



# UKRAINE EMERGENCY

## UNHCR Operational Update

12 May 2026

On 23 April, a Russian drone attack on Dnipro killed three people and injured a dozen more. UNHCR and local NGO partners were immediately on the ground to support the emergency response led by authorities, providing emergency shelter materials to affected families, psychosocial support, and legal aid for example to apply for compensation. © UNHCR

### KEY FIGURES:

**1.25 million**

multi-sectorial services delivered to people in need in **2025\*\*\*** (in addition to **1.7M** in 2024, **4.3M** in 2022 & **2.6M** in 2023)

**10.8 million**

people in need of humanitarian assistance and protection in 2026 (source: [2026 HNRP](#))

**3.6 million**

people prioritised (from 4.1M) for humanitarian assistance in the [2026 HNRP](#)

**2.1 million**

multi-sectorial services UNHCR aims to provide to internally displaced, returnees, and war-affected people in **2026\*\*\***

\*\*\*People may receive multiple forms of assistance and services.

### OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & HIGHLIGHTS:

- **An escalation in attacks by the Russian Federation during the first week of May resulted in a significant increase in civilian casualties.** According to the [UN HRMMU](#), 28 people were killed and 194 injured on 5 May alone in a wave of Russian attacks, bringing the civilian death toll across Ukraine in the first week of May to at least 70 killed and more than 500 injured. This includes a Russian attack on 5 May on Zaporizhzhia which killed 12 people and injured many more. On the same day, aerial bombs hit central areas of Kramatorsk in Donetska oblast killing six people. Recent missile and drone strikes have also killed and injured civilians in Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Odeska and Poltavaska oblasts, as well as in regions of western Ukraine, including in Ternopil and Rivne.
- **Civilians continue to flee hostilities in frontline regions.** Due to the deteriorating situation in Donetska oblast, particularly near Kramatorsk and Sloviansk, oblast authorities opened a new Interim Evacuation Point (IEP) in Sloviansk at the end of March, and another IEP in Kramatorsk on 21 April. UNHCR and partners supported the authorities with the establishment of both IEPs, and continue to support evacuees with humanitarian assistance and protection services as part of the overall inter-agency response. Many evacuees are extremely vulnerable, with a significant number of older people and persons with disabilities.
- In the fifth year since the start of the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine, and more than 12 years since the war began, [UNHCR's programme in Ukraine](#) increasingly aims to help war-affected people and communities to recover, and displaced people to find durable solutions, particularly through housing and strategic protection advocacy.

### 2026 RESPONSE in NUMBERS\*:

(Delivered with partners from 1 January–30 April 2026)

**318,827**

Multi-sectorial services delivered to people in need in 2026

**Protection**  
175,625

Received protection services and support

**0.96M**  
Targeted

**Shelter/Housing**  
62,664

Received emergency shelter and housing support

**0.33M**  
Targeted

**Cash Assistance**  
58,297

Supported with cash assistance\*\*

**0.65M**  
Targeted

**Essential Items**  
22,241

Reached with essential items

**0.18M**  
Targeted

\* The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements

\*\* Figures may be adjusted as they are subject to reconciliation and verification

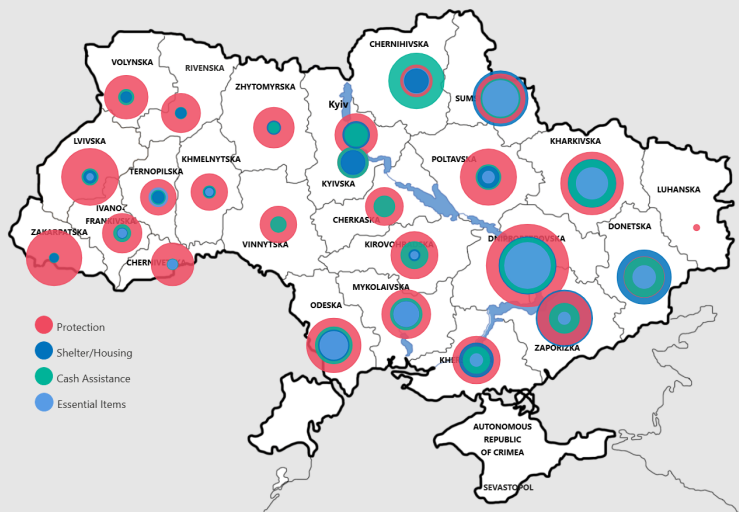
Sources: UNHCR Ukraine Partner Reporting Portal (ActivityInfo);

Contact: [UkraineInfoManagement@unhcr.org](mailto:UkraineInfoManagement@unhcr.org)

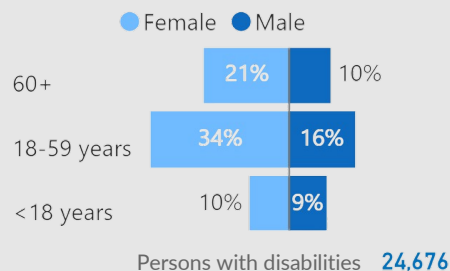
All sectorial achievements/targets refer to individuals. All reached figures are subject to data cleaning and verification. Retro-active corrections may occur.

### WORKING WITH PARTNERS:



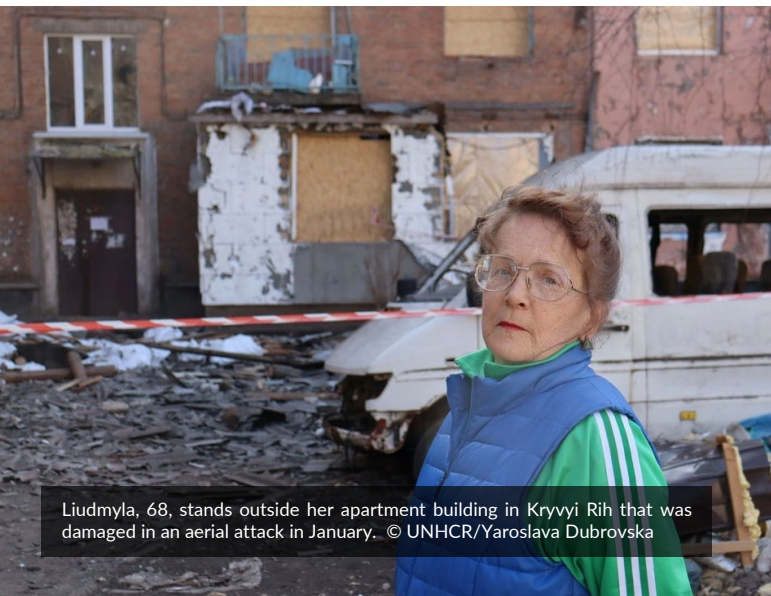


**Age, gender and disability breakdown**



**Emergency Response**

- Emergency response to attacks:** Russian aerial attacks continue to impact people across the country, damaging civilian homes and infrastructure. Complementing the work of first responders, UNHCR’s local NGO partners are among the first on the ground after an attack, providing critical emergency shelter materials to quickly protect damaged homes, in addition to psychosocial support, legal assistance for example to restore lost documents or apply for state compensation, and cash assistance or essential items to cover immediate needs. In April, UNHCR and NGO partners delivered emergency shelter materials to **16,360 people** (9,100 families) across Ukraine, bringing the total number of people assisted in 2026 to **48,857** (27,941 families) - **61% are women and girls, and 43% are older people**. In April, UNHCR’s NGO partner Proliska provided psychosocial support to over 800 people in eastern Ukraine, including 470 people in Dnipropetrovska oblast and over 200 people in Zaporizka oblast.
- In recent weeks, UNHCR and partners responded to people affected by multiple large aerial attacks on [Dnipro](#), with local NGO partners working to deliver emergency assistance throughout air alerts and ongoing attacks. UNHCR also responded to attacks in [Chernihiv](#), [Kharkiv](#), [Kherson](#), [Kramatorsk](#), [Odesa](#), [Poltava](#), [Sumy](#), [Ternopil](#), and [Zaporizhzhia](#), among others.
- Evacuations and response:** Partners continue to report new displacement and facilitate evacuations from frontline areas. During April, around **10,800 IDPs** passed through transit centres (TCs), marking a slight decrease compared to 12,500 people in March, with the majority coming from Donetsk oblast and 50% passing through the Lozova TC in Kharkivska oblast. UNHCR and NGO partners remain actively engaged at TCs, Interim Evacuation Points (IEPs), collective sites, and beyond to respond to the needs of IDPs, providing essential items, cash assistance, legal aid and psychosocial support. UNHCR and its NGO partner Proliska recently [supported the establishment](#) of a new IEP in Sloviansk, Donetsk oblast, by providing foldable beds and items such as blankets and pillows. This IEP will support evacuees before they continue their onward journeys to TCs and has a capacity for 50–60 people, including space for 15–20 people in the basement shelter for overnight stays.
- Support to frontline communities:** UNHCR joined four inter-agency convoys to frontline communities in April, [delivering](#) critical humanitarian assistance to people in the frontline villages in Dnipropetrovska and Donetsk oblasts. UNHCR provided solar lamps and blankets to support 600 people to better cope with the frequent power outages and difficult living conditions.



Liudmyla, 68, stands outside her apartment building in Kryvyi Rih that was damaged in an aerial attack in January. © UNHCR/Yaroslava Dubrovska

**UNHCR’s emergency response supports people in Ukraine at the most critical time**

Liudmyla has lived in Kryvyi Rih in Dnipropetrovska oblast her entire life. She currently lives by herself in an apartment on the fifth floor of a residential building that has been affected by repeated aerial strikes. Earlier this year, in January, as bitter winter conditions gripped Ukraine, another attack hit the area around Liudmyla’s home. The blast shattered the windows in her bedroom and balcony, damaging the frames and leaving her home exposed to freezing temperatures. Even before the air raid alarm ended, UNHCR and its NGO partners were on the site of the attack and setting up a mobile humanitarian assistance point, assessing the damage and providing emergency assistance to affected families. “It was raining and snowing, and they brought everything right away: film, boards, blankets,” Liudmyla says. Using the materials provided by UNHCR’s NGO partner Proliska, she was able to cover the broken windows in her apartment herself. Read more [here](#).

## Home repairs make all the difference for people affected by the war in Ukraine

Valentyna has been living in Kharkiv, located just 25 kilometers from the Russian border, her entire life. In April 2025, her house was badly damaged during a Russian attack. For months, the windows in the house remained sealed with wooden boards that were provided by UNHCR and partners as part of its emergency response. However, as colder weather approached, the damaged house became increasingly difficult to live in. Just before the coldest winter months began, UNHCR's NGO partner Angels of Salvation arrived to replace the damaged windows and repair the roof. "I felt such relief when they came," Valentyna says. "After the windows were replaced and the roof repaired, it became warm and comfortable again. For older people like me, this assistance means everything."

Since the start of the full-scale invasion, UNHCR has repaired over 55,000 homes in Ukraine, supporting the recovery of war-affected communities and helping people to remain or return home. Read more [here](#).



Valentyna in Kharkiv is among thousands of people receiving support through UNHCR's durable housing repairs programme, which prioritizes support and solutions for the most vulnerable. © UNHCR/Iryna Tymchyshyn

### Protection

- **Human rights centres:** UNHCR together with Ukraine's Ombudsman for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, [opened](#) two new regional Human Rights Protection Centres in April in Kropyvnytskyi (Kirovohradska oblast) and Odesa city. UNHCR and local NGO partners helped renovate and refurbish the two centres, which will help strengthen access to protection services such as legal aid, enhance response to rights violations, and bring support closer to communities in Ukraine.
- **Protection of older persons:** UNHCR and OHCHR (HRMMU) organized a [joint briefing](#) in Kyiv on 14 April for members of the diplomatic community and other key stakeholders on the human rights situation of older people in the context of war and displacement. For more information, see UNHCR's thematic brief [here](#).
- **Changes to IDP allowance:** Following the introduction of changes to the process of assignment of IDP allowance, UNHCR prepared a legal brief to explain the impact on the displaced population, available [here](#).

### Shelter

- **Social housing:** UNHCR and authorities [opened](#) a new social housing facility for IDPs in Slavutych, Kyivska oblast, on 25 April. UNHCR supported local and regional authorities in transforming a former hospital wing into 43 furnished apartments which will now support over 100 people, mostly IDPs. Each apartment is equipped with

essential furniture and appliances, ensuring displaced families can start rebuilding their lives.

### Cash Assistance

- From January-April, UNHCR delivered cash assistance to **58,297 war-affected people (63% are women and girls, and 41% older people)**, totalling over \$14.6 million.
- **Transition to UCT approach:** In April, UNHCR transitioned from its previous multi-purpose cash assistance programme to the Unified Cash transfer (UCT) approach, in line with the four strategic priorities set out in the 2026 HNRP. Through this approach, UNHCR continues to assist vulnerable IDPs, returnees and other vulnerable war-affected people with cash assistance to enable them to meet their basic needs. The UCT approach introduces a more context-specific and harmonized framework, whereby assistance is adapted to different situations such as households living in the frontline (UCT1), those affected by evacuation or new displacement (UCT2), individuals impacted by strikes (UCT3), and households experiencing prolonged displacement and vulnerability (UCT4). UCTs are designed as flexible, time-bound transfers that enable households to prioritize their most urgent needs, such as rent, healthcare, or essential items, while ensuring greater coherence with inter-agency approaches under the HNRP. Further information is available [here](#).



Larysa lives alone in the village of Velyka Dolyna in Dnipropetrovska oblast, which is close to the frontline. She said she used her winter cash assistance to purchase solid fuel to heat her home. © UNHCR/Oleg Platonov

## Post-distribution monitoring of UNHCR's winter cash assistance 2025-2026

A recent post-distribution monitoring (PDM) of UNHCR's winter cash assistance 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 living in close proximity to the frontline, where they wish to stay.

Larysa in the village of Velyka Dolyna, Dnipropetrovska oblast, is one of 193,600 people who received winter cash assistance from UNHCR. "Living alone, I must rely on my own strength, and [...] it is not easy. Thanks to this assistance, I could use my pension for other essential needs, like food and medicine, without having to choose between them and heating. This support allowed me to buy firewood and not worry every day about how I would heat my house."

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



Mariia and her daughter returned to their village in Mykolaiv region, determined to rebuild their lives. © UNHCR/Elisabeth Arnsdorf Haslund



The community and village council building in Zavodske, renovated and refurbished by UNHCR and UNDP with support from the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund. © UNHCR/Elisabeth Arnsdorf Haslund

## On the path to recovery: multi-sector support helps communities and returned families rebuild

In March 2022, Mariia and her 11-year-old daughter fled their village of Zavodske in Mykolaivska oblast, southern Ukraine. The small family first went to central Ukraine, moving between friends who could accommodate them, and later left for Poland. For Mariia, it was a matter of ensuring proper support and stability for her daughter. However, they still longed for home, and when Ukraine retook the area later in the year, Mariia quickly returned – only to find the village deserted, her home severely damaged, and life incredibly challenging.

Since then, much has happened in Zavodske and other similar villages that were heavily impacted by occupation. Despite the ongoing war, local authorities and communities are eager to rebuild. A recent joint project between UNHCR and UNDP – with support from the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund – directly addressed and supported these community efforts in Khersonska and Mykolaivska oblasts, helping to create safe conditions for recovery and return, and enabling life to slowly resume.

In Mariia's village, Zavodske, the joint UNHCR-UNDP project supported the rehabilitation of the community and village council building that was damaged by the fighting. In February 2026, the renovated building was officially inaugurated, allowing for administrative services to resume and providing a space for vital community activities. "Right after our return, we needed to prepare some documents, but there was no administration here, so we had to go to Mykolaiv city to only fix one paper. [...] But now, it's just so much easier," explains Mariia who recently obtained some ID papers for her daughter at the renovated council building in her village.

Read more [here](#).

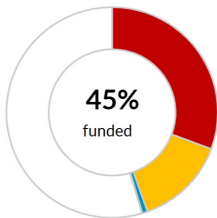
## FUNDING UPDATE | 2026

### UKRAINE

as of 30 April 2026

**\$470.0 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements 2026



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)



UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors and for the generous contributions from individuals and the private sector. Given the immense humanitarian needs, UNHCR continues to seek support to deliver assistance inside Ukraine. For more information, see the [UNHCR Ukraine Situation Appeal 2026](#) and the [UNHCR Ukraine 2026 Programme Summary](#).

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Visit Ukraine's Operational Data Portal for more information products [here](#).
- UNHCR's Regional Flash Update on the Ukraine situation can be found [here](#).
- Ukraine Protection Cluster Response Dashboard can be found [here](#).
- Ukraine Protection Cluster Transit Centres Tracker [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.