



WORLD VISION UKRAINE CRISIS RESPONSE

LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIC RECOVERY

CAPACITY STATEMENT

Sector Landscape 2025–2026

In 2025, Ukraine continues to face the consequences of protracted conflict, declining international funding, demographic pressures, and a slowdown in economic recovery. According to the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) 2025, approximately 12.7 million people remain in need of humanitarian assistance, including more than 3.6 million IDPs. The most acute challenges persist in frontline and rural areas, where access to services, infrastructure, education, employment, and livelihood opportunities remain severely limited.

Economic activity remains fragile. While GDP growth reached approximately 2.9% in 2024, growth is projected to slow in 2025 due to continued insecurity, labour shortages, infrastructure damage, and reduced external financing. Inflation, unemployment, and increasing public debt continue to affect household purchasing power and economic stability, particularly among vulnerable families, women-headed households, displaced populations, and rural communities.

The war has also significantly impacted children and youth. Many families continue to experience economic instability, disrupted education pathways, displacement, and reduced access to safe and supportive learning environments. Economic vulnerability directly affects children's wellbeing, protection, school attendance, and future opportunities. World Vision Ukraine Crisis Response (WV UCR) recognizes that strengthening household resilience and restoring livelihoods are essential components of child wellbeing and long-term recovery.

Under these circumstances, humanitarian response requires a dual-track approach — combining emergency assistance in

frontline and high-risk areas with economic recovery, workforce development, and local systems strengthening in more stable regions. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), vocational education systems, and local agricultural producers remain critical drivers of recovery, employment, and community resilience.

At the same time, partnerships between humanitarian organizations, government institutions, financial institutions, and the private sector are becoming increasingly important. Collaboration with commercial banks, microfinance institutions, vocational education providers, employers, and local authorities helps expand access to finance, promote employment, strengthen local systems, and accelerate the transition from humanitarian assistance toward sustainable economic recovery and self-reliance.

Results 2022–2026

Between 2022 and end of April 2026, World Vision UCR assisted more than

1,014,524



people

(71% in Ukraine)

across UCR countries through integrated humanitarian basic needs assistance and recovery programming, including approximately



34% children

(30% in Ukraine)

Emergency Assistance and Household Stabilisation

To help conflict-affected families meet urgent needs and prevent harmful coping strategies, WV UCR provided:

- Food assistance to more than **550,000** individuals;
- NFIs and hygiene support to over **400,000** people;
- Seasonal and winterization support vulnerable households in frontline and displacement-affected communities.

These interventions contributed to household stabilization, reduced economic stress on caregivers, and helped families maintain safer and more supportive environments for children.

Livelihoods and Economic Recovery

Within the Livelihoods and Economic Recovery sector, WV UCR progressively shifted from emergency assistance toward sustainable recovery and resilience-building approaches.

Key achievements include:

- More than **30,000 (incl.15,500 in Ukraine)** individuals completed vocational, technical, or professional training;
- Over **1,600** participants completed entrepreneurship, financial literacy, or business development training in Ukraine;
- **385 (331 in Ukraine)** micro and small enterprises received start-up or recovery grants totalling over **USD 700,000 (US\$ 357,000 in Ukraine)**;
- Approximately 80 % of supported participants were women;

Programmes contributed to increased employability, business recovery, household income stabilization, and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Child and Youth Impact

WV UCR recognizes that livelihoods recovery has a direct impact on children's wellbeing, protection, and future opportunities. By improving household income and economic stability, programmes help families reduce negative coping mechanisms, support continued access to education, and create safer and more supportive home environments for children.

Through youth-focused skills development, vocational training, and practical agricultural education, WV UCR also supports adolescents and rural youth in developing relevant skills for employment, entrepreneurship, and long-term self-reliance. Investments in vocational education infrastructure, digital learning tools, and practical training environments contribute to improved learning opportunities for young people in conflict-affected communities.

Operating Models and Programmatic Approaches

WV UCR applies integrated and adaptive implementation approaches that combine humanitarian response, economic recovery, systems strengthening, and long-term resilience-building. The sector integrates practical workforce development, financial inclusion, market-oriented recovery, and institutional partnerships to support sustainable recovery pathways for vulnerable and conflict-affected populations.

Blended finance and financial inclusion

Together with VisionFund Ukraine WV UCR advances integrated approaches linking humanitarian response with sustainable economic recovery and financial inclusion.

The blended finance approach combines livelihood grants, entrepreneurship support, financial literacy training, access to microfinance, and tailored financial services.

This model supports entrepreneurs, smallholder farmers, women-led businesses, displaced populations, and conflict-affected households in restoring economic activity and strengthening long-term resilience.

Participants also benefit from practical business planning tools, digital business management approaches, and mentorship that strengthen financial decision-making and business sustainability.

Agri-innovation and climate-smart recovery approaches

WV UCR promotes climate-smart and technology-enabled agricultural recovery approaches that improve productivity, sustainability, and market competitiveness of small and medium agricultural producers.

The approach integrates climate-adaptive agricultural practices, digital farm-management tools, precision agriculture approaches, resource-efficient production methods, digital marketing and e-commerce skills, practical agricultural training, and demonstration activities.

Programmes also support women, youth, and displaced populations engagement in agriculture by introducing modern, technology-oriented learning opportunities that make agricultural livelihoods more attractive, innovative, and market-oriented.

Job creation, skills development, and market linkages

WV UCR strengthens local labour markets through collaboration with Employment Centres, vocational education institutions,

private employers, producer associations, local authorities, and technical experts.

Programmes focus on retraining and upskilling, short-cycle vocational education, workforce integration, entrepreneurship development, job placement, and employer engagement.

Interventions combine practical vocational training, on-the-job learning, mentorship, career guidance, and business development support to improve employability and strengthen local economic recovery.

WV UCR promotes stronger linkages between educational institutions, employers, and local economic actors to improve workforce readiness and support longer-term economic resilience in conflict-affected and displacement-affected communities.

Adaptive and contextualized implementation

WV UCR applies context-adapted recovery and economic empowerment approaches tailored to the realities of conflict-affected communities in Ukraine. Rather than relying on a single implementation model, interventions integrate elements of livelihoods recovery, women's economic empowerment, vocational and entrepreneurship support, agricultural recovery, workforce development, and resilience-building approaches.

Programming remains adaptive to changing economic conditions, displacement dynamics, labour market needs, funding shifts, and security constraints in conflict-affected areas. Particular attention is given to women, rural youth, displaced populations, and vulnerable households through practical skills development, business and digital competencies, access to productive assets, and community-based support systems.

The approach combines hands-on learning, local institutional strengthening, and market linkages to support long-term self-reliance, economic participation, and community resilience while maintaining a strong child-focused and family-centred perspective in line with World Vision's mandate.

Institutional capacity strengthening

WV UCR supports the strengthening of vocational education and local training systems to improve the quality, relevance, and sustainability of workforce development programs in Ukraine.

Support includes:

- modernization of training infrastructure and practical learning environments;
- establishment of demonstration sites, greenhouses, laboratories, and technical learning spaces;
- strengthening institutional capacity of vocational education and training (VET) providers;
- development of practice-oriented and labour-market-aligned curricula;
- partnerships with employers and Employment Centres;
- integration of digital learning tools and modern agricultural technologies.

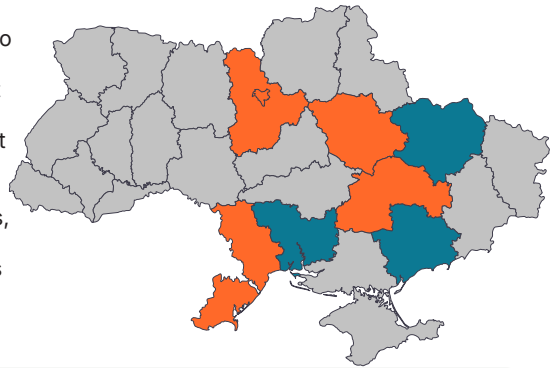
WV UCR collaborates with educational institutions as key implementation partners to strengthen practical learning opportunities, workforce development, and locally relevant skills training for youth, women, and vulnerable populations. The projects support cooperation between vocational and higher education institutions and relevant local stakeholders, including Employment Centres, local authorities, employers, and technical experts, to better align training opportunities with labour market needs and community recovery priorities.

Durable solutions programming

WV UCR applies durable solutions programming principles aimed at strengthening self-reliance and long-term economic resilience among conflict-affected and vulnerable populations.

Through practical training, workforce development, entrepreneurship support, and improved access to local economic opportunities, interventions contribute to sustainable recovery, social inclusion, and reduced dependency on humanitarian assistance.

Targeted support is provided to IDPs, women-headed households, rural communities, youth, and other vulnerable groups facing barriers to employment, economic participation, and access to services.



Geographic Focus



Emergency and frontline-proximate assistance is concentrated in:

- Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv oblasts;
- other conflict-affected regions based on evolving humanitarian needs.



Recovery and resilience programs are implemented in:

- Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa, Poltava oblasts;
- and other displacement-affected and recovery-oriented regions.

Partners and platforms

WV UCR works through partnerships with government institutions, local authorities, educational institutions, financial actors, civil society organizations, and private sector stakeholders.

Key partners include:

- Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine;
- Regional and Local Departments of Education and Science;
- Employment Centers;
- Hromadas and local administrations;
- Vocational education institutions and training providers;
- VisionFund Ukraine and financial institutions;
- Business associations and chambers of commerce;
- Producer cooperatives and agricultural associations;
- Women's business networks;
- Veteran support organizations and veteran hubs;
- Local NGOs and community-based organizations.

WV UCR also contributes to sector coordination and technical leadership through active engagement in FSL cluster and technical working groups.

Priorities for 2026

WV UCR priorities for 2026 include:

- Maintaining rapid and flexible frontline humanitarian response;
- Expanding emergency livelihoods assistance and protection of productive assets;
- Strengthening household resilience and child wellbeing through economic recovery;
- Scaling blended finance and financial inclusion approaches;
- Expanding market-oriented vocational education and workforce development;
- Supporting climate-smart agriculture and agri-innovation;
- Strengthening youth employability and rural economic opportunities;
- Expanding veteran-focused economic recovery pathways and support opportunities for veterans and their family members;
- Advancing localization through stronger partnerships with Ukrainian organizations and institutions;
- Strengthening accountability, community participation, gender equality, and inclusion across all programming areas.



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