



UNICEF's exhibition "Atelier of Dreams" in Kyiv
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Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Report No.37



Reporting period: 1 to 29 February 2024

Highlights

- In February, UNICEF and partners provided mental health and psychosocial support to 117,678 girls, boys and women, including 4,046 children with disabilities, for a total of 169,906 people reached this year. Support was provided through schools, community centres, mobile teams, over the phone and online, among other platforms.
- So far this winter season, UNICEF has provided warm winter clothes to 74,862 children including 36,452 girls, as well as providing cash for winterization for 15,961 children from 5,218 households.
- UNICEF delivered 1,395 refrigerators for vaccine storage to 1,020 health facilities in 23 regions. Meanwhile, 19,908 children and parents benefitted from consultations on vaccination, provided by the Ministry of Health-UNICEF National Hotline on Vaccination and Infant Feeding.
- UNICEF and the Ministry of Education and Science distributed 53,590 large-print textbooks for children with visual impairments as well as audio support for English Language textbooks for 2,208 students with visual impairments. This includes 828 children in the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine, allowing them to continue their studies remotely.
- In 2024, UNICEF has ensured continuous access to safe water and sanitation services for 691,496 people through repairs, and rehabilitation of WASH networks and the provision of supplies and equipment to water utilities. WASH supplies have been provided to 1,139,796 people.

Situation in Numbers

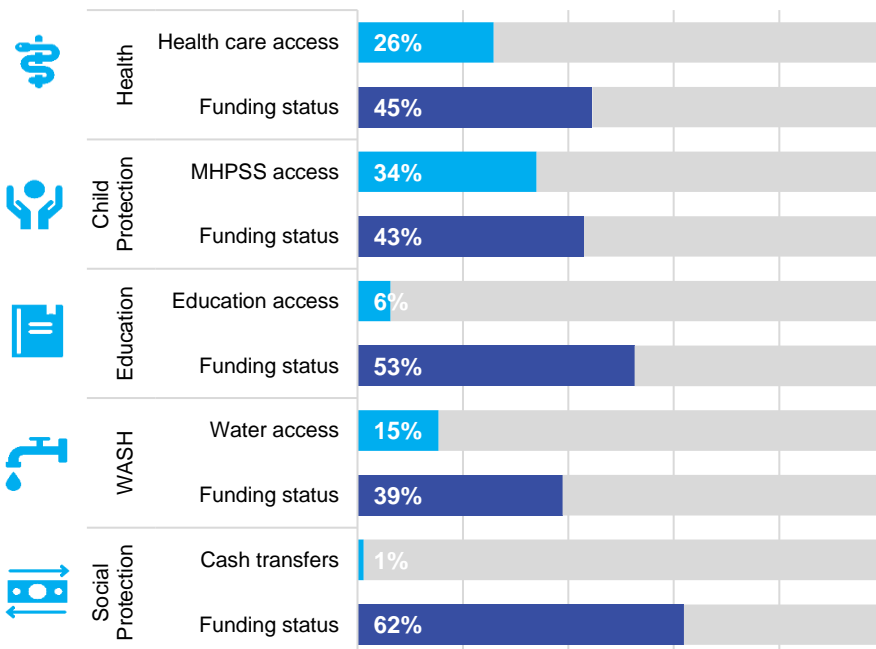
2.9 million
Children in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023)

14.6 million
People in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Response Plan 2024)

3.7 million
Internally displaced people
(IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, December 2023)

752,000
Children targeted by UNICEF in Ukraine 2024
(UNICEF HAC 2024)

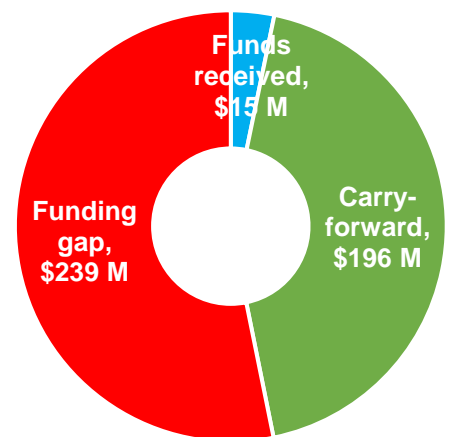
UNICEF Response and Funding Status



Low results compared to funding for Education as a significant portion of results for children in the public system will appear at the start of the new school year. For WASH, this is due to the project cycle; as infrastructure projects are completed, beneficiaries will be reported here. The Cash for Winterization package is a higher per-person cost than regular multisectoral cash.

UNICEF Appeal 2024 US\$450 million

Funding status as of 29 February



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

For 2024, UNICEF has US\$211.1 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its [Humanitarian Action for Children](#) (HAC) appeal of \$450 million. This includes US\$196.1 million carried over from 2023 and US\$14.9 million received in 2024. The HAC was developed in line with the [Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) 2024](#), which targets 8.5 million of the 14.6 million people in need. Targets and funding requirements are currently under review to align with the final HRP and current situation. Generous contributions have been received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations, with new funds from Ayuntamiento de Madrid, Citibank Ukraine and Trafigura Foundation through the UNICEF family of National Committees. Funding has also been received from the people and Governments of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, the European Union, France, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Philippines, Romania, Spain, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the pooled Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

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; Youth and Sports; Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development; and Health), mayors in several cities and the Ombudsperson's Office. UNICEF has established partnerships in concerned municipalities and will continue to expand them. UNICEF engages with 106 government, civil society and service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

While US\$211.1 million has been made available in 2024, 46 per cent has been utilized to meet critical needs in the first two months of the year. These generous funds have provided critical lifesaving supplies and services for the most affected children in frontline areas such as Sumska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska and Zaporizka Regions affected by intensified strikes since start of the year. Funding is also being invested in the construction, supplies, capacity building and other programming required to meet the needs of children and their families, which will be converted to results throughout the year. Without continued support, UNICEF will not be able to maintain critical support to vulnerable children and their families in the coming year, nor respond to new needs arising from the changing conflict dynamics.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Children in Ukraine have now lived through two years of destruction and displacement, violence, separation from family members and friends, loss of loved ones and disrupted schooling, health care and social services. Children living along the frontline have spent between 3,000 and 5,000 hours – equivalent to four to seven months – in underground shelters. According to survey data, half of 13- to 15-year-olds have trouble sleeping, and 1 in 5 has intrusive thoughts and flashbacks. Three-quarters of children and young people aged 14 to 34 recently reported needing emotional or psychological support.¹

Attacks continued along the frontline in February from Sumska Region in the north to Khersonska Region in the south. Communities in Kupiansk (Kharkivska), Robotyne (Zaporizka), Orlovka (Donetska) and Chasiv Yar (Donetska) were particularly affected. Air strikes impacted communities across the country in February, with a two-month-old boy killed in a strike on a hotel in Zolochiv (Kharkivska); five people killed when strikes hit apartments in Kyiv on 7 February²; seven people including three children killed in Kharkiv City on 10 February³; and three civilians killed in a strike on a maternity ward in Selydove Town (Donetska) on 13 February⁴. Hundreds of thousands of people lost power and heating in attacks leading up to and on 15 February, which affected homes, schools, hospitals and other civilian infrastructure.⁵

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, 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).

So far this winter season, UNICEF has provided warm **winter clothes** to 74,862 children, including 36,452 girls, as well as providing cash for winterization for 15,961 children from 5,218 households. 942 parents and caregivers and 419 children responded to the U-Report survey packed with each set of clothing; 92 per cent of parents and caregivers and 90 per cent of

¹ [Ukraine two years: Children in frontline areas forced to spend up to 5,000 hours – equivalent to nearly 7 months - sheltering underground \(unicef.org\)](#)

² [Russian Strikes Hit Ukrainian Cities at a Tense Time for Kyiv - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)

³ [Ukrainian family of five die in Russian drone attack in Kharkiv | Reuters](#)

⁴ OCHA, [Winter Attacks: Humanitarian Impact of Intensified Strikes and Hostilities – Flash Update #6](#), 16 February 2024.

⁵ OCHA, [Winter Attacks: Humanitarian Impact of Intensified Strikes and Hostilities – Flash Update #6](#), 16 February 2024.

children were satisfied. The majority of those unsatisfied raised concerns about sizes. Lessons learned will be applied for the next winter season, including an increased use of cash and/or vouchers.

In February, 4,900 individuals in frontline areas of Bilyi Kolodiaz (Kharkivska); Mariinka, Vuhledar, Avdiivka, Orikhiv (Donetsk); and Huliay Pole (Zaporizka) benefitted from life-saving supplies provided through two **interagency convoys** by United Nations agencies, including hygiene and health supplies, drinking water and equipment to support water networks provided by UNICEF.

In partnership with [Girls](#) and the [Gender Culture Centre](#), UNICEF strengthened the **gender** competencies of 1,330 individuals (95 per cent women⁶) in February. Their knowledge on gender-transformative parenting increased by 16 per cent on average (from 54 per cent to 70 per cent) in pre- and post-tests. To further support these efforts, handbooks on gender competencies for health workers, teachers, youth workers, social workers and psychologists were produced and distributed, as were handbooks on gender-transformative parenting and socialization for frontline workers, parents/caregivers and children. The OKY mobile app on menstrual hygiene and health, gender stereotypes and gender-based violence (GBV) was launched, supported by a social media campaign and 11,000 stickers and flyers distributed in schools, public toilets and youth centres. The application has reached 21,500 girls aged 9 to 16 as well as parents and caregivers.



Positive gender socialization Mirgorod Gymnasium No. 2 ©UNICEF/2024

In total, 16,408 beneficiaries provided **feedback** in February. Among them, 4,198 adolescents and caregivers shared their feedback on activities for adolescents and youth across Ukraine. This includes feedback on what they learned, their impressions of trainers and mentors, whether they made new friends and whether they would recommend these activities to others. For example, 94 per cent of participants would recommend the Creative Programme. If negative feedback is received about certain tasks, activities, or mentors, implementing partners made relevant adjustments. Additionally, 4,530 individuals reached out through the UNICEF **hotline** 'Tell us how it is'. The primary focus of these calls was humanitarian cash transfers; these calls were channelled to the dedicated hotline to resolve their concerns and provide the most up to date information on cash programmes.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition: In February, UNICEF provided **medical supplies and equipment** to support access to health care for 78,000 children and caregivers, for a total of 237,662 people supported so far this year. This month, deliveries were provided to primary health care facilities and maternity and perinatal centres in Kharkivska, Odeska and Lvivska Regions. UNICEF also procured and delivered 242 generators (16 kVA) to health facilities across the country⁷ to ensure they are energy-independent and allow for uninterrupted operation in the event of blackouts.

The **Universal Progressive Home Visiting** model is being rolled out in 11 locations.⁸ The model provides personalized support and care for pregnant women, children and caregivers including on breastfeeding, parenting and immunization. In February, 1,253 individuals, including 205 girls, 246 boys, 478 women and 324 men, received home visiting consultations. UNICEF also deployed **mobile medical teams** comprised of doctors, nurses and psychologists to proactively serve children in remote and hard-to-reach areas in Kharkivska. As a result, 152 girls, 155 boys and 244 women received health services for a total of 733 people, including 181 girls, 188 boys and 344 women, reached this year.

UNICEF continues to support the Government of Ukraine to upgrade its **cold chain system**. UNICEF has delivered 1,395 refrigerators with electronic temperature loggers for vaccine storage to 1,020 health facilities in 23 accessible regions. They were accompanied by 5,000 posters on cold chain management, vaccine handling and temperature monitoring distributed to 1,400 immunization points. In February, 19,908 children and parents benefitted from consultations on vaccination, provided by the Ministry of Health (MOH)-UNICEF National Hotline on Vaccination and Infant Feeding, 'Jointly to Health'. Often, hotline operators help parents find a facility ready to vaccinate a child or an adult, to find a vaccine lacking at their usual facility. Meanwhile, as a follow-up to a training conducted in August 2023 for communication experts from regional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCs), 18 CDCs have initiated projects to **promote vaccination**. These activities have engaged 586 children and 1,164 parents and caregivers, and 1,266 people received vaccinations during these events.

'Jointly to Health' also supported caregivers of 2,059 children with consultations on infant and young child feeding, including breastfeeding, and 594 health care professionals continue being trained through a certification course breastfeeding support. A nationwide behaviour change campaign, 'What's Inside Matters,' carried on, focusing on **healthy nutrition** among children, parents and caregivers. Through digital promotion, the campaign engaged 16,253 beneficiaries while 5,154,000 beneficiaries were reached through communication materials in public spaces. 49,266 people visited the znaimo.gov.ua platform on healthy

⁶ This reflects the feminization of care-related professions (medical workers, teachers, youth workers, social workers and psychologists) in Ukraine.

⁷ Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Ivano-Frankivska, Kharkivska, Kirovohradska, Khmelnytska, Kyivska, Mykolaivska, Lvivska, Poltavska, Sumska, Luhanska, Rivnenska, Vinnytska, Volynska, Zhytomyrska, Zakarpatska, Ternopilka Regions and the city of Kyiv.

⁸ Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Kirovohradska, Kyivska, Lvivska, Poltavska, Volynska, Zakarpatska and Zhytomyrska Regions and Kyiv City.

nutrition for educators, caregivers and teenagers. As part of the campaign's efforts, 239 educators registered for the online course 'Health Nutrition Basics for Pupils in Classes 1-4,' and 167 successfully completed it. Sixty-eight boxes of edutainment materials were distributed to educators who had completed the course, reaching 2,070 children.

Child Protection: In February, UNICEF reached 116,101 children (69,266 girls) and 42,004 caregivers with child protection in emergencies programmes including MHPSS, GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response services and explosive ordnance risk education (EORE). This includes 5,451 children (2,738 girls) (252 children with disabilities) newly supported with **case management**. Amongst these were 1,212 children returned from institutions, under guardianship or at risk of institutionalization supported. A further 1,331 families with children who had returned or were facing similar risks were identified and benefitted from visits to assess their situation and provide support as needed. 1,668 caregivers of these children were provided with humanitarian case management and access to services. In February, UNICEF and its partners also provided case management for 15 children (6 girls) who were reunified with their parents/legal guardians in Ukraine or who otherwise returned.

UNICEF supported the Office of the Ombudsman and the National Social Services to **monitor the living conditions of 205 children in institutions** (80 girls, 121 children with disabilities) and 50 other children (12 girls, 30 with disabilities), including 23 who returned from host countries. Child protection concerns were identified and officially recorded by the Ombudsman's Office and addressed by relevant child protection bodies at central and local level.



Olga and her biological and adopted children
©UNICEF/2024

UNICEF continues to work closely with the Government of Ukraine to implement the **Better Care** reform. The heads of social departments and social services providers (22 participants, 95 per cent women) from 12 municipalities in Kharkivska were trained on the provision of quality social services for children and families. Thirty-six early intervention teams from Better Care pilot regions were selected following a competitive process. These teams will receive comprehensive training to better support young children with disabilities and developmental delays or at risk of such delays. Topics include the technology of early intervention services; working in a team with professionals from different sectors; and how to develop, implement and monitor an individual family early intervention plan, among other topics.

UNICEF strengthened the National Social Service's capacity to **cooperate with states hosting displaced Ukrainian children**, by facilitating bilateral discussions with the governments of the Central Authorities of Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands under the 1996 Hague Convention on Child Protection. UNICEF also organized a training, facilitated by the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, on issues of jurisdiction under the same convention. In February, UNICEF and its partners further trained 22 people (13 women) from the National Social Service and 45 regional representatives of the Ombudsman's Office on the best interests of the child. Thirty-four people (21 women) benefitted from legal advice and support during consultations on issues of adoption, activities of family-type homes and the evacuation of children abroad.

Gender-based violence response, prevention, and/or risk mitigation activities reached 24,606 children and 11,682 women in February, including 681 children with disabilities. Twenty-six frontline staff were trained on GBV risk mitigation and safe referrals in Sumska Region, bringing the total staff trained in 2024 to 52 (37 women). The staff are establishing six mobile teams to deliver MHPSS, case management and GBV prevention activities for the most vulnerable children in Sumska. Thirteen adolescent girls' clubs, which reach 325 girls each week, are running in Ukraine. The clubs offer 40 sessions over 40 weeks and combine life skills, GBV prevention, awareness sessions on sexual reproductive health and recreational activities.

In February, 104,853 children and 16,462 caregivers participated in **EORE** sessions in educational facilities, Spilnos⁹ and communities and through mobile teams of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine. 3,594 educators and emergency workers (1,924 female) have enrolled in the 'Delivering Mine Safety to Children' online course. February also saw 2,567,056 adolescents, parents and caregivers reached through the Winter Safety Campaign, for a total of 3,507,328 people this year.

Through its support of the **Register of Psychologists**, UNICEF and its partners provided 359 children in conflict with the law and children victims or witnesses of crimes with MHPSS during police and judicial proceedings to ensure that they were not exposed to harm during the process. Additional psychologists were selected in seven regions to undergo further training and assessments to be included in the Register. UNICEF and its partners also trained 1,485 prosecutors, judges, police officers, psychologists, social workers, lawyers and other justice professionals on child-friendly justice.

Representatives from the UNICEF-supported Better Care Coordination Centre as well as UNICEF staff and staff from the regional administration of Zakarpatska (a prospective Better Care region) participated in a study tour to Lithuania in February. The delegation identified best practices and lessons learned from the deinstitutionalization reform of children's residential institutions. The main lessons cover: (a) in Lithuania, a clear deinstitutionalization plan was developed, and a separate group

⁹ UNICEF operates a network of 115 Spilno Child Spots. Spilnos provide cross-sectoral services and activities for children and their caregivers, covering MHPSS, health, nutrition and safety among others. They also link families with services they may need.

was created to monitor and oversee its implementation; and (b) the deinstitutionalization process faced significant resistance both within the system and from the wider public. A detailed study visit report is available [here](#).

To mark the two years of the escalation of the war in Ukraine, the **Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AOR)** developed an [annual e-bulletin](#). So far this year, CP AOR partners have reached 142,901 individuals (88,599 women and girls) including 99,698 children (52,840 girls) with critical child protection prevention and response services. These services include MHPSS, child-friendly legal assistance, case management, family tracing and reintegration, cash for child protection outcomes, child protection messaging and transport assistance.

In February, CP AOR conducted a survey to gather feedback from case workers and social workers to enhance the quality of child protection case management. The survey findings were shared with the Case Management Working Group (CMWG) to assist case workers at the organizational level and informed the development of the CMWG work plan for 2024. Regional-level meetings were held in Zaporizka, Kharkivska, Dnipropetrovska, Mykolaivska and Lvivska to analyse response gaps and establish linkages with Children's Service authorities at the regional level.

Education (Learning and Skills Development): In February, UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Education and Science to print and distribute 53,590 large-print **textbooks for children with visual impairments** as well as audio support for English Language textbooks. Among the 2,208 recipients were 828 children in the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine, allowing them to continue their studies remotely.

In February, 4,352 children (2,132 girls) participated in **catch-up classes** operated by UNICEF partners. These children were provided with tailored learning interventions designed to address their individual learning needs and accelerate their academic progress. Moreover, 2,026 teachers were trained to deliver catch-up education this month, ensuring personalized support and guidance for every child. UNICEF partners also operated 29 **Digital Learning Centres (DLCs)** accessed by 1,844 students (848 girls) in February. Seven new DLCs opened in Poltavaska, Sumska and Donetska Regions. In the coming months, UNICEF will open 30 additional centres in the east and south.



Children participate in a DLC in Zaporizhya school #98 ©Maryna Vladimirova

UNICEF installed **shatter resistant film** on two schools near critical infrastructure in Odesa city this month, to provide a more secure learning environment for 1,500 students. Six hundred Home Learning Kits were provided to vulnerable children in the Khersonska, Mykolaivska and Odeska Regions to support children involved in remote learning.

In cooperation with the Association of Pre-School Workers, UNICEF facilitated **early childhood education** for 2,060 children (971 girls). These sessions, conducted twice a week, offer a nurturing environment and foster cognitive, emotional and social skills and are particularly significant in areas where kindergartens remain closed. The [NUMO Platform](#), comprising a website, educational app and chatbot dedicated to ECD supported 30,220 parents, caregivers, young children and educators, providing a wide array of content and advice for non-formal education.

UNICEF's **UPSHIFT** programme started a new wave of social innovation across seven regions of western Ukraine, empowering 301 young people (211 female) to identify concerns in their communities and create projects for positive change over the coming three months. In Zaporizka, an UPSHIFT bootcamp was held to allow participants to refine their project concepts, with active involvement from city authorities. Among the standout projects is the 'Language Express: Ukrainian for Youth' initiative, offering tailored language courses to address language barriers faced by adolescents in Zaporizhzhia.

On 28 February, UNICEF, in collaboration with local authorities, inaugurated the youth centre in Valkivska municipality, Kharkivska. Across the country, UNICEF supports 220 youth centres. For example, in Chuhuiv, Kehychivka, and PISOCHYN, three centres continued to serve as hubs for youth engagement and development activities in February, hosting 84 events for 1,002 individuals and fostering a sense of community and belonging among adolescents.

In February, 4,851 individuals (3,006 females) joined **U-Report** to lend their voices to surveys and influence decision-making at regional and national levels. New polls assessed the impact of physical activity on mental health and gauged emergency response preparedness in frontline regions to inform policymakers and stakeholders. To further energize youth participation, U-Report Odesa organized eight presentations across the region which provided opportunities for dialogue among young people, local government representatives and community stakeholders. 217 young people (151 females) participated in the events, and 188 were newly registered as U-Reporters. Ukrainian Volunteer Service launched 80 **volunteer opportunities** on its platform, with 1,165 new volunteers (591 females) registering. School volunteering lessons, meanwhile, were organized in 35 schools for 996 adolescents (510 females); 2,848 children have participated in these sessions so far this year.

Education Cluster partners reached 295,896 (150,907 per cent girls) students and teachers in February with MHPSS, school rehabilitation, EORE, protective temporary learning centres and DLCs as well as essential training and support for teachers. Of them, 89,444 (48,300 per cent girls) children benefited from MHPSS support, 156,288 (81,270 per cent girls) children received learning materials and devices and 49,564 (24,286 per cent girls) learners participated in catch-up classes, and 74,617(68,648 female) were provided with essential trainings and support programmes. Training on MHPSS, catch-up learning,

trauma-aware teaching, and other initiatives are crucial for ensuring a supportive learning environment for all students.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: In February, UNICEF and partners provided **MHPSS** to 117,678 girls, boys and women, including 4,046 children with disabilities for a total of 169,906 people reached this year. In one example, UNICEF and the Masha Fund conducted the second phase of the 'Unbreakable Mom' project to support families who have lost loved ones in the war. Additionally, 122 individuals (18 children and 104 women) received online and offline psychological counseling and two new support groups were started to assist 24 women affected by the war.

As a wrap-up of a recent **behaviour change campaign** in partnership with the First Lady and the 'How Are You' National Mental Health Programme, 3 million pieces of printed materials on MHPSS were distributed, including posters for shelters with practical tools on mental health (128,608 pieces); brochures for parents and caregivers (160,000); and bookmarks for children (2,873,500). A new episode of the cartoon featuring the famous demining dog, Patron, focusing on mental health was viewed by 363,693 users.

'Playing with No Fear' expanded its methodological recommendations on supporting the **mental health of young children**. The mass campaign has reached 3,909,988 beneficiaries at 850 mass contact points across Ukraine, including gas stations, supermarkets and shopping malls. Additionally, 70,506 preschool-age children (40,511 girls) were [engaged in a community activation](#) through contests among kindergartens, physical exercises featuring the song 'Me and You,' and other activities; 1,961 educators took part in the activation.

Meanwhile, 9,913 **adolescents** and 3,234 caregivers were engaged in MHPSS-related social and behaviour change interventions in February. One programme promoted creative skills and social cohesion along with MHPSS for 2,367 children and youth (1,467 girls) in Dnipropetrovska and Kirovohradska. As part of UNICEF's exhibition 'Atelier of Dreams' in Kyiv, a two-week Spilno Camp engaged 4,520 caregivers, children and youth (1,519 women, 1,013 girls, 1,193 men and 795 boys) in interactive art sessions for mental health support. Additionally, the exhibition was expanded with artworks and installations created by children and youth over the last two years. It reflected the emotions and experiences of children in Ukraine during wartime and attracted media attention and engagement from the Office of the First Lady, prominent artists and influencers. Finally, 1,917 young people (965 girls) participated in 21 Sports Clubs supporting physical and mental health.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: So far, in 2024, UNICEF has ensured continuous access to safe water and sanitation services for 691,496 people. This has been achieved through repairs and rehabilitation of WASH facilities and networks and the supply of water treatment chemicals and equipment to water utilities. As part of life-saving WASH response, WASH supplies have reached 1,139,796 people in need.



UNICEF supports the availability of water in Kharkiv City ©UNICEF/2024

Throughout the reporting period, 165,615 people, including approximately 30,000 children, were newly provided with **uninterrupted access to safe water and sanitation services**. This was made possible through UNICEF's support to 16 water utilities in Khersonska, Cherkaska, Donetska, Kirovohradska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Poltava, Sumska, Vinnytska and Zhytomyrska. These companies received essential equipment and materials for infrastructure restoration and maintenance, such as pipes, flanges, valves and electrodes, or project design support. UNICEF delivered materials and laboratory equipment to Kramatorsk water utility, which was then used to restore the water filtration station when it was affected by strikes. Out of the 16 water utilities supported in February, 10 received 163 tons of water treatment chemicals to maintain minimum water quality standards and prevent the spread of waterborne diseases for 75,925 people.

Seven educational (four secondary, three pre-school) and one health care institutions in Mykolaivska, Kirovohradska and Vinnytska have been equipped with enhanced **WASH facilities** through the repair of sanitary blocks, benefitting 3,850 people, including 1,543 children. This was complemented with the distribution of 4,771 institutional hygiene kits to 910 educational and health care facilities supporting 973,386 people (429,379 women, 380,444 men, 84,225 boys and 79,337 girls). This includes the distribution of institutional hygiene kits to five metro-schools in Kharkiv City, where 2,613 children continue their studies despite the ongoing hostilities.

A total of 1,058,416 people (466,888 women, 413,678 men, 91,583 boys and 86,267 girls) in 16 regions¹⁰ received hygiene kits and other **WASH supplies**, such as water purification tabs, diapers, soap and toothpaste as well as emergency water trucking. Recent third-party monitoring from western Ukraine indicated that 100 per cent of respondents highly rate the quality of hygiene kits, and 99 per cent consider them very useful. Finally, 604 students (335 girls) in Poltavaska oblast participated in **hygiene promotion** sessions in kindergartens and gained knowledge about key public health risks related to WASH, as well as measures to mitigate them. Participants received printed materials on basic hygiene practices and individual hygiene kits.

¹⁰ Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Ivano-Frankivska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Khmelnytska, Kyivska, Lvivska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Rivnenska, Sumska, Ternopilska, Vinnytska, Volynska and Zaporizka.

UNICEF and the WASH Cluster supported the National Vodokanal (water utility) Association in organizing the International Water Forum 2024 in Yaremche, Ivano-Frankivska Region, on 14 and 15 February. The forum engaged participants in discussions on institutional reform, the financial situation of water utilities and efficiency and innovations in the WASH sector, urging government and public attention. With 280 participants, including representatives from water utilities, governmental bodies, international organizations and private sector, the event aimed to devise a roadmap for revitalizing and modernizing Ukraine's water supply and wastewater treatment industry.

The **WASH Cluster** coordinated humanitarian support to two major incidents in the east of Ukraine in February. The first occurred on 12 February in the Nemyshliansky district of Kharkiv city where an oil depot was hit, resulting in the leakage of around 3000 tons petroleum products into the Ouda river. The second incident occurred on 20 February at the Kramatorsk Filtration Station that was destroyed by strikes and resulted in loss of life of one utility worker and injury of at least four others, and the cutting of the water supply to parts of the city. The WASH Cluster's technical cell has identified the immediate needs; rapid responses from authorities with support from humanitarian actors stabilized the negative impacts from both incidents. The attacks highlight a wider pattern of attacks on WASH infrastructure, and their potential large-scale consequences. More extensive hazard mapping, and development of alternative water sources and contingency plans continues.

A market assessment of WASH approaches in the east and south has been launched to complement other ongoing studies focusing on developing resources to strengthen people-centered programming; it is expected to conclude mid-year. Assessment of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and in-kind modalities (measured against sectoral objectives) intensified in February. Coordination with IOM regarding their rollout of a dedicated review and analysis of this topic is expected to yield critical information on the role of both CVA and in-kind supplies for vulnerable populations.

Social Protection: In February, UNICEF's **Cash for Winterization** programme reached 395 households (1,719 individuals) including 1,210 children (601 were girls). Throughout the 2023–2024 winter period, 15,961 children from 5,218 households have been supported. UNICEF targets low-income families with three or more children or a child with disabilities living in de-occupied and frontline areas. Additionally, the families must live in one of cold-spot areas identified by the Shelter Cluster. Each family member receives a basic multi-purpose cash transfer of US\$292 to cover basic needs with each child receiving an additional US\$180 for winter clothing. UNICEF is currently preparing to expand the winterization programme in Dnestic Region with payments expected in March.

The PeReHID Initiative, co-chaired by UNICEF, aims to enable a transition away from large-scale humanitarian cash transfers towards a more **shock-responsive and inclusive national social protection system**. February was an important month for the Initiative as the Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) submitted its draft conclusions to its situational analysis and draft recommendations for the transition. UNICEF is supporting TAF stakeholder engagements that will ultimately lead to the adoption of the recommendations, a strategic roadmap and action plan by the Initiative's Steering Committee.

Supply and Logistics: So far this year, UNICEF has placed US\$1.7 million worth of orders to purchase supplies, including US\$0.8 million in orders placed in February. US\$13.3 million worth of supplies were received in Ukraine. US\$9.3 million worth of supplies have been dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses this year, with US\$3.4 million dispatched in February. Meanwhile, US\$3.8 million of supplies have been delivered to implementing partners directly from local vendors in 2024, including US\$2.2 million delivered in February. The value of supplies currently at stock at UNICEF-controlled warehouses is US\$17.6 million with US\$14.1 million of supplies in the pipeline.

External Media: For the two-year mark of the escalation of the war, UNICEF Ukraine worked with its headquarters and regional office to amplify key messages, children's voices and the situation of children in Ukraine. This included four human interest story packages about children in Ukraine. The [global press release](#) highlighted the impact of the war on children's learning and mental health. Over 100 content pieces were published on social media channels, reaching over 1 million users and generating more than 5 million views and over 259,000 likes/reactions, comments and shares. UNICEF spokesperson James Elder visited Kharkiv and gave a [remote Palais briefing](#) to media. UNICEF Ukraine spokespersons gave 25 interviews with local and international media. Staff also participated in three virtual donor experiences and a press conference in Berlin organized by the German National Committee in partnership with BMZ, where a youth delegate from Ukraine also participated. A youth interview was also arranged with the president of the United Kingdom National Committee, actress Olivia Colman. The video reached more than 35,600 users on UNICEF Ukraine social media channels.

Twelve short statements for social media about reported grave child rights violations were published. UNICEF Ukraine worked with its regional office to produce a [statement on reported child casualties](#), and with WHO Ukraine to produce a [joint statement on the impact of attacks on education and health care](#). Other key emergency moments in February that were communicated on UNICEF Ukraine channels were the launch of the third Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment, and the participation of UNICEF Ukraine Representative in the Ukrainian-German Conference on Mental Health, Psychosocial Support and Rehabilitation Conference. Ten human interest story packages and eight press releases were produced and published.

Human Interest Stories



[After two years of war, 11-year-old Bohdan laments lost childhood](#)



[Ukraine war continues to rob children's hopes for future](#)



[Children in Ukraine continue to count cost of war](#)



[Specialist teams provide stability for vulnerable families in Ukraine](#)

Next SitRep: April 2024

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Annex A: Programme Results (February 2024)

Sector		UNICEF and IPs Response			
		2024 target	Total results	Change	
Health (7,800,000 people in need)					
Number of children and caregivers accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities, and through mobile teams and home visits		920,000	237,662	73,645	
Number of primary caregivers of children 0–23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling		30,000	2,883	2,861	
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA (3,400,000 people in need - Child Protection)					
Number of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support		Total	500,000	169,906	117,678
		Girls		80,602	54,460
		Boys		61,384	45,633
		Women		23,837	15,533
		Men		4,083	2,052
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions		513,028	36,288	21,020	
Number of children who have received individual case management		Total	63,472	5,451	2,674
		Girls		2,738	1,331
		Boys		2,713	1,343
Number of children and caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions		1,314,484	224,039	222,859 ¹¹	
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations		1,237,236	291,460	212,170	
Education (1,200,000 people in need)					
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning		Total	625,000	39,422	36,216
		Girls		19,527	17,954
		Boys		19,895	18,262
Number of girls and boys receiving learning materials		400,000	152,089	2,962	
Number of children and young people ¹² accessing skills development and participation opportunities		150,000	41,233	22,483	
Number of teachers and other education personnel trained to provide quality learning		15,000 ¹³	19,901	14,756	
WASH (9,600,000 people in need)					
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs		4,497,000	691,496	165,615	
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies		1,535,800 ¹⁴	1,139,796	1,058,416	
Number of institutions provided with child friendly, gender sensitive and inclusive WASH facilities		260	18	8	
Social Protection					
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)		39,985	463	395	

¹¹ Includes back reporting from January.

¹² Includes ages 10 to 24

¹³ Target to be reviewed during first quarter HAC adjustment.

¹⁴ Target to be reviewed during first quarter HAC adjustment.

Influencing Social Behaviour				
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	1,380,903	1,287,613 ¹⁵
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		150,000 ¹⁶	130,059	10,168
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms		50,000	10,084	7,587

Annex B: Funding Status as of 29 February 2024

With humanitarian needs still acute, the UNICEF HAC appeal reflects resource requirements under Pillar 1 to reach vulnerable children and families in Ukraine with essential services and life-saving supplies. Continued, flexible contributions mean that UNICEF and partners can act quickly and respond strategically to where the needs are greatest.

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Resources received (ORE/current year)	Carry-over (ORR and ORE)	US\$	%
Health and Nutrition	72,783,360	6,732,472	25,695,728	40,355,160	55%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	101,313,504	3,432,584	40,078,129	57,802,792	57%
Education	88,949,664	2,993,712	43,784,780	42,171,172	47%
WASH	118,898,150	919,713	45,326,022	72,652,415	61%
Social Protection	68,066,438	873,021	41,261,713	25,931,704	38%
Total	450,011,116	14,951,502	196,146,371	238,913,243	53%

¹⁵ Large increase from results of the winter safety campaign.

¹⁶ Target to be reviewed during first quarter HAC adjustment.