

UKRAINE OPERATION FACTSHEET

CASH ASSISTANCE

Kateryna is from Novomykolaivka village in Zaporizka oblast. She is raising her two grandsons, aged eight and ten, alone after the death of her son. As drone strikes intensified and their home was damaged, she sought safety for the children. With support from UNHCR's partner NGO Proliska, the family was evacuated to Zaporizhzhia city in January 2026, where they received cash assistance as well as psychosocial support, essential items, and support to access social services.
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KEY FIGURES



2.4 million IDPs, returnees and war-affected people reached with cash assistance since March 2022, disbursing **\$729 million**



72% of those assisted since 2022 are women and children



47,392 people supported with cash assistance so far in 2026 disbursing **\$11 million**

WHY CASH?

- Cash assistance is one of the most **efficient and effective** ways to support people adversely impacted by the war in Ukraine.
- Gives war-affected people the **agency to decide** what they need most urgently to cover their immediate needs, while boosting economic recovery and local markets.
- **Complements** the Government's social assistance programmes and **bridges important gaps** from evacuation, displacement, or in the aftermath of an aerial attack, to the moment people can access national social assistance schemes and start to rebuild their lives.
- Delivered through **secure and accessible** payment methods, including bank transfers (IBAN), Western Union, and other financial service provider channels.
- UNHCR is one of the largest actors delivering cash assistance to vulnerable people in Ukraine, with the capacity to deliver the assistance **quickly and at scale**.

KEY CASH PROGRAMMES



MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

- ✓ After aerial attacks or evacuation
- ✓ Recently displaced within the last six months
- ✓ Returnees who are socioeconomically vulnerable or have specific protection needs



UAH 3,600 (around USD 86) per person per month for three months

29,814 people reached in 2026



CASH FOR WINTER NEEDS

- ✓ Prioritized to vulnerable war-affected people living near the frontline and/or border
- ✓ Delivered as part of the [inter-agency 2025-2026 winter response plan](#), and in collaboration with the Government



UAH 19,400 (around USD 473) per household

193,659 people reached in winter 2025-26



RENTAL MARKET INITIATIVE

- ✓ IDPs with no prospect of an immediate return to their areas of origin or habitual residence access dignified and sustainable housing



On average UAH 112,000 (USD 2,600) per household as part of a six-month rental package + legal support to conclude lease agreements

194 households reached in 2026

POST DISTRIBUTION MONITORING: 2025-2026 WINTER CASH

As part of its accountability to affected people, UNHCR consistently conducts monitoring exercises during and after service delivery. The recent **post-distribution monitoring (PDM) of UNHCR's winter response 2025-2026** highlights the **relevance, timeliness and impact of cash assistance** in helping people stay warm during the colder winter months. The PDM results also highlight **the protective role of winter cash assistance** in sustaining families in close proximity to the frontline where they wish to stay. Key findings from the PDM report include:

- **Preferred modality:** Recipients overwhelmingly preferred cash as the main form of winter support (**90%**), **6%** preferred a combination of cash and in-kind support, and only **3%** preferred in kind assistance alone.
- **Meets identified needs:** **91%** of surveyed recipients used the cash assistance to purchase firewood or other heating fuel, and for **87%** of respondents, heating fuel was the single largest spending item, confirming strong alignment with the programme's winter energy objective.
- **Cash assistance delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable, & participatory manner:** **95%** of beneficiaries were satisfied with the process of receiving winter cash, and **99%** felt safe receiving, keeping and spending the cash.
- **Improves overall living conditions & wellbeing:** **88%** reported improved living conditions and **77%** reported reduced stress levels.
- **Market resilience:** In almost all cases (**96%**), the goods and services that beneficiaries needed to buy were available in local markets.
- **Significant needs remain:** **54%** of respondents reported that the fuel purchased was not enough for the full winter season, underlining the continued economic pressure faced by households.

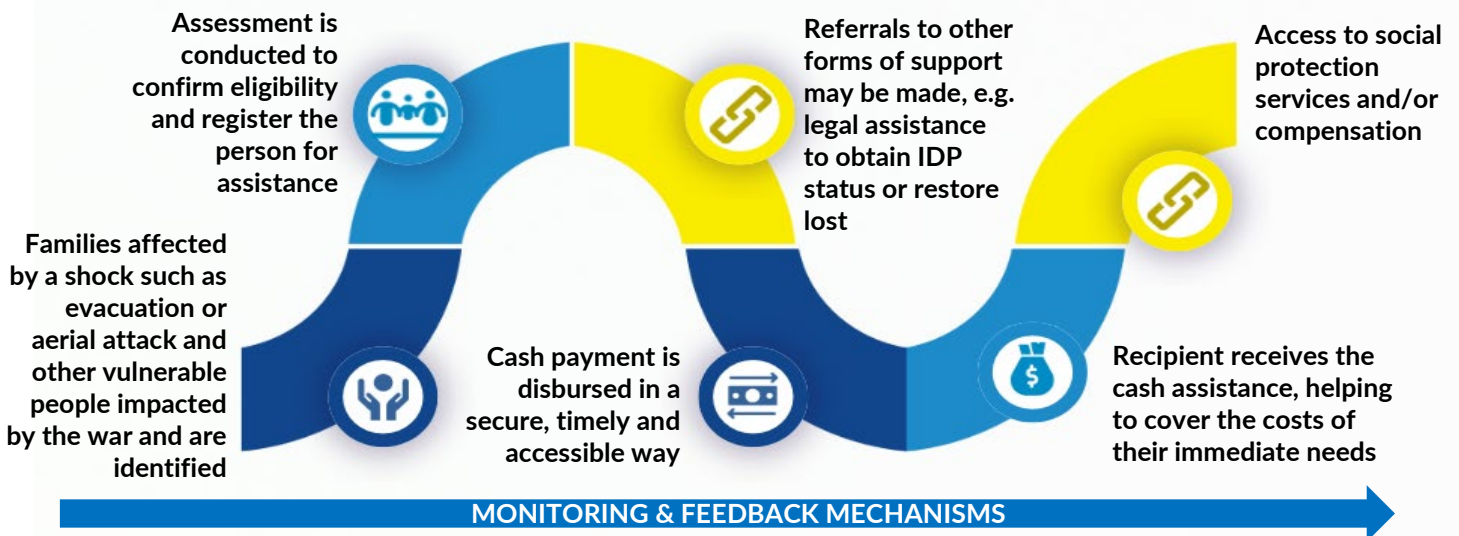
Read the full PDM report [here](#).

"For pensioners like me who have very little income, this assistance is vital. Without it, I would have needed to save money by cutting other spending to be able to buy wood and stay warm, for example by saving on medicines or food."

- Ievhenia in Sumska oblast used the winter cash assistance to purchase enough firewood to endure the winter.



UNHCR CASH ASSISTANCE: FROM SHOCK TO RECOVERY



NATALIIA'S STORY



Nataliia Kruhlykova, 50, has lived all her life in Zaporizhzhia with her husband and three children, working as a shop assistant in a curtain shop, when on 18 August 2025, a missile struck a neighbouring building, shattering their windows and doors, and destroying furniture and appliances. Nataliia was left with a leg injury requiring hospital care. After she returned from hospital, UNHCR's NGO partner Right to Protection provided emergency cash support and helped them secure state compensation for property damage. With this assistance, the family repaired their home, replaced essential items—including a tablet for their daughter's online schooling—and Nataliia returned to work, now advising customers on curtains that offer better shrapnel protection. Despite ongoing risks, the family has no plans to leave. As Nataliia says, **"Nowhere is safe now. All my relatives and friends experienced some damage to their property. But we all stay. My family doesn't want to leave. I was born here, as well as my kids. Ordinary things help me keep on: love for my work, and for my native land."**