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Forum: Ukraine

Type of emergency: Protracted, complex crisis

## Funding Survey

We kindly request funding members to please fill out [this survey form](#)- which will help the **Emergency Steering Committee** assess the funding environment for this response. Please respond to this survey *within 24 hours of Alert publication*.

### 1. The nature of the emergency

As Ukraine approaches the **three-year mark of the full-scale invasion** and the **eleventh year of the conflict**, the **humanitarian crisis remains severe and protracted**. The **second half of 2024** has seen a **deterioration of conditions**, marked by intensified hostilities, mass displacement, and growing access constraints.

- **Scale of Humanitarian Needs<sup>1</sup> (as of December 2024):**
  - **12.7 million people** remain in need of **urgent humanitarian assistance**.
  - **3.6 million people** are **internally displaced**, having lost their homes and livelihoods.
  - **9.9 million** individuals remain **war-affected**, facing disrupted access to basic services, insecurity, and economic instability
- **Escalating conflict and Displacement<sup>2</sup>:**
  - **Mandatory evacuations** from August to September 2024 due to intensified fighting in **Donetska, Kharkivska, and Sumska oblasts** lead to **massive displacement** and heightened humanitarian needs.
  - Continued **air raids and bombardments** have disrupted lives, damaged civilian infrastructure, and further eroded community resilience.
- **Attacks on Critical Infrastructure<sup>3</sup>:**
  - In **December 2024**, **widespread attacks on energy facilities** led to **scheduled power outages** across the country, **cutting off essential services** for millions of people.
  - The **energy crisis** has **worsened humanitarian conditions**, particularly for those already facing extreme hardship, such as **older persons, displaced populations, and people with disabilities**.

With the progress of the conflict, the Ukrainian society is facing with the challenges induced by the rapidly increasing number of ex-combatants, that has reached approximately 850,000 according to recent estimations, and will continue increasing if the war continues. Veterans returning from the frontline are struggling with serious physical and psychological injuries which have significant social and economic consequences on the private and family lives of ex-combatants as well as on the local communities and

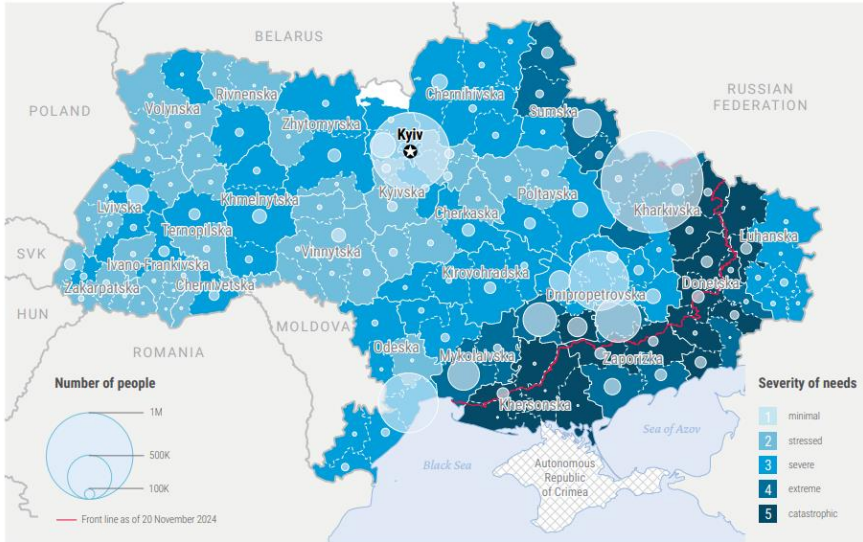
<sup>1</sup> OCHA (January 2025), Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/ukraine/ukraine-humanitarian-needs-and-response-plan-2025-january-2025-enuk>

<sup>2</sup> UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (2024), Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine, <https://ukraine.un.org/sites/default/files/2024-12/PR41%20Ukraine%202024-12-31.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> OHCHR. (December 2024), Massive Attack on Ukraine's Energy Infrastructure Damages and Disrupts Essential Services, <https://ukraine.un.org/en/286598-massive-attack-ukraine%E2%80%99s-energy-infrastructure-damages-and-disrupts-essential-services>

the Ukrainian society in general. Through family relationships and social networks approximately 4-8 million people may be affected directly or indirectly by the problems which ex combatants face with. The ongoing conflict, compounded by **displacement, infrastructure damage, and restricted access to essential services, demands a sustained and adaptive humanitarian response that prioritizes immediate relief, localized resilience-building, and community-led recovery efforts, taking into consideration the uncertain context.**

**People in need and severity by location**  
In 2025



Severity of needs map, Ukraine HNRP (January 2025)

**2. The impact and scale of the emergency (please include your source of information with links if possible)**

The humanitarian situation in Ukraine remains catastrophic, characterized by widespread destruction, mass displacement, and worsening socio-economic conditions. As the war enters its third year, its impact continues to escalate, creating severe humanitarian and protection needs.

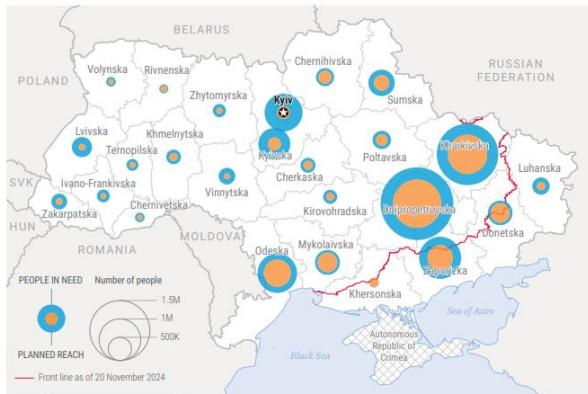
- **Casualties and Humanitarian Needs:**
  - 12.7 million people remain in need of urgent humanitarian assistance, 3,6 million are internally displaced
  - 39,000 civilian casualties, including over 12,000 deaths and 659 children killed<sup>4</sup>
  - 3,600 educational institutions damaged<sup>5</sup>, 2 million housing units destroyed<sup>6</sup>, and severe damage to power infrastructure, leaving many without access to heating, water, and healthcare.

Given the widespread destruction, continued displacement, and escalating protection concerns, this qualifies as a large-scale emergency, requiring a dual response focused on meeting immediate humanitarian needs in frontline areas and supporting community-led recovery efforts.

People in need and planned reach by sex, age and disability						
	PEOPLE IN NEED	WOMEN (18+)	CHILDREN	OLDER PEOPLE	WITH DISABILITY	REQUIREMENTS (US\$)
	<b>12.7M</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>\$2.63B</b>
	<b>6.0M</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>13%</b>	

**Breakdown of people in need and planned reach**

	PEOPLE IN NEED	PLANNED REACH
<b>By sex</b>		
Female	6.7M	3.3M
Male	6.0M	2.7M
<b>By age and disability</b>		
Women	3.3M	1.5M
Men	3.7M	1.5M
Girls	0.9M	0.7M
Boys	1.0M	0.7M
Older women	2.4M	1.0M
Older men	1.4M	0.6M
With disability	1.8M	0.8M
<b>By population group</b>		
IDPs*	2.8M	1.5M
Non-Displaced War-Affected People	9.9M	4.5M



Map of people in need from the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (January 2025)

**Geographical Areas and Characteristics**

The most severely affected areas include:

1. **Frontline Oblasts:**
  - a. **Donetska, Kharkivska, Luhanska, Khersonska, and Zaporizka** face continuous shelling, destruction of infrastructure, and lack of essential services.
  - b. **Sumska and Chernihivska** are experiencing intensified hostilities, leading to new waves of displacement and increasing humanitarian needs.
2. **Urban and Displacement Areas:**
  - a. Major urban centers are heavily impacted, with collective shelters meeting only 70% of international standards, leaving serious gaps, particularly for people with disabilities<sup>7</sup>.
  - b. **Odeska Oblast** is experiencing an influx of IDPs, placing strain on social protection services and local infrastructure.

**Numbers and Characteristics of People Affected**

The demographic breakdown of affected populations highlights specific vulnerabilities<sup>8</sup>:

- **Women: 45%** – Many are single mothers, caregivers, or widows, facing protection risks and economic hardship.
- **Children: 15%** – 1.5 million children at risk of PTSD and other war-related mental health conditions.
- **Older Adults: 30%** – Many remain stranded in high-risk areas, facing limited mobility, lack of medical care, and isolation.

- **Persons with Disabilities: 14%** – Facing **severe access barriers to shelter, healthcare, and protection services.**
- **Veterans and their families** are experiencing **growing social and economic pressures**, increasing the **risk of domestic violence and protection concerns for women and children.**

According to Ukraine HNRP 2025, **gender dynamics** are a significant factor in the crisis. Women and girls, face compounded vulnerabilities, as they bear additional caregiving responsibilities, especially in households with older people, people with disabilities or chronic illnesses<sup>9</sup>. Gender-based violence is a serious concern as women and girls are at increased risk of exploitation and abuse. Economic insecurity has also risen, women-headed households tend to have lower incomes, making it harder to access necessities like food and health care

The **ongoing displacement crisis** is further aggravated by **reductions in international aid**, forcing many Ukrainians **returning from neighboring countries to unsafe conditions.**

#### Short-Term Consequences

- **Increased displacement and humanitarian needs** due to ongoing hostilities.
- 41% of displaced and 22% of non-displaced households report unmet needs for shelter
- **Harsh winter conditions** exacerbating shelter and energy-related vulnerabilities.
- **Worsening health and psychosocial crises** as **mental health needs remain unmet.**

#### Long-Term Consequences

- **Chronic poverty**, with **9 million people projected to remain below the poverty line**<sup>10</sup>.
- The direct cost of destruction from the war could be up to US\$152 billion<sup>11</sup>
- **Long-term displacement**, as destroyed homes prevent safe returns.
- **Psychosocial distress among children and war-affected populations**, Nearly 10 million people in Ukraine projected to develop a mental health condition and 3.9 million with moderate to severe cases
- **Severe disruptions in education and employment**, delaying Ukraine’s economic recovery.

### 3. Local and national capacity

People in Ukraine are employing various coping strategies to manage the ongoing crisis. These include adopting negative coping mechanisms such as reducing food intake and foregoing essential healthcare due to economic constraints, and seeking psychosocial support, though access remains limited for many vulnerable populations. Local volunteers and civil society organizations (CSOs) are playing a crucial role in delivering aid to hard-to-reach areas.

The Ukrainian government has undertaken reforms to strengthen the resilience of its social protection system, with a focus on integrating humanitarian assistance into long-term social support frameworks. National mechanisms, supported by international partners, aim to maintain and enhance these systems while ensuring alignment between humanitarian assistance and government programs.

International organizations, including UN agencies, provide strategic support for humanitarian efforts, prioritizing emergency assistance and capacity building for local partners, particularly through the cluster coordination system. Partnerships with local authorities and organizations are central to the response, promoting sustainability and the localization of aid delivery.

<sup>4</sup> OCHA (2025), Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, 2024

<sup>6</sup> The World Bank, the Government of Ukraine, the European Union, the United Nations (2024), [Ukraine Rapid Damage and Needs assessment](#)

<sup>7</sup> REACH (2024), [IDP Collective Site Monitoring](#)

<sup>8</sup> OCHA (2025), Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan

<sup>9</sup> CARE (2024), [Rapid Gender Analysis](#)

<sup>10</sup> IOM (2024), [Income, Social Protection and Coping Strategies in Ukraine](#)

<sup>11</sup> The World Bank, the Government of Ukraine, the European Union, the United Nations (2024), [Ukraine Rapid Damage and Needs assessment](#)

According to the Humanitarian Needs and Response plan, in 2025, the humanitarian community will require US\$2.63 billion to provide lifesaving multisectoral assistance to address the most critical needs of 6 million of the 12.7 million people in need.

The strategic objectives of this plan are 1. the provision of multisectoral life-saving emergency assistance to the most vulnerable internally displaced people and non-displaced war-affected people and 2. enabling access to prioritized essential services for the most vulnerable internally displaced and non-displaced war-affected people. Activities that respond to protracted needs arising from structural issues, such as poverty and the broader socioeconomic impact of the war, have been identified and excluded from the HRNP with the aim of sharing them with recovery and development actors.

**4. Key needs and gaps**

Humanitarian needs in Ukraine are growing due to ongoing war and continued shelling. Massive displacement continues as people flee from their homes amid escalating and intense fighting along the front-line areas. The most-vulnerable communities specially women, children, elderly people and person with disabilities are at-risk due to the protracted humanitarian crisis. As of HNRP (**Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan**) 2025, Shelter, Protection, NFIs, WASH, MHPSS, FSL, health etc are pressing needs of the displaced and other war-affected people, such as returnees and people living close to the frontline areas.

The **humanitarian response is being led by UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and local organizations, with OCHA coordinating efforts.** In 2024, over 8 million people were reached<sup>12</sup>, with a combination of cash assistance, emergency shelter support, and essential services. National NGOs and local volunteers have played a key role in delivering “last-mile” assistance, while **international actors provide technical support and funding.** Despite these efforts, **significant gaps remain, particularly in protection services for women and children, healthcare access, and sustainable livelihood support. Aid reductions in neighboring countries like Moldova have forced Ukrainians to return to unsafe conditions, exacerbating vulnerabilities. Information gaps persist in occupied territories, where humanitarian access is severely restricted, limiting data on displacement trends, protection risks, and service needs.** These gaps may only be addressed **if access negotiations succeed or remote monitoring mechanisms are strengthened.**

Following US President’s Trump executive order to pause all humanitarian aid interventions for 90 days in January 2025, temporarily blocked by the competent legal authorities, many NGOs had to consider pausing their lifesaving interventions, including humanitarian aid activities in Ukraine. This further exacerbates already existing gaps in funding.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an <b>X</b> below
Rapid Response Fund ( <i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i> )	
Appeal ( <i>intended for large scale emergencies</i> )	X

*If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.*

**5. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond**

<sup>12</sup> OCHA (2024), [Ukraine: Humanitarian Response and Funding Snapshot](#)

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
LWF	Kharkivska and Sumska	Humanitarian Assistance, MHPSS, Shelter, Livelihoods, Hygiene, MPCA, Education
HEKS/EPER	Odeska, Mykolaivska, Kharkivska, Sumska, Chernivetska, Zakarpatska	Sclr, social cohesion, Shelter, Protection, MPCA.
Christian Aid	All Ukraine	Sclr and cash for protection (Assess and Assist)
CWS	Odeska Oblast	Humanitarian assistance and protection, including MHPSS, basic needs/MPVA, Health, and Livelihoods.
Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)	Western Ukraine: Zakarpattia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk oblasts Central Ukraine: Kyiv oblast South-East Ukraine: Dnipro, Mykolaiv oblasts	Protection (MHPSS, C4P), Cash (MPCA, FSG SCLR), Shelter/NFI, Food Security and Livelihoods, WASH Capacity building

## 6. Potential responses

The Ukraine Forum EPRP requires a multifaceted response that balances immediate life-saving assistance with longer-term recovery and resilience-building efforts, due to Ukraine's complex and evolving crisis. Based on the Forum's prioritization for interventions that protect the most vulnerable, restore dignity, and support communities in rebuilding their lives amidst the ongoing challenges, the Requesting Members response in Ukraine will focus on **two key programmatic pillars, aiming at addressing immediate needs of the communities and designing for flexibility, given the uncertain current situation, in a nexus approach** :

### Pillar 1: Meeting Immediate Humanitarian Needs in Frontline and Affected Areas

Requesting members will provide **multi-sectoral assistance** to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees, and vulnerable populations across **Kharkivska, Sumska, Odeska, Mykolaivska, Chernivetska, Zakarpatska** and other affected oblasts through:

- **Shelter Support:**
  - **LWF** will implement emergency shelter interventions in **frontline areas and collective sites** for displaced and vulnerable populations (Kharkivska, Sumska and shelling-affected areas).
  - **HEKS/EPER** will provide **light and medium repairs grants** for shelter recovery in affected communities in Odeska, Mykolaivska, Kharkivska, Sumska.
  - **HIA** will provide shelter & NFI support for collective shelters in **western and central** Ukraine focusing on IDPs;
- **Basic Needs Support and Protection:**
  - **LWF** will ensure multisectoral responses (WASH, MHPSS, Food Security Livelihoods, and education)
  - **HEKS/EPER** teams will respond to Protection needs with MHPSS counselling, and Livelihoods with MPCA distribution (in line with Cash Working Group requirements).
  - **HIA** aims to concentrate on the **protection** of different vulnerable groups including **PwDs, children or victims of GBV** through various tools like C4P, MHPSS counseling and referrals,

as well as covering the emerging needs for **psychological and social rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-combatants** via cross-sectoral approach. In addition, the provision of life-saving interventions (food assistance, WASH, winterization support) will remain on HIA's response agenda. In order to complement the above-mentioned humanitarian response, HIA will carry on using **CASH instruments**, namely MPCA to enable affected populations to meet their urgent needs in a dignified way.

- **CWS**, through a partnership-based approach and its three local partners in Odesa and rural areas of the Odesa Oblast, will deliver **basic needs, legal, medical, mental health and psychosocial support**, to IDPs, returnees, and vulnerable persons, including **older persons, women, children, and individuals at risk of HIV**.

## **Pillar 2: Strengthening Locally Led and Community-Led Initiatives for Sustainable Recovery and Social Cohesion**

In addition to meeting immediate needs, ACT Alliance members will invest in community-led approaches that foster long-term resilience and local ownership:

- **Survivor and Community-Led Response (sclr) Grants:**
  - **Christian Aid, HEKS/EPER, and HiA** will expand the sclr grant approach to empower communities to identify and implement self-defined recovery initiatives, strengthening social cohesion and localized response capacity.
  - **HEKS/EPER** will extend sclr grants to affected communities in Odesa, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Western Ukraine.
  - **Christian Aid** will work across the country, envisioning a Ukraine where communities, shaped by their resilience, lead their own path to recovery and renewal in the face of crisis, aiming not only meet immediate needs but to lay the foundations for stronger civil society, enabling resilient communities to rebuild with dignity
- **Capacity Building and Local Partnerships:**
  - **Christian Aid** will act as a **technical lead** for sclr implementation, ensuring best practices and lessons learned inform wider humanitarian programming.
  - **CWS** will provide technical assistance, training, and resources to strengthen local civil society organizations in Odeska Oblast.
  - **LWF** will continue to build capacities of community institutions to enhance their self-protection capacities that help communities to withstand any shocks and stresses.
  - **LWF** will build capacities of local small women-led organization and organization of person with disability to build their capacities in responding unmet needs in coordination with local authorities and humanitarian actors. Some capacity building initiatives like leadership and advocacy skills, and proposal writing skills including the provision of small-grants for community-led initiatives.
  - **HIA** will support its local partners with technical lead in implementing FSG and SCLR programs. In addition, HIA is going to provide its long-term implementing partners with relevant capacity building support including transfer of procedures, know-how, tested methodologies and best practices to support their compliance with international donor requirements, and self-sustainability for the advanced resilience of affected communities
- **Financial support for local CSOs:**
  - In order to strengthen the localized forms of humanitarian response, **HIA** will carry on providing Flexible Small Grants (FSGs) to meet the frequently changing mass needs of vulnerable beneficiary groups.