

SUMMARY

The conflict in Ukraine has created the world’s fastest growing displacement crisis since World War II (UNHCR, 2022), and 17.6 million people are in need. Because of your support, World Vision is there—for those in Ukraine and for those seeking refuge far from home.

In FY23, we reached 1,133,148 people—more than tripling our reach since FY22. Our biggest response has been inside Ukraine, where our six regional offices (all established after the crisis began) have enabled us to reach all 24 oblasts and rapidly scale our response, delivering life-saving assistance near the frontlines and, in safer areas, supporting longer term needs. So far, we’ve reached nearly 300,000 people with hygiene kits and over 90,000 with temporary shelter assistance—the majority of those inside Ukraine.

Caring for children’s needs

Three-fourths of Ukrainian parents

reported their children had symptoms of psychological trauma. Together with local organizations, we are providing children with mental health support, education, and Child-Friendly Spaces where they can cope and heal. Response-wide, we’ve reached 76,788 children with protection programming.

Caring for refugees


There are 5.8 million Ukrainian refugees across Europe. Many of those fled to Romania, Moldova, or Georgia, where World Vision is meeting immediate needs through food and cash assistance. Long-term support includes [language classes](#) for adults and recreation programs that help local and refugee children form relationships. We also collaborate with national governments to respond to the needs of refugees and their host communities.





“I didn’t know where to go that time. We just got on the train going to the western part of the country,” said Oksana, mother of 6-year-old Daniel. They found support at a World Vision day center for internally displaced people in Ukraine. “We have been provided with food, clothes, and everything we need,” Oksana said.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES SINCE RESPONSE BEGAN IN MARCH 2022

1,493,866 PEOPLE, including 726,830 children, have been reached with aid (953,079 in Ukraine, 293,338 in Romania, 228,597 in Moldova, and 18,852 in Georgia).

 **512,804** people have been reached with food assistance, and we’ve distributed more than 10.2 million pounds of food.

 **250,656** children have benefited from educational programming.

 **91,758** people have benefited from mental health and psychosocial activities.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVING PARTNER CAPACITY

The first three of our four strategic objectives in our Ukraine response are (1) meeting basic needs, (2) protecting children and promoting their psychosocial well-being, and (3) improving access to livelihood opportunities. Our fourth objective to improve partner capacity allows us to be exponentially more effective in the first three, delivering more services to more people and ensuring those services complement, rather than duplicate, each other.

World Vision has 31 vetted national and international partners across Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, and Georgia. We work with partners to train staff, support logistics, and provide additional resources. Examples of accomplishments through partnerships include the following:

- In Moldova, partners run 42 Child-Friendly Spaces with World Vision’s support, providing education and psychosocial care for Ukrainian and Moldovan children. We also partnered to host Moldova’s first Problem Management Plus training to help social workers support the needs of refugees.
- In Georgia, World Vision is a leading nongovernmental children’s rights organization, and this year we met with government officials and healthcare providers to discuss educational opportunities and healthcare access for refugees.
- In Romania, we worked with the Disasters Emergency Committee to develop standard operating procedures for Happy Bubble Child-Friendly Spaces, where children can receive education and psychosocial support. ([Watch a video on Happy Bubble here.](#))

Deep collaboration with partners has allowed our work to scale immensely since we began. And our partners, including our donors, ensure that our response is sustainable long-term. Our current response plan ends in January 2024, and we are now developing a new two-year plan to continue serving those inside Ukraine, as well as refugees and their host communities.

CHALLENGES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

The looming winter poses significant food security challenges, particularly in areas affected by conflict. The crisis has disrupted markets, limiting people’s access to food. Providing cash empowers people to buy food when it is available and supports local economies. World Vision is also distributing food kits across Ukraine. ([Watch the video to see what food kits contain.](#))

Safety is another major concern. Ukraine is now one of the most heavily mine-contaminated countries in the world (ReliefWeb, 2023), and fighting is ongoing. Pray with us that humanitarian organizations will be able to reach people in need, for their safety, and for the safety of all those still in Ukraine.



“My grandson, Yaroslav, has become more open and cheerful when he joined this space. He looks forward to a new day to go to his friends again,” said Volodymyr. Yaroslav, 5, plays at a Child-Friendly Space in the western part of Ukraine, made possible by World Vision and our partners.

SOLOMIA FINDS A SAFE SPACE TO BE A KID

The fighting in Ukraine forced Yulia and her daughter Solomia, 6, to flee their home and take refuge in Uzhorod, in the western part of Ukraine. Conditions were safer there, but Solomia was struggling.

“Solomia was once withdrawn; if she did not feel okay, nobody could calm her. She would cry until I came,” Yulia said.

Yulia joined other women in the area to start Creative Volunteers, an organization focused on supporting children. They set up a modest center where they could offer daycare and creative workshops.

World Vision’s partner organization, Divchata (Ukrainian for “girls”), took note of their work and helped them expand to include a Child-Friendly Space where children can make friends, express themselves, and be nurtured by caring volunteers.

Yulia watched her daughter transform in the Child-Friendly Space. Solomia began to interact with her peers and communicate about her emotions. The same happened with other children; they began to express themselves and find ways to channel their energy positively.

“For me, the center was a lifeline, especially when it became clear we wouldn’t return home anytime soon,” Yulia said. “It gave me and other parents the time and space to find employment and tackle financial challenges, knowing that our children are in a safe and enriching environment.”

Yulia is grateful for her fellow volunteers and partners like Divchata and World Vision. “I know that together, we could nurture many children like my daughter Solomia to grow up in a healthy and safe environment, and shape a brighter future for themselves and for Ukraine,” she said. “I hope that all children, despite the challenges they face, can enjoy and come back to their happy childhood, receive the support they need, and grow into healthy, confident, and successful individuals.”



Solomia, 6, does a craft at a Child-Friendly Space in Uzhorod, Ukraine. “These centers are not just good, they are essential,” said Solomia’s mother, Yulia. “While we are still in need of more academic resources, our children learn through playing and learning activities that strengthen emotional support.”

THANK YOU

Thank you for holding space for the people of Ukraine in your hearts. Nearly two years into the crisis, many people around the world are turning their attention toward other needs. But people in Ukraine are still in great need, and your gifts are reaching them. Through your generosity, we are meeting tangible needs, protecting children, and proclaiming hope.

As we enter the new year, may you be blessed knowing your gifts have touched so many lives. We are deeply grateful for your partnership as we share God’s love with people in Ukraine and the surrounding countries.



34834 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
P.O. Box 9716
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

For more information visit:
[worldvisionphilanthropy.org/
emergency-response](https://worldvisionphilanthropy.org/emergency-response)



World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.