

Three-year-old Arina plays with clay at a warm "Point of Invincibility" tent in Kyiv, set up by Ukraine's State Emergency Service and stocked with UNICEF psychosocial materials for children. ©UNICEF/Filippov



Reporting period: 1 January to 31 December 2025

Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Report No. 59



Highlights

- In 2025, the United Nations verified 744 child casualties: 92 children were killed and 652 were injured. Child casualties increased by 11 per cent in 2025 compared to 2024. The Russian Federation increased attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure in the second half of 2025. Scheduled blackouts of 12 or more hours at a time have cut off water and heating, closed schools and limited the hours of health facilities, and forced children to spend nights in cold, dark shelters during air raids.
- UNICEF, together with government and NGO partners, reached 7 million people including 2.5 million children with humanitarian assistance in 2025. This includes 4.3 million people reached with safe water and sanitation; 425,000 people supported to access health services; 547,000 people accessed mental health and psychosocial support; 311,000 children who participated in formal or non-formal education; and 217,000 people including 98,000 children provided with cash assistance.
- As strikes on urban areas increasingly threatened children, UNICEF provided a multisectoral response to affected families: First psychosocial aid, critical supplies and cash assistance together with repairs to schools and WASH infrastructure and long-term cash management support.
- Under the UNICEF Winter Response in 2025-26, 53,600 vulnerable families in frontline areas received winter cash assistance and 1 million people supported through repairs and improvements to district heating systems.

Situation in Numbers

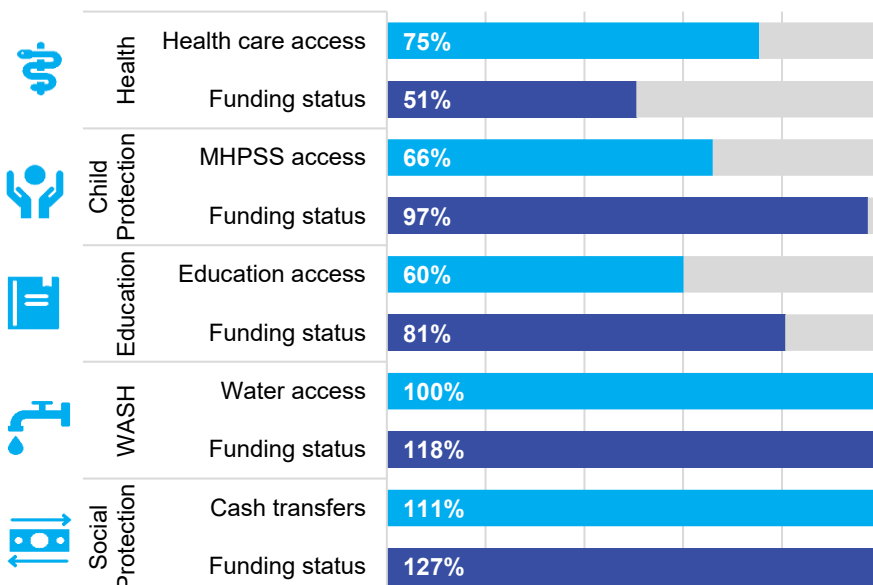
1.9 million
Children in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Response Plan 2025)

12.7 million
People in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Response Plan 2025)

3.4 million
Internally displaced people
(IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, Dec 2025)

725,000
Children targeted by UNICEF in Ukraine 2025
(UNICEF HAC 2025)

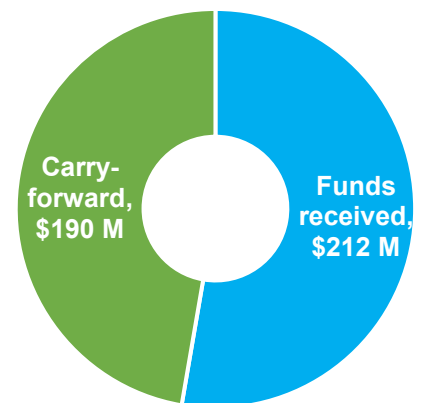
UNICEF Response and Funding Status



Note: MHPSS is a cross-sectoral indicator, covering targets from Child Protection, Education and Health as well as cross-sectoral work.

UNICEF Appeal 2025 US\$400 million

Funding status as of 31 December



The overall HAC funding gap status does not represent gaps by sector. For further details by sector, please refer to Annex B.

Figures reported to the FTS may differ for the same period due to in-process allocation of flexible funding. This reflects the requirements for Pillar 1 (inside Ukraine).

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF has US\$401.7 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\)](#) appeal of US\$400 million. This includes US\$190 million carried over from 2024 and US\$211.8 million received in 2025. The HAC was developed in line with the reprioritized Ukraine [Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan \(HNRP\) 2025](#), which was reprioritized to target 4.8 million people, compared to the initial target of 6 million of the 12.7 million people in need. The funding requirements have been similarly reprioritized to [US\\$1.75 billion compared to the original US\\$2.63 billion](#). Generous contributions have been received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations. Funding has also been received from the people and Governments of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, as well as from the European Union, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

UNICEF works with the Government of Ukraine, United Nations agencies, civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other humanitarian partners. Close cooperation is ensured with key stakeholders (Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Social Policy, Education and Science, Health, Youth and Sports, Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development, regional administration, city councils in several cities and the Ombudsperson's Office as well as the State Emergency Services of Ukraine (SESU). UNICEF has established partnerships with the concerned municipalities and will continue to expand them. UNICEF engages with 190 government, civil society and service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In 2025, the [United Nations verified](#) 14,656 civilian casualties including 2,514 people killed and 12,142 injured. This was a 31 per cent increase compared to 2024. Out of these, 744 were children: 92 children were killed and 652 were injured. Child casualties increased by 11 per cent in 2025 compared to 2024. Children accounted for five per cent of all civilian casualties in 2025. April was the deadliest month for children: 19 children were killed and 78 children injured, the highest number of child casualties in any month since June 2022. On 4 April, a missile detonated in the air above a park, playground and restaurant in Kryvyi Rih. The attack killed 20 people (8 men, 3 women, 7 boys and 2 girls) and injured 63 others (30 women, 22 men, 6 girls and 5 boys). Almost half of the [verified civilian casualties](#) in April were due to missile and drone attacks, including in Kryvyi Rih, Sumy, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv and Kharkiv. This marked an uptick in strikes on urban areas, which became increasingly deadly for children and their families in the following months.

Attacks on energy infrastructure increased in the second half of 2025. According to [Armed Conflict Location & Event Data \(ACLED\)](#) there were 1,224 strikes on energy infrastructure throughout the year. Of these, 192 were in Dnipropetrovsk, 181 in Donetsk, 158 in Kherson, 139 in Kharkiv and 112 in Zaporizhzhia. Ukraine has lost [70 per cent of its power generation capacity](#), according to think tank Green Deal Ukraina as well as [half of its natural gas production](#). Scheduled blackouts of [up to 12 hours at a time](#) have cut off water and heating, closed schools and limited the hours of health facilities, and forced children to spend nights in cold, dark shelters during air raids.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF is working closely with United Nations agencies, the government and humanitarian partners under the inter-agency framework. UNICEF leads/co-leads the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Education Clusters, Child Protection Area of Responsibility, the Social Protection Sub-Group under the Cash Working Group and the Nutrition Technical Working Group and Maternal Child Health Care Sub-Group under the Health Cluster. Along the frontlines, where intense and sustained fighting and access constraints remain, UNICEF participates in inter-agency humanitarian convoys and engages with municipal, regional and local administrations and civil society partners to implement its urgent humanitarian response. In the central and western parts of the country, UNICEF uses existing national systems and engages local authorities and civil society. Flagship priorities include Better Start to Life (Early childhood development – ECD), Better Learning and Skills (Maximizing the potential of children and youth) and Better Care (A family for every child).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition: In 2025, the health system in Ukraine came under increasing strain as attacks on health infrastructure continued, including 199 attacks on health care infrastructure verified by the United Nations. These hostilities, combined with damage to energy and transport infrastructure, have constrained routine and emergency health services, particularly for children, pregnant women and caregivers. Meanwhile, a UNICEF assessment on pediatric rehabilitation completed in 2025 documented shortages in workforce, standardized care, referral pathways and equipment in facilities in frontline regions.

In 2025, 425,906 children and caregivers **accessed primary health care services** in UNICEF-supported facilities, and through mobile teams and home visits (75 per cent of the annual target). UNICEF delivered emergency health, midwifery and obstetric kits to facilities in 11 regions, including Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Sumy, Kherson, Chernihiv and Odesa. UNICEF also **rehabilitated shelters** in 10 health facilities to support 127,330 people in Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa,

Sumy, Volyn and Zaporizhzhia, allowing the safe continuation of services during air raids.

UNICEF-supported **mobile health teams** delivered primary health care to 4,543 children and caregivers (872 girls, 903 boys, 2,154 women and 614 men) in remote and conflict-affected communities in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia. UNICEF also scaled up the **Preventive Child Health Examination (PCHE)** programme for preventive, promotive and early detection services for families with young children nationwide, including in priority humanitarian regions. In the first half of 2025, 385 healthcare workers (373 women) in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Odesa and Sumy were trained and equipped to strengthen service delivery. Overall, 19,486 children and caregivers (4,329 girls, 4,294 boys, 7,474 women and 3,389 men) received ECD support, maternal care, immunization counselling and referrals through PCHE.

To address the growing needs of children with injuries (often conflict-related) and long-term impairments, UNICEF strengthened **pediatric rehabilitation** services through the training and delivery of equipment to eight frontline health facilities. This support allowed 2,577 children (1,154 girls) in Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia to access specialized rehabilitation services, supporting functional recovery, mobility and participation in daily life.

UNICEF sustained **routine immunization** services nationwide by procuring all routine vaccines, managing national and regional-level storage and ensuring timely delivery to health care facilities. In 2025, the following vaccines were delivered: Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine (982,000 doses), the Bacille Calmette-Guérin vaccine against tuberculosis (597,000), Diphtheria and Tetanus (97,800), Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (411,800), Hepatitis B (122,900), Oral Polio Vaccine (200,000) and Pentavalent (70,000), Cold chain capacity was strengthened through the delivery of 1,545 vaccine refrigerators and 1,000 passive cooling devices to 1,456 health care facilities in eight frontline regions. UNICEF also trained 2,580 health care workers (2,543 women) on temperature monitoring and practical vaccine handling exercises, helping prevent vaccine losses during frequent power disruptions.

To strengthen **infant and young child feeding (IYCF)** support in humanitarian settings, UNICEF delivered IYCF services through maternity and child health facilities, mobile medical teams and PCHE home visits. In 2025, 172 focal persons (167 women) completed advanced IYCF training and 660 health care workers (639 women) completed basic IYCF training. These trained staff counselled 12,025 primary caregivers (9,417 women) on breastfeeding and complementary feeding.

Child Protection: The conflict in Ukraine continues to expose children to physical and psychological harm. [Recent assessments](#) show severe impacts on children's mental health, increasing cases of family separation and heightened threats to their physical safety. More than a third of children have endured the [direct consequences of the war](#) such as witnessing a death or injury and, as a result, 73 per cent of children report not feeling safe. Stress-levels of children are rising, with the proportion of [children experiencing elevated or high levels of stress increasing](#) from 28 per cent in 2024 to 37 per cent in 2025. Consequences include emotional withdrawal, increased anxiety and behavioural changes.



Mobile team supporting children after a strike in Odesa ©UNICEF/2025

In **response to intensified strikes** in urban areas beginning in April, programmes were adapted to provide immediate psychological first aid, case management and Emergency Protection Cash Assistance (EPCA) to affected families. In 2025, psychosocial first aid was provided on the ground in response to air strikes for 664 children (363 girls) and 1,216 caregivers (743 women) while 2,061 people, including 923 children (445 girls), received EPCA.

In 2025, UNICEF partners established 57 new static child protection hubs, reaching a total of 122 spaces, including resilience centres, child-friendly spaces and safe spaces for women and girls, strengthening local social infrastructure and enabling integrated service delivery. Through these hubs, 58,957 people (18,778 girls, 19,544 boys, 16,508 women and 4,127 men) **accessed essential protection services**. These hubs often represent the only safe and accessible spaces where children can interact with their peers and receive protection support. Support to children with disabilities remained a priority, reaching 10,786 children (5,254 girls) with early intervention, daycare, adapted social services and case management, including the establishment of a new Day Care Centre in Kryvyi Rih.

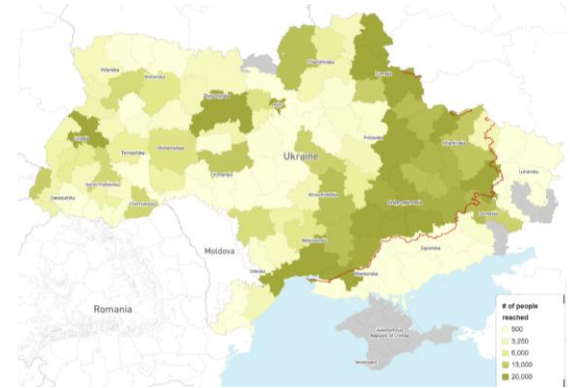
UNICEF and its partners reached 45,062 children (22,241 girls, 2,935 with disabilities) with **individual case management** this year, 91 per cent of the annual target. This support included in-kind assistance, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), EPCA, and referrals to specialized services. In-kind assistance provided through a case management approach proved particularly critical in frontline regions, reaching 5,530 children (3,416 girls) and their families. The most frequently identified needs included clothing, digital devices to support access to education and specialized tools required for vocational education. Strong linkages with local social service providers enhanced referral pathways to mental health care services, legal assistance and medical services, and improved prioritization of the most vulnerable children considering the overstretched community child protection systems. Also this year, 822 children **evacuated from institutions or returning from the Russian Federation and Occupied Territories** were provided with emergency reintegration support following their return, including case management; access to services; reunification with families and/or placement in family- and community-based care arrangements; and post-return monitoring.

Gender-based violence (GBV) risk mitigation, prevention and response services reached 339,151 people (95,146 girls, 3,579 children with disabilities), 86 per cent of the annual target. In Sumy region, UNICEF continued the operation of four safe spaces for women and girls in close collaboration with local GBV shelters and crisis rooms. These spaces offered comprehensive support to GBV survivors and women and girls at risk, including case management, legal assistance and MHPSS, helping strengthen their safety, well-being and access to lifesaving services. UNICEF expanded its girls' clubs programme from 13 to 68 clubs in Sumy, Kharkiv and (newly) Odesa regions. As a result, 4,529 girls accessed clubs and spaces where they could meet and socialize, participate in life skills activities and access life-saving information on services to help them to make informed decisions and reduce their vulnerability to violence.

UNICEF and partners **trained 11,513 specialists and social workers on child protection and social service delivery** in humanitarian settings. According to participant feedback, these activities played a critical role in sustaining their emotional well-being, preventing professional burnout and strengthening their capacity to continue delivering quality services. Additionally, 2,851 frontline staff were trained in GBV core concepts and safe referrals, with a focus on adolescents.

In 2025, UNICEF supported 1,594,061 people, including 1,021,974 children (531,543 girls) through **explosive ordnance risk education**. This includes mobile safety lessons delivered in partnership with SESU for 128,635 children (62,645 girls). National mine risk awareness online activities reached over 1.1 million people, with 118,298 children participating in school-based lessons. In addition, UNICEF and partners provided child-focused victim assistance to 222 children (102 girls) affected by explosive ordnance and other explosive weapons.

In 2025, **Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AOR)** partners supported 1,744,449 people (1,062,369 female) including 1,206,803 children (651,673 girls). This was 65 per cent of the original HNRP target and 88 per cent of the prioritized target. It was also a 10 per cent increase compared to 2024 despite receiving only 35 per cent of required funding. To support evacuation efforts, CP AOR developed a [library of inter-agency booklets](#) of available Child Protection services focused on frontline regions. A newly created [facility mapping](#) focusing on child-friendly spaces was used by 58 organizations to indicate information about 270 child-friendly spaces.



People reached by CP AOR partners in 2025

Education: In 2025, 442 general secondary schools and preschool facilities were damaged or destroyed, forcing families and educators to rely on virtual classrooms and school shelters. Throughout 2025, access to in-person education in Ukraine demonstrated a gradual improvement. According to the Ministry of Education and Science Education (MOES), in December 2024, 2.55 million children, or 57 per cent of children enrolled in schools and kindergartens, were learning online or in a mixed mode. By December 2025, this figure had decreased to 2.12 million out of 4.28 million enrolled or 49 per cent. This positive trajectory was disrupted at the end of 2025. A rapid deterioration in the security environment, coupled with intensified strikes on energy infrastructure, significantly affected the ability of education institutions to continue operating in person. Many education facilities were forced to suspend in-person classes and extend winter holidays – though consolidated data is not yet available. person education in Ukraine demonstrated a gradual improvement-person classes

In 2025, UNICEF reached 311,109 children (154,936 girls) with access to formal or nonformal education. UNICEF **rehabilitated 26 school shelters** and one inclusive resource centre in six regions, enabling 11,892 children (5,887 girls) to safely return to classrooms. Emergency repairs in 17 education facilities damaged during air strikes allowed a further 8,350 children (4,092 girls) to return to in-person learning after disruption from the strike. To further support schools impacted by strikes, UNICEF provided furniture to 46 schools, benefiting 23,100 children.

To restore access to quality in-person education, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) 'School Offline' initiative through **school grants**. In the first quarter of 2025, 100 schools received grants of US\$7,000 each to upgrade heating, improve insulation and repair infrastructure benefiting 71,230 children (34,903 girls). UNICEF will scale up this initiative in 2026 supporting 1,500 facilities, including kindergartens, reaching 445,000 children.

Through the 2x2 **early childhood education (ECE)** model with the Association of Preschool Education Workers, UNICEF provided access to safe, quality in-person early learning for 29,748 young children (14,378 girls) who lacked opportunities to attend preschool in frontline regions. Learning sessions were conducted twice a week in safe, child-friendly facilities. Monitoring data from the three waves of the intervention (April-August 2024; September 2024-January 2025; February-June 2025) showed clear improvements across the five developmental domains assessed - emotional, social, cognitive, self-esteem and stress resilience - with average scores rising from around 0.25 (low) to 0.60–0.62 (medium).

With MOES and the Association of Preschool Education Workers, UNICEF supported the piloting and expansion of 54 **diversified pre-primary education models**. The pilots aimed to expand access to early learning services in communities with limited or disrupted kindergarten infrastructure. It included 14 new preschool spaces (including units within general secondary schools); 3 mobile kindergarten services; 32 Centres for Pedagogical Partnership; 3 family kindergartens; 1 workplace

kindergarten; and 1 kindergarten operating under the MOES. These models reached 13,991 children (7,821 girls). Across all locations, local authorities committed to covering staff salaries through local budgets, while UNICEF contributed to the preparation and furnishing of facilities, and staff capacity development required to operationalize services.

The NUMO: Play and Develop campaign reached 3,075,532 parents, caregivers and educators from frontline regions through TV, radio and outdoor and institutional placements. The NUMO digital ecosystem supported 409,770 people while 3,751 preschool educators completed certified training on child-centred learning and parental engagement. Additionally, UNICEF distributed 2,492 learning kits to first-grade students from vulnerable households and delivered 302 ECD kits to 171 locations, reaching 8,500 young children. In Mykolaiv, nine kindergartens received complete furniture sets, creating safe spaces for 630 preschoolers, including 345 girls.



Diverse preschool model in Poltava
©UNICEF/2025

In 2025, UNICEF expanded access to safe, inclusive education through **96 Digital Learning Centres (DLCs) and 278 Student Learning Support Centres** in frontline regions. These centres provide secure spaces for learning and MHPSS, helping children overcome the impact of war for 150,857 children (77,689 girls), including 886 children with disabilities. To further address learning gaps, UNICEF organized summer catch-up schools to help children master core subjects and recover lost learning. 2,032 children (1,067 girls), including 37 children with disabilities, participated. Sustainability was a priority. In partnership with the Poltava Department of Education, UNICEF supported the development and approval of a Regulation on Learning Loss Remediation, ensuring local budget allocations for teacher compensation. This step embeds catch-up learning into the education system of the hromada for 2026 and beyond.

In 2025, the **Education Cluster** reached 479,395 children (244,491 girls) and trained 20,674 teachers (19,227 women), representing 59 per cent of the original HNRP target and 61 per cent of the prioritized target. Cluster partners supported 71,079 children (36,250 girls) through the repair of emergency shelters and damaged education facilities, enhancing safe access to learning. An additional 387,088 children (197,415 girls) received social-emotional learning support while 77,447 children (39,498 girls) participated in catch-up learning. Additionally, 120,254 children (61,330 girls) received education kits, and 41,416 children (21,122 girls) gained access to Digital Learning Centres and Temporary Learning Spaces, ensuring safe and accessible environments for continued education.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: UNICEF supported the provision of MHPSS through mobile teams, static hubs, online platforms and in-person individual and group sessions to children and caregivers in 2025. A persistently high demand for psychosocial support was seen during monitoring visits to conflict-affected areas where caregivers repeatedly noted UNICEF-supported mobile teams and hubs were often the only opportunities for their children to safely interact with their peers and engage in structured activities supporting their mental health. Altogether, in 2025, UNICEF provided MHPSS to 327,746 children (182,871 girls, 4,272 with disabilities) and 219,190 caregivers (174,349 women).

Digital platforms enabled access to quality MHPSS support for individuals unable to attend in-person sessions. UNICEF reached 20,413 children (10,765 girls) and 15,025 caregivers with online individual and group consultations to strengthen emotional resilience. Eighty-five per cent of children and adolescents accessing online MHPSS found the programme helpful, noting improved emotional regulation and stress-management skills. Among caregivers, 96 per cent reported benefits, particularly valuing the practical tools and peer-learning opportunities. The UNICEF-supported **National Toll-Free Hotline for Children and Youth** received 48,440 calls this year on issues such as psychological distress, violence, family conflict, sexual education and school challenges. Serious, conflict-related concerns also emerged, including intimidation and recruitment attempts by Russian special services, underscoring the urgent need for accessible mental health support to respond to risks affecting children and adolescents.

UNICEF's **Positive Parenting Programme** reached 59,430 caregivers (47,544 women). Participants reported tangible behavioural changes, with 97 per cent using the acquired skills in everyday parenting and 98 per cent observing positive changes in their relationship with their child following participation. In late 2025, the national 'Path of Parenting' programme reached 591,000 users with digital content on strengthening protective caregiving practices under emergency conditions.

Standardized **training enhanced partners' skills** in conducting safe referrals and frontline support, reaching 13,419 professionals (10,735 women). This includes 330 specialists (318 women) trained on adolescent suicide prevention, crisis-response and the 'I Support My Friends' programme, promoting safe and effective practices nationwide. MHPSS services through youth centres and networks reached 31,192 **adolescents and youth** (19,051 females, including 331 people with disabilities) in 2025, including through individual and group MHPSS, peer support activities self-care and resilience-building sessions, and structured counselling.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Ukraine's water and sanitation systems are on the brink of collapse, with [8.5 million people in need](#) of humanitarian WASH support in 2025. The war has caused \$4.6 billion in damage to wastewater treatment plants, networks and drinking water systems. Ten million people lack safe water and 15 million lack proper sanitation, including [1.7](#)

[and 2.6 million children](#) respectively. [ACLED](#) reported 1,013 attacks on energy infrastructure in the year leading up to November 2025, a 163 per cent increase from the same period in the previous year. This resulted in frequent power outages, which disable pumping stations, treatment processes and distribution networks. A November 2025 analysis covering 43 major utilities serving 11.2 million people found that [85 per cent lack sufficient backup power](#). Heating systems serving 47 percent of the population sustained [\\$2.5 billion in damage](#). Environmental contamination, energy shortages, and rising poverty among households with children increase the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks.

In 2025, UNICEF enabled 4,297,768 people, including 710,109 children, to access **safe and equitable water and sanitation services** out of the annual target of 4.3 million people. Assistance was provided to 98 water utilities, including support for emergency repairs and the supply of critical equipment, maintenance tools and water treatment chemicals. Third-party monitoring conducted in September across 81 water utilities in 17 regions and Kyiv confirmed that UNICEF's support was systematic and sustained rather than one-off. Utilities rated the quality, usefulness and timeliness of assistance high, with average scores close to 10 out of 10. UNICEF accounts for 73 per cent of all donor assistance received by these water utilities.

UNICEF supported 50 **heating restoration projects** in 2025 to ensure sustained heating availability for 1,404,087 people¹, which is 95 per cent of the annual target of 1,480,000. Support focused on strengthening the reliability and resilience of heating services through the installation of backup power solutions, solar and cogeneration systems; rehabilitation of boiler houses and heating networks; and the modernization of internal heating systems in hospitals, schools and kindergartens. An independent survey commissioned by UNICEF in areas targeted with heating interventions during the 2024–2025 winter found that most respondents rated the performance of central heating systems positively, with 13.3 per cent reporting they were very satisfied and 46 per cent somewhat satisfied. However, only 12.5 per cent reported excellent thermal comfort, highlighting persistent quality gaps. One in five families associated health problems with inadequate indoor temperatures, underscoring reliable heating as a critical public health concern, particularly during winter months.

UNICEF delivered **critical WASH supplies** including bottled water, hygiene items, water trucking services and hygiene vouchers to 1,421,600 people across 17 regions, including 235,357 children, achieving 93 per cent of the annual target of 1,530,000 people. Assistance prioritized frontline communities where water systems were damaged or destroyed. Post-distribution monitoring of family hygiene kit distribution in Kharkiv (August 2025) showed high levels of satisfaction with the kits, with all key indicators for necessity, timeliness and appropriateness exceeding 9.9 out of 10. Ninety-six per cent of beneficiaries highlighted the quality of goods and organization of the delivery process, confirming that the assistance fully met their immediate needs. Yet, while the kit's core items demonstrated universal utility, feedback on specific items like water purification tablets and the need for cash assistance confirm the growing request toward more flexible, demand-driven assistance models.

Special attention was given to women and girls, through the distribution of dedicated products such as menstrual hygiene kits. In 2025, one in five women [reported](#) difficulties accessing essential menstrual products due to cost, distance, or shortages. As part of UNICEF's response, 1,276 girls and 135,357 women received hygiene kits containing **female hygiene items**, ensuring both dignity and access to essential WASH services.

More than 8 million litres of safe drinking water was delivered in Kharkiv, Donetsk and Kherson regions reaching 25,205 people. Independent monitoring of **water trucking** services in Kherson confirmed that water distribution meets sanitary standards and is easily accessible, despite ongoing shelling and limited availability of shelters at distribution points. Beneficiaries reported full satisfaction, while also highlighting persistent unmet needs related to financial assistance and other basic supplies.

UNICEF also piloted **hygiene vouchers** in 2025 with 15,662 vouchers distributed covering 43,105 people in Kherson and Mykolaiv regions. Each voucher, valued at UAH 2,500, enabled households to purchase essential hygiene items through local retailers, enhancing choice and dignity while responding to household-specific needs. Third-party monitoring indicated high levels of satisfaction, with 98.8 per cent of recipients reporting they were satisfied or very satisfied with the assistance. The intervention also generated positive economic spillover effects, as all partner stores reported increased revenue. The majority of participating retail stores were owned or managed by women. A comparative cost analysis showed a 22 per cent reduction in costs compared to in-kind delivery, alongside improvements in timeliness, flexibility and dignity.

As of November 2025, 161 **hospitals, education facilities and collective centres** (95 per cent of the annual target) have been supported with inclusive, gender-sensitive and child-friendly WASH services, reaching more than 800,000 people. As per recent monitoring feedback, there were high levels of satisfaction regarding the functionality and aesthetic design.

In 2025, the **WASH Cluster** delivered humanitarian WASH support to 3.7 million people across 11 regions under the HNRP,² achieving 90 per cent of the 4.1 million target compared to only 23 per cent of funding received, as per the [OCHA Financial Tracking System](#) Key achievements include 1.84 million people reached through emergency support to water utilities (112 per cent of target), 1.42 million people supported through operations and maintenance support to water utilities (345 per cent of target; driven by intensified efforts to avert widespread collapse of critical water utilities amid escalating power disruptions), 1.32 million reached with emergency water supplies (62 per cent of target), and 1.01 million people through interventions at

¹ Around 1 million people were reached in the 2025-26 winter – others were supported in the 2024-25 winter season.

² This is lower than the UNICEF reach which covered humanitarian interventions outside these 11 regions.

institutional level, such as schools, hospitals, transit centres and collective sites (103 per cent of target).

Under the [2025–2026 Winter Response Plan](#), the WASH Cluster assisted 1.1 million people (85 per cent of the 1.3 million target, including 136,700 children) through backup generators for utilities, leak detection equipment, boiler house repairs, supplies for emergency repairs (including tools, pipes, etc.) and critical equipment (e.g., pumps, shut-off valves) to ensure proper functioning of key facilities. The WASH Cluster portion of the Plan was 30 per cent funded as of [31 December 2025](#).

Social Protection: UNICEF's **Humanitarian Cash Transfer (HCT) programme** in 2025 supported vulnerable households affected by sudden or anticipatory shocks, in collaboration with national, regional and local authorities. A total of 66,554 households received cash assistance in 2025, covering 216,635 people (140,387 female) including 98,467 children (47,420 girls)³. These results were against a target of 60,000 households, with the overachievement due to a) the inter-agency winter cash transfer value – as established by the Shelter Cluster - decreased from the previous year, b) the average household size for MPCA beneficiaries affected by strikes and aerial attacks being lower than expected. The programme consisted of three cash assistance interventions: MPCA, winter cash assistance and EPCA.

MPCA was provided to 7,822 households, supporting 22,711 people including 7,515 children, affected by sudden shocks – such as intensified hostilities, aerial attacks and displacement – with the aim to support their basic needs and shock-related costs and ensure minimum living standards. Out of these households, 4,004 households were residing in frontline areas under mandatory evacuation in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia, while the remaining 3,818 households were affected by strikes in 11 regions across the country. These households received 10,800 UAH per person (US\$260), covering three months of basic needs support, as established by the Cash Working Group. Post-distribution monitoring of strike-affected MPCA beneficiaries showed that the cash assistance was mainly spent on renovation and repair work (75 per cent), focusing on refurbishment of windows, doors and structural/exterior part of the house. This was followed by medication (36 per cent), food (27 per cent) and utilities (17 per cent). While 65 per cent of the households were receiving some type of social assistance, only 19 per cent had received support for damaged housing from the government.

Winter cash assistance - a seasonal transfer to support vulnerable households' winter and heating needs - was provided to 65,501 households, covering 216,277 individuals including 101,187 children.⁴ Winter support provided by UNICEF and the humanitarian community in Ukraine aims to complement the national social protection system, prioritizing socio-economically vulnerable households in frontline communities where social assistance is inadequate to cover all their heating and energy needs for the winter season, and where humanitarian needs are compounded by the increase in hostilities and impact on access to essential services, such as electricity, heating and water. For the 2025/2026 winter response, UNICEF prioritized the inclusion of households based on a combination of geographic proximity to the frontline and vulnerabilities, starting with households with children in the 0-10 km frontline and expanding to vulnerable and low-income households with children living in the 10-50 km frontline zone. Each household received a one-time cash transfer of 19,400 UAH (US\$ 470), which was aligned with the transfer value established by the Shelter Cluster.

EPCA was provided to 573 households across the country, covering 2,061 individuals including 923 children. Each household received 16,700 UAH (US\$400). This intervention supported households directly affected by explosive weapons attacks, where at least one household member was either injured or killed, and there was at least one surviving child. The cash support was provided as part of UNICEF's holistic child protection case management approach.

Supply and Logistics: In 2025, UNICEF placed US\$25.3 million worth of orders for life-saving supplies. US\$33.8 million worth of life-saving supplies were received in Ukraine. US\$16.5 million worth of supplies were dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US\$17 million of supplies were delivered to implementing partners directly from local vendors in 2025. The value of supplies currently at stock at UNICEF-controlled warehouses is US\$2.8 million. The total value of supplies currently in pipeline is US\$6.9 million.

Communication and Advocacy: With the relentless intensity of the war and its impact on children throughout 2025, UNICEF Ukraine continued to lead advocacy on key humanitarian issues with and for children. More than 5,600 content products engaged audiences on the critical issues affecting children and UNICEF's humanitarian response. Content was published across UNICEF Ukraine's social media channels, through national and international media outlets and UNICEF global, regional and National Committee platforms. The content on UNICEF Ukraine channels reached 13.5 million users.



©UNICEF/Malashina Svitlana helps one of her younger daughters put on a warm, near the frontlines in Kharkiv region. She receives UNICEF winter cash assistance to help her family better cope.

³ The total number of households is lower than the sum of the households reached by each programme, as some households received more than one type of cash assistance. For example, a household may have received both MPCA and winter cash assistance

⁴ Out of these households, 53,600 households were supported during the 2025/2026 winter period, while the remaining 11,901 households were from the 2024/2025 winter cash support programme.

To drive the humanitarian advocacy agenda for children, UNICEF leveraged key moments and high-level advocacy platforms to engage a range of audiences, such as on [World Children's Day](#), [the three-year mark of the full-scale war](#), [Ukraine Mine Action Conference](#), [Safe Schools Conference](#), [Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas Conference](#), [start of the new school year](#), International Day to Protect Education from Attack, International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, [UNICEF Global Humanitarian Appeal for Children launch](#) and [International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action](#).

Activations and initiatives like [Poems For Peace](#) and the [local roll-out of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Office's Prove It Matters campaign](#), in partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Children's Rights, enabled child participation and amplified their voices in calling for peace.

Throughout the year, UNICEF consistently called attention to child casualties and other grave child rights violations as a result of the ongoing war. UNICEF released nine statements and press releases, and 57 short statements on social media about reports of children killed or injured, educational and health facilities damaged, and attacks impacting the humanitarian response. These were complemented by firsthand accounts from affected children and onsite video reports by staff in the immediate aftermath of strikes.

There were 28,300 mentions of UNICEF Ukraine in international and local media, including interviews with UNICEF spokespersons. Data released about the situation for children and UNICEF's advocacy calls to action were picked up on publication and used by external outlets and partners. This helped to ensure that children were included within the humanitarian narrative of news coverage of the war.

Human Interest Stories and Press Releases



[One in five children in Ukraine has lost a relative or friend since the escalation of war three years ago](#)



[Three-fold increase in the number of children killed or injured in Ukraine over the past three months](#)



[Children in Ukraine use poetry to call for peace](#)



[The war reaches our door: A new large-scale wave of evacuation is taking place in eastern Ukraine](#)

Next SitRep: April 2026

Who to contact for further information:

Munir Mammadzade
Representative
UNICEF Ukraine
mmammadzade@unicef.org

Kenan Madi
Chief Field Operations
UNICEF Ukraine
kemadi@unicef.org

Letizia Dell'Asin
Partnerships Manager
UNICEF Ukraine
ldellasin@unicef.org

Annex A: Programme Results (January–December 2025)

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response			
	2025 target	Total results	Change	
Health (9,200,000 people in need)				
Number of children and caregivers accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities, and through mobile teams and home visits	565,000	425,906	10,585	
Number of primary caregivers of children 0–23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	10,000	12,025 ⁵	1,295	
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA (3,500,000 people in need - Child Protection)				
Number of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	828,475	546,936	73,960
	Girls		182,871	32,610
	Boys		144,875	31,173
	Women		174,349	8,920
	Men		44,841	1,257
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	393,819	339,151	-9,664 ⁶	
Number of children who have received individual case management	Total	49,268	45,062	-2,938
	Girls		22,241	-1,392
	Boys		22,821	-1,546
Number of children and caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions	1,038,047	1,594,061 ⁷	19,286	
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	1,805,810	1,570,349	167,985	
Education & Skills (1,600,000 people in need)				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	517,530	311,109	2,749
	Girls		157,341	1,453
	Boys		154,697	1,296
Number of girls and boys receiving learning materials	33,100	50,691 ⁸	8,747	
Number of educators and community members trained to provide and support quality learning	30,300	11,164 ⁹	5,021	
WASH (8,500,000 people in need)				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	4,300,000	4,297,768	93,133	
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies	1,530,000	1,421,600	35,697	
Number of institutions provided with child friendly, gender sensitive and inclusive WASH facilities	170	161	92	
Number of people benefiting from restored or maintained heating services	1,480,000	1,404,087	297,474	
Social Protection				
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)	60,000	66,554 ¹⁰	7,335	

⁵ Target exceeded due to strong demand for lactation counselling as well as the UNICEF implementing partner training a higher number of IYCF focal points and ECD staff in healthcare facilities than originally planned.

⁶ Reduction due to data cleaning

⁷ Overachievement due to integration of EORE messaging into Winter Safety campaign.

⁸ Overachievement due higher than anticipated demand as schools in previously fully online regions, such as Kharkiv and Kherson, resumed face-to-face education. To support children from vulnerable families returning to classrooms, UNICEF provided additional individual learning kits at the start of the school year. Furthermore, UNICEF's early childhood education partner distributed materials in 2025 as planned in their programme document, expanding coverage beyond initial projections. These combined factors resulted in reaching significantly more children than originally planned.

⁹ Projections of teachers to be trained were based on the number of staff required to conduct remedial and catch-up programmes. As many teachers were identified as already having undertaken the training, the overall number was reduced.

¹⁰ Overachievement due to a) the inter-agency winter cash transfer value – as established by the Shelter Cluster - decreased from the previous year, b) the average household size for MPCA beneficiaries affected by strikes and aerial attacks being lower than expected.

Cross-sectoral				
Number of affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services		4,000,000	4,113,226	176,288
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		320,000	568,548	38,957
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms		40,000	37,718	16,391
Number of adolescents and young people who participate in or lead civic engagement initiatives		150,000	162,087	2,360

Annex B: Funding Status as of 31 December 2025

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Resources received (ORE/current year)	Carry-over (ORR and ORE)	US\$	%
Health and Nutrition	40,000,000	4,931,634	15,282,510	19,785,856	49%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	86,200,000	37,666,726	46,308,967	2,224,306	3%
Education	80,500,000	24,473,785	40,479,978	15,546,238	19%
WASH	135,400,000	94,174,724	65,174,025	0	0
Social Protection	57,900,000	50,535,571	22,718,068	0	0
Total	400,000,000	211,782,439	189,963,548	0	0