United Nations Development Programme in Ukraine **Recovery Framewor**

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A UNDP delegation visits Mykolaiv High School of Physical Education in January 2024 to evaluate the progress made by the EU4UASchools project to upgrade school infrastructure. **Photo credit:** Dmytro Zaburunnov / UNDP Ukraine

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In response to the unprecedented challenges following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, UNDP Ukraine significantly scaled up its operations, playing a pivotal role in the country's resilience and recovery.

Context



2 million households affected by damaged or destroyed housing



14.6 million in need of emergency assistance



Fivefold increase in poverty rate, to **24.1%** – up from 5.5%

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5.9 million Ukrainian refugees



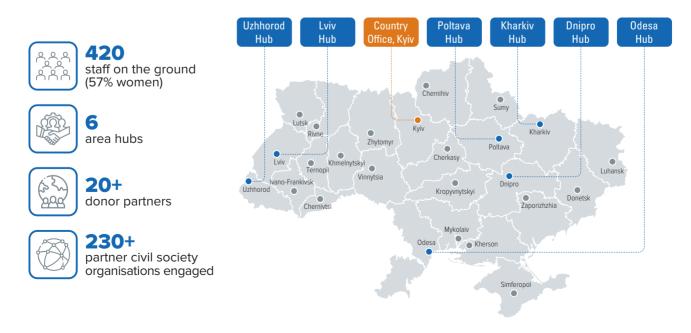


4.9 million Ukrainians internally displaced

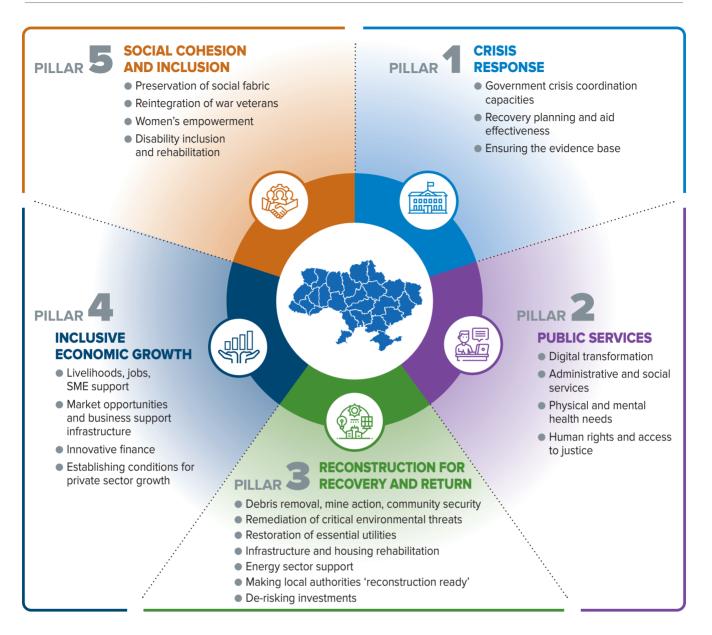
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55% of the population belongs to at least one vulnerable group

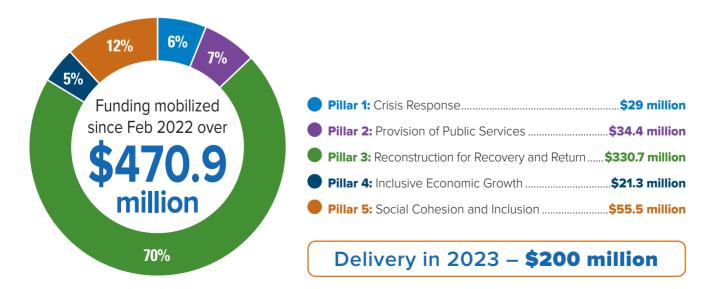
UNDP Operational Presence



UNDP Recovery Framework for Ukraine



Required funding – **\$1 billion**





CRISIS RESPONSE

The Government of Ukraine is facing unprecedented challenges in responding to the impact of war. Assessments of war-induced damage and the coordination of recovery and reconstruction are key to prioritizing and sequencing vital recovery work. UNDP continues to support the government in maintaining the efficiency of its core functions, facilitating aid coordination, carrying out damage and needs assessments, and building the capacities of national and local authorities to develop recovery plans. UNDP is also supporting the reform agenda of the national government.



PROVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

UNDP is strengthening the capacities of local authorities to provide services, including through mobile offices and refurbished administrative centres. UNDP is also promoting digitalization to provide high quality e-services to people, including the most vulnerable. The delivery of social services, including to the most vulnerable, the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities (PwDs), support for people injured by the war, psychosocial support, and reintegration of veterans are the priorities in 2024.





RECONSTRUCTION FOR RECOVERY AND RETURN

UNDP is continuing to provide equipment to repair Ukraine's energy system and ensure there are uninterrupted supplies of electricity, water, and heating to millions of people, while also further promoting energy efficiency and alternative energy sources. To enable the safe return of people to their communities, UNDP is facilitating mine action and debris clearance, the demolition of life-threatening structures, and the mitigation or containment of immediate environmental threats. UNDP is also supporting the rehabilitation of critical and social infrastructure, including, inter alia, utility services, schools, health centres, police and fire stations, and other municipal buildings. Additionally, to address the impact of the war on the environment, UNDP is supporting environmental protection, remediation, and sustainable natural resources management.



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

To tackle the economic downturn caused by the war, UNDP is supporting MSMEs and relocated businesses in asset recovery, access to business infrastructure, and the reorientation of value chains. UNDP is preparing active labour market programmes (ALMPs) that combine emergency employment opportunities with vocational education and training (VET) at scale. De-risking investment, innovative financial mechanisms, and public-private dialogue are being enabled to accelerate economic recovery and spur economic growth. In addition, UNDP is helping relocated businesses, particularly those run by women and vulnerable groups, so that they can resume operations in their host communities. UNDP helps these businesses with market assessments, job creation projects, capital grants, and access to networks.



5 SOCIAL COHESION AND INCLUSION

UNDP is bolstering activities in support of social cohesion and collective resilience in waraffected communities, transit hubs, and hosting areas. This includes establishing local mechanisms for IDP/returnee integration, and platforms for dialogue to support immediate response and recovery planning. The inclusion of young people in recovery work is being further supported, alongside the enhancement of the active civic space. UNDP also supports access to justice and is strengthening the capacities of the Ombudsperson's Office for human rights monitoring.

Key achievements

Through agile, targeted and informed interventions, and with support from its many strategic partners, UNDP has helped the Government of Ukraine to:

CRISIS RESPONSE

STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT CAPACITIES FOR CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND REFORM

- Crisis management and reform: UNDP has bolstered the capabilities of over 23 central government agencies, including the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers and the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Restoration, Digital Transformation, Energy, Economy, Environment, Veterans, Culture, and Youth and Sports. Our support has been pivotal in maintaining governmental effectiveness during crises, and in advancing reforms after the start of EU accession talks.
- Anti-corruption and recovery efforts: The Ministry of Restoration, with UNDP's support, developed the Anti-Corruption Programme (2023-2025) and a strategy for the professional development of Anti-Corruption Units. Locally, UNDP has set up ten recovery and development offices across Ukraine. These efforts ensure transparent recovery planning and effective management of international aid.
- Digital transformation: In collaboration with the Ministry of Digital Transformation, UNDP has
 played a crucial role in digitizing public services, enhancing fast and convenient online access
 to vital government services for vulnerable groups, while also promoting the web accessibility
 of public resources and Ukrainians' digital literacy. The Diia state e-services platform and app,
 backed by UNDP, are internationally acclaimed models of digital governance and service delivery.
- Infrastructure development support: UNDP has improved municipalities' access to transparent, corruption-free construction through technical assistance in managing European Investment Bank (EIB) loans. This initiative has unlocked EUR 840 million in loans for the Government of Ukraine.



PROVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

SUSTAIN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES NEAR FRONTLINES

- Digital service expansion: UNDP had supported the development of 40 new e-services and digital tools on the Diia digital platform and app, and on other government resources. This gave nearly 21 million Ukrainians access to crucial services, including IDP registration, pension services, and monetary support for veterans.
- Improving administrative services: UNDP equipped about 1,000 workstations at administrative service centres (ASCs) with modern ID card readers to simplify and improve the delivery of services to citizens. UNDP also built and equipped three modular ASCs in war-affected areas. Each provides up to 450 essential public services. UNDP also supported the roll-out of mobile administrative services service in 30 communities. Together, these services cater to approximately 1.8 million people annually.
- Reaching remote and vulnerable populations: To support those most in need, in remote areas and near the frontline, UNDP equipped regional and local authorities across 12 regions with essential mobile service delivery equipment, including ambulances and social service vehicles. These resources have already aided over 70,000 individuals.
- Enhancing rehabilitation services: Legislative changes, following a successful UNDP pilot in 14 clinics, now mandate the inclusion of social workers in multidisciplinary rehabilitation teams both inpatient and outpatient. Approximately **9,000 beneficiaries** (including persons with disabilities) received rehabilitation, as well as social, MHPSS and legal assistance services via local CSOs, supported by UNDP. UNDP is conducting a comprehensive set of activities to improve the capacity of rehabilitation and medical facilities and prosthetics workshops by providing the relevant equipment, with 13 rehabilitation/medical facilities and one prosthesis workshop receiving the required equipment.

RECONSTRUCTION FOR RECOVERY AND RETURN

REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, DEMINE AND REMOVE DEBRIS TO FACILITATE SAFE RETURNS AND LAY FOUNDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY

- Preparing for winter: UNDP helped the government prepare for Ukraine's 2023/24 winter energy needs by developing an energy independence strategy. UNDP has since secured stable energy supplies for 6 million people in Ukraine – through supplying and transporting complex critical equipment, such as high-voltage autotransformers and gas turbines.
- Securing water supplies for settlements affected by the Kakhovka dam disaster: Two powerful
 water pumps were provided to the city of Nikopol to secure emergency water supplies for Nikopol
 and the surrounding area. Some 130,000 people benefitted.
- Promoting sustainable energy: UNDP implemented energy efficiency measures across 28 cities using the Energy Service Company (ESCO) modality. This initiative saved approximately US43.6 million in utility payments by schools and kindergartens, allowing \$2.7 million in additional investment and an increase in the use of the ESCO modality.
- Satellite and drone imagery analysis: UNDP analysed satellite and drone imagery to assess damage in over 430 settlements, digitizing more than 1.3 million buildings. This data was vital for the government's evidence-based recovery planning, and informed UNDP's debris removal efforts.
- **Clearing debris:** UNDP identified and arranged for the removal of 150,000 tonnes of rubble from homes, hospitals, and schools, ensuring the safe disposal of hazardous materials.
- Investing in mine action: Our support for the State Emergency Services (SESU) and other national
 partners with equipment for demining enhanced safety for 8.5 million people. UNDP has been
 testing innovative technologies, such as drone imaging for analysing vast agricultural lands,
 accelerating demining efforts, and reclaiming land cost-effectively.
- Supporting the restoration of critical infrastructure: UNDP has provided technical assistance leading to the successful recovery of eight critical infrastructure facilities. This includes three schools, one hospital, and four bomb shelters, ultimately benefiting over 60,000 people.



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

ENHANCE THE RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AMIDST WAR

- Regulatory framework development: UNDP has aided the creation of regulatory frameworks to foster economic growth. This includes the adoption of 12 laws and 28 bylaws by authorities to improve governance and the business environment.
- Capacity building for business organizations: UNDP enhanced the capabilities of 30 partner Business Membership Organizations uniting over 30,000 SMEs. This initiative led to the development of eight industry-based and sectoral standards, and improved organizational capacities and operational processes in various sectors.
- Supporting regional employment services: UNDP helped 5 regional State Employment Services
 provide services to remote communities, including by developing the dedicated Moodle digital
 education platform and specialized mobile application. Additionally, 36 Vocational Education
 and Training (VET) institutions in 24 cities across six regions participated in a UNDP-supported
 vocational re-skilling programme, benefiting 960 individuals in 28 professions. At least 70% of
 those participating subsequently found full-time employment.
- Comprehensive support for MSMEs: UNDP's ongoing support for micro-, small and medium enterprises includes helping 40 relocated businesses replace assets, and aiding 64 war-affected entrepreneurs in expanding through opening online stores. In addition, 6,600 people received consulting support on business subjects such as law, taxation, exporting, partnership, marketing, communications, and trade.
- Public-private dialogue platforms: UNDP established six dialogue platforms to strengthen publicprivate cooperation and ensure clear, transparent regulations.

SOCIAL COHESION AND INCLUSION

SUSTAIN UKRAINE'S SOCIAL FABRIC WHILE PROMOTING INCLUSION, DIALOGUE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- Community-level advisory bodies: To maintain social cohesion, particularly with the integration
 of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), advisory bodies have been established or strengthened
 in 86 amalgamated territorial communities across 12 regions of Ukraine. These bodies foster
 participatory recovery approaches within communities.
- Supporting local recovery initiatives: UNDP assisted local communities in launching initiatives aiding local recovery, benefiting around 115,000 individuals – 67% of whom are women. To strengthen community resilience and address the consequences of war, UNDP, working closely with the Ministry for Restoration, selected 10 territorial communities for a pilot project on local recovery planning. This project is benefiting more than 500,000 individuals.
- Providing legal aid services: Over 190,000 people have accessed free legal services and consultations through the UNDP-supported Free Legal Aid system and regional network of the Ombudsperson's Office. UNDP has also trained over 1,300 National Police officers, prosecutors, free legal aid providers, Ombudsperson's Office officials, and social service providers in conflictsensitive communications to assist war-affected people.
- Mental health support: UNDP provided comprehensive support to a hotline initiated by the National Psychological Association across 23 countries, delivering over 8,000 individual consultations and facilitating more than 160 educational group sessions for Ukrainians in Ukraine and abroad.
- Civic initiatives for young people and IDPs: UNDP, jointly with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, created the VidNOVA:UA national programme of youth engagement in recovery. Some 721 young participants have since participated in 24 youth exchanges in 12 oblasts, renovating youth centres that serve as hubs for economic, educational, and recreational activities. Also, with UNDP support, communities have developed and implemented ten civic initiatives focusing on integrating young IDPs, improving youth mental health, fostering their potential, and expanding the Youth Council network across Ukraine.

Partners



Building Evidence for Recovery





Towards a Green Transition of the Energy Sector in Ukraine







UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A UNDP team member stands near a war-damaged school in Mykolaiv. The school is being restored under the EU-UNDP project "EU4UASchools: Build Back Better". **Photo credit:** Dmytro Zaburunnov / UNDP Ukraine



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