



On 30 November, four mobile teams started working in Mykolaivska oblast to reach individuals who are in vulnerable situations and to help them meet their basic needs. © Right to Protection NGO

UNHCR UKRAINE

Cash Assistance Fact Sheet



Overall target:
1,080,000 people by
end of 2022*



Reached so far:
858,654

IDPs and conflict affected people have received assistance through disbursement of cash, including **280,841** with winter cash assistance**



US \$206 million disbursed so far to assist IDPs and other conflict affected people



76% of those enrolled are women and children



14 oblasts with active cash enrolment through centres and/or mobile teams with combined protection screening and services



> 800 enumerators trained on data collection, targeting criteria, needs assessment, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse & Code of Conduct

“When I received the cash, I felt like the weight on my shoulders became much lighter. I knew we would be able to buy medicines for grandma and food for the family. Until I find a new job, this support is critical for us”

VADYM, 34 years old

Fled from Kostiantynivka with his family and now lives in a students' dormitory in Vinnytsia in central Ukraine.

*Subject to availability of funding. ** Final assistance figure is provisional and subject to end of year reconciliation

Why Cash?

Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) assistance is one of the most efficient and effective ways to support people forced to flee their homes, jobs and belongings, or who remain in areas heavily affected by the international armed conflict. It serves as a transitional safety net pending the individual's ability to find a job or be included in national social protection schemes. Using secure finance technology combined with strict data protection measures, UNHCR provides those in need with cash securely and quickly. Families can purchase goods and services from local businesses which boosts the economy. Importantly, cash assistance respects the dignity of choice and independence of displaced and conflict affected people, providing a sense of normality and ownership, allowing them to decide what they need most.

Who is eligible?

Cash assistance is targeted based on vulnerability and an individual must meet one or more of the following vulnerability criteria: a) single-headed households with at least one minor child or family member above the age of 55; b) older persons (over 55 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. Eligible persons should also meet the socio-economic criteria of earning less than UAH 5,400 per person (family member) per month. UNHCR uses Building Blocks, a neutral humanitarian blockchain network, to ensure de-duplication of cash assistance provided by other organizations.

Working with the Government

UNHCR works closely with the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) and the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories (MinRein) to ensure complementarity. With the MoSP, and in line with a Cabinet decision and an MoU concluded on 19 April, UNHCR receives referrals of registered IDPs and other conflict-affected people with specific vulnerabilities. Under this arrangement, UNHCR has disbursed cash assistance to 139,875 vulnerable people referred by the MoSP. In September, UNHCR received an additional list of 130,000 vulnerable people from the MoSP for MPC and winter cash assistance of which payments have been processed for 128,962 people.

Reaching communities in newly retaken areas with cash assistance is a key priority. In November, UNHCR received referrals from the MoSP to support 100,000 vulnerable individuals from Khersonska oblast, including 45,000 residing in Kherson city, for whom the payment will be processed following the de-duplication exercise.

With the Ministry of Regional Development (MoRD), UNHCR supports families who are hosting IDPs under the Prykhystok programme and received lists of host families in late August. As agreed with the Ministry, UNHCR provided one-off cash support to over 39,000 households hosting IDPs to help meet additional expenses incurred.

Ensuring effectiveness

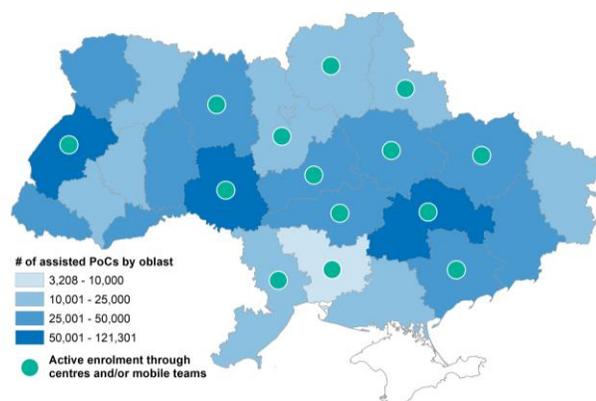
To assess the effectiveness of its cash assistance, UNHCR commissioned a post-distribution monitoring (PDM) exercise in June 2022, to gain insight into the experience of recipients. Data collection for the second PDM commenced on 15 November and the report will be finalized in December.

Overview of Cash Assistance Programme (by end of December 2022)

Cash assistance formats		Target	Government referrals received
Regular MPC assistance →	UAH 2,220 <i>per</i> person per month for three months.	960,000 individuals	143,338 referrals from the MoSP
MPC + Winter cash assistance →	<u>Eligible IDPs, returnees or other conflict-affected persons enrolled as of 1 September</u> will receive regular MPC assistance for three months plus a top-up for additional 3 months. Total amount of UAH 6,660 to cover basic needs during the winter.	336,966 individuals	130,000 referrals in September and 100,000 referrals in November (including newly regained areas) from the MoSP
Hosting cash assistance →	<u>Heads of households hosting IDPs</u> directly receive UAH 14.77 per day per IDP for the duration hosted in their homes to help cover additional costs incurred.	39,305 hosting households	39,305 referrals by MoRD

Where are we supporting?

As the conflict has evolved and needs and thus priorities changed overtime, UNHCR has adjusted the location of its enrolment. Initially, focus was on the western oblasts hosting large numbers of IDPs, while UNHCR is since June prioritizing oblasts in the centre, south and east of the country. UNHCR currently maintains active enrolment in 14 oblasts through centres and/or mobile teams with Mykolaivska as the latest addition to Cherkaska, Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Kirovohradska, Kyivska, Lvivska, Odeska, Poltavska, Sumska, Vinnytska, Zaporizka, and Zhytomyrska oblasts.



Multi-service protection centres

Since June, UNHCR has also transformed its cash enrolment centres into multi-service protection centres (“one-stop-shops”), where persons can access a range of services, including legal aid, psychosocial support, counselling on accommodation, and other services and assistance programmes. Thus, all IDPs and conflict-affected persons accessing the centres are interviewed to assess eligibility and are offered access to protection services and referrals on the spot. UNHCR partners also operate mobile teams that enable us to reach vulnerable persons and families who are unable to reach enrolment centres or who live in remote and/or rural areas.

How does it work?

1. IDPs and conflict-affected people can request an appointment at a multi-service protection centre or, pursuant to the MoSP-UNHCR MoU, are referred to UNHCR by the MoSP. Mobile enrolment is conducted to reach IDPs and conflict-affected persons residing far from urban centres or with limited mobility.
2. At the centres, IDPs and conflict-affected people receive detailed information on the cash programme, targeting criteria, amount, and process, as well as the UNHCR hotline number (0800307711) to seek support.
3. To ensure only vulnerable IDPs and conflict-affected people receive cash support, only individuals who meet the vulnerability criteria, assessed through an individual interview by partner staff, are enrolled.
4. Eligible IDPs and conflict-affected people are enrolled by enumerators directly into UNHCR’s secured registration software (proGres), based on a limited number of data fields required for the purpose of administering the cash payment.
5. Tax ID numbers of all enrolled adults are collected as a unique identifier to ensure there is no duplication.
6. Payments are prepared and transferred to bank accounts for recipients.
7. Recipients receive an SMS when the assistance has been transferred to their bank account.

Working with Partners

The data collection process is conducted by UNHCR partner organizations Right to Protection, Neemia, Crimea SOS, International Fund for Health and Environment “Carpathian Region” NEEKA, and information is provided by Donbas SOS via hotline.

Counselling lines and Q&A have been developed to guide enumerators and hotline operators in the communication with IDPs before, during, and after enrolment.

UNHCR actively participates in the [Ukraine Cash Working Group \(CWG\)](#) and is leading the Task Team on De-duplication and Registration. In addition, UNHCR is closely coordinating with actors such as ACTED, FAO, ICRC, IOM, NRC, UNICEF and WFP.