



# Ukraine – Complex Emergency

OCTOBER 28, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

**6,374**

Civilian Deaths  
Resulting From the  
Conflict

OHCHR – October 2022

**7.7  
MILLION**

Refugees From  
Ukraine Recorded  
Across Europe

UNHCR – October 2022

**6.2  
MILLION**

People Internally  
Displaced Across  
Ukraine

IOM – September 2022

**17.7  
MILLION**

People in Need of  
Humanitarian  
Assistance in Ukraine

UN – August 2022

**13.5  
MILLION**

People Reached With  
Humanitarian  
Assistance in Ukraine

OCHA – October 2022

- GoRF attacks on critical civilian infrastructure since October 10 have resulted in widespread utility outages across Ukraine, potentially exacerbating humanitarian needs ahead of the winter season.
- GoRF attacks from October 1 to 23 resulted in at least 230 civilian deaths and injury to nearly 680 additional individuals.
- USG implementing partners deliver life-saving humanitarian assistance in newly accessible areas of Ukraine via convoy, including areas of Kharkiv and Kherson.



<sup>1</sup> FY 2023 funding for the Ukraine complex emergency response will be included in future products when committed/obligated. For information on the U.S. Government's funding toward the response in FY 2022, refer to USG Ukraine Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #29 released on September 30, 2022, available on the USAID website at <https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work>.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### GoRF Strikes on Infrastructure Cause Power Outages Across Ukraine

Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) forces launched numerous missile and unmanned aerial vehicle strikes on critical civilian infrastructure across Ukraine from mid- to late October, resulting in widespread power and other utility outages, according to international media and the Government of Ukraine (GoU). On October 18, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that GoRF attacks since October 10 had destroyed a significant number of Ukraine's power generating facilities, with GoU officials and international media reporting damage to a large portion of the country's power grid, specifically to the network nodes that serve as the transmission hubs for the system. Moreover, GoRF forces appear to be targeting power plants and substations crucial to either particular *oblasts* or the power system as a whole, according to Ukrenergo, a GoU-owned company that manages Ukraine's countrywide energy grid. While GoU energy officials have used Ukraine's extensive energy infrastructure to reroute electricity and restore power to 90 percent of Ukrainians within 24 hours of disconnection, the GoRF's ongoing targeting of critical infrastructure is eroding the resilience of the energy system and the ability of GoU officials to reroute electricity and quickly restore power in areas affected by GoRF strikes.

To stabilize the grid and offset the lost power generation capacity, GoU authorities have announced planned rolling blackouts across all of Ukraine as of October 25. Ukrenergo has also called on Ukrainians to reduce power consumption during peak-usage hours in the evenings. On October 20, GoU officials requested civilians voluntarily impose a 20 percent reduction in energy use due to damaged or destroyed power facilities, but also noted the possibility of forcing shutdowns when voluntary usage decreases are not sufficient, international media report. As of late October, reduced access to energy had not significantly affected U.S. Government (USG) partner operations in Ukraine.

### Relief Actors Assess Winter-Related Needs Amid Infrastructure Damage

Humanitarian agencies continue to express concern that the recent GoRF strikes—which have also affected water infrastructure, gas heating networks, and public transportation—could exacerbate humanitarian needs in Ukraine amid the onset of winter weather in the coming weeks. In response, relief actors are assessing the extent of damage and identifying heating and other winter-related needs in affected areas. An estimated 45 percent of internally displaced persons (IDPs), 33 percent of returnees, and 26 percent of non-displaced persons across Ukraine were in need of heating appliances, as of October 25 according to a recent International Organization for Migration (IOM) assessment. Similarly, 25 percent of non-displaced persons, 22 percent of IDPs, and 15 percent of returnees reported that they would likely require assistance purchasing solid fuel—such as firewood or charcoal—to meet heating needs during the coming months. Meanwhile, as of late September, approximately 744,000 people in Ukraine were considering relocating for winter-related reasons, though actual population movements resulting from the onset of winter weather will likely be lower, IOM reports.

### GoRF Invasion Results in at Least 230 Civilian Deaths From October 1 to 23

Between October 1 and 23, GoRF attacks resulted in at least 230 civilian deaths and injury to nearly 680 others, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) reports. Of the reported deaths, 218 resulted from explosive weapons with wide area effects, such as air strikes, heavy artillery, missiles, and rockets. In total, OHCHR reports the GoRF invasion of Ukraine has resulted in more than 15,000 civilian casualties—including 6,374 civilian deaths and injury to nearly 9,800 others—between February 24 and October 24, with more than half of civilian deaths—3,788—occurring in Donetsk and

Luhansk *oblasts* alone. OHCHR notes that actual civilian casualty figures are likely higher, as active hostilities delay reporting from Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Luhansk *oblasts*, as well as other areas of Ukraine.

## USG Humanitarian Partners Provide Assistance in Newly Accessible Areas

Despite the continued threat of GoRF attacks and dangers posed by mines and explosive remnants of war, USG humanitarian partners are working to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable populations in newly accessible areas of Ukraine. Between October 1 and 21, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) delivered an estimated 880 metric tons (MTs) of in-kind food assistance to more than 200,000 people in the newly accessible areas of Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, and Luhansk *oblasts*. On October 21, a UN convoy—including USAID/BHA partners IOM, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Health Organization (WHO)—delivered relief commodities to newly accessible areas in and around Kharkiv's Kupiansk city, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The convoy provided bottled water, hygiene items, mattresses and bedding, medical kits, solar lamps, shelter materials, and winterization kits to approximately 6,000 people in the city and surrounding area. Additionally, U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has continued to provide relief to more than 200,000 people through nearly 400 convoys, including convoys into newly liberated areas. Access to people in these areas remains extremely challenging with continuing security risks, both for affected civilians as well as humanitarian actors.

Meanwhile, on October 20, a separate UN convoy delivered 30 MT of relief commodities to newly accessible areas in and around Kherson *oblast's* Velyka Oleksandrivka settlement, OCHA reports. USAID/BHA partners—including IOM, UNICEF, and WHO—delivered medical supplies; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) materials; tarps; bedding kits; and thermal blankets to vulnerable households in the area. UNICEF also provided four generators to clinics in Velyka Oleksandrivka, while also delivering water storage equipment, high energy biscuits, and hygiene kits for an estimated 5,500 people in the surrounding area.

Furthermore, with USAID/BHA support, UNICEF also delivered 14 generators to health and WASH facilities in Kharkiv *oblast* in mid-October, including two heavy generators to Kharkiv city to ensure the continued flow of safe drinking water and heating services. The two generators produce enough power to maintain an uninterrupted water and heating supply for more than 500,000 residents of the city and its suburbs. UNICEF delivered the remaining 12 generators to Kharkiv Regional Health Department personnel, who will use the equipment to ensure the uninterrupted provision of medical services at health facilities amid power disruptions.

## KEY FIGURES



**1.2 Million**

People in Ukraine  
reached with  
USAID/BHA-supported  
in-kind food assistance  
via WFP in October

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

To meet increasing food needs following the February 24 GoRF invasion, USAID/BHA is supporting WFP and four international non-governmental organization (INGO) partners to scale up food assistance in Ukraine. WFP continues to prioritize food distributions in eastern and southern Ukraine, where fighting and supply chain disruptions hinder food access for vulnerable populations in frontline areas. Between October 1 and October 21, WFP reached approximately 1.2 million people in Ukraine with in-kind

food distributions, including children who received supplementary feeding.



II

USG implementing  
partners providing  
MPCA

## MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

The USG supports the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, UNHCR, WFP, and seven INGOs to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help conflict-affected individuals meet their basic needs. Cash allows displaced or other conflict-affected people to access food, household items, safe drinking water, shelter, and other supplies through local markets and provides a faster and more efficient means of reaching vulnerable communities than providing in-kind commodities.

With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, WFP provided cash-based transfers to nearly 195,000 conflict-affected individuals across Ukraine between October 1 and 21. Meanwhile, State/PRM partner UNHCR has reached approximately 613,000 people across Ukraine with MPCA since the start of the GoRF's full-scale invasion, along with nearly 435,000 people in Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. State/PRM is also supporting IOM to provide MPCA to refugees in neighboring countries, as well as UNICEF to provide cash assistance to vulnerable households with children in transit.



**4.2 Million**

Number of people able  
to receive health care  
with supplies distributed  
by USG partner UNICEF

## HEALTH

To support the health needs of conflict-affected populations, USG humanitarian partners are providing health care supplies, medicine, and other health assistance in Ukraine and neighboring countries. USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF, WHO, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and six INGO partners to respond to emergency health needs in Ukraine, including medical support and other essential health care services. With USG and other donor support, UNICEF has provided medical supplies sufficient to treat approximately 4 million people across Ukraine since late February.

Meanwhile, USAID/BHA partner WHO has delivered nearly 3,600 MT of life-saving medical supplies—including essential medicines, medical equipment, and medical support—to health facilities in Ukraine as of October 26, with recent shipments reaching newly accessible areas in Kharkiv *Oblast*. WHO has also provided nearly 400 generators to frontline medical facilities and hospitals as of late October.

State/PRM is also supporting WHO to provide health care to refugees in neighboring countries. This includes meeting urgent trauma care needs by deploying emergency medical teams; providing trauma kits, essential medical supplies and equipment, and logistics support to fill urgent gaps; and extending access to coronavirus disease (COVID-19) services to refugee populations, including vaccinations. With State/PRM support, WHO is also preventing and responding to vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles and polio; providing psychosocial support to vulnerable populations and frontline health care workers; and preventing sexual exploitation and abuse.

In addition, State/PRM is supporting UNFPA in Hungary, Moldova, Poland, and Slovakia to strengthen local health systems' capacity to absorb an increased refugee caseload through the deployment of mobile and static integrated community sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence (GBV) health units, supplies, and interventions. State/PRM is also supporting UNICEF in neighboring countries to scale up health support, including to prevent disease outbreaks and support infection prevention and control training. State/PRM is also supporting IOM to provide primary health care consultations, mobile health and emergency services, and mobile psychosocial support teams. IOM managed approximately 1,600 primary health care cases, conducted 700 psychosocial consultations, and referred nearly 650 patients with complicated medical conditions to hospitals for further treatment between February and September.



**20**

Number of USG  
implementing partners  
providing essential  
protection services

## PROTECTION

Armed conflict often exacerbates individuals' vulnerability to protection risks. People must cope with threats such as sexual violence, violence in the home, family separation, exploitative labor, and exclusion from life-saving humanitarian assistance, among other concerns. In response, USAID/BHA supports IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and UN Women—supported through USAID/BHA's partnership with the UN Development Program—as well as 13 INGOs to implement protection interventions for conflict-affected populations in Ukraine. USAID/BHA partners provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to children, persons with disabilities, and older people; operate mobile protection teams to reach remote communities with GBV prevention and response activities, legal assistance, and MHPSS; and conduct other protection activities. Specifically, USAID/BHA is supporting UNFPA's efforts to procure vehicles to establish mobile teams to provide MHPSS services in remote or hard-to-reach areas of Ukraine. With USAID/BHA and other donor support, the UN agency is also supporting facilities that provide services for GBV survivors, including conflict-related sexual violence survivors. Furthermore, USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF to meet the protection needs of children in displacement centers, as well as assist unaccompanied and separated children, who are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. Since February 24, UNICEF-supported MHPSS interventions have reached nearly 1.9 million children and caregivers to help them cope with the psychosocial effects of conflict and displacement. UNICEF has also provided nearly 85,000 women and children with GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response services.

In addition, State/PRM partners—including IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNICEF—provide protection and legal services to vulnerable individuals in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Services include GBV prevention and response, child protection, and MHPSS support; prevention and response to trafficking persons; and establishment of child-friendly and women- and girl-friendly spaces, which not only offer case management and referral services, but also provide areas for women and children to feel physically and emotionally safe. Partners are also establishing Blue Dots, multi-agency

facilities that provide one-stop protection services and social service referrals to new refugee arrivals in neighboring countries. As of October 21, UNHCR had established 36 Blue Dots, which reach tens of thousands of people with protection services in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.



**3.6 Million**

Number of people supported with safe drinking water through USG partner UNICEF since February 24

## WASH

Disaster-affected populations are often more susceptible to waterborne diseases, such as cholera and dysentery, as disasters reduce local access to, or availability of, hygiene items, sanitation services, and safe drinking water. In response, USG humanitarian partners are providing WASH supplies to conflict-affected populations, including hygiene kits containing soap and other items to reduce disease transmission; repairing damaged WASH infrastructure; and transporting and distributing safe drinking water in conflict-affected areas. In addition, USAID/BHA also 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.

USAID/BHA supports IOM, UNICEF, and 10 INGO partners to address WASH needs in Ukraine. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, UNICEF has facilitated access to safe drinking water for nearly 3.6 million people in Ukraine since February 24. UNICEF's WASH assistance includes increasing water availability in IDP shelters and other collective sites; conducting water trucking services; and distributing bottled drinking water. The UN agency had also distributed WASH commodities to nearly 966,000 people across Ukraine as of September 30.

State/PRM partners are providing WASH assistance to conflict-affected communities in Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees in neighboring countries, including strengthening sanitation infrastructure in shelters and distributing hygiene kits to refugees. State/PRM is also supporting IOM to provide hygiene kits, safe drinking water, and water infrastructure.



**760**

MT of humanitarian cargo dispatched by the Logistics Cluster in August

## LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA is supporting the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) clusters, the coordinating bodies for humanitarian logistics and ETC activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. With USAID/BHA support, WFP—the Logistics Cluster lead—is coordinating logistics services for the broader humanitarian response, developing common advocacy to address logistical challenges, facilitating humanitarian convoys and corridors to hard-to-reach areas, and establishing logistics bases to consolidate and prioritize humanitarian cargo deliveries. In August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the movement of more than 760 MT of humanitarian cargo to Chernivtsi, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolayiv, Odesa, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhya *oblasts*. Meanwhile, State/PRM is supporting IOM and UNHCR to provide logistics support to the refugee response in neighboring countries.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The GoRF commenced widespread attacks against Ukraine on February 24 after mobilizing hundreds of thousands of military forces and heavy weaponry near its border with Ukraine. Immediately prior, the GoRF had ordered forces into Donetsk and Luhansk non-GoU controlled areas after recognizing the areas' independence from Ukraine on February 21.
- The GoRF invasion marked a major escalation of conflict in Ukraine, where fighting in the country's eastern *oblasts* has caused large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure since March 2014. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost *oblasts* bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs from these areas has also impacted neighboring *oblasts*. The UN estimated that 2.9 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine required humanitarian assistance as of early 2022, prior to the February 24 GoRF invasion.
- On February 24, USAID announced the activation of a USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG humanitarian response to the crisis in Ukraine, with initial staff in Rzeszów, Poland; Chişinău, Moldova; Budapest, Hungary; Bucharest, Romania; and Bratislava, Slovakia. To support the DART, USAID activated a Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington, D.C. State/PRM staff in Warsaw, Poland; Budapest, Hungary; Chişinău, Moldova; Bucharest, Romania; Bratislava, Slovakia; and Washington, D.C., also continue to support response activities.
- On October 21, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Bridget A. Brink renewed the declaration of humanitarian need for Ukraine for FY 2023 due to widespread displacement and continued humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in Ukraine resulting from the GoRF's full-scale invasion.

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## 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://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://cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://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)