

Ukraine Crisis Appeal - Impact Report



February 2025 marked three years of ongoing uncertainty, pain and fear for people in Ukraine. The ongoing conflict continues to devastate lives and every day brings new challenges.

Ukrainian Red Cross teams respond to an explosion which partially destroyed Okhmatdyt children's hospital in Kyiv, July 2024.

Photo © Ukraine Red Cross Society

During the past year, intensifying hostilities and widespread destruction of energy infrastructure have continued to take a toll on daily life. **Damage in areas including Odesa, Lviv and Zaporizhzhia has caused frequent cuts to power and water** – especially challenging when demand is high during the winter.

In heavily impacted regions like Donetska and Kharkivska, local communities are still feeling the strain as **homes, hospitals and schools continue to be damaged** – disrupting essential services, forcing a surge in evacuations, and causing psychological stress that prevents any feeling of normality.

There is a sense of exhaustion: we are three years into a crisis, not three years on from it. Alleviating suffering at such scale, over such a long period of time, can feel like an insurmountable task. **But there is hope:** your support has been unwavering, and it has allowed us to adapt and to offer a lifeline to millions of people across Ukraine and beyond.



Behind every number in this report is a person, a family, a life changed thanks to your ongoing support. **Thank you.**

Help at home when there's nowhere to turn

While millions of people have left their homes in search of safety, many remain in conflict zones, facing constant shelling and severe disruptions to basic services. Older people and those with health or mobility challenges are experiencing exceptionally difficult circumstances.

To support them, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society's **home-based care programme has expanded its services to 23 regions including Kyiv**. Social helpers have been given essential training, and new partnerships across the medical and mental health services have improved the support on offer.

Cash assistance is also targeting **8,388 vulnerable people**, to help people cover winter costs such as heating, warm clothing, and basic supplies.



Healing the psychological scars

Trauma and psychological distress are widespread, with high rates of depression, anxiety, and PTSD. People are struggling to cope in different ways, and **30% of displaced Ukrainians have sought psychological support** since the conflict escalated, but it is hampered by damaged facilities, staff shortages, and stigma around mental health. Despite the challenges, **493,212 people have been reached with psychosocial care**.

Ongoing work aims to **expand access to mental health care** (especially in more conflict-stricken and rural areas), address stigma, encourage more people to seek help, and to enhance local care by training more practitioners. Psychosocial care for families and children is also crucial, as **people's social networks and informal support systems have been torn apart**.

Since the beginning of 2024, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society has deployed **mobile support units** in Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv, and Kherson. These specially equipped buses transport teams and offer **spaces for individual consultations**. Teams from the Movement have expanded existing mental health support by offering a **helpline, art therapy, and community events** for displaced people. Support groups and mental health education have also been active in **6 community centres around Ukraine**. Upskilling also continues, with **3,653 people trained in mental health care** between January and June 2024.

Life-changing healthcare on the move

Mobile health units are still delivering critical primary healthcare in affected areas, as well as in regions hosting people displaced from other parts of Ukraine. As the conflict enters its third year, **we are looking beyond maintaining healthcare to strengthening it.**

Across the country, more people now have access to screenings and referrals, with **17 new healthcare centres set up**. To protect against frequent power cuts, **242 generators have been installed** in medical facilities. A new, unified **digital system across 23 regions** has streamlined how data is managed, making services more efficient.

In June 2024, a **specialised mobile health unit** was set up in Odesa for children living with disabilities – and more units are planned. And in the badly-hit region of Kherson, a new **fixed medical unit** has been established to offer residents much-needed care.

Adapting to the rise in burns injuries

The conflict has led to a **rise in burn injuries due to explosives and fires from airstrikes**. And even on calmer days, the risk of accidents remains.

For Andriy, whose family were trying to find normality amid the chaos, a picnic went horribly wrong and he experienced severe burns to his face and hand. With healthcare services decimated, his mother, Olena, turned to the **specialist burns unit at Kyiv City Hospital**, which is being supported by the British Red Cross.

The unit provides **intensive treatment and skin grafts**, as well as longer-term **rehabilitation and psychological support**, which has had a positive impact for Andriy. His doctor noted that “his fine motor skills have improved” throughout his recovery – and the mental benefits are clear, too: “These sessions lift his spirit up a lot”.

As well as improving patients’ treatment and wellbeing, British Red Cross support is helping **train doctors to deliver the full spectrum of care**, ensuring the unit is well-stocked with kit and medicines, and reducing the danger of infection.



121

mobile health units
across Ukraine



340

patients treated at Kyiv
specialist burns unit



Photo © Oleksandr Ratushniak/IFRC

Three years is a deadly milestone. But while the conflict endures, so does hope. The generous donation of £25,000 received from **Michael Josephson from the ball in 2021** has made it possible for people across Ukraine and beyond to cope, recover and rebuild. For their sake, we will not give up. Thank you for standing alongside us.

**Here for
humanity**