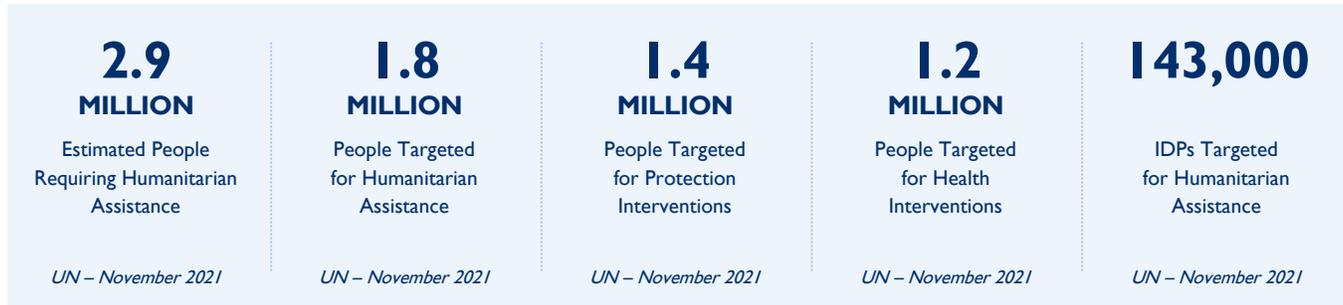


Ukraine – Complex Emergency

DECEMBER 8, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The UN launched the 2022 HRP for Ukraine on November 30, requesting \$190 million to respond to the needs of 1.8 million individuals in eastern Ukraine.
- Increased hostilities in eastern Ukraine in October and November resulted in casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure, including critical WASH facilities.
- Ukraine’s COVID-19 outbreak surged in October and November, with transmission and mortality rates reaching record highs.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Ukraine Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA ¹	\$19,502,158
	State/PRM ²	\$32,571,000
	Total	\$52,073,158

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

UN Launches 2022 Ukraine HRP, Requests \$190 Million in Humanitarian Aid

The UN launched the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Ukraine on November 30, requesting \$190 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of people in eastern Ukraine. Increasing insecurity, limited access to essential services among populations in non-government-controlled areas (NGCAs) of Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts*, and the direct and secondary effects of the COVID-19 outbreak continue to generate pressing humanitarian needs for approximately 2.9 million individuals, the majority of whom reside in NGCAs, according to the UN. The 2022 HRP aims to reach 1.8 million of the most vulnerable people in need in both NGCAs and government-controlled areas (GCAs)—including 143,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs)—with assistance. Priority sectors outlined in the appeal include food security and livelihoods; humanitarian protection; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); and health assistance.

Under the 2021 HRP, which requested \$168 million to reach 1.9 million individuals in need of assistance, relief actors reached 1.5 million people from January to September. Since 2014, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$351 million in humanitarian assistance to assist those most affected by conflict.

Escalating Insecurity Results in Civilian Casualties, Threatens Infrastructure

Security conditions in eastern Ukraine deteriorated for the third consecutive month during October, with relief actors recording 520 security incidents—approximately 40 incidents more than reported in September and 80 more than reported in August—resulting in injuries to six individuals and damage to 60 civilian shelters, the UN reports. In addition, the UN reported an increase in the use of heavy artillery near the line of contact following the Government of Ukraine’s detention of a member of the Joint Center for Control and Coordination—the trilateral peacekeeping operation, comprising the governments of the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), mandated by the OSCE to uphold the 2020 ceasefire agreement—on October 13. The detention and related access impediments have affected the operations of the OSCE’s Special Monitoring Mission, which monitors and reports on security conditions throughout Ukraine. Meanwhile, humanitarian actors remain concerned regarding the presence, according to international media, of more than 92,000 Russian troops near the Russia–Ukraine border as of late November; relief actors anticipate additional humanitarian needs should conflict break out along the border.

Three of the security incidents in October and November affected WASH infrastructure, threatening piped safe drinking water access for millions of people in eastern Ukraine, according to the WASH Cluster.³ Shelling on October 26 rendered inoperable a water pipeline that supplies safe drinking water to approximately 3,000 people in Donetsk NGCA, causing affected populations to rely on non-centralized sources of water—such as personal wells, water storage tanks, water trucking, or bottled water—and employ coping strategies to maintain water supply, according to USAID/BHA NGO partners. The shelling also struck near the offices of a water company that supports 3.8 million individuals on both sides of the line of contact, threatening water supply during cold winter months when many residents rely on water-drawing radiators to heat their homes. Shelling on November 8 damaged a water pumping station in eastern Ukraine’s Luhansk GCA and a gas pipeline, temporarily severing the supply of gas to 800 households, while additional shelling on November 24 damaged a sewage treatment facility serving more than 25,000 people in Donetsk NGCA, though the facility

³ The WASH Cluster is the coordinating body for humanitarian WASH activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

remained operational. In response to the recent increase in hostilities, a USAID/BHA partner distributed emergency multipurpose cash assistance to conflict-affected households. The UN and other relief actors continue to urge all conflict parties to protect civilian infrastructure and to adhere to the terms of the July 2020 ceasefire agreement.

COVID-19 Cases, Deaths Surge in October and November

Ukraine's COVID-19 outbreak worsened significantly in October and November, with Ukraine experiencing the world's highest per capita number of active COVID-19 cases and COVID-19-related deaths as of late October, relief actors report. The recent wave of infections peaked during the week of November 1, with the UN World Health Organization (WHO) recording 153,000 new cases and 4,355 deaths. The weekly average for new COVID-19 cases in early November exceeded the peak weekly average during the wave of infections in March and April by nearly 40 percent and surpassed the COVID-19-related deaths during the spring wave by more than 70 percent, relief actors report. In Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases rose from more than 15,000 in September to nearly 39,400 in October. Meanwhile, 90 percent of oxygen-supplied hospital beds and 70 percent of intensive care units in GCAs were occupied during October, the UN reports. In NGCAs, the number of COVID-19 cases increased by 75 percent in Donetsk and 25 percent in Luhansk, with the number of individuals requiring treatment exceeding hospital bed capacity in both *oblasts* during October.

By late November, the COVID-19 outbreak across Ukraine began to stabilize. During the week of November 22, the UN recorded 89,000 new cases—the third consecutive week of declining new case counts—and 3,845 deaths, the lowest weekly death toll since mid-October. Despite the positive trend, COVID-19 incidence and mortality rates in Ukraine remained near the peaks reported during the spring wave of infections. Additionally, vaccination rates remained low in the general population, hindering efforts to reduce transmission; as of early November, approximately 10.7 million individuals—26 percent of Ukraine's the population—had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, while just 7.6 million people—18 percent of the population—had received two doses, the UN reports. USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to support efforts to boost vaccinations and mitigate transmission by disseminating COVID-19-related health risk messaging, providing COVID-19 preparedness equipment to GCA and NGCA health facilities, and increasing the resilience of local health systems in eastern Ukraine.

EECP Crossings Decline Sharply in October; IBCP Crossings Rise

Civilian crossings at the two operational entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) connecting GCAs and NGCAs in eastern Ukraine fell to 31,000 in October, a decline of 60 percent from levels observed in September, the UN reports. The five other EECPs linking GCAs and NGCAs, which were closed in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, remain closed to civilians. Relief actors attribute the October decline to the Government of Ukraine's imposition of movement restrictions from October 9 to November 11 in response to the rise in COVID-19 cases. The restrictions limit civilian crossings of EECP to those with specific humanitarian exemptions, including medical treatment, education, care for relatives, or funerals; previously, beyond the mandatory self-quarantine requirement for unvaccinated travelers from NGCAs that was reinstated on August 5, civilian crossings in August and September faced fewer COVID-19 restrictions. As a result of the new restrictions, many NGCA residents were unable to legally visit family or access essential social services available in GCAs—including banking services and pensions that are a primary source of income—during October, disproportionately affecting Ukraine's significant population of older people already vulnerable due to limited mobility and economic challenges. Meanwhile, the number of illegal crossings via the international border crossing point (IBCP) located in the Russian border town of Milove—which require longer, costlier overland travel—increased

by 15 percent in October relative to September levels. Relief actors continue to advocate for improved crossing options to support the safety and rights of NGCA residents reliant on social services based in GCAs.

KEY FIGURES



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Number of USG implementing partners providing essential protection services

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

PROTECTION

To address humanitarian protection concerns in Ukraine, USAID/BHA supports five NGOs to implement protection interventions for vulnerable populations, including those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. USAID/BHA partners are providing psychosocial support (PSS) services to children, persons with disabilities, and older people; operating mobile protection teams to reach remote communities; and conducting mine risk education activities to minimize protection risks. As part of COVID-19 response efforts, USAID/BHA partners are also offering mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services to individuals particularly vulnerable to the impacts of the pandemic, including children, gender-based violence survivors, persons with disabilities, and older people.

In addition, State/PRM partners—including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)—are providing protection and legal services to vulnerable individuals, such as persons stranded along the line of contact, and monitoring the impacts of ongoing hostilities. For instance, from February to May, UNHCR and an NGO implementing partner conducted more than 2,300 interviews with residents across nearly 160 communities near the line of contact to assess the protection-related impacts of continued conflict. They also developed an interactive protection monitoring tool that provides users with updated analyses of conditions in each assessed community, enabling relief actors to refine and target interventions to specific needs.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support programming in eastern Ukraine to address the health needs of conflict-affected populations and respond to COVID-19. Often integrated with WASH operations, USAID/BHA is supporting programs to bolster COVID-19 response capacity in conflict-affected areas, including through risk education and infection prevention and control activities, as well as providing logistical and training support to health care facilities. Additionally, State/PRM partners ICRC, IOM, and UNHCR are distributing essential medical supplies, supporting efforts to establish and rehabilitate health facilities, and improving the capacity of health care centers to detect, prevent, and control the spread of COVID-19 in Donetsk and Luhansk. For instance, ICRC provided residents of the Trokhizbenka village in Luhansk GCA with equipment necessary to repair and improve an unused post office. The building now hosts the community’s active aging club, where members receive training sessions and workshops



\$7.2 Million

In dedicated FY 2021 USAID/BHA support for essential health programming

in first aid, mine safety, and PSS, among other activities.

Meanwhile, State/PRM partner IOM is supporting isolation and treatment centers, conducting health and hygiene interventions, and distributing hygiene kits to patients at medical facilities to minimize infection risks among vulnerable communities. As part of wider health care interventions, State/PRM also supports IOM's MHPSS campaign to highlight the importance of MHPSS amid the COVID-19 pandemic and promote IOM's support hotline. This project included a successful public awareness campaign focused on reaching out to Ukrainian men and boys who are typically more reluctant to seek professional MHPSS. The hotline has managed more than 2,000 calls since it was established in September 2020.



\$3.7 Million

In dedicated FY 2021
USAID/BHA support for
essential WASH
programming

WASH

USAID/BHA supports four NGO partners and UNICEF to address WASH needs by conducting WASH awareness and hygiene promotion activities and distributing essential hygiene items to vulnerable communities and social institutions on both sides of the line of contact. Partners are also installing water points and handwashing stations in critical public venues. In addition, USAID/BHA supports the WASH Cluster to provide humanitarian coordination and information management support, including sharing critical information with humanitarian partners regarding conflict incidents affecting WASH infrastructure and services. State/PRM partners are also conducting WASH activities among communities along the line of contact.



4

Number of USG
implementing partners
providing MPCA

MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

USAID/BHA supports one NGO and State/PRM supports ICRC, IOM, and UNHCR to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help conflict-affected individuals in GCAs in eastern Ukraine meet their basic needs. Partners provide MPCA to vulnerable individuals residing along the line of contact, most of whom experience multiple overlapping needs across different sectors and whose income falls below 45 percent of the poverty line. MPCA operations also aim to mitigate the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and support households obtain winterization and shelter needs. Additionally, IOM is providing cash grants to support small businesses and generate livelihood opportunities, including among IDPs affected by COVID-19-related economic shocks while during the fall months of 2021, ICRC provided over 2,500 individuals with MPCA to obtain firewood, conduct essential home repairs, and build greenhouses in preparation for winter.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Since March 2014, the conflict in eastern Ukraine has caused large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost oblasts bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs has also affected neighboring oblasts.
- The Government of Ukraine estimated that the conflict had internally displaced approximately 1.4 million people as of October 2020. In addition, the UN estimates that 2.9 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine will require humanitarian assistance in 2022.
- On November 26, 2021, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Kristina A. Kvien renewed the disaster declaration for Ukraine for FY 2022 due to the widespread displacement and continued humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in eastern Ukraine.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Food Assistance - Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments; Multipurpose Cash Assistance; Protection, Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Donetsk, Kherson, Kyiv, Luhansk, Odessa	\$9,944,000
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$245,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	WASH	Donetsk, Luhansk	\$2,500,000
WHO	HCIMA, Health	Donetsk, Luhansk	5298158
		Program Support	\$15,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$19,502,158
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$19,400,000
IOM	Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,980,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$6,300,000
UNICEF	Protection	Countrywide	\$891,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$32,571,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$52,073,158

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2021.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)