



# UKRAINE CRISIS AND REFUGEE RESPONSE



Save the Children

## **Six months on** the situation in Ukraine remains dire.

With active conflict in the east and large number of families displaced to central and western Ukraine, thousands of children and their families are in urgent need of support.

Persistent air strikes and explosions are destroying buildings, killing and injuring children, and making it harder to access essential healthcare and education.

In addition to the immediate physical and psychological impacts of ongoing attacks, children and their families are dealing with the longer terms impacts from a country already experiencing an economic and humanitarian crisis linked to ongoing conflict over the past 8 years.

The situation in Ukraine has caused the worst refugee crisis in Europe since the Second World War. Around 17.3 million people are now either displaced within Ukraine or have been forced to flee into neighbouring countries. Over 4.5 million people may have crossed back into Ukraine. As the violence continues, children are at risk of devastating trauma from loss and displacement and the conflict in Ukraine is having ripple effects around the world - inflating food prices and huge disruptions in food supply chains are contributing to a global hunger crisis.

# HOW YOUR DONATIONS ARE HELPING CHILDREN

# 460,000

people reached with life-saving support

With your support, we've been able to reach over **460,000** people with life-saving essentials, protection and assistance. And we continue to respond quickly to a situation that is constantly changing, both in Ukraine and in surrounding countries where families are seeking refuge.

We have been calling for an immediate end of hostilities and for children to be protected, in accordance with international humanitarian law.

We've been operating in Ukraine since 2014. Throughout the 8-year conflict, we've been delivering essential humanitarian aid to children and their families, including

winter kits, hygiene kits and cash grants so they can meet basic needs such as food, rent and medicines.

In times of crisis, when children are at their most vulnerable, Save the Children is there. We are always among the first organisations to deliver life-saving support for children and their families. We partner with local organisations wherever possible to ensure our responses are locally driven, allowing us to build trust and gain access to hard to reach communities.

**Thanks to your generosity, we will continue our work in Ukraine and neighbouring countries as long as it takes to help children and their families recover and rebuild their lives.**

Save the Children is making sure children from Ukraine have educational kits and learning programmes to make up for lost learning.



Olesia\* is 10 years old and fled Odessa with her parents, brother and sister because of the war in Ukraine. They are now living in temporary accommodation at a school in Chernivtsi. Olesia\* received a backpack with books, pens and other educational materials through Save the Children to help her continue her learning.



*"I received the prettiest backpack. I really like it because there's a lot of things in there. Markers, coloured paper, coloured cardboard, regular pens and pencils. My favourite colours are red, blue and yellow. I'm very grateful for the backpack" - Olesia\*, 10yrs old*

# OUR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

# 281,882

people reached

Save the Children in Ukraine has provided support to 281,882 people, including 149,594 children.

Our trained teams in Ukraine are working alongside local partners and the Ukraine government to provide life-saving assistance such as food and water, cash transfers, and safe spaces, to make sure children and families impacted by this crisis have the immediate support they need to survive and rebuild their lives.

Save the Children is ensuring children have access to learning programmes to help children make up for lost learning.

Save the Children is setting up Digital Learning Spaces to help children access education and distributing Education Kits, which contain pens, colouring pencils, notepads, and educational materials, so children don't miss out on crucial learning.

|                              | PEOPLE | INCLUDING CHILDREN |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| PROTECTION                   | 17,186 | 10,493             |
| LEARNING                     | 8,916  | 7,152              |
| HEALTH                       | 41,552 | 24,197             |
| NUTRITION                    | 44,400 | 26,640             |
| FOOD, SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS | 97,750 | 44,690             |
| WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE  | 59,460 | 28,027             |
| SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS     | 13,903 | 8,747              |

## What support is being provided?



Food, fuel and cash assistance to meet people's most urgent need.



Blankets, hygiene items, baby kits, trauma kits with supplies to treat injuries and bunker kits with toys and games to encourage play and learning.



Medical supplies and support to health teams and hospitals



Digital Learning Spaces to help children access education.



Mental health support to children and their families



Child protection services to ensure children and families remain together and separated children are reunited safely with their caregivers.



# OUR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE



PHOTOS: SAVE THE CHILDREN

The spaces are supported by psychologists such as Yurii and facilitators such as Anastasiia who ensure the programme of activities support children’s mental health.



Ihor\*, 6, is currently attending a Child Friendly Space run by Smile UA, a Save the Children Partner organisation.

Smile UA run many child friendly spaces for displaced children with a wide range of activities and events for all ages.

These activities are designed to give children a safe space to relax and play. Ihor\* attends one of the Child Friendly spaces 3 to 4 times a week, giving him a fun place to relax and make new friends. His mother Polina\* also attends classes so she can learn ways to help her children deal with stressful situations and challenges.

# RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS



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1. Save the Children is supporting a shelter for internally displaced families in Chernivtsi, Ukraine and has set up a child friendly space. In this space, children can do activities and relax away from the stress of their current situation.

2. Save the Children is delivering essential supplies to heavily conflict affected areas in the East of Ukraine. In this warehouse in Dnipro, pasta, beans, salt and other vital supplies is stored temporarily while a delivery convoy is prepared.

3. Through Save the Children's feedback and accountability mechanisms, families in Ukraine are telling us that cash is what they need right now. It helps them buy the essential items they need like food, medicine, and fuel, in a dignified and efficient way that supports local economies.

4. Save the Children's specialist staff offer families psychological support and provide children in Ukraine with a safe area to rest and play, and equipment to help them to unwind.

## Protection:

- Save the Children has supported over **10,500 children with protection services** and together with our partners, we are running 8 Child Friendly Spaces (11+ are to be launched soon) where children can play, socialise, and be children again.
- Save the Children is providing Child Friendly Space Kits, which contain everything you need to establish a safe and supportive space for children, as well as Bunker Kits with toys and games that encourage learning and play.
- Save the Children is conducting induction trainings in "Child Protection in Emergency" (CPiE) and "Child Protection Minimum Standards" (CPMS) for local partner organisations to ensure children are supported in the safest way.

## Cash and Voucher Assistance:

- Save the Children has supported over **62,206 people with cash and vouchers**, totalling over \$18M to help them buy the food, clothes, and essential medicine they need.

## Mental health and psychosocial support:

- Save the Children psychologists and mental health experts are providing psychosocial support to vulnerable children and their families, as well focusing on the wellbeing of our partners and frontline.
- Child Protection specialists are on hand to provide psychological support and help children begin to process their experiences.

## Health and Nutrition:

- Save the Children has supported over **41,500 families with access to medical care** by providing essential medical supplies and support to health teams and hospitals, with a focus on maternal and newborn health, as well as supplying Trauma Kits to treat injuries.
- Save the Children is distributing over 2,500 food kits across Eastern Ukraine over the next few weeks to feed children and their families.





# OUR REGIONAL RESPONSE

# 179,000

people reached with life-saving support

Our teams are assisting children and families fleeing Ukraine at border crossing points and reception centres in Romania, Poland and Lithuania.

Save the Children has reached 178,000 people with life-saving support:



Food, fuel and cash assistance to meet people's most urgent needs



Blankets, hygiene items, dignity and baby kits



Providing mental health support to children and their families



Supporting mothers with baby feeding and pregnant women with baby arrival kits



Setting up child friendly spaces where children can play and recover from the traumatic experiences they have been through. These are safe spaces set up by our staff, together with members of the local community.



Establishing safe passages to get food and other essential supplies to the most affected areas in Ukraine



Providing child protection services to ensure children and families remain together and separated children are reunited safely with their caregivers



Providing information about housing, healthcare, childcare, education, legal support and other refugee rights



Over the summer, Save the Children has supported children with summer camp programming to provide social cohesion activities – bringing together Polish and Ukrainian children. Children can participate in sports activities, city excursions and face to face extra-curricular activities such as art, dance, and play. Polish language classes are offered throughout summer camp programmes to support children with learning as they prepare to enroll in Polish schools in September.

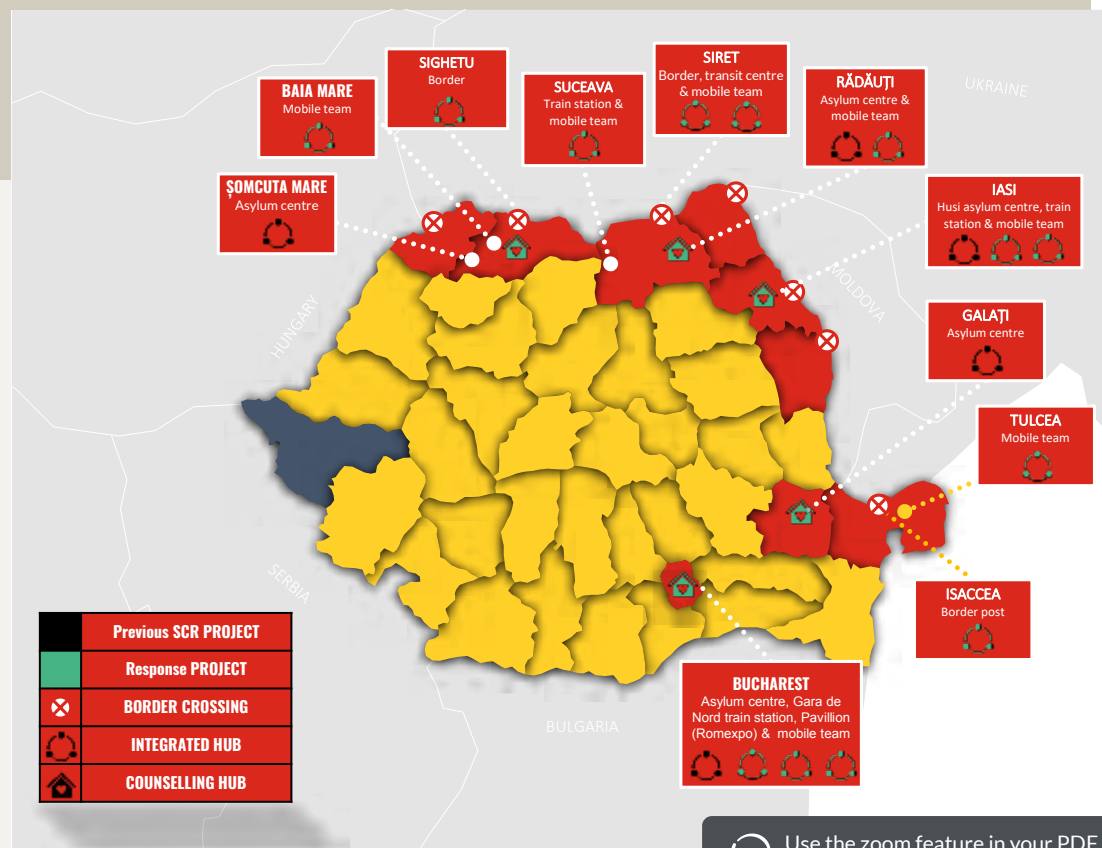
# ROMANIA

# 157,128

people reached

Save the Children in Romania has reached 157,128 people, including 88,800 children.

Save the Children teams are at every border crossing with Ukraine and Moldova, providing food, clean water, hygiene items, pre-paid sim cards, information, and translation services. They are also providing social, recreational, and educational services through Child Friendly Spaces and Mother and Baby Areas, delivering Cash and Vouchers Assistance and supporting children to access distance education.



Use the zoom feature in your PDF reader to see more detail in the maps



LEWISKHAN / SAVE THE CHILDREN

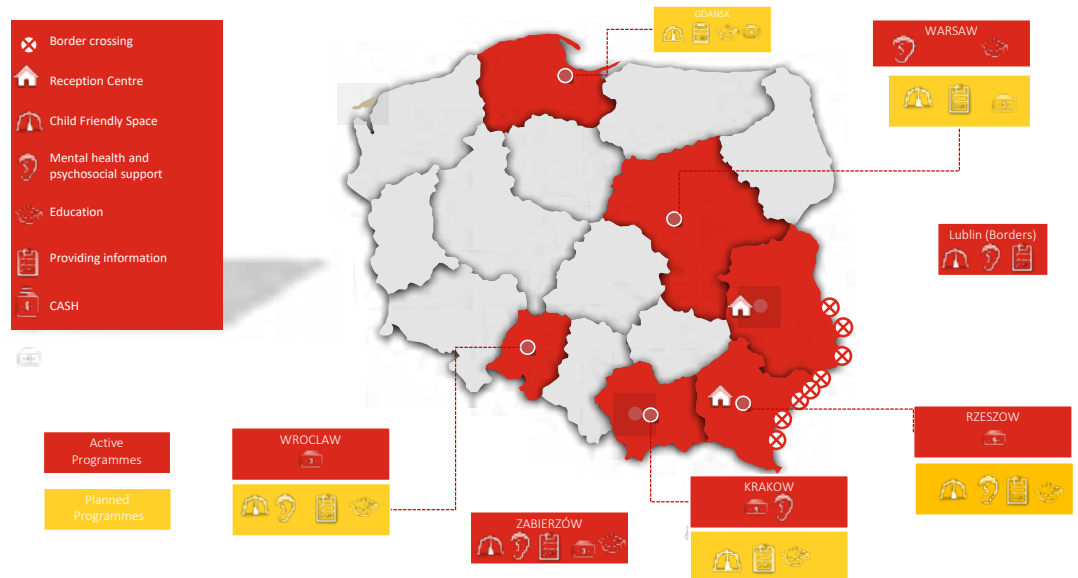
Iryna\*, who is seven months pregnant, had just 24 hours to decide whether or not to leave Ukraine with her ten-year-old daughter Nikolina\*. As violence engulfed the country, she crossed the border into Romania.

Save The Children in Romania has helped Iryna\* by providing cash voucher assistance to meet basic needs like food, clothing, medicines and provided mental health support for Iryna\* and Nikolina\*.

**POLAND**  
**5,888**  
people reached

Save the Children in Poland has reached 5,888 people, including 5,195 children.

Save the Children teams are providing cash and voucher assistance to families and partnered with libraries to set up Digital Learning Hubs, which will support children from Ukraine to continue their education through self-directed online resources from Ukraine's Ministry of Education and Science.



Save the Children's summer schools for children from Ukraine in Poland are providing a safe haven where young refugees can boost their education and mental health and psychosocial wellbeing.

Use the zoom feature in your PDF reader to see more detail in the maps



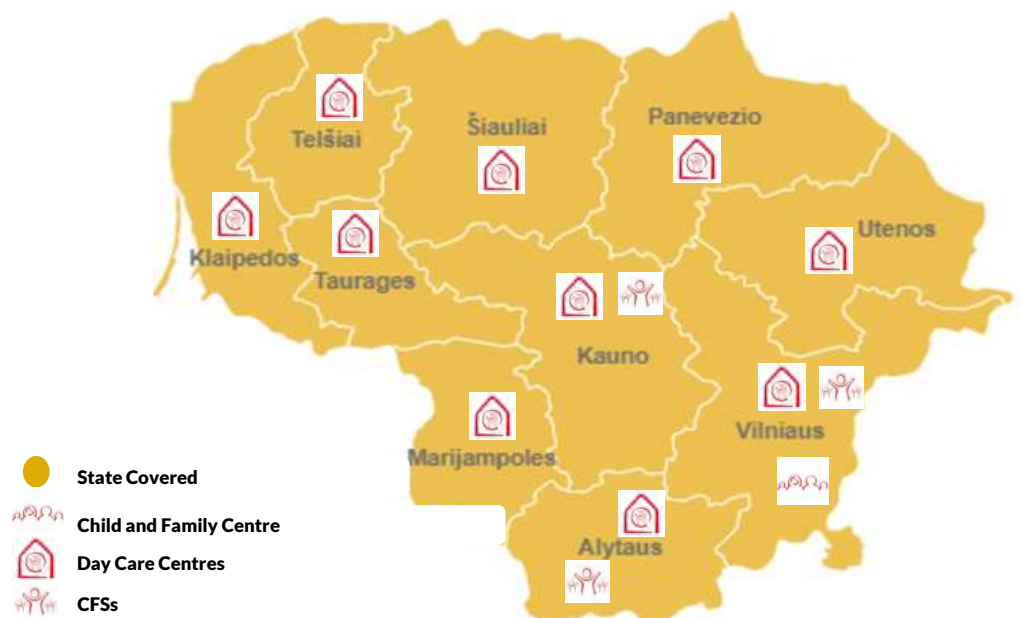
Save the Children in collaboration with a local partner has established a Ukrainian School for children in Warsaw to support children complete their school year and provide them the opportunity to meet with other children and integrate with the Polish community. As part of this Save the Children has also been supporting Ukrainian teachers and other education staff in the school with capacity strengthening activities and wellness sessions. The school has a dedicated school psychologist, school nurse and individual support for children living with a disability who require assistance to meaningfully participate in learning and social activities.



LITHUANIA  
**16,735**  
people reached

Save the Children in Lithuania has reached **16,735 children** through targeted emergency support and its Child Friendly Spaces.

Save the Children are delivering recreational and educational activities, as well as essential items and food. They have also provided emergency support to children and their, including hygiene items, toys, clothes, and medical referrals, as well as Baby Kits for pregnant women.



Use the zoom feature in your PDF reader to see more detail in the maps



Eda\*, 2, lived near Kyiv with her parents. When the bombing started, Eda's mother Maria\*, 28, immediately left home because Eda\* was very afraid of the explosions. She took her daughter and her thirteen-year-old sister Anastasia\* to Lithuania. Maria was referred to the Save the Children in the area where she is now living. The manager of the children's day centre helped Maria register so that she would be given extra support and essential items. She also received clothes because they hadn't managed to bring many items with them. Save the Children delivers food to the family home every week.

# OUR RESPONSE IN THE REST OF EUROPE

In addition to our major responses in Poland, Romania and Lithuania, our European programs in the Balkans, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK have been supporting refugee children and their families through activities such as Child Friendly Spaces, psychosocial support, and assistance to help children and their families resettle and access the services they need.

This has been a response like no other. We have been able to amplify our impact by working with several strategic partners such as other NGOs, civil society, local authorities and national governments.



Our response includes:

- Offering emergency shelter and working with local families and businesses to provide temporary safe housing.
- Setting up child friendly spaces in key places, like migration offices, so children can relax and play while waiting to be assisted.
- Working with local authorities to promote children's wellbeing and avoid harm.
- Connecting refugee families to relevant services and local communities.
- Providing practical information, legal advice and mental health support to children and their families.
- Influencing the European Union and its member states to create safe and legal routes across Europe for people fleeing the conflict.

# GLOBAL HUNGER CRISIS

**We are facing the worst global food crisis in decades.**

Global disruptions, caused by the situation in Ukraine are creating food shortages and soaring prices of essential supplies. This year, the number of people who are acutely food insecure or at high risk has soared to a record high of 345 million people. In places like the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, millions of children's lives are on the line. Save the Children is working alongside communities in many of these countries to provide life-changing assistance. Our hunger and nutrition programmes help millions of children every year.



In Somalia, Save the Children health workers are helping children recover from severe acute malnutrition.



Danilo, 2 at the Reception centre in Romania where he's staying with his family after fleeing Ukraine.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Your generosity means we can help children make it through the darkest moments of their lives. Thanks to your support we've been able to respond quickly and will continue our work as long as it takes to help children and their families to rebuild their lives.



**Redd Barna**

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