1. THE LANDSCAPE:

UKRAINE

- The education system in Ukraine has been severely affected by the escalation of the war in Ukraine on 24 February 2022. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2023, an estimated 5.3 million pre-school and secondary school-aged children and teachers in Ukraine have been negatively impacted by the war, including 4.8 million children in need of immediate educational support, including 480,000 (10%) of children with disabilities and special education needs.

- Since 24 February 2022, 363 kindergartens and schools were destroyed and 2246 damaged in Ukraine, the numbers keep growing constantly. Eastern part of Ukraine Donetska, Luhanska, Kharkivska, Mykolayivska and Khersonska. Oblasts sustained the largest level of damage.

- According to the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) of Ukraine, as of September 2023, over 900,000^2 school-age girls and boys (24 per cent of all students) are exclusively accessing education online, 1 million (26 per cent) are studying in a mixed modality and 1.9 million are accessing full-time face-to-face education (50 per cent). 74% of children who study online use smartphones, which significantly decreases their learning capacity. The lack of devices and connectivity is the main obstacle for distance learning.

- Most learners and teachers join online classes from home. In oblasts directly affected by the war, lack of electricity and internet at school or at home as well as the security situation at/near home reported as the top challenges and reasons for cancelling or not accessing online classes for both learners and teachers. Lack of face-to-face learning, interaction, and communication with peers and teachers intensifies mental health issues among children, including anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. These will resulted in emotional and physical symptoms and pose risks to children's development and socialization.

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1 MoES, Situation Overview, February 2023
MOLDOVA

• Since the outset of the conflict in Ukraine, a total of 6.2 million refugees have fled from Ukraine to neighboring countries, of whom 974,151 arrived in the Republic of Moldova. 113,183 Ukrainian refugees remaining in Moldova as of November 2023 (UNHCR). Over 82% of Ukrainian refugees in Moldova are women and children. A large proportion of the individuals (56%) are reported to be between 18-59 years. Children comprise almost 44% of the overall population of Ukrainian refugees and 15% are elderly.

• According to REACH assessment (Sept 2023) most Ukrainian refugee children are not interested to attend formal education in Moldova. They prefer to attend Ukrainian online learning. There is low enrollment is due to refugees’ resistance to replacing the Ukrainian curriculum. Lack of schools with Ukrainian language, lack of financial resources for clothes and stationery and lack of financial resources to pay fees are the main challenges for refugee children to attend school.

• Most online caregivers did not attempt to enroll their child in school in Moldova but prefer instead to continue online learning due to reasons such as their familiarity with the language and curriculum of instruction even if the majority are not satisfied with the quality of learning.

3 Republic of Moldova: Daily Population Trends (unhcr.org)

113, 183
Ukrainian refugees remaining in Moldova as of November 2023
2. WV-UCR ACHIEVEMENTS:

According to WVI UCR sitrep 21 more than

1,493,866 > 726,830 Children > 355,551 Boys
371,279 Girls

beneficiaries supported through multi sectoral response in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, and Georgia. **250,656 children benefited from education programming** across four countries.

**UKRAINE.** World Vision started working in Ukraine in March 2022. We have 6 offices across Ukraine in Chernivtsi, Kyiv, Dnipro, Lviv, Mykolaiv, and Kharkiv currently support aid efforts reaching conflict-affected people in 24 oblasts across Ukraine. In collaboration with 23 national and international partners, World Vision delivered life-saving assistance to longer term needs of 953,079 displaced children and families.

1. World Vision International has been implementing the Education in Emergencies Projects in 20 regions of Ukraine. More than 221,056 children benefited from educational services including summer camp, provision of educational materials and supplies, English language, and other life skills training (communication, decision making) and integrated school based mental health and protection services.

2. More than 1,500 teachers received laptops and attended training on teachers’ wellbeing, Teachers in crisis context, stress management and PSS and child protection.

3. WVI has been working supporting and working closely with local education partners. More than 100 education partner staff supported and trained on INEE minimum standards, Mentoring and quality education.

4. In collaboration with War child Hold World vision developed online Math and literacy curriculum apps for lower primary school children. Accordingly, more than 40,000 children benefited and used online curriculum.

5. World Vision International and Teach for Ukraine conducted Diagnostic and Proficiency Assessment (DAPA) in four regions of Ukraine [Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Kharkiv] and to assess literacy and numeracy skills of 410 children aged 6-9, including representatives of vulnerable groups. The overall literacy skills assessment results showed that 54% (221 children) do not have literacy skills gaps, while 46% (18% blue and 28% orange) 189 children have literacy skills gaps that they need literacy catch up program in four regions. The overall numeracy skills assessment results showed that 50% (205 children) do not have literacy skills gaps, whereas 50% (22% blue and 28% orange) or 205 children have numeracy skills gaps, and they need numeracy catch up program in four regions.
MOLDOVA. World Vision has been implementing different education projects and actively engaged in supporting MER through provision of educational materials to schools and school supplies for needy children from both Ukraine and host communities. By equipping schools with computers, desk and chairs Ukrainian students can follow Ukraine online courses in Moldovan schools, while adjusting to their new school environment.

1. World Vision has been supporting the educational needs of Ukrainian children and local schools. For example, with a local partner Communitas and funding from Disaster Emergency Committee non-formal education, mental health, and psychosocial support, as well as access to online learning are provided in most of the 32 districts across the country.

2. Early education is critical for preparing young children for education. Day care for kindergarten age children is provided by a local partner, Step by Step with funding from World Vision Korea and support services for mothers. These educational projects integrated with protection and mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) and supported 8,656 children.

3. World Vision has been implementing afterschool education activities like Catch up, language classes both in Ukrainian, English and Romanian, Math, Financial literacy, handmade, art therapy in three centers. Hence most of Ukrainian children are attending online learning and they are not able to interact and communicate with teachers and other children. This is one of the best approaches for children to interact each other, to communicate and use their own language and express their feeling. It also helps children reduce the level of stress and improve communication skills.


Since the start of UCR response in Moldova, WVI supported more than 228,597 Ukrainian refugee children and their parents.
3. APPROACH:

Education in emergencies and conflicts is a protection tool to ensure the protection and well-being of displaced people. It can be both lifesaving and life-sustaining. It can save lives by protecting against exploitation and harm, and by imparting key survival skills. It helps sustain lives by offering structure, stability and hope for the future in times of crisis, especially for children and adolescents.

WV UCR will address immediate educational needs of children and ensure the protection and well of children, teachers, and parents through integrated multisectoral approach. More than 80% of education projects will be implemented through local partners. The main intervention geographic areas (70% of UCR programming) will be frontline oblasts in the South-East: Kharkiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv. In Moldova Education will target mainly refugee children and the most vulnerable and marginalized children from host community.

WV UCR will adapt into local context and use approaches developed by Global center. This includes Catch Up programing, EIE and protracted crisis, IMACT + and Teachers in Crisis context.

**CATCH UP PROGRAM** WV UCR has adapted and piloted Catch Up program into Ukraine and conducted literacy and numeracy skills assessment. UCR will apply and use this approach both in Ukraine and Moldova for IDPs and returnees’ children who has lost learning due to displacement.

**IMPACT +**. UCR will adapt the global center IMACT + into Ukraine and Moldova context and will support adolescent boys and girls through language, basic communication and life skills and soft skills training. UCR will apply sectoral integration with CASH and Livelihood sectors and create linkage between training and creating income.

**EIE AND PROTRACTED CRISIS APPROACH.** UCR will use formal and non-formal education an create access to quality education for both refugees, IDPs and hosting community children. This includes summer camp, Afterschool, CFs and integrating to host community schools.

**TEACHERS IN THE CRISIS CONTEXT.** This is a global INEE approach to support teachers during Crisis. UCR has been applying this approach and will continue support teachers both in Ukraine and Moldova.

The following key WVI global center approaches, models (Learning roots, Unlock literacy and Baby go baby) , and implementation modalities (Sectoral Integration (EIE, CP and MHPSS, Localization and Partnership and Technical support and capacity building )will help UCR to provide quality education services for refugees, IDPs and host community children in Ukraine and Moldova.
4. THEORY OF CHANGE:

- WV UCR aims to reach more than 35,000 children, teachers, and their parents through integrated education quality education services (formal/ non formal education, Catch Up, Summer camp, Afterschool. Provision of education materials and supplies Language, teachers training and partners capacity building).

- To address the educational needs of children WV UCR will mobilize and secure US$3 million per year (2024 -2025).

5. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MODALITIES:

World Vision is working with Ministry of Education, Local Education Authority, education cluster and local education partners at national and regional level. WVI UCR is an active member of the National Cluster and technical working group and contributed to the development of the Education Cluster National Strategy 2024, and actively participated in different advocacy events like back-to-school campaign and education needs assessment. WV UCR will continue to actively participate and contribute positive change and improve access to quality education for IDPs, refugees and host community children both in Ukraine and Moldova.