



A boy and a girl hug each other at the UNICEF Spilno Child Spot in Chuhuiv. ©UNICEF/2023/ Oleksiy Filippov

Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Report No.33



Reporting period: 1 to 31 October 2023

Highlights

- UNICEF and its partners commemorated World Mental Health Day on 10 October with various programmes including the advocacy event 'How are you? Stories of Resilience', organized in partnership with First Lady Olena Zelenska, and the National Mental Health Programme. Other key activities included the first Mental Health Forum 'Moving Towards the Mental Health System and Services of the Future' and a social media challenge that engaged 57,112 people. So far this year, UNICEF and partners have reached 2,380,388 children, adolescents and caregivers with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).
- UNICEF has partnered with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Emergency Service and the National Police of Ukraine to raise awareness about safety culture among children. Fifteen Mobile Safety Classes have been established to educate children on mine safety, fire safety, home safety, traffic rules, winter safety, water safety and cyber security.
- As part of its winterization response, UNICEF partners distributed 2,881 winter clothing kits in October in Mykolaivska, Odeska and Kharkivska. Overall, UNICEF is targeting 145,000 children with winter clothing and cash assistance in the 2023/24 winter season. UNICEF also delivered essential equipment and machinery to support the repair, maintenance and preparation of water supply systems for the winter season in Volynska, Kyivska, Mykolaivska, Chernihivska and Zhytomyrska Regions to support 421,300 people.

Situation in Numbers

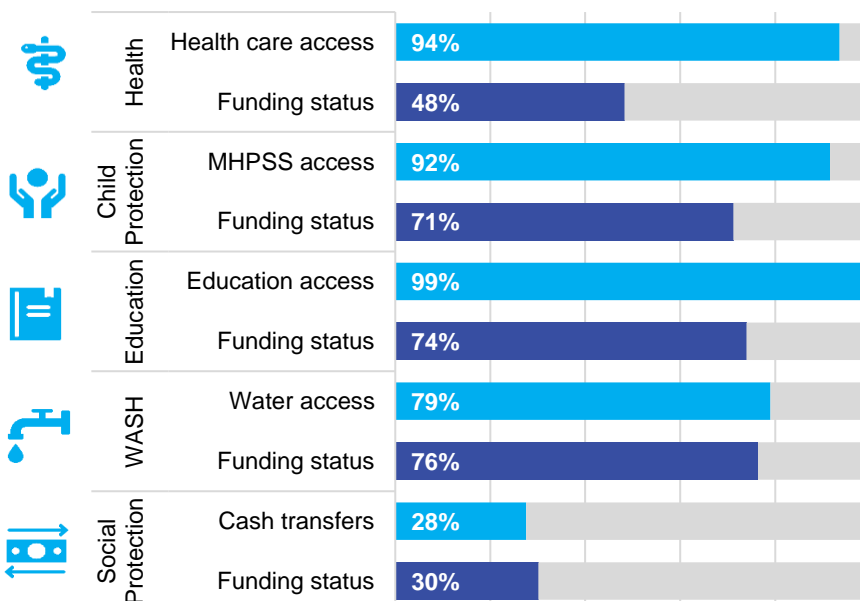
4.1 million
Children in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023)

17.6 million
People in need inside Ukraine
(Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023)

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

2.5 million
Children targeted by UNICEF in Ukraine 2023
(UNICEF HAC 2023)

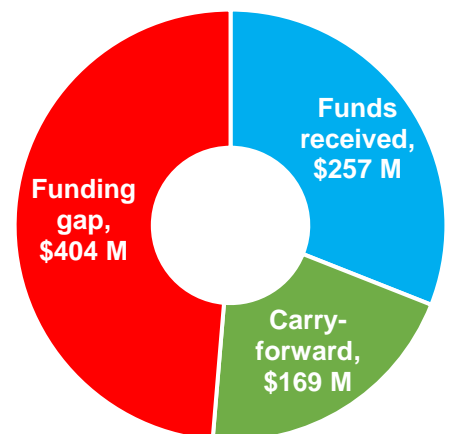
UNICEF Response and Funding Status



Funding figures represent funds available for the full programme, while the top-line indicators may have a more advanced achievement due to prioritization within the programme.

UNICEF Appeal 2023 US\$829.2 million

Funding status as of 31 October



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 2023, UNICEF has US\$425.6 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its [Humanitarian Action for Children](#) (HAC). This includes US\$168.6 million carried over from 2022 and US\$257 million newly received in 2023. The HAC was developed in line with the [Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan 2023](#), which targets 11.1 million of the 17.6 million people in need. Generous contributions have been received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations, with new funds from Breakthrough Prize, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Nachbar in Not (Neighbour in Need), Plaion GmbH (formerly Koch Media GmbH), P&G Baby Care Europe, Stiftung Kinderförderung von Playmobil, United Internet for UNICEF Foundation and VISSMANN WERKE GMBH & CO. KG in the second half of 2023, through the UNICEF family of National Committees. Important funding has also been received from the people and Governments of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, the State of Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the European Commission, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the pooled Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

UNICEF continues to work with the Government of Ukraine, United Nations agencies, civil society and non-governmental organizations and other humanitarian partners. Close consultations are also held with Presidential advisors, key ministries (Foreign Affairs; Social Policy; Education and Science; Youth and Sports; Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development; and Health), and mayors in several cities and the Ombudspersons Office. UNICEF has established partnerships in key municipalities and will continue to expand these in all regions. UNICEF engages with 84 government, civil society and financial service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In October, families faced increased air strikes along the frontline, with Kharkiv, Kherson and Mykolaiv regions the most affected. Fifty-two people (including at least one child) were killed in Hroza village in Kharkivska Region¹ on 5 October and a 10-year-old and his grandmother were killed in Kharkiv City the next day.² Port infrastructure also continues to be targeted. Fighting has been intense in Avdiivka, now home to only 1,000 of its original population of 30,000.³ The government called for the forced evacuation of around 1,000 children from 31 settlements in eastern Donetska and southern Khersonska.⁴

A UNICEF phone-based survey of 9,000 mothers showed that 29 per cent of households feel unsafe in their current residence, including 41 per cent in frontline areas and 31 per cent in Kyiv city. In newly accessible and frontline areas, over half of households cannot enrol their children in education. This is largely because many schools and kindergartens are not operational. Finally, in terms of health care, 88 per cent of households have regular access to medical services but 21 per cent struggle to access medications.

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), Child Protection and Education Clusters, 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 World Health Organization (WHO)-led 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 and has launched three Flagship priorities: Early Childhood Development (ECD), Youth Empowerment and the Better Care Initiative⁵ to ensure family-based care for all children.

As part of its **winterization response**, UNICEF partners distributed 2,881 winter clothing kits to 1,361 girls and 1,520 boys in October in Mykolaivska, Odeska and Kharkivska. Overall, UNICEF is targeting 125,000 children with warm clothing the 2023/24 winter season, with a focus on in frontline areas. 988 blankets have also been distributed in



Winter clothing distribution in Izyum, Kharkivska ©UNICEF

¹ BBC, [Ukraine war: Every family in Hroza village affected by missile attack](#), 6 October 2023.

² VOA, [Russian Attack Kills 10-Year-Old and His Grandmother in Ukraine](#), 6 October 2023.

³ BBC, [Ukraine war: Avdiivka civilians cling on amid Russian assault](#), 24 October 2023.

⁴ BBC, [Ukraine war: Forced evacuations as Russian attacks intensify](#), 26 October 2023.

⁵ Better Care focuses on strengthening families to prevent separation and increasing access to family-based care for all children. This includes access to a minimum package of social services (individual case management, day care, early intervention, psychosocial support, social and medical patronage, crisis intervention, and integrated social services and benefits) and to quality alternative family-based care, through positive parenting and training for current, new and potential alternative care families.

Kharkivska. Of those who have received clothes, 255 parents and caregivers have responded to an attached survey, with 89 per cent saying that the clothing fully or mostly satisfied their children's needs.

UNICEF participated in three **inter-agency convoys** in November, delivering emergency supplies, including hygiene kits and winter supplies, for an estimated 3,500 affected people in Toretsk and Chasiv Yar (two) in Donetska Region; and Preobrazhenka in Zaporizka Region.

UNICEF and its partners operate a network of 124 **Spilno Spots** across the country (down from 141 in September as outdoor spots used in the summer were closed). Spilno Spots received 120,000 visits from children and 84,000 from caregivers in October for a total of 2.22 million visits, including 1.32 million by children, so far this year. Spilnos provide cross-sectoral services and activities for children and their caregivers, covering MHPSS, health, nutrition and safety, among others. They are also a central platform to link families with other services they may need. In October, 1,500 children and parents were engaged during the Ivano-Frankivsk Half-Marathon through a local Spilno Spot. The objective was to foster unity and empower children with diverse abilities to participate in physical activities. Children at the local Spilno created anti-stress toys, collaborated on a collective artwork titled 'We are different but still equal,' and engaged in games and lessons on inclusion.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF has supported **access to health care** for 4,680,225 children and women in Ukraine in 2023 through the distribution of medical supplies and equipment. In October, these supplies newly reached 186,024 women and children. Health mobile teams in hard-to-reach areas of Balakliiska municipality in Kharkivska conducted 96 visits for 253 beneficiaries, including 156 children and 97 women. Consultations were also provided through 28 Spilno Spots in 18 regions for 13,913 people including 8,646 children.

There are now [245 confirmed cases](#) of **Hepatitis A** in Vinnytsia Region. 182 people have been admitted to hospitals: 128 of these people (including 24 children) have been treated and discharged while 54 patients remain in medical facilities. UNICEF, in coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and WHO, is developing a Risk Communication Strategy with a focus on the prevention of diarrhoeal diseases and will assist the Vinnytsia Center for Disease Control/MOH to develop Risk Communication and Community Engagement materials. UNICEF has also been requested to provide Hepatitis A vaccine; authorities are analyzing vaccine needs. UNICEF is also providing hand sanitizer and hygiene kits.

The **Universal Progressive Home Visiting** model continues to support families with young children, prioritizing immunization, nutrition, health monitoring and ECD. In October, UNICEF supported 1,037 visits for 459 children and 876 caregivers in Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Kirovohradska, Kyivska, Lvivska, Poltava and Zhytomyrska Regions and Kyiv city. So far this year, there have been 5,272 visits under the Home Visiting model, including 2,371 for children and 4,803 for caregivers. Additional training on the model, covering positive parenting and a safe home environment, was launched in October. Twelve trainers participated and have now trained 20 nurses in Zhytomyrska Region. Meanwhile, the first stage of training has been completed by 448 doctors and nurses.

In October 2023, 335 children and parents benefitted from consultations on **vaccination** through 'Jointly to Health' – the MOH-UNICEF National Hotline on Vaccination and Infant Feeding. This month also saw 302 health care professionals receive online capacity building on immunization; 17,300 people (health care professionals and general public) were reached when the video was streamed on UNICEF Ukraine Facebook. 'Jointly to Health' also provided consultations on **breastfeeding and infant feeding** for the caregivers of 47 children this month, for a total of 25,330 consultations this year. 304 health care professionals continue receiving capacity building through a certified course on support to breastfeeding.

In cooperation with MOH and WHO, 30 health care professionals completed **Mental Health Gap Action Programme** training, including a module on children and adolescents; 120 professionals have been trained since the beginning of the year. The inaugural Mental Health Forum titled 'Moving Towards the Mental Health System and Services of the Future' saw the participation of over 300 individuals. This event was a joint venture by WHO and the Coordination Centre for Mental Health, which operates under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, in collaboration with UNICEF. The forum was established in the context of the All-Ukrainian Mental Health Programme, an initiative led by First Lady Olena Zelenska.

Child Protection: Across its programmes, this month, UNICEF reached 31,172 girls, 33,445 boys, 32,835 women and 8,876 men with **MHPSS** for a total of 1,382,385 children and 998,003 caregivers reached this year. Interventions included support for the National Toll-Free Hotline for Children and Youth to provide access to psychological counselling. Since the beginning of the partnership in June, 31,105 consultations have been provided for children, adolescents, youth and adults – of these 20,840 were over the phone and 10,265 online. The most frequent enquiry received was around psychological health (loneliness, fears, suicidal thoughts). As part of **capacity-building** efforts, webinars were hosted for 155 partner staff (including social workers, psychologists and other frontline professionals) on how to support children and families with MHPSS.

UNICEF **gender-based violence** (GBV) response, prevention and/or risk-mitigation activities reached 104,384 children (61,488 girls) and 183,365 women in October, with 335,109 children (193,183 girls) and 635,455 women supported in 2023. To increase capacities on GBV core concepts and safe referrals, a two-day training was held for 24 home visiting nurses (all

female) to equip them to mitigate GBV-related risks. In total, 445 frontline workers (390 women) have been trained since the beginning of the year. The e-Learning Course *How to Provide Initial Support to Survivors of GBV*, developed in coordination among UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM and UNFPA, was launched in [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#) on UNICEF's online learning platform. This course is based on the inter-agency [Pocket Guide](#). It takes a psychological first aid approach, emphasizing the importance of preparation of frontline workers and the guiding principles of ensuring safety, confidentiality, respect and non-discrimination.

UNICEF partner Masha Fund kicked off the 'Brave' project, a **self-defence course** for teenage girls. Fourteen groups are now active. In cities such as Kharkiv where in-person schooling is not available, this programme not only helps to prevent GBV but offers adolescents a rare opportunity for socialization. To date, 284 girls (including 17 girls with disabilities) have completed the course. Meanwhile, in non-government-controlled areas (NGCA) of Donetska, 261 adolescents (114 girls) attended sessions on gender roles, types of violence, ways to reduce risks and reporting pathways, while 195 beneficiaries (120 children with disabilities and 75 parents) participated in individual and group sessions on GBV and family violence prevention.

A **U-Report poll** to understand youth attitudes toward social norms and violence in personal relationships reached 7,721 youth (aged 14 to 25). The study showed a low tolerance of violence among participants and will inform the upcoming 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women as well as wider awareness-raising efforts.

In October, 4,034 girls and 4,341 boys received individual **case management** services while 66 children (21 girls) received early intervention services. In 2023, 61,919 children (30,327 girls) have been reached with case management and 600 families have received early intervention services. In Donetska (NGCA) case management services have been extended to 148 children (89 girls) who received social and MHPSS support, medical consultations and non-food items, including for winter.

UNICEF continues to support the development of a **Better Care system** in Ukraine – 'A Family for Every Child'. To support the Government's Better Care coordination centre in the development of a unified roadmap, UNICEF facilitated consultations in Kyiv, Poltavaska, Odeska and Lutsk for 483 Ukrainian and 40 international experts. Sixteen families completed training to provide family-based alternative care in October and 21 families completed the express training through the 'Child Not Alone' Chatbot. So far this year, 300 families been trained on alternative care and 383 children have been placed in family-based care. UNICEF is strengthening the monitoring capacity of the National Social Service (NSS) and Ombudsman Office (OOO), including in institutions and family-based care, for timely intervention if needed. In October, two monitoring visits by OOO were conducted in Vinnytska and Poltavaska and one by NSS to Kyivska.

UNICEF continued to rollout the Barnahus model⁶ to support **children in contact with the law**. Twenty-seven specialists (22 women) were trained on the model, including child-friendly interviewing. So far, 17 children received access to services on 48 different occasions. On 5 October, Kirovohradska became the seventh region to embrace the Barnahus model by opening a new centre with UNICEF's support. Additionally, 1,761 specialists (1,311 women) were trained on international standards and national legislation on child-friendly justice.

As of October 2023, 70 **Child Protection Area of Responsibility** (CP AOR) partners have provided critical child protection prevention and response services to 2.4 million people, including 1.5 million children (840,865 girls; 29,169 children with disabilities). This includes 1,235,774 million children (677,326 girls) and parents/caregivers (410,900 females) provided with MHPSS and 55,539 children (27,904 girls) receiving case management. The web-based [Child Protection Referral Pathways](#) system now includes 57 organizations, 190 mobile teams and 350 referral focal points across 25 regions, 93 districts and 812 municipalities. In October, a three-day Training of Trainers was held with 20 participants on case management, data protection, facilitation and caseworker skills. A two-day Coaching and Supervision Training for 25 staff members increased expertise in international protection standards and coaching skills. The AOR also conducted 25 online consultations for 11 organizations (34 participants) on the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+). Participants appreciated the system's convenience and ability to generate disaggregated reports. CP AOR's release of CPIMS+ guidance in Ukrainian further improved user navigation. So far this year, 11,209 personnel have been trained on child protection approaches.

Education: This year, UNICEF has supported 1,188,656 children, including 587,671 girls, to access formal and non-formal education, including early learning. While **early childhood education** (ECE) is a cornerstone of children's development, only 36 per cent of pre-school-aged children have access to in-person ECE. UNICEF has prioritized the organization of in-person ECE programmes in the east and south to address this need, training 4,215 educators and 2,956 parents in October.

UNICEF has supported the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) in developing a draft **Remedial and Catch-up Education** Strategy that will be presented at an upcoming validation workshop. During the reporting period, seven Catch-up Learning Centres were established in the east and south, attracting 575 students for the initial wave of catch-up classes. To enhance the accessibility of digital education, UNICEF is operating 20 **Digital Learning Centres** (DLCs) to offer vulnerable children access to digital devices and software, including four DLCs opened in October in Zaporizka, Dnipropetrovska and Kharkivska. In October, 515 children (296 girls), accessed DLCs. The grandmother of a third grader attending a centre in Kharkivska due to a lack of internet access or devices at home noted: "We didn't have the opportunity to attend online classes,

⁶ Barnahus is an interdisciplinary and inter-agency specialized centre for children who are victims or witnesses of violence where, under one roof, law enforcement, criminal justice, child protection services, medical and mental health workers coordinate parallel investigations and welfare assessments.

so he missed a lot and didn't have the knowledge to do homework on his own."

This year, UNICEF has **rehabilitated 80 school and kindergarten shelters** in line with MOES guidelines, benefitting 70,000 children. UNICEF also installed shatter-resistant film on the windows of 43 schools in Mykolaivska and Odeska for 22,617 students. Mobile boilers were installed in three education facilities in Kirovohradska and Cherkaska in advance of winter. Finally, in October, UNICEF provided **education supplies** to 12,424 children (6,036) girls, for a total of 452,463 children reached this year.

To bolster **MHPSS** for students, UNICEF is promoting the Sport for Development (S4D) approach in formal and non-formal educational settings. An S4D module has received official endorsement for inclusion in the formal Physical Education curricula in Ukrainian schools. To date, S4D activities have engaged 175,300 children (88,159 girls and 974 children with disabilities). In Donetsk NGCA, 14 life skills sessions were conducted for 255 children (114 girls) and in remote districts of NGCA Makeyevka, catch-up activities have started for 152 children (97 girls, 69 children with disabilities). Fifty-one children with disabilities (31 girls) received MHPSS through art therapy and sports. Across the Education Programme, 337,853 children benefitted from MHPSS, social and emotional learning and life skills education this year.

UNICEF continues the implementation of **UPSHIFT** to foster young people's innovation and entrepreneurship in identifying problems and finding solutions for their community. During the reporting period, 42 young people (29 female) joined the UPSHIFT community and started implementing their programmes. In addition, 20 community professionals (13 female) finalized their training following the Youth Worker state programme methodology in Khmelnytska.

Through **U-Report** UNICEF conducted two national polls on mental health, gender stereotypes, language policy and the needs and interests of youth in cooperation with Kyiv Youth centre. To expand the reach of MHPSS, U-Report launched a 'Supporting emotional regulation' Chatbot. This year, 26,343 individuals have joined U-Report for a total of 117,190 U-Reporters in the country. Forty-seven polls have been conducted.

Forty-seven **volunteer** opportunities were published on the UNICEF-supported volunteering platform this month, with 1,407 volunteers (872 female) signing up to participate in these opportunities. School Volunteering Lessons were held in 668 schools, engaging 15,355 Grades 8-11 students (4,296 females). Two workshops on volunteer management were organized in Kyiv to bolster the capacities of 50 representatives (42 females) of non-profit organizations.

The **Education Cluster**, with the support of partners, reached 102,558 war-affected school-aged children (53,330 girls) and teachers in October through including MHPSS; rehabilitation of schools; explosive ordnance mine risk education (EORE); establishing safe and secure temporary learning and digital learning centres; and essential trainings and support for teachers. Of this total, 57,270 children (30,353 girls) benefited from MHPSS, 13,745 children (6,735 girls) received learning materials and digital devices and 12,444 students (6,471 girls) participated in catch-up education.

WASH: An estimated 11 million Ukrainians are in need of WASH assistance due to disrupted water and sanitation supplies and damaged water, energy and wastewater infrastructure. To address these needs, in 2023, UNICEF has facilitated **continuous safe water supply and sanitation services** for 4,504,321 people. In October, UNICEF reached 778,832 people with a sustained, quality water supply. Recent assessments led by UNICEF and key partners show that the war has exacerbated an already critical situation: **40 per cent** of water supply networks were in severe condition before the full-scale war, with old and decaying infrastructure and **revenue losses** increasing a now structural debt for water utilities. UNICEF is supporting 50 water utility companies to ensure water security and functionality. This month, UNICEF delivered essential equipment and machinery to support the repair, maintenance and preparation of water supply systems for the winter season, to support 421,300 people in Volynska, Kyivska, Mykolaivska, Chernihivska and Zhytomyrska. Additionally, in October, UNICEF supplied 385 tons of **water treatment chemicals**, enabling water utilities to improve water quality and maintain basic services for 363,210 people. This includes the delivery of 88 tons of liquid chlorine and 22 tons of ammonia for water disinfection to the Kharkiv City water utility which serves 800,000 residents.

This year, UNICEF has provided **essential WASH supplies** to 1,877,394 people affected and displaced by the ongoing war. During October, supplies were distributed to 125,589 people in 16 regions who received hygiene kits, diapers, hand sanitizer and soap. In a post-distribution survey of 464 recipients, 97 per cent expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the hygiene materials they received. Such feedback mechanisms are important as they allow UNICEF to understand and adapt these kits to meet the needs of children and their families. To support families affected by the destruction Kakhovka Dam, UNICEF distributed 302 hygiene kits to 1,238 individuals residing in Shyroka Balka in Khersonska Region in October. Each kit meets the needs of a family of four for two months.

UNICEF also supports communities facing **critical water shortages**. Due to constant shelling, the population in Iziium in Kharkivska regularly loses access to safe drinking water. UNICEF partnered with the NGO Peaceful Heaven to dispatch four trucks carrying 11,598 bottles of water (five or six litres each). This provided safe water for 5,000 people for one week, bridging



School reopening after shelter rehabilitation in Kirovohradska Region. @UNICEF/2023



Delivery of safe water in Kherson
©UNICEF

the gap until the completion of rehabilitation work by the local water utility. With the NGO The Tenth April, UNICEF delivered 360,000 litres of drinking water to 9,844 residents of eight settlements in Mykolaivska and Khersonska.

UNICEF supported 57,157 people through improvements to the WASH environment in **health care and education facilities** in October. Odeska Regional Special Medical Supply Base completed the distribution of 99 water storage tanks (500 to 1,000 litres), along with 245 institutional hygiene kits to 32 health care institutions in Odeska. This initiative reached 27,150 beneficiaries ensuring that these facilities could maintain a high standard of hygiene and have adequate water storage.

In October, the **WASH Cluster** organized a high-level event on Water Safety Planning and the WASH-Fit framework for health centres with support from WHO, which will be built on in the coming months. The WASH Subnational Cluster has recently updated

the baseline data for settlements lacking operational water systems in the newly accessible and frontline areas of Kharkivska. This update is intended to optimize and streamline the Cluster's response in these areas. Given Donetsk's shifting frontline, the Subnational Cluster has organized partners to support WASH assessments and responses for one-third of the frontline primarily in Bakhmut and Kramatorsk. Within the Dnipro Inter-Sectoral Working Group, the WASH Subnational Cluster began co-leading the 'Enhancing the Last Mile Delivery Humanitarian Aid Group' with the Food Security and Livelihoods and Health Subnational Cluster leads.

In Khersonska, WASH partners will be reducing water trucking, which will require scaling up alternative water sources such as boreholes. Partners have tentatively committed support for 25 of 57 boreholes requested by authorities. In Mykolaivska, the WASH Subnational Cluster held an initial 'nexus'-style planning meeting, bringing together humanitarian and developmental actors, local authorities and local service providers with a focus on Mykolaiv city – this experience will be built on for other key urban locations.

Social Protection: In October, UNICEF provided **multipurpose cash (MPC)** to 888 households (2,606 individuals). This covered 650 households with at least one child living in newly accessible and frontline areas and 238 foster families. Through the MPC programme, households receive a one-time payment to help them meet their basic needs. The programme targets vulnerable families with children; most households supported in 2023 live in affected areas of the east and south, including Kharkivska and Khersonska. This brings the total to 56,470 households reached in 2023. Data collection for a post-distribution monitoring survey was completed in October with 300 households surveyed. The analysis will be completed in November to improve future cash transfer programming. A cash-for-winterization programme is now in progress to support households to meet their basic needs in the cold Ukrainian winter. UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Social Policy to use government databases of vulnerable families with children to make sure the assistance reaches those most in need.

UNICEF continues to strengthen the **national social protection system**, including by enhancing its shock-responsiveness; furthering the digital transformation initiative; supporting local governance and public finance for children; and investing in the capacity of the government to implement and reform social protection at both the national and local level. This includes supporting the establishment of the Technical Support (or Reform) Office at the Ministry. Additionally, through its leading position in the 'Perekhid Initiative', UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Social Policy and other key stakeholders across the humanitarian-development nexus, to operationalize effective linkages and support the sustainable transition from humanitarian cash transfers to an inclusive, shock-responsive national social protection system.

Influencing Social Behaviour: For 10 October, Mental Health Day, UNICEF led a series of initiatives to highlight the importance of **MHPSS**. An advocacy event 'How are you? Stories of Resilience,' was organized in partnership with the First Lady and the 'How are you?' National Mental Health Programme. This youth-focused event brought together 115 key stakeholders, including governmental and international partners to advance the mental health agenda. Six young people (five girls) shared their personal stories to raise awareness and combat stigma. The live stream and online engagement reached 20,000 people.

A webinar on the importance of mental health gathered 8,960 caregivers and educators from schools, pre-schools and extracurricular programmes. It also introduced the #руханкасили social media challenge to inspire children and caregivers to embrace techniques to improve their emotional well-being. 57,112 people took part in this challenge. Feedback from [Rivne lyceum](#) noted: "Having seen how the emotional state of the participants changed after the challenge, we've gotten more aware of the importance of simple actions to improve our mental health."



'How are you? Stories of Resilience' event
©UNICEF

To support **ECD**, 7,182 boxes of edutainment materials were delivered in October, for a total of 11,284 such boxes delivered to 14 regions since August. These materials support skills development, MHPSS, mine safety, healthy nutrition and vaccination. Each box supports 30 children. Meanwhile, [NUMO](#) digital ECD products, including the website, app and chatbot, reached

221,143 users and engaged 3,982 beneficiaries in October. Furthermore, 7,536 children (3,954 girls) actively participated in alternative learning sessions featuring the 'Sparkles of Superpowers' puppet show. These sessions were organized by Step by Step, the Association of Preschool Teachers and Caritas, as well as in Spilno Spots.

In October, 9,788 adolescents and 449 caregivers engaged in **interventions focused on adolescents and youth**. In total, 36,238 adolescents and 1,762 caregivers have been engaged since July 2023. In October, this included 2,755 young people (1,766 girls) and 106 caregivers participating in a four-day creative programme in youth spaces in Poltavaska and Chernihivska. Additionally, 2,200 young people (1,238 girls), participated in training sessions on healthy nutrition. Overall, 11,442 young people have taken part in healthy nutrition trainings this year. Twenty Juniors Sports Clubs provided 2,539 young people (1,262 girls) with activities to improve their mental and physical health. 8,902 young people have taken part in these clubs this year.

During October, 94,362 children and 36,325 caregivers participated in **EORE** sessions in educational facilities, Spilno Spots and communities, and through State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) mobile teams. A total of 859,924 children and 309,471 caregivers have participated in EORE sessions in 2023. UNICEF has partnered with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, SESU and National Police of Ukraine to raise awareness about safety culture among children. Fifteen Mobile Safety Classes have been established for children without access to in-person education. These classes are being conducted in 10 regions, including newly accessible and frontline areas, and cover mine safety, fire safety, traffic rules, winter safety and cyber security, among others. During the first two weeks of operation, specialists conducted 53 sessions for 2,819 children.



Mobile Safety Class ©UNICEFs

October also saw 2,457,083 people reached and 279,006 people engaged with messages on **cyberbullying prevention** via Facebook and Instagram. The campaign aimed to educate parents about the signs of cyberbullying and how to communicate with their children on this issue. Feedback from parents included: "Very relevant information because sometimes you have no idea how to broach this issue with your child."

During October, **human-centered design sessions** were conducted in Kharkivska and Mykolaivska, focusing on breastfeeding and MHPSS. In these sessions, 48 young people, 17 parents, 14 teachers and 6 psychologists shared their feedback regarding MHPSS. Additionally, 9 pregnant women, 18 mothers of infants, 2 grandmothers of infants and 28 health workers engaged on issues around breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding practices. Two **human-centered design** workshops were held to train 75 medical workers on how to apply human-centered design principles in their work. They were empowered to develop innovative solutions that align with the needs and expectations of patients and health care staff. Seven **social media listening** reports were provided to monitor concerns and discussions on social media related to UNICEF focus areas, including explosive ordnance, cash transfers and child protection.

Supply and Logistics: So far this year, UNICEF has placed US\$78.5 million in purchase orders to buy life-saving supplies, including US\$5.2 million in orders placed in October. US\$125.7 million worth of life-saving supplies have been received in Ukraine, with \$9.1 million arriving in October. US\$82.9 million worth of supplies have been dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US\$39.3 million of supplies delivered directly to implementing partners from local vendors. The value of supplies currently in UNICEF-controlled warehouses is US\$30.3 million. The total value of supplies currently in pipeline is US\$23.1 million.

External Media: UNICEF Ukraine highlighted the importance of MHPSS in October, including through support to the "[How are you?](#)" campaign launched by the All-Ukrainian Health Programme, initiated by First Lady Olena Zelenska. This focus was continued on UNICEF Ukraine digital channels including human interest stories, response stories and useful tips and highlighting the MHPSS activities and events detailed throughout this report. Six story packages were produced and published to highlight [children's access to education](#), [school](#) and [preschool education supply distribution](#) and school reopening activities. UNICEF also issued a [joint press release](#) with the Ministry of Interior Affairs, SESU and the National Police on the delivery of [15 Mobile Safety Classes](#). Other celebrations in October included:

- Teacher's Day (5 October) with "[Thank you, teachers](#)"
- International Day of the Girl (11 October): UNICEF highlighted "the superpowers of girls" in the [voices of teenagers](#).
- Global Handwashing Day (15 October) which included content on [handwashing](#).
- World Polio Day (24 October) which focused on the importance of vaccination and covered [UNICEF's delivery of almost 240,000 doses of life-saving vaccines for children in Ukraine](#).

To increase awareness about prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and related reporting mechanisms, a campaign is active on UNICEF Ukraine social media channels, which has reached 1.1 million users, resulting in 104,000 engagement and 13,000 visits to the new [PSEA landing page on the CO website](#).

Human Interest Stories



[Lack of water leaves families on the brink in Ukraine](#)



[Newborns in Ukraine sleep safely thanks to shelter renovations](#)



[UNICEF school supplies help children focus on future](#)



[Foster family forge bond amid ongoing war in Ukraine](#)

Annex A: Programme Results (January to October 2023)

Sector		UNICEF and IPs Response		
		2023 target	Total results	Change
Health (14,600,000 people in need)				
Number of children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities and through mobile teams ⁷		5,000,000	4,680,225	186,024
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles		257,340	105,204 ⁸	-
Number of primary caregivers of children 0–23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling		300,000	85,127	2,248
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	2,380,388	660,890 ⁹
		Girls	757,834	205,879
		Boys	624,551	170,945
		Women	821,905	273,445
		Men	176,098	10,621
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions		1,550,000	970,564	287,749
Number of children who have received individual case management		Total	61,919 ¹⁰	8,375
		Girls	30,327	4,034
		Boys	31,592	4,341
Number of children, young people and caregivers accessing explosive ordnance risk education and received information on preventive practices		10,000,000	7,903,740	967,128
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers		1,700,000	462,405 ¹¹	26,872
Education (5,300,000 people in need)				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning		Total	1,188,656	10,484
		Girls	587,671	5,502
		Boys	600,985	4,982
Number of girls and boys benefiting from supplied education, early child and recreation kits or learning		500,000	452,463	12,867
Number of children accessing psychosocial support, social and emotional learning, or life skills education		500,000	337,853	39,888
Number of teachers and educational personnel trained to address learning loss through remedial and catch-up learning		30,000	37,014 ¹²	-

⁷ This result is calculated based on the delivery of supplies from UNICEF to implementing partners.

⁸ Estimated data from primary health centres as of 1 July 2023. Further data is expected from health authorities at the end of the year.

⁹ Significant increase due to back reporting. This is also the reason these figures differ from those in the narrative.

¹⁰ Constrained due to changing focus from rapid humanitarian case management (mainly referrals to specialized services) to more in-depth and longer-term case management under Better Care programme (return, reintegration, tracing, reunification of child)

¹¹ Reporting pathways continue to be developed across programme sections; this indicator is expected to increase towards the end of the year.

¹² Annual target over-reach for teacher training is due to the high demand for training which exceeded the initial expectations, indicating a greater need for the catch-up teacher training programmes than was originally anticipated.

WASH (11,000,000 people in need)				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs		5,700,000	4,504,321	778,832
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies		2,500,000	1,877,394	125,589
Social Protection				
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers		200,000	55,121 ¹³	650
Number of children in foster families and family-type children's homes assisted with multipurpose humanitarian cash transfers ¹⁴		60,000	1,697	238
Influencing Social Behaviour				
Number of people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services		12,000,000	8,246,000	-
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms		250,000	160,723	3,946
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		1,200,000	1,005,434	18,490

Annex B: Funding Status as of 31 October 2023

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 (current year)	Carry-over	US\$	%
Health and Nutrition	104,000,000	21,043,353	29,134,589	53,822,058	52%
Child Protection, GBVIE and PSEA	111,010,000	58,934,612	20,092,284	31,983,104	29%
Education	100,000,000	40,025,911	33,931,587	26,042,502	26%
WASH	145,000,000	76,617,768	34,152,841	34,229,391	24%
Social Protection	369,230,400	60,048,321	51,247,615	257,934,464	70%
Total	829,240,400	257,041,354	168,558,916	403,640,129	49%

Next SitRep: December 2023

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¹³ UNICEF has a 70 per cent funding gap for its Social Protection in 2023. A lack of available funding has meant that UNICEF has had to prioritize the inclusion of groups most in need, such as households with children in newly accessible areas and frontline areas.

¹⁴ When a family/family-type home takes a child into care, all children in the family/home are eligible for cash assistance.