



Ukraine Emergency Response

SitRep. #3

Reporting period: 1 April – 25 May

Country of reference: Ukraine

2026

CONTENTS

1. KEY FIGURES	3
2. CESVI RESPONSE STRATEGY	3
3. CESVI ASSISTANCE IN NUMBERS	4
4. CESVI RESPONSE CAPACITY	5
5. COORDINATION MECHANISMS	6
6. PARTNERSHIP AND LOCALISATION	6
7. MAIN CHALLENGES AND OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS	7
8. CESVI OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES	8
a) Situation update	8
b) Geographic coverage	9
c) Priorities of intervention detected per sector	9
9. FUNDING UPDATE	11
10. CALLS FOR ACTION	11
NOTES	13

1. KEY FIGURES



34.2M
Total population



10.8M
People in needⁱ



3.9M
IDPsⁱⁱ

2. CESVI RESPONSE STRATEGY

CESVI's strategic response in Ukraine is aligned with the **humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus**, aimed at addressing the immediate impacts of the ongoing conflict while supporting early recovery and community resilience in conflict-affected areas. Operating in a context characterised by protracted displacement, repeated attacks on civilian infrastructure, and persistent insecurity in frontline and close-to-frontline regions, CESVI adopts a flexible operational model **combining life-saving protection services with recovery-oriented interventions and local capacity strengthening**.

Present in Ukraine since 2022, CESVI operates through a coordination office in Kyiv and a field office in Kharkiv, implementing activities primarily in Kharkivska and Sumska oblasts through mobile teams deployed in frontline and hard-to-reach areas. CESVI's response focuses on **protection, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), cash assistance, and humanitarian mine action-related activities**, with a strong emphasis on **vulnerable populations**, particularly women, children, elderly persons, displaced people, and persons with disabilities. The current strategy prioritises strengthening community-based protection mechanisms and ensuring access to integrated and mobile protection services, while also supporting the transition toward recovery and social cohesion where conditions allow.

CESVI's operational approach combines direct service provision with partnership-based implementation. Mobile teams deliver psychosocial support, case management, referrals, protection monitoring, and cash assistance in collective centres and conflict-affected communities, adapting activities continuously in response to evolving security and access constraints. At the same time, CESVI is progressively expanding its focus toward **rehabilitation of collective sites, support to conflict-affected communities and mine action survivors**, and interventions aimed at **reinforcing local resilience and recovery capacities**.

Crucially, **protection mainstreaming, accountability, and localisation** are systematically integrated as cross-cutting pillars of CESVI's response. Working closely with local authorities, national partners, humanitarian coordination systems, and community actors, CESVI promotes safe, inclusive, and accessible service delivery while strengthening the role of local organisations and frontline responders. Particular attention is given to protection risks linked to displacement, conflict exposure, explosive ordnance contamination, and deteriorating living conditions in frontline areas. Through community-based approaches, capacity strengthening, and coordination with specialised actors, CESVI aims to reinforce both humanitarian response capacities and longer-term recovery pathways.

Overall, CESVI's integrated and frontline-focused approach enables the organisation to respond rapidly to evolving humanitarian needs while progressively supporting recovery, resilience, and social cohesion in conflict-affected communities, maintaining operational flexibility in one of the most complex humanitarian contexts in Europe.

MAIN SECTORS OF INTERVENTIONS



Protection



MHPSS



Humanitarian Mine Action

SUB-SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Unified Cash Transfer (UCT)

formerly known as Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

3. CESVI ASSISTANCE IN NUMBERS



1840 people received targeted non-specialised PSS support, including 297 males and 1,543 females.



135 People were supported through Case Management services, including 26 males and 109 females.

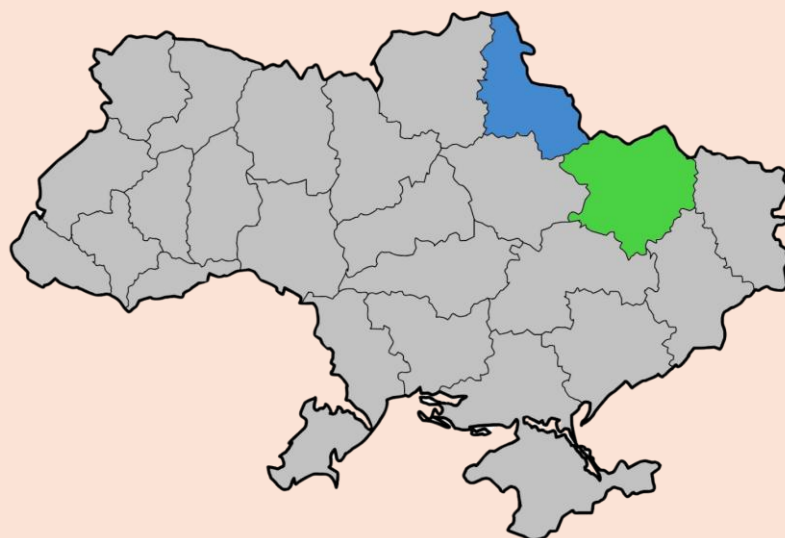
479 individuals with specific needs were referred to specialised internal and external services and assistance, including 137 males and 342 females.



31 people received Cash Assistance to address urgent protection-related needs, including 11 males and 20 females.

4. CESVI RESPONSE CAPACITY

1. Deliver integrated protection and MHPSS services in **frontline and close-to-frontline areas** through mobile teams operating in **hard-to-reach and high-risk environments**.
2. Leverage growing expertise and strategic partnerships in **humanitarian mine action** to **deliver integrated interventions** combining risk education, community engagement, protection mainstreaming, and victim assistance approaches, positioning CESVI to respond to one of the most critical and under-addressed humanitarian challenges in Ukraine.
3. Combine protection, cash assistance, and community-based approaches to address overlapping humanitarian needs.



IN DETAILS

- **Geographic reach:** CESVI operates through a coordination office in Kyiv and two field offices located in Kharkiv and Sumy, with mobile teams deployed across frontline and close-to-frontline areas in **Kharkivska and Sumska oblasts**. This enables sustained **access to conflict-affected communities and collective centres in hard-to-reach locations**.
- **Frontline Operational Capacity:** CESVI maintains a flexible and mobile operational model capable of adapting activities and movements in response to rapidly evolving security conditions, such as airstrikes and shelling, access restrictions, infrastructure disruptions, and population displacement dynamics.
- **Professional Staff & Technical Expertise:** Operations are implemented through **multidisciplinary mobile teams** composed of psychologists, case managers, social workers, outreach staff, and protection supervisors, **supported by international coordination and technical oversight** to ensure quality programming and compliance in high-risk environments.
- **Humanitarian Mine Action Capacity:** Through partnerships with specialised international and national actors and growing operational experience in the sector, CESVI is strengthening **integrated humanitarian mine action programming**, including explosive ordnance risk education, community engagement, and victim assistance-oriented approaches.
- **Institutional Engagement and Local Coordination:** CESVI maintains working relationships with local authorities, military administrations, humanitarian coordination systems, and sectoral platforms at both national and sub-national level, supporting coordinated and context-sensitive interventions.
- **Capacity Building and Localisation:** CESVI supports local actors, frontline responders, and project partners through technical accompaniment, trainings, duty of care,

harmonisation of tools and SOPs, and protection mainstreaming initiatives, contributing to **strengthened local response capacities** and more **sustainable service delivery**.

5. COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Institutional Coordination	NGO Coordination
CESVI is an active member of the following clusters and coordination mechanisms: 1. Protection Cluster and subnational cluster 2. Cash Working Group Local Authorities: CESVI maintains regular coordination with local authorities and military administrations in Kharkivska and Sumska oblasts to support needs identification, referrals, implementation planning, and operational access. Area-Based Coordination (ABC) structures: CESVI participates in area-based coordination mechanisms in eastern Ukraine to support operational coordination and frontline response planning. These include Kharkiv Oblast – General Coordination Meeting and ABC in Sumska Oblast.	NGO Platform Ukraine: CESVI actively participates in the NGO Platform to strengthen operational coordination, contextual analysis, advocacy efforts, and information sharing among humanitarian actors operating in Ukraine. Alliance2015: A coalition of seven European INGOs focused on coordinating humanitarian and development action in crisis contexts; CESVI coordinates and exchanges information with Alliance2015 members operating in Ukraine to support networking, operational coordination, and strategic alignment within the humanitarian response. International NGO Safety Organisation (INSO): CESVI works closely with INSO to strengthen security analysis, access monitoring, staff preparedness, and risk mitigation measures in high-risk operational environments.

6. PARTNERSHIP AND LOCALISATION

Partnerships and localisation are central to CESVI's operational approach in Ukraine, where collaboration with national actors is essential to ensure access, operational continuity, and effective humanitarian delivery in frontline and hard-to-reach areas. CESVI works through partnerships that combine local knowledge and community acceptance with technical support, coordination capacity, and experience in humanitarian programming.

CESVI currently collaborates with several national and international partners, including Ukrainian Demining Association (UDA), Doctors with Africa CUAMM, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Angels

of Salvation (AOS), 100% Life Zaporizhia and Posmishka UA. These partnerships support the implementation of mobile protection services, referrals, community-based activities, cash delivery, humanitarian mine action interventions, and airstrike response in eastern Ukraine. Coordination is maintained through regular operational meetings, joint planning, field monitoring visits, and the harmonisation of tools, procedures, and reporting systems.

Within the framework of the ongoing AICS-funded project, CESVI maintains close operational collaboration with Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and the Ukrainian Demining Association (UDA), **combining partners' technical expertise in humanitarian mine action with CESVI's experience in protection and community-based programming.** Activities implemented through the partnership include Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), community liaison and Non-Technical Surveys (NTS), marking activities and visibility and public awareness, while also supporting integrated approaches linking demining, protection, and victim assistance programming.

Community engagement and accountability are integrated across CESVI's activities through area-based and mobile approaches implemented in coordination with local authorities, collective centres, health centres and community stakeholders. In parallel, CESVI has re-established a dedicated MEAL function within the mission to strengthen monitoring, accountability, harmonisation of feedback mechanisms, and safeguarding systems across projects and partnerships.

7. MAIN CHALLENGES AND OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

- **Volatile security environment and frontline proximity:** CESVI operates primarily in Kharkivska and Sumska oblasts, areas located close to the frontline and at the border with the Russian Federation, where the security situation remains highly unstable. Daily drone and missile attacks, including strikes targeting logistics and railway infrastructure, continue to affect humanitarian access and operational planning. In parts of Sumy oblast, the evolving conflict dynamics and temporary occupation of certain areas further increase operational uncertainty. CESVI mitigates these constraints through continuous security monitoring, close coordination with local authorities and security actors, adaptive planning, and strict movement and access protocols for mobile teams.
- **Access and transportation constraints:** Humanitarian access in eastern Ukraine remains affected by insecurity, deteriorated road conditions following the winter period, and disruptions affecting railway infrastructure. Increased travel times reduce the efficiency of mobile operations and complicate access to frontline and rural locations. While rail transport to Kharkiv remains operational and is currently considered safer than road transportation, the situation is continuously monitored due to attacks affecting railway infrastructure and resulting delays. CESVI addresses these constraints through flexible operational planning, adaptation of movement procedures, and the use of multiple transportation service providers to maintain operational continuity.
- **Increasing operational and logistical costs:** Rising fuel prices and transportation costs, partly linked to broader regional instability and the impact of the Middle East crisis on fuel markets, continue to affect the implementation costs of mobile humanitarian operations in Ukraine. CESVI has had to adapt transportation contracts and amend agreements with service providers to ensure continuity of activities despite significant cost increases. The mission continues to monitor expenditures closely, identify

alternative providers where feasible, and apply flexible budget management measures to sustain field operations.

- **Funding constraints:** The humanitarian response in Ukraine continues to face reduced funding levels and increasing competition among international and national actors. CESVI addresses these constraints through proactive donor engagement, joint programming with national partners, and the development of integrated approaches combining protection, MHPSS, and humanitarian mine action activities aligned with evolving humanitarian priorities.

8. CESVI OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

a) Situation update

Since the outbreak of war in February 2022, Ukraine faces a severe and protracted humanitarian crisis characterised by repeated attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, large-scale displacement, and increasing pressure on already overstretched services in frontline and border regions. **Humanitarian needs remain particularly acute in eastern and northern oblasts**, where ongoing hostilities continue to expose civilians to daily insecurity, disruption of essential services, heightened protection risks, and limited access to specialised support.

In recent weeks, the humanitarian situation has further deteriorated due to **intensified missile and drone attacks across the country**. Recent strikes damaged residential areas, schools, energy infrastructure, transport systems, and humanitarian assets, including humanitarian vehicles and a WHO-donated vaccination bus.ⁱⁱⁱ In several frontline areas, attacks targeting public transportation and civilian vehicles have caused civilian casualties and further restricted safe movement for affected populations. These incidents reflect an **increasing pattern of attacks affecting civilian infrastructure and humanitarian access routes**, further complicating humanitarian response efforts in frontline communities.

Drone and missile strikes are increasingly impacting railway infrastructure, transport systems, ports, energy facilities, logistics hubs, and water infrastructure, disrupting supply chains and humanitarian mobility well beyond active frontlines. Recent airstrikes have increasingly targeted logistics and port infrastructure in southern Ukraine, further **affecting critical supply routes and humanitarian access corridors**.^{iv} Deteriorated road conditions following the winter period, combined with growing insecurity and attacks affecting transport infrastructure, are further increasing isolation and barriers to accessing assistance and basic services in rural and hard-to-reach areas. At the same time, rising fuel and transportation costs place additional pressure on humanitarian operations and service delivery in frontline regions.

Antipersonnel mine and other **UXO contamination** remain a high risk in Ukraine, the most contaminated country in the world. As of December 2025, according to the Ukrainian National Mine Action Centre (NMAC), while more than 6.7 billion sqm of land had been surveyed and over one million explosive ordnance items destroyed nationally, contamination remains extensive. A total of 982 civilian explosive ordnance incidents had been recorded, resulting in 1,003 injuries and 385 fatalities.

Protection concerns continue to intensify, particularly for women, children, older persons, and displaced populations. The first quarter of 2026 was the deadliest winter period for women and girls in Ukraine since the beginning of the full-scale invasion and repeated attacks on civilian and energy infrastructure continue to **increase psychosocial distress and trauma, caregiving burdens, and financial pressure on households**.^v Repeated displacement, prolonged exposure to insecurity, disruption of community support systems, and the absence of a foreseeable

resolution to the conflict are contributing to growing mental health and protection needs, particularly in close-to-frontline communities where access to specialised services remains limited.

Within this context, humanitarian priorities remain focused on frontline populations, emergency response following attacks, evacuations, and support to the most vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs), while ensuring sustained access to protection services, psychosocial support, and assistance for populations living in conflict-affected and contaminated areas.

b) Geographic coverage

CESVI currently operates in Kharkivska and Sumska oblasts through mobile teams delivering activities in frontline and close-to-frontline communities. Operations are managed through the coordination office in Kyiv and two field offices in Kharkiv and Sumy. CESVI is additionally assessing the possibility of future expanding activities to Chernihivska oblast, depending on operational capacity, funding, access, and security conditions.

c) Priorities of intervention detected per sector

Sector	Objective	Activities	Needed Resources
 Protection	Strengthen protection mechanisms and access to specialised services for conflict-affected populations, particularly women, children, older persons, IDPs, and other vulnerable groups living in frontline and close-to-frontline areas.	Protection monitoring: assess and document protection situations and risks, service gaps, and emerging vulnerabilities affecting IDPs and conflict-affected populations in health facilities and collective centres. Service mapping and stakeholder analysis: assess existing referral mechanisms, identify bottlenecks or gaps, and identify roles and responsibilities of different relevant actors. Case Management and referral: protection risk individualised support to enhance safety, dignity, wellbeing. Cash for Protection (C4P): to address urgent, individual-specific protection risks Awareness raising campaigns: community mobilisation on protection and GBV related topics. Provide capacity-building to local and national humanitarian actors – localisation and Duty of Care.	€ 2,000,000

 MHPSS	Provide mental health and psychosocial support services to populations affected by conflict, displacement, and repeated exposure to insecurity.	MHPSS group and individual sessions: mobile and fixed-site IASC third level counselling and related services, non-specialised, based on assessed needs and participant preferences.	€ 1,500,000
 Humanitarian Mine Action	Reduce risks linked to explosive ordnance contamination in conflict-affected areas through community-based risk education and awareness raising, while supporting integrated approaches linking mine action, protection, victim assistance, and psychosocial well-being for communities living under constant contamination risks.	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE): Provide communities with information and practical guidance to recognise explosive hazards and adopt safe behaviours to prevent accidents. Non-technical survey (NTS) and marking of hazardous areas: Collect information from communities and observations to identify suspected hazardous areas, which are then clearly marked to warn people and restrict unsafe access. Mine Clearance: Detect, remove, and safely destroy landmines, ERW and UXO to make land safe for civilian use. Victim Assistance: Provide medical, psychological, social, and economic support to survivors of mine and explosive ordnance incidents, as well as their families. Dissemination and awareness-raising: increase public understanding of explosive threats and available protection measures.	€ 1,500,000
 UCT	Support vulnerable households in meeting urgent basic needs and reducing protection risks through cash-based assistance.	Unified Cash Transfer (UCT), formerly known as MPCA: Address highly vulnerable households' critical and essential life-saving needs from the onset of a crisis related trigger-based event.	€ 800,000
Total			€ 5,800,000

9. FUNDING UPDATE

Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) 2026 ^{vi}			
	<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Funded</u>	<u>%</u>
Ukraine (total)	\$2.30 billion	\$937.4M	40.7%
Protection	\$368.7M	\$160.9M	43.6%
Cash Assistance	\$580.8M	\$166.9M	28.7%
Health	\$90.1M	\$66.7M	74.1%
WASH	\$326.2M	\$44.6M	13.7%
Education	\$58.8M	\$24.3M	41.4%
Food Security & Livelihoods	\$305.5M	\$81.9M	26.8%
Shelter & NFIs	\$546.8M	\$92.4M	16.9%

10. CALLS FOR ACTION

As the war in Ukraine enters its fifth year, civilians in frontline and close-to-frontline areas continue to face severe humanitarian and protection risks driven by repeated attacks, displacement, explosive ordnance contamination, and deteriorating living conditions. At the same time, sustained insecurity and damage to civilian infrastructure continue to complicate humanitarian access and recovery efforts in conflict-affected communities.

CESVI therefore calls on all stakeholders to take immediate and coordinated action to sustain humanitarian assistance, strengthen protection systems, and support recovery and resilience pathways for conflict-affected communities in Ukraine.

Relevant authorities and parties to the conflict should:

- Ensure the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure in accordance with International Humanitarian Law, including schools, health facilities, energy infrastructure, transport systems, and humanitarian assets.
- Facilitate safe, rapid, and sustained humanitarian access to frontline and hard-to-reach areas affected by ongoing hostilities and displacement.
- Strengthen support systems for populations affected by explosive ordnance contamination, including risk education, victim assistance, and safe access to contaminated areas where feasible.
- Support coordinated and community-based approaches to protection, evacuation assistance, and recovery planning in conflict-affected regions.

The international community should:

- Sustain political and financial support for humanitarian operations in Ukraine, particularly in frontline and close-to-frontline areas where needs remain acute and access constraints continue to increase.
- Strengthen humanitarian-development-peace nexus approaches through integrated interventions that combine protection, psychosocial support, recovery, resilience-building, and mine clearance, recognising the critical role of contamination response in enabling safe access to services, livelihoods, community recovery, and longer-term resilience in conflict-affected areas.
- Continue to promote meaningful localisation and equitable partnerships with Ukrainian organisations and frontline responders through flexible partnership models, capacity strengthening, and shared leadership approaches.
- Support the rehabilitation and recovery of conflict-affected communities through investments in community infrastructure, psychosocial support systems, livelihoods, and inclusive service delivery.

Donors should:

- Provide flexible, predictable, and multi-year funding to enable humanitarian actors to maintain operational continuity despite rising transportation, logistics, and security-related costs.
- Increase funding for underfunded sectors, such as humanitarian mine action, where current resource gaps continue to limit humanitarian coverage and specialised service provision.
- Support integrated programming that combines life-saving assistance with recovery, resilience, and community-based protection approaches in line with evolving humanitarian needs.
- Ensure sustained support for frontline mobile operations and emergency response capacities in areas affected by repeated attacks, displacement, and access constraints.

NOTES

- ⁱ <https://www.unocha.org/ukraine> as of 13 May 2026.
- ⁱⁱ <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/ukraine-internal-displacement-report-general-population-survey-round-23-may-2026>
- ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.unocha.org/news/todays-top-news-lebanon-occupied-palestinian-territory-ukraine-sudan-0>
- ^{iv} <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/wfp-ukraine-country-brief-may-2026-reporting-period-april-2026-enuk>
- ^v <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/war-ukraine-becomes-deadlier-women-and-girls-more-1500-days-after-full-scale-invasion>
- ^{vi} <https://fts.unocha.org/countries/234/summary/2025>



SitRep#1
Ukraine Emergency
Response
February 2025



SitRep#2
Ukraine Emergency
Response
July 2025



CESVI Foundation ETS

Via Broseta 68/A, Bergamo, Italy