



# UNHCR UKRAINE

## 2026 PROGRAMME SUMMARY

UNHCR partner Proliska installs a rapid thermal kit in the border region of Chernihiv, as part of efforts to insulate homes in freezing temperatures amid ongoing Russian attacks on energy infrastructure. ©Proliska



**2.1 million** internally displaced, returnees, and war-affected people to be supported with multi-sectoral services



**\$470 million** financial requirement for 2026



Working with **12 partners** of which **11** are local

### OVERVIEW OF NEEDS

With the war on Ukraine approaching its fifth year, humanitarian and recovery needs continue to grow across the country. In 2025, intensified hostilities, including increased aerial attacks and strikes on critical infrastructure, caused significant civilian casualties and new displacement, leaving an estimated 2.5 million families in Ukraine without appropriate shelter, and millions of people at risk of prolonged outage of heating, water or electricity in winter. The [Fourth Rapid Damage Needs Assessment \(RDNA4\)](#) highlights the extent of destruction and the reconstruction challenges that lie ahead, which often compound to heighten protection risks to the most vulnerable as the war persists. These trends will continue to shape needs in 2026. The [2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan \(HNRP\)](#) estimates that over 10.8 million people in Ukraine will require humanitarian assistance and protection in 2026, with 3.7 million people remaining internally displaced inside Ukraine. Many people have been displaced multiple times and struggle to mitigate the shock of continuing attacks or displacement, having depleted their resources after four years of war. The most critical humanitarian needs are largely concentrated along the war's frontlines in the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, as well as in the northern border regions, where intensified hostilities have driven new displacement and created protection challenges.

Timely at-scale humanitarian support is impactful in sustaining the protection and resilience of the war-affected population. At the same time, amid the ongoing war, people are simultaneously striving to return, recover and rebuild their lives—at home or in host communities. UNHCR will continue to work within the interagency response to support the Government of Ukraine and local authorities to address the most pressing humanitarian needs, providing life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection services while at the same time helping war-affected people and communities to recover, and displaced people to find durable solutions.

### 2026 RESPONSE PLAN | KEY FIGURES



**955,000** people to be supported with protection services  
**\$81.4 million**



**652,000** people to be supported with cash assistance  
**\$185.9 million**



**325,000** people to be supported with emergency shelter materials, home repairs and other housing solutions  
**\$187.3million**



**178,000** people to be supported with core relief items  
**\$15.4 million**



**UNHCR'S 2026 RESPONSE STRATEGY IN UKRAINE | KEY PRIORITY AREAS**

UNHCR's 2026 strategy has been designed to support the Government-led humanitarian response and recovery in Ukraine and to reflect the broad aspirations of the ongoing global Humanitarian Reset. It therefore incorporates the four strategic priorities outlined in a new, innovative issue-based HNRP as well as aspects of the 2025-2029 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) directly relevant to UNHCR's mandate and expertise. UNHCR's strategy is developed around three key pillars:



**Providing life-saving multisectoral humanitarian assistance and protection** to evacuated and newly displaced people as well as to war-affected people in frontline areas and in response to aerial attacks.



**Supporting solutions for IDPs and returnees, especially those with vulnerabilities, and helping other war affected people recover** through targeted programmes that promote access to rights, dignified accommodation, and access to social services.



**Promoting inclusive and rights-based laws, policies and procedures** in protection, housing and durable solutions areas through evidence-based advocacy and technical advice - leveraging reform processes.

As part of the inter-agency response, UNHCR will **continue to lead the Protection and Shelter/NFI Clusters in 2026**, coordinating the protection, shelter and site coordination and management response by humanitarian partners in Ukraine. In 2025, as part of the Humanitarian Reset, UNHCR coordinated a phase-out of the CCCM Cluster in Ukraine, with relevant responsibilities and technical capacities transitioned primarily to the Protection Cluster, with some relevant technical aspects apportioned to the Shelter/NFI Cluster.

UNHCR is actively engaged in the **2025-2029 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)**, which will support the Government of Ukraine in its reform, recovery and development priorities, and co-leads, with UNDP, Results Group 4 on Governance. UNHCR also actively engages in the Government's Sectoral Working Group (SWG) on Social Protection, where it co-facilitates the Social Services Task Force and actively engages in the Nexus Task Force.

UNHCR's programmes are designed to address immediate needs that cannot be met through overstretched national systems, adversely impacted by four years of war, while simultaneously reinforcing national and local capacity, thereby promoting sustainability and Ukrainian leadership. UNHCR's overall strategy in Ukraine is grounded in a **localized and humanitarian-development nexus approach**, relying extensively on Ukraine's wealth of expertise and knowledge, capacity, and commitment to recovery and reform. As of January 2026, UNHCR has four active Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with Government Ministries, the Pension Fund of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Olena Zelenska Foundation, as well as with 20 regional administrations. UNHCR prioritizes partnerships with local partners, including national NGOs (11 out of 12 partner organizations are local in 2026), and supports a growing network of some 550 community-based organizations and local initiative groups.

When the full-scale war began, 83-year-old Maria and her husband stayed in their village in Mykolaiv region, enduring days of shelling before fleeing to Odesa. When they returned in March 2023, their home was damaged, and after repairing what they could, Maria's husband passed away, leaving her to face daily hardship and isolation alone. UNHCR's social facilitator programme became a crucial support system. Through regular visits, Lyudmyla helps Maria access services, manage small tasks, and provides much-needed companionship. "It is not only the help—it is also the conversation... to not feel alone," Maria says. "Lyudmyla comes whenever I need her. She helps me get to the medical point, brings what is necessary, and always checks in." The programme supports vulnerable displaced, war-affected, or returned people across Ukraine, complementing state social services to ensure no one is left isolated.  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

- UNHCR's 2026 plans for the Ukraine Situation can be found [here](#).
- Visit Ukraine's Operational Data Portal for more information products [here](#).
- Ukraine Protection Cluster Response Dashboard can be found [here](#).
- Shelter Cluster Response Dashboard [here](#).

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Contact **UNHCR's Hotline 0-800-307-711** for feedback and advice on assistance and services.

