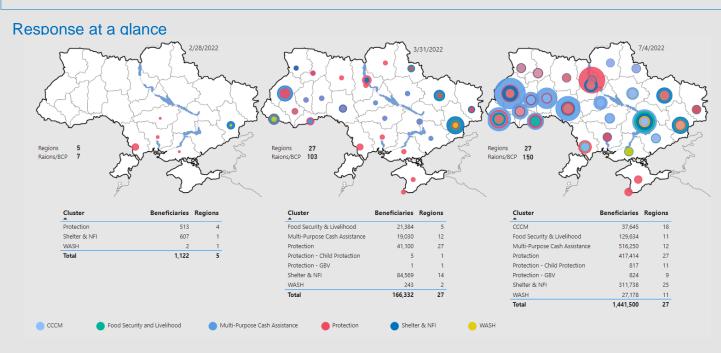


Operational Context

- Airstrikes continue across Ukraine, with intense shelling and hostilities in eastern Ukraine, particularly in Luhanska and Donestka oblasts, limiting humanitarian access in those areas where needs are highest, especially for immediate lifesaving assistance. Delivering assistance across frontlines to areas under Russian control remained extremely challenging.
- In June, indiscriminate airstrikes continued to hit civilian infrastructure, including the airstrike on a shopping mall in Kremenchuk that left 18 civilians dead, underlining the continued general insecurity throughout Ukraine. In addition, attacks on infrastructure and distribution networks have reduced access to energy for millions of people, which is of major concern ahead of the winter.
- The displacement situation remains very fluid. People continue to flee areas exposed to shelling and attacks. At the same time, despite monitoring indicating exposure to serious protection risks, IDPs and refugees have returned to their homes, sometimes due to economic considerations. Others are unable to return for reasons such as territories being occupied, unexploded ordinance, and destroyed housing.

Response

- UNHCR continues to work to support and complement the authorities' response and has now reached some 1.5 million people with protection services, assistance through cash or essential items, and shelter support.
- UNHCR has increased its footprint to 241 staff in eight locations and maintained presence in the non-Government controlled areas (NGCAs) of Donetsk and Luhansk. UNHCR has expanded partnerships with local NGOs to enlarge capacity and geographical coverage, including in central and eastern Ukraine.
- The medium to longer-term needs of conflict-affected people, IDPs, and returnees will increase as the war continues, requiring sustained support from the humanitarian and broader international community. While focusing on immediate emergency relief, UNHCR is contributing to laying the groundwork for early recovery. Housing solutions will be a key element in promoting durable solutions for IDPs and returnees.
- UNHCR, as shelter cluster lead, coordinated the preparation of the Winter Priority Procurement & Repair Plan outlining activities and financial requirements to respond to winterization needs in Ukraine, which is a key priority of the humanitarian response to prepare for the onset of freezing temperatures. UNHCR will scale up shelter repairs, ensuring proper insulation is installed in those homes, expand refurbishments of collective centres, distribute heating appliances and other winterized NFIs, and cash for rent and/or utilities.









Child Protection capacity building in Lviv © UNHCR

KEY FIGURES

388,831 people

received **targeted protection assistance and information** at border points, transit, and reception centres and through hotlines. The overall figure includes more than:

- 121,500 people receiving information and counselling through hotlines
- 99,200 people receiving protection support or counselling
- 39,400 people receiving psychosocial support or psychological first aid
- 50,000 people receiving legal counselling or assistance
- 8,500 people receiving social accompaniment
- UNHCR, with NGO partners, is providing integrated protection advice and services to support and complement local social services, targeting IDPs with specific needs, including women at risk of gender-based violence (GBV) and trafficking, older persons, unaccompanied and separated children, and persons with disabilities.
- In June, UNHCR, through its protection cluster lead and coordination function, made a critical contribution to the monitoring of returns by conducting 34 focus group discussions in 29 settlements in Odeska, Kharkivska, Kyivska and Sumska oblasts. A total of 206 people participated in the focus group discussions, including 144 women. The focus group discussions documented concerns relating to the sustainability and voluntariness of the return movements reported as well as the living conditions in return areas and will inform advocacy and planning.
- UNHCR continues to enhance GBV mainstreaming in programmes in the eastern, central and western regions of Ukraine. Current efforts involve providing services to persons at risk of GBV and GBV survivors, such as psychosocial support (PSS), social accompaniment, referrals, dignity kits, cash assistance and legal aid. Ongoing work has also taken place to ensure that reception centres hosting displaced people mainstream GBV prevention and risk mitigation, including gender-segregated WASH facilities.
- To enhance access to life-saving information, UNHCR worked as an active member of the GBV Sub-Cluster and its Outreach Working Group, on developing and distributing key messages in Ukrainian and English on GBV prevention and response. In addition, in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force, UNHCR is also translating the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) PSEA Training Package to Ukrainian.
- Between 10 June and 1 July, UNHCR conducted six in-person workshops on GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response in Lviv, Vinnytsia, Dnipro, Kyiv and Uzhhorod to partner organizations (INTERSOS, Proliska, Rokada, Right to Protection, Tenth of April, ACTED, Stabilisation Support Service, CrimeaSOS, DonbasSOS, NEEMIA, and NEEKA) and other local NGOs. Participants included 145 staff members providing services to persons at risk of GBV and GBV survivors (e.g., PSS, social accompaniment, cash and legal aid), as well as on supporting GBV safe spaces, shelters and IDP sites, community-based interventions and assistance at border points. Training also



provided practical guidance to safely respond to GBV and further mainstream gender equality and GBV in humanitarian programmes.

As part of the Child Protection (CP) capacity building plan for UNHCR and partners staff, UNHCR is conducting training sessions and on-the-spot mentoring in different locations. In June, around 98 people from three locations (Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia) participated in interactive training sessions on Child Protection in Emergencies. The topics focused on CP basics (concepts, objectives, and CP mainstreaming) with a view to building a common understanding base on CP concepts and programmes among all actors, and to ensure key persons interact and cooperate for more

comprehensive interventions.

- UNHCR continues to coordinate with the State Border Guard Service to discuss cases of persons attempting to cross the border but who face particular risks due to documentation and other issues. UNHCR has deployed teams along the border with EU countries and Moldova, to identify and support people at risk and ensure that they can cross the border in conditions of safety and dignity.
- UNHCR and partners continue working to identify and support refugees and asylum-seekers who remain in Ukraine. In June, 312 persons received services such as PSS, legal counselling, and support in accessing medical assistance.
- Over the past month, 20 of the most vulnerable refugee families were identified for additional cash assistance support, which will be processed in July.
- Four DAFI scholarship students successfully graduated with UNHCR assistance. An additional three students are enrolled in higher education under the same programme.
- UNHCR and partners are working closely with the 12 regional refugee departments of the State Migration Service (SMS), including in Kharkivska (whose service capacity depends on the changing security considerations due to ongoing hostilities). UNHCR is aware of several new asylum-seekers who have not been able yet to register their refugee claims with the SMS and partner attorneys are following up on their access to the asylum procedure. At the same time, 21 new asylum-seekers were registered in Ukraine by partners in June.
- UNHCR partners provided legal support to asylum-seekers regarding extension of documents and processing of asylum applications. Despite martial law, UNHCR's partner, Right to Protection, obtained two decisions of the administrative court of first instance in favour of asylum-seekers in June. UNHCR continues receiving reports from persons granted protection in Ukraine who left Ukraine after 24 February to EU countries, concerning their willingness to return if the security situation stabilizes.
- UNHCR has been advocating for all stateless persons, persons with undetermined nationality and persons at risk of statelessness, including Roma, to have equal access to protection and assistance.





SHELTER AND NFIS





In Sumy oblast, UNHCR distributed NFIs to around 300 residents whose apartments were damaged due to shelling, June 2022 © UNHCR

- UNHCR continues to make all efforts, in coordination with other UN Agencies and NGOs, to deliver assistance to the hardest-hit areas through humanitarian convoys. So far, UNHCR has contributed to 95 convoys, of which five are inter-agency convoys coordinated by OCHA, reaching 99,350 people in hard-hit areas such as Chernihivska, Donetska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Sumska and Zaporizka oblasts.
- UNHCR continues distributing non-food items (such as blankets, mattresses, winter clothes, and hygiene kits) and food to IDPs, conflict-affected people and to vulnerable families hosting IDPs, reaching 573,185 people with assistance to date.
- UNHCR is distributing emergency shelter kits (ESKs) and shelter materials to people with damaged homes in areas that have been most impacted by heavy fighting. The materials include items such as tarpaulins, battens, and nails so that people can carry out provisional repairs to protect themselves from the elements. To-date, over 24,000 people have received shelter materials.
- UNHCR will carry out light and medium home repairs, complementing government shelter repair programmes, in areas where the security situation allows, namely in the north and northeast of Ukraine in Kyivska, Chernihivska and Sumska oblasts (as well as Kharkivska, if the security situation allows). Beneficiary selection began in Kyivska and Chernihivska oblasts in mid-June, with over 2,000 potential beneficiaries shared by authorities. Targeting follows an Area-Based-Approach that incorporates both a protection and a technical component (housing typology). UNHCR partners are currently going house to house selecting beneficiaries.
- UNHCR is working in coordination with local authorities to improve and expand accommodation places for IDPs in reception and collective centres, including with regard to the availability of protection services, such as those that prevent and mitigate the risk of exploitation and GBV. The approach comprises two components: work undertaken to improve the living conditions of existing collective centres and work undertaken to add additional capacity to existing or newly identified collective centres. To date, 74,313 sleeping places have been created or improved in a total of 196 reception and collective centres hosting IDPs who cannot return home but do not have the means to secure private accommodation.
- UNHCR is carrying out technical and needs assessments of potential collective centres in coordination with local authorities, as part of a wider Shelter/NFI cluster effort to identify needs. To-



- date, 104 assessments have been carried out, and UNHCR has completed the detailed design of eight centres and making small-scale improvements to six centres in Zakarpatska.
- Refurbishment to collective and reception centres includes renovating facilities as well as adapting spaces for older persons and persons with disabilities, improving WASH conditions and the heating systems and insulation.
- With winter around the corner, UNHCR as the Shelter/NFI Cluster lead agency has been coordinating the development of the inter-agency Winter Priority Procurement & Repair Plan, in cooperation with relevant ministries. As IDPs currently living in schools and dormitories will be expected to move before the next semester starts in September, ensuring availability of sustainable housing options and winterization support is a priority.
- UNHCR will also carry out site management of collective centres, to ensure that inclusive, community-based protection approaches are applied, and protection services are available to populations in sites.



- In coordination with the Government and Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP), as well as humanitarian cash actors, UNHCR is implementing a multi-purpose cash assistance programme that aims to reach a total of 1.08 million IDPs by the end of the year with 2,220 Hryvnia (around US\$75) per eligible person per month for a duration of three months.
- This assistance aims to alleviate pressure on families by contributing to their ability to meet basic needs like accommodation, transport, food and hygiene items and serves as a transitional safety net pending the individual's ability to find a job or be included in national social protection schemes.
- UNHCR has also distributed cash assistance to 77,000 IDPs referred directly by MoSP, including 64,000 low-income pensioners. This development follows the signing of a memorandum of understanding between UNHCR and the MoSP, on 19 April, in pursuit of strengthened cooperation and coordination with the MoSP and to ensure UNHCR cash assistance is aligned with and complementary to the authorities' assistance.
- UNHCR is maintaining its own direct enrolment to ensure those not registered with the government for diverse reasons are also reached and applies vulnerability targeting criteria to ensure that the assistance goes to the IDPs in greatest need. Currently, UNHCR runs six enrolment centres in Zaporizka, Dnipropetrovska, Poltavska, Kirovohradska, Cherkaska, and Lvivska oblasts, complemented by five mobile units which cover Kyivska oblast.
- In order to identify IDPs meeting the vulnerability targeting criteria, UNHCR has introduced protection pre-screening in all enrolment centres. To receive cash assistance an individual must be an IDP in addition to meeting one or more of the following criteria: a) single-headed households with at least two minor children or family members above the age of 60, b) older persons (over 60 years of age) heading households, c) households with one or more persons with specific needs and/or d) foster families caring for unaccompanied and separated children.
- UNHCR actively participates in the <u>Cash Working Group</u> (CWG) and is leading the CWG Task Team on De-duplication and Registration.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- UNHCR is emphasizing the importance of durable solutions from the start, supported by early recovery and humanitarian-development nexus approaches. In the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and in discussions with line ministries and partners, UNHCR is promoting the design and implementation of protection, shelter/housing and assistance programs that not only address an immediate humanitarian need, but also lay the ground for sustainable access to, for example, social services and durable solutions for the individual. The Durable Solutions from the Start Initiative, launched by the UN Crisis Coordinator, and the working groups established under the National Recovery Council are important platforms for discussing and promoting such people and solutions-centered approaches.
- Steps were taken to redesign a SIDA-funded project on Decent Work in Ukraine which started before the war, jointly implemented by the ILO and UNHCR, to fit the new context and to ensure that urgent needs for livelihoods can be addressed. On 23 June, the project was officially re-initiated in a presentation to representatives of line ministries, trade unions, employee's organizations, and other relevant actors. The final aim remains to create decent and productive employment for vulnerable groups, specifically youth, women and forcibly displaced persons in three identified economic sectors with high potential for growth. The project is part of UNHCR's endeavours to promote a transition towards a sustainable response to humanitarian needs as early as possible.
- UNHCR participated in the work of various working groups in the framework of the National Recovery Platform, put in place by the Government to coordinate the planning of the recovery and solutions from effects of the armed conflict. These working groups cover the return and reintegration of Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons, housing policy, and human rights.

Working with Partners

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster (PC) led by UNHCR has <u>90 partner organizations</u>, which have reached over 1.7 million persons with protection services since the start of the war against Ukraine. The scale of the response in General Protection, Child Protection, Gender-Based Violence and Mine Action increased by 1 million beneficiaries over the month of June.
- Among the beneficiaries reached by protection partners, 554,000 individuals received information on protection issues (e.g., IDP registration and social benefits), 333,000 were assisted via protection counselling and case management, 471,000 received individual psychosocial support and 53,000 Explosive Ordinance Risk Education. The PC <u>5W Dashboard</u> is a useful tool displaying protection partners' presence as well as their main achievements.
- The PC reviewed the funding status of the ongoing humanitarian response framed by the <u>Flash Appeal</u> (<u>March-August 2022</u>) and identified that 83 percent of the requested funding for protection (total US\$218 million) has already been received.
- The PC launched the online <u>Service Mapping Platform</u> a tool to find available protection service providers across Ukraine and to conduct referrals among humanitarian actors. In addition, the PC issued the <u>Minimum Standards for Referrals</u> to ensure a harmonized approach to protection referrals in the Ukrainian context.
- In consideration of increased return movements among the displaced population (both IDPs and those who return from abroad), the PC revised its Protection Monitoring Tool (PMT) to incorporate a section on returns to assess the motivations of individuals deciding to return and the sustainability of those movements. A total of 580 Key Informant Interviews were conducted in 335 settlements across the country. Among the main



reasons for return, Key Informants indicate the willingness to reunite with families, lack of resources to cover basic needs, lack of access to accommodation and services and lack of livelihoods in areas of displacement. During the month, 13 protection partners also held 59 dedicated Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with 457 returnees (74 percent women, 26 percent men) in 44 settlements in Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Kyivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zhytomyrska oblasts – the main regions witnessing return movements. Key findings from the FGDs confirmed PMT findings and indicate that the improved security situation in areas of origin was not identified as the primary motivating factor for returns, as the repeated escalation of violence in some return areas will force the majority to flee again. Protection Monitoring conducted in return areas indicate the presence of serious protection risks, including risks of exposure to armed violence and explosive ordinance, disruption of critical infrastructure facilities, lack of access to employment prospects, documentation, medical and social services, and education.

- The PC continues to perform coordination of the humanitarian response at the National Coordination Office in Lviv and at Sub-National Protection Clusters in Lviv, Uzhhorod, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia and Dnipro. The PC has also partnered with the local NGO Right to Protection who became a co-coordinator for the national cluster and has established a Temporary Task Force on Human Trafficking.
- As of 30 June, and in recognition of UNHCR's increased support to the GBV Sub-Cluster and scaling efforts
 on GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response, UNHCR will work as one of two UN agencies, together
 with UNFPA, to act as a core member of the Special Advisory Group established to support the Sub-Cluster.

Shelter and NFIs Cluster

- The Shelter Cluster (SC), led by UNHCR and consisting of over 74 partners, is providing emergency shelter support and distribution of NFIs and is scaling up every week. A key priority of the shelter cluster in May and June was to lead the development of a coordinated *Winter Priority Procurement & Repair Plan* which outlines the types of support that the humanitarian actors will seek to provide to families to help them stay warm during the coming winter.
- As an immediate response, the SC partners focus on the distribution of NFI kits to collective centres and to individual households as well as shelter kits to areas directly affected by the military offensive. As of 29 June, 778,154 people have received shelter and NFI support from the SC partners.
- As IDPs stay for longer in central and eastern oblasts, the SC is working with local officials to focus on providing more sustainable housing solutions that will focus on long-term needs. Given the scope and scale of destruction of many urban areas, extensive reconstruction and repairs will be needed in the medium and long term.
- Seven technical working groups (TWiGs) have been created which will focus on light and medium repairs, rental support, revision of the NFI kits, coordination of refurbishment work in buildings used as collective centres, damage assessments, winterization, and housing, land, and property rights.
- As of 27 May, two sub-national coordination hubs are active, with ten active partners in Vinnytsia and 21 in Dnipro having attended initial meetings.

CCCM Cluster

- <u>The CCCM Cluster</u>, led by UNHCR and consisting of 11 partners, is working to ensure a coordinated multisectoral response for the protection of IDPs residing in communal settings, improving their quality of life and dignity during displacement, while advocating for durable solutions.
- Jointly with host government local authorities, CCCM Cluster partners have delivered assistance and services to approximately 164,000 IDPs hosted in collective centres.



An ongoing mapping and monitoring exercise is key to the CCCM Cluster's current work, and its findings will provide information on population profiles, intentions, and inform the upcoming relocation of IDPs from education facilities (to allow for their use in the upcoming semester) to alternative accommodation. Together, the CCCM, Shelter, and Protection Clusters have put joint-initiatives in place to advocate for a safe and dignified approach to such relocations in the best interest of IDPs, many of whom are children or otherwise vulnerable. The cluster is actively engaged in the TWG on Collective Centres to ensure necessary technical support is provided.

Since the emergency, UNHCR has expanded partnerships to enlarge coverage and capacity and now works with 12 NGO partners inside Ukraine.

















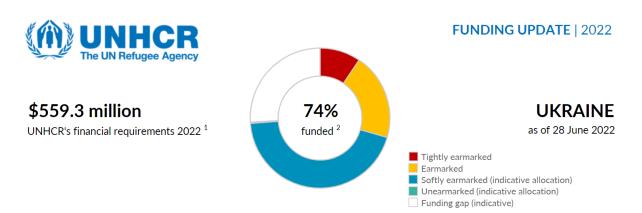






Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this emergency as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with softly earmarked and unearmarked funds.





CONTACTS

Meghan Froehner, External Relations, UNHCR Ukraine froehner@unhcr.org

INFORMATON

For more information, please visit:

UNHCR's Ukraine Situation page Operational Data Portal UNHCR Ukraine Page – Twitter – Facebook