



UKRAINE OPERATION FACTSHEET

CASH ASSISTANCE




Oleksandr, 74, and his wife were at home in the town of Dobropillia in Donetsk region, when a Russian air attack struck their home on 7 March 2025. UNHCR provided Oleksandr and other civilians impacted by the attack with emergency cash assistance to help them meet immediate needs in the aftermath of the attack, as well as essential aid items, psychosocial support, and legal aid. © UNHCR/Chadi Ouanes


 **2.2 million** IDPs, returnees and war-affected people reached with cash assistance to help cover the costs of their basic needs since March 2022, amounting to **\$633 million**


 **72%** of those assisted are **women and children**

Cash assistance is one of the most efficient and effective ways to support people adversely impacted by the war in Ukraine, including people forced to flee, as well as those who choose to remain close to home. It gives war-affected people the agency to decide what they need most urgently to cover their immediate needs, and simultaneously boosts economic recovery and local markets. **UNHCR's cash programmes align with and complement the national social assistance programmes and fill important gaps;** they serve as a **crucial bridge** to help recipients **meet critical needs** during the time between evacuation, displacement, or in the aftermath of an aerial attack, to the moment they can access **national social assistance schemes and start to rebuild their lives**. UNHCR's cash programmes are designed to complement and support the Government's response and programs to ensure **inclusive access to social assistance and services for vulnerable populations, particularly IDPs and war-affected people in frontline areas and those subject to aerial attack**. UNHCR receives referrals from the Ukrainian authorities and helps coordinate efforts to link humanitarian needs with government-led social protection. The modalities of cash assistance (below) help support the diverse needs of vulnerable populations.

CASH ASSISTANCE MODALITIES

 **MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA)**
Supports vulnerable people who are either in need of urgent support **following aerial attacks or evacuation**, were recently **displaced within the last six months**, as well as **returnees** who are socioeconomically vulnerable or have specific protection needs. – **UAH 3,600 (around USD 86) per person per month for three months – transferred as a one-time installment.**

 **CASH FOR WINTER (2024 - 25)**
UNHCR worked with the **Ministry of Social Policy and the Pension Fund of Ukraine**, as well as with **the former Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories**, to support highly vulnerable Ukrainian households cover energy and heating-related expenses and **keep their homes warm during the winter months.** – **UAH 21,000 (around USD 504) per household**

 **SHELTER-RELATED CASH PROGRAMMES**
UNHCR's Rental Market Initiative (RMI) helps IDPs with no prospect of an immediate return to their areas of origin or habitual residence access dignified and sustainable housing options through **a six-month rental package and legal support to conclude lease agreements – UAH 125,000 (up to USD 3,000) per IDP household**. UNHCR's cash for shelter repairs programme is aimed at **improving housing conditions** by enabling IDPs and war-affected people to **purchase construction materials for house repairs - Up to UAH 182,000 (around USD 4,000) per household, depending on the damage to the home.**

TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

MPCA 2024	329,750 \$83.6M disbursed	Target: 600,000 ind.
MPCA 2025 (Q1)	18,087 \$4.7M disbursed	Target: 450,000 ind.
Winter 2024-25	258,345 \$75.8M disbursed	Target: 550,000 ind.
RMI 2024	1,059** \$2.3M disbursed	Target: 3,915 HH
RMI 2025*		Target: 4,058 HH
Shelter Repairs 2024	1,084 \$1.2M disbursed	Target: 1,806 HH
Shelter Repairs 2025*		Target: 4,320 HH

*Enrollment for RMI and cash for shelter repairs, Q1 2025, is ongoing.
**RMI is distributed per household (HH).

COORDINATION: UNHCR continues to **actively contribute to and participate in interagency and Government-led initiatives that guide the transition from large-scale humanitarian cash assistance programmes to an inclusive and accessible shock-responsive social protection system**. UNHCR actively engages in the Government's Sectoral Working Group on Social Protection, where it co-facilitates the Social Services Sub-Working Group (SWG) and participates in the Nexus Sub-Working Group.

In addition, UNHCR aligns its cash programming with the Ukraine **Cash Working Group's** (CWG) guidance and contributes at strategic and technical levels. By co-leading the Task Team on Response Analysis and Targeting, **UNHCR works towards a harmonized eligibility determination procedure to ensure the effective use of humanitarian cash assistance**, with due respect for Accountability to Affected Populations. To this end, UNHCR coordinates closely with actors such as ACTED, FAO, ICRC, IOM, NRC, UNICEF and WFP.

Key findings – Emergency MPCA Post Distribution Monitoring

As part of its accountability to affected populations, **UNHCR consistently conducts monitoring exercises during and after service delivery**. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) exercises published in December 2024, as well as those focused on UNHCR's winter response, both underscore recipients' satisfaction with cash assistance in general and highlight ongoing challenges they face in **meeting their basic needs**.

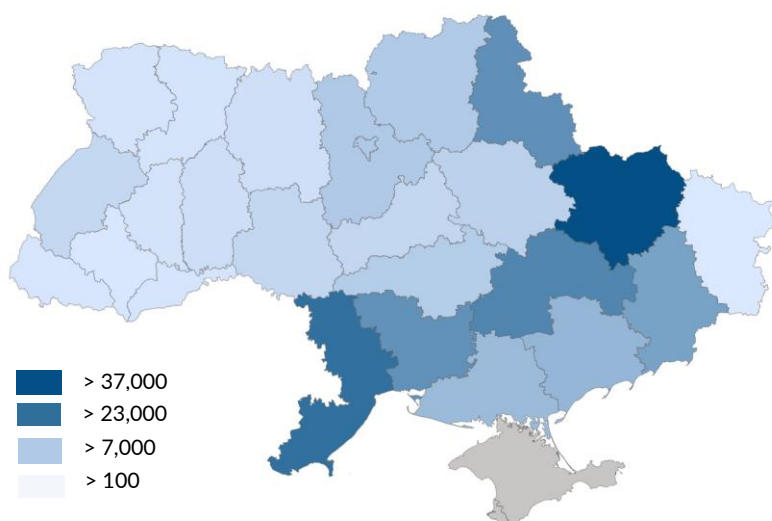
A post-distribution monitoring survey published in December 2024 collected responses from **1,291 families** who received UNHCR's **emergency MPCA following aerial attack strikes**, which **provides rapid, immediate support to families and individuals who have experienced personal loss, injuries, or whose housing has become uninhabitable**. The programme has a very short lead time to make cash assistance available **within 72 hours after enrolment**. Findings revealed that **97%** of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with UNHCR's cash assistance. The recipients surveyed reported housing repairs as the primary expense covered by emergency cash assistance, followed by purchasing food (**7%**) and covering health expenses (**5%**). Read the full report [here](#).

UNHCR's **emergency MPCA to evacuees** is delivered **within two weeks of the evacuation** to address **urgent basic needs**. Of the **1,000 recipient families** contacted in the most recent PDM exercise, most people were evacuated from **Kharkiv region (92%)**, as well as **Sumy (7%)**, and **Donetsk region**. **91%** of respondents said were **satisfied or very satisfied** with the assistance. The findings also reflected how emergency cash assistance **acts as a bridge to Ukraine's social protection system**. Among those who received emergency cash assistance, **57%** who applied for Government social assistance after evacuation received it within **one month**, and an additional **31% within two months**. By December 2024, over **60%** **received government social assistance**, primarily the IDP allowance. Read the full report [here](#).

How does MPCA work?

Enrolment into the MPCA programme is done by **UNHCR's local NGO partners Right to Protection (R2P) and Rokada**. Counselling lines and Q&A guides, which are provided by enumerators and hotline operators, inform clear and coherent communication with people in need and recipients of assistance before, during, and after enrolment. Additional information in response to queries is provided by UNHCR's NGO partner Donbas SOS via its hotline. UNHCR maintains active enrollment through **mobile teams, and/or static enrolment centres**, predominantly in the frontline regions of the war, allowing UNHCR to respond rapidly in areas where war-affected people are in most dire need of assistance. UNHCR uses Building Blocks, a neutral humanitarian blockchain network, to ensure **de-duplication of cash assistance provided by other organizations**.

Cash assistance is targeted based on vulnerability. Individuals must be new evacuees, victims of aerial attacks, or displaced over the past six months/returnees who meet one or more of the following **vulnerability criteria** adopted by the Cash Working Group: a) single-headed households with at least one minor child or family member above the age of 55; b) people aged over 55 heading households; and/or c) households with one or more people with specific needs. Eligible people should also meet the socio-economic criteria of earning less than UAH 5,400 (around USD 142) per person (family member) per month. UNHCR's emergency cash assistance is provided as an option in lieu of basic non-food items immediately after attacks or following evacuation.



Map of individuals reached with multi-purpose cash assistance per oblast in 2024



Sisters Nadiia, right, and Svitlana, left, were evacuated with their children from the village of Velyka Rybytsia in Sumy Region, Ukraine, just a few kilometers from the border with Russia, due to intensified hostilities. Their home had been destroyed in an aerial attack, forcing them to leave behind the life they once knew. With UNHCR partner Proliska's support, the family was first evacuated to a transit centre in Sumy city, where they received psychological support and were later supported with emergency cash assistance to help them cover the costs of their immediate needs after evacuation. © UNHCR/Oleksii Barkov