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UKRAINE COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND

Annual Progress Report 2025



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UCRF

Ukraine
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Recovery Fund

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Cover page photo: The photo feature Serhii Kereksha, Head of the Kakhovka Track Distance enterprise, Mykolaiv Oblast, Ukraine. Railway workers have received specialized mine safety training to help the recognize explosive hazards and work more safely while restoring critical transport infrastructure. Photo credit: Danylo Pavlov / UNDP in Ukraine.

Note: All figures are as of December 2025 and based on agency reports submitted to Ukraine Community Recovery Fund Secretariat and published on the [MPTFO UCRF Gateway](#).

Parts of this report were produced with summary and drafting support from AI-assisted tools to enhance data clarity and consistency across chapters.

Ukraine Community Recovery Fund: 2025 Impact Report

5 Healthcare Facilities Upgraded

Provided specialized rehabilitation and assistive equipment, training 228 medical workers (186 women) to serve mine victims and veterans.

6,523 Individuals Received Legal & Psychosocial Aid

Assistance provided to resolve housing, land, and property issues, alongside protection services

451 People Reached via MHPSS

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) initiatives reached 451 people, including 331 women

40 Paralegals Supported

Strengthening the Free Legal Aid System to ensure broader access to justice within affected communities



165 Houses Rehabilitated

Prioritized repairs for vulnerable households to restore residential stability in war-damaged areas.

50 People Trained in Construction

Practical construction skills training for 30 individuals (including 22 women) to increase community employability.

Restored Administrative & Social Access

Rehabilitated 2 community social infrastructure centres in Zavodske and Velyka Oleksandrivka.

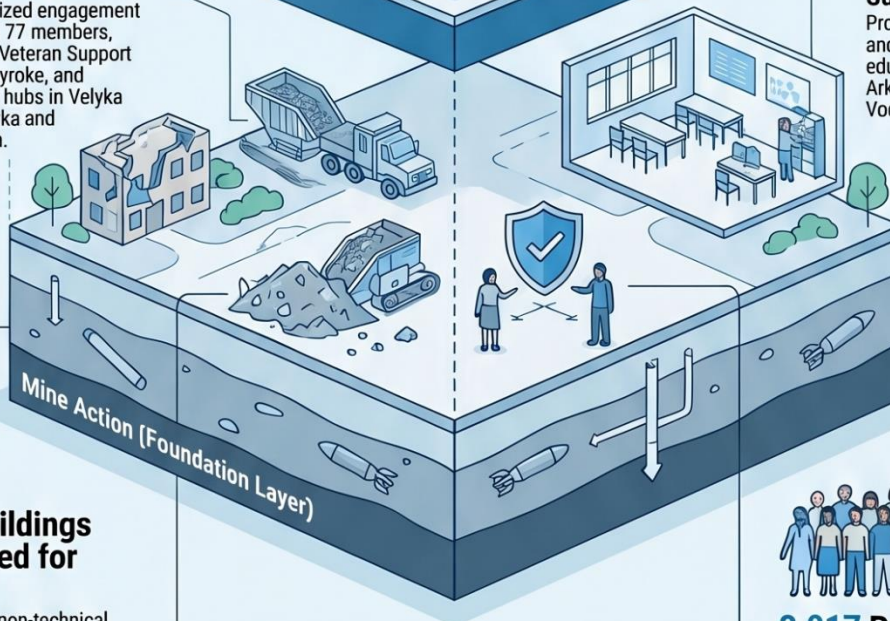


Community Hubs & Veteran Support

Operationalized engagement groups with 77 members, launched a Veteran Support Space in Shyrokye, and established hubs in Velyka Oleksandrivka and Vysokopilka.

Educational Infrastructure Support

Provided equipment and design for a modular educational space at the Arkanhelske Agrarian Vocational Lyceum.



114 Buildings Surveyed for Safety

Completed non-technical surveys for damaged buildings, directly benefiting 147 households.

17,237 Tons of Debris Removed

Facilitated the demolition of 5 heavily damaged facilities with improved sorting and safe asbestos handling practices.

Strategic Long-term Planning

Development of the One UN Mine Action Strategy (2025-2027) to guide future recovery efforts.



2,017 People Reached via Risk Education

Conducted 82 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education sessions for a diverse group including 503 women, 154 IDPs, and 98 people with disabilities.

2. About the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund

The **Ukraine Community Recovery Fund (UCRF)** is a Multi-Partner Trust Fund established to respond to the severe humanitarian and economic impacts of the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine by accelerating the transition from emergency relief to early recovery and reconstruction. The UCRF addresses critical gaps between immediate humanitarian assistance and longer-term, sustainable solutions, enabling war-affected communities to restore basic services, rebuild livelihoods, and regain self-reliance.

Fully aligned with the [UN-Ukraine Cooperation Framework 2025-2029](#), the Fund contributes to national recovery priorities while advancing key Sustainable Development Goals, including poverty reduction, gender equality, decent work, and resilient communities.

The UCRF operates through coordinated, multi-agency interventions currently implemented by FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNOPS, UNHCR, and UNMAS, applying an integrated, area-based approach in heavily affected regions such as Sumy, Mykolaiv, and Kherson oblasts of Ukraine. Its current

programming combines sequenced interventions that first establish safety through mine action and debris clearance, then enable recovery through housing repair, infrastructure rehabilitation, and restoration of essential services.

In parallel, the Fund drives economic recovery by supporting agricultural production, strengthening value chains, and providing grants and training to rural households, micro, small and medium enterprises, and local business clusters. This integrated model not only restores livelihoods and creates employment but also supports safe, voluntary, and dignified returns of internally displaced persons.

By linking physical recovery, economic revitalization, and institutional strengthening, the UCRF delivers measurable improvements in community resilience while laying the foundation for inclusive and sustainable recovery in Ukraine’s most affected regions.

This Multi-Partner Trust Fund is administered by the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO).

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3. Ukraine Community Recovery Fund developments

Despite the highly challenging and fluid context of the war in Ukraine, the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund has continued to operate and deliver results. While formal governance arrangements have faced disruptions, particularly the physical convening of the Steering Committee due to changes in Government representation, the Fund has maintained operational continuity through remote consultations and written procedures, ensuring that critical recovery support has not been interrupted.

Government ownership at the central level has understandably been constrained given the broader wartime pressures and competing priorities. At the same time, engagement at the regional and local levels has remained strong. Representatives of regional authorities have played an active and constructive role in identifying priorities, assessing project proposals, and supporting implementation on the ground, helping to ensure that interventions remain responsive to community needs.

This adaptive approach has enabled the Fund to continue functioning in a complex environment, although it also underscores the importance of progressively restoring full governance structures, including regular Steering Committee engagement, to reinforce strategic oversight, transparency, and donor confidence.

Looking ahead, there is a clear opportunity to build on lessons learned by further strengthening coordination, enhancing coherence across interventions, and

deepening partnerships with local actors. Increased involvement of local authorities and civil society organizations as implementers can improve efficiency, reduce delivery costs, and ensure that support reaches the most vulnerable populations in a targeted and timely manner.

In 2025 a new contribution has been received from the Government of Canada earmarked to the Mine Action window of the Fund in the amount of CAD 15,000,000 (USD 10,441,262). This financing allowed allocate financing to critical interventions around the following topics under the 3rd and the 4th Call for Proposals, while implementation of the following projects is planned for 2026:

- Enhancing civilian protection through strengthened national police of Ukraine explosive ordnance disposal capacity;
- Support to national non-technical survey capabilities. increase community safety and accelerate access to safe lands through non-technical survey, risk education, and agricultural interventions in Kherson oblast;
- Ukraine mine action systems and capacity development at the Centre for Humanitarian Demining;
- Strengthening the localisation of mine action capacities and support functions through small grants and quick impact projects;
- Strengthening coordination and efficiency across the mine action sector in Ukraine.

4. List of ongoing projects in 2025

Title	Start Date	End Date	Implementer	Budget, USD
Mine Action & IDP Return in Southern Ukraine	15/08/2024	15/01/2026	UNDP, UNHCR	4.915.176
Support to Community Driven Mine Action in Ukraine	28/02/2024	01/04/2027	UNMAS, UNOPS	2.264.335
Community Recovery: Ensuring Conducive Economic and Agriculture Environments in Sumska oblast	28/02/2024	30/03/2025	IOM	2.300.000
Promoting community-based recovery of agricultural livelihoods and strengthening of agri-food value chains in war-affected areas of Sumska Oblast	08/03/2024	01/03/2025	FAO	2.300.000



Demolition of school, Chervona Dolyna village, Shyroke community, Mykolaiv_Oblast. 43.6% of school infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed by the war (based on the [Fifth Damage and Needs Assessment](#)).

Photo credit: UNDP in Ukraine

5. Achievements of the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund in 2025

The Ukraine Community Recovery Fund has driven significant, measurable progress in transitioning war-affected communities from emergency contexts to early recovery, utilizing a highly effective sequenced, area-based approach.

The achievements are structured around results at community level, which directly support the three out of five UCRF core pillars: Mine Action, Housing Solutions, and Critical Infrastructure/Social Services, supported by cross-cutting enablers such as leave no one behind and gender equality.

A fundamental achievement has been creating safe conditions for the return of internally displaced persons and clearing the path for reconstruction.

In 2025 the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund delivered integrated recovery support across Sumy, Mykolaiv, and Kherson oblasts, directly linking livelihoods, infrastructure rehabilitation, mine action, and protection services. Interventions moved communities

beyond emergency assistance toward self-reliance, enabling safe returns, restoring local economies, and strengthening institutional capacity.

Beyond physical reconstruction, UCRF achievements strongly emphasized restoring human capital, legal rights, and community well-being.

Additionally, the Fund significantly expanded access to justice and protection services.

Finally, to align local skills with reconstruction demands, the Fund invested in vocational training, providing practical construction courses to residents and restoring educational facilities to improve employability in heavily impacted regions.

UCRF demonstrates that coordinated, area-based recovery delivers compounded results. By integrating these layers, UCRF has enabled thousands of Ukrainians to return safely, rebuild livelihoods, and re-establish functioning communities, laying a durable foundation for long-term recovery.



A community and village council building in Zavodske, Mykolaiv Oblast, was rehabilitated with support from the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund and now provides a vital multi-functional space for civic and social activities in the community.

Photo credit: UNHCR/Elisabeth Haslund

Mine Action, Safe Returns and Infrastructure Recovery

UCRF applied a sequenced approach: risk reduction, clearance, then reconstruction, unlocking safe and dignified returns in Mykolaiv, and Kherson oblasts.

To enhance civilian safety and enable repair of damaged housing and social facilities, UCRF delivered 82 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions, reaching 2,017 people (503 women), including 154 IDPs and 98 people with disabilities. In parallel, Non-Technical Survey (NTS) was completed for 114 damaged buildings, allowing 94 buildings to be safely released for demolition or repair. A total of 147 households benefited from this process, creating preconditions for dignified return and reconstruction. UCRF also facilitated the demolition of five heavily damaged facilities, removing about 17,237 tons of debris and introducing improved sorting practices/ sites. In addition, 37.68 m³ of asbestos-containing waste was safely collected and disposed of in accordance with environmental and safety standards which strengthened local waste management. Through a targeted and context-specific approach, the UCRF also supported the rehabilitation of a total of 165

war-damaged houses, prioritizing vulnerable households who were unable to access or fully benefit from the Government's housing compensation scheme (eVidnovlennia), ensuring that vulnerable households who were excluded or insufficiently covered could restore habitable living conditions. Furthermore, two critical social infrastructure facilities were rehabilitated, restoring access to administrative and social services and contributing to social cohesion at community level.

At the system level, a One UN Mine Action Strategy (2025 – 2027) was developed, aligning recovery efforts with national frameworks. Mine Action advisory support also contributed to stronger integration of mine action considerations into recovery and reconstruction discussions, reinforcing recognition of mine action as a critical enabler of safe access to land, infrastructure, and livelihoods. These improvements represent meaningful progress toward strengthening national mine action capacity and supporting sustainable recovery.



A mined area. Snihurivka, Mykolaiv Oblast. In southern Ukraine, explosive hazards remain a serious risk after months of occupation. Photo credit: Danylo Pavlov / UNDP in Ukraine

Protection, Legal Access, and Health Services

UCRF strengthened frontline systems delivering justice, protection, and rehabilitation. Access to justice improved through a strengthened Free Legal Aid System (FLAS) and courts provided with essential equipment to increase their operational capacity. In addition, 40 paralegals were equipped with necessary knowledge enabling them to provide high-quality legal consultations, refer clients to FLAS, and support community-level advocacy on legal rights and available assistance. Awareness-raising materials were widely distributed, while specialized training supported FLAS lawyers' psycho-emotional resilience. In parallel, 6,523 individuals were reached with legal assistance, psychosocial support and protection services, helping to resolve

housing, land and property issues and restore access to rights. Collectively, these efforts enhanced legal literacy and service accessibility in the target communities.

To support Community Health UCRF supplied specialized rehabilitation and assistive equipment to five healthcare facilities and delivered training sessions to 228 medical workers (186 women), elevating rehabilitation services for mine victims, veterans, civilians, and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support initiatives reached 451 people (331 women) through mental health support sessions. These interventions strengthened the local health system's ability to respond to trauma-related needs and expanded capacity for long-term recovery.



Mykolaiv Oblast Mental Health Centre has introduced virtual reality (VR) therapy to help patients, including veterans, safely process traumatic memories and receive innovative treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Photo credit: Tetiana Shavlovska / Reporters / UNDP Ukraine

Community-Driven Recovery and Local Capacity

UCRF strengthened community security, social cohesion, and inclusive local governance across four target communities in Mykolaiv and Kherson oblasts. Community Engagement Working Groups (CEWGs) are operational in Zavodske, Shyroke, Velyka Oleksandrivka, and Vysokopillia, bringing together 77 members (64 women) from local authorities, police, civil society, youth, veterans, and IDPs. These platforms have become effective mechanisms for participatory recovery planning, improving communication between communities and institutions while enabling faster identification and prioritization of local needs.

This engagement translated into tangible results: a modernized video surveillance system in Zavodske enhancing safety for over 2,000 residents; a Veteran Support Space in Shyroke providing legal, psychosocial, and reintegration services; and multifunctional community hubs in Velyka Oleksandrivka and Vysokopillia

supporting work, learning, and civic engagement.

Youth and community participation were further strengthened through the establishment of a Youth Council in Shyroke and grant-based initiatives promoting IDP inclusion, protection awareness, and locally driven projects. These efforts contributed to increased trust in local institutions and more inclusive, community-led recovery processes.

In parallel, UCRF supported skills development and employability. In Snihurivka (Mykolaiv Oblast), 50 individuals (22 women), including persons with disabilities and mine action victims or their family members, completed short-term construction training aligned with reconstruction needs. In Kherson Oblast, UCRF advanced the restoration of vocational education by initiating a modular learning facility at the Arkhanhelske Agrarian Vocational Lyceum and equipping two workshops, re-establishing critical training capacity.



Snihurivka, Mykolaiv Oblast, Ukraine. Vocational training courses for plasterers, tilers and painters strengthening local workforce capacity for recovery efforts.

Photo credit: Dmytro Sazonov / UNDP in Ukraine

6. Impact stories

Story 1: “Our people don’t need convincing that mine safety training matters”

After eight months of occupation, Snihurivka in Mykolaiv Oblast returned to Government control in November 2022. For railway workers from the Kakhovka Track Distance enterprise, liberation brought not only the opportunity to rebuild but also a persistent danger: railway lines remained heavily contaminated with mines and unexploded ordnance. Routine inspections and repairs carried life-threatening risks, further compounded by ongoing shelling.

The Ukraine Community Recovery Fund supported efforts to reduce these risks. In 2024-2025, railway specialists from the Odesa Railway branch received specialized mine safety training, equipping them to identify explosive hazards, follow safe procedures, and coordinate with demining teams.

The impact is already visible. Workers now conduct inspections with greater confidence and awareness, identifying and reporting suspicious objects to the State Emergency Service and demining units. These timely alerts help prevent accidents and protect both staff and passengers. As noted by Serhii Kereksha, Head of Kakhovka Track Distance: “Our people don’t need convincing about the importance of this knowledge. Everyone here has seen how many different types of mines and traps remain.”

This experience highlights that restoring infrastructure in contaminated areas requires investing not only in repairs but in people’s safety. By strengthening frontline workers’ capacity to operate in high-risk environments, the project has helped maintain critical transport links while reducing immediate threats to life, demonstrating the value of integrated recovery efforts.



Photo credit: Danylo Pavlov / UNDP in Ukraine

Story 2: Restoring access to housing through legal assistance

After nearly a year of displacement, 46-year-old Hanna Katsiuba returned with her family to their damaged home in Zasillia, Mykolaiv Oblast. While they managed basic repairs, a critical barrier remained: Hanna could not access state reconstruction support under the eVidnovlennia programme due to unresolved property ownership.

Having inherited the house from her late mother, she had not completed the legal registration before the war. Without proof of ownership, the family was excluded from compensation, an issue affecting many returnees.

Through the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund, mobile legal teams provided on-site support. Partnering with the NGO “The Tenth of April,” they reviewed Hanna’s case, developed a legal pathway, and supported her through documentation, technical services, and court procedures.

Her case is now progressing, putting her on track to secure ownership and access compensation, removing a key barrier to fully restoring her home.

“We want to restore our home and live here again. Home is better than anywhere else,” Hanna says.

Hanna’s story shows how targeted legal aid can unlock access to recovery support, helping families move from return to sustainable rebuilding.



Photo credit: NGO “The Tenth of April”.

Story 3. “Therapy that brings calm to veterans”

Despite constant shelling, prolonged power outages, and severe infrastructure damage since the start of the full-scale invasion, the Mykolaiv Oblast Mental Health Centre has continued to serve as a lifeline for its community. Even after a missile strike destroyed two of its departments in 2022, the Centre remained operational, adapting its services under growing pressure. As the war progressed, clinicians observed a sharp increase in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), particularly among young people and veterans, stretching already limited staff and resources.

In 2025, support from the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund enabled the Centre to respond to these evolving needs. The project introduced virtual reality (VR) therapy for PTSD treatment and trained six clinicians to integrate this approach into their practice. VR therapy allows patients to safely revisit traumatic experiences in a controlled environment, with therapists guiding exposure in a gradual and carefully managed way.

The impact is already visible. Fifteen patients have completed VR-assisted therapy, showing improved emotional stability and reduced trauma symptoms. These outcomes are difficult to achieve under frontline conditions using traditional methods alone. Reflecting on this shift, Centre Director Liudmyla Sheremet noted: “Now the primary request is treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder... This motivates us to implement the latest approaches to help people overcome the consequences of the war.”

Beyond individual recovery, the introduction of VR therapy has strengthened the Centre’s overall capacity to deliver modern, trauma-informed care. It has expanded treatment options for veterans and civilians alike, while improving readiness to address the long-term psychological impact of the war.

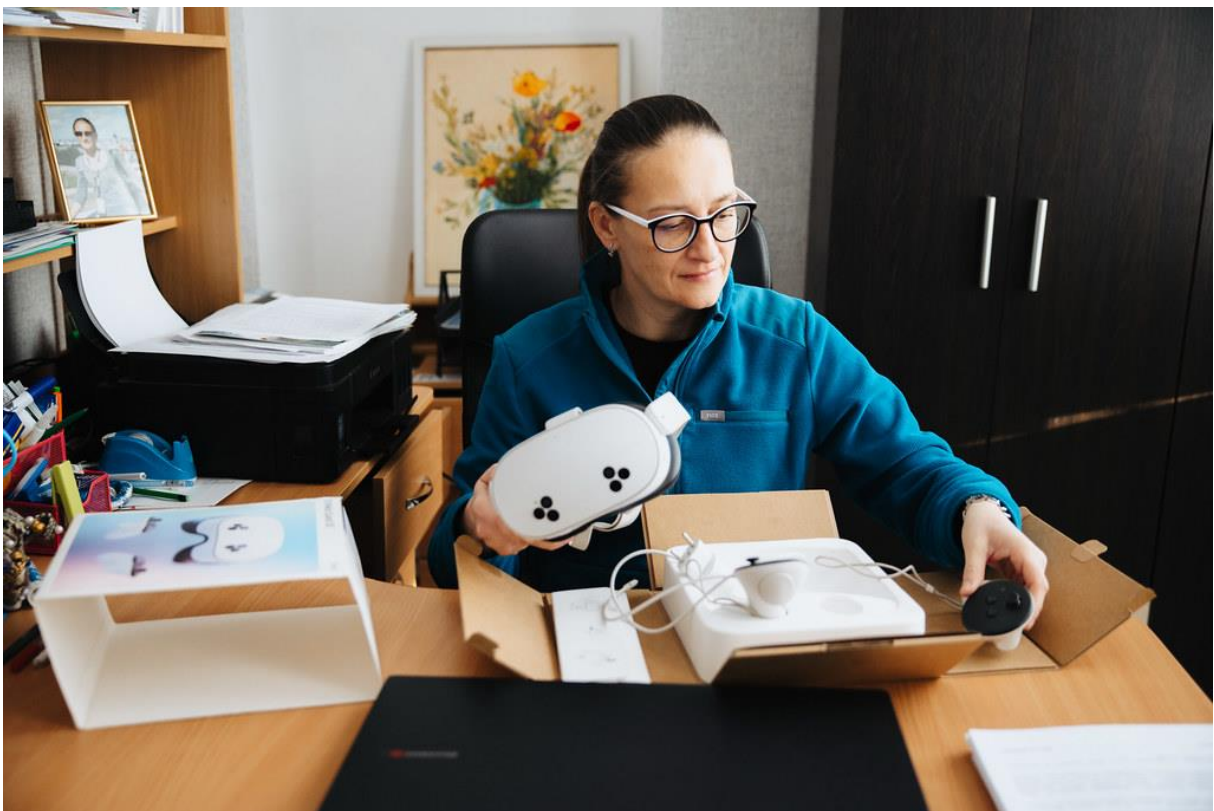


Photo credit: Tetiana Shavlovska / Reporters / UNDP in Ukraine.

7. Ukraine Community Recovery Fund contacts and data

Ukraine Community Recovery Fund Gateway: contributors, financials, projects, results

<https://mptf.undp.org/fund/ukr00>

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund. At the top left is the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office logo. To the right is a navigation menu with dropdown arrows for 'Trust Funds', 'Partners', 'News & Media', 'Resources', and 'About'. Below this is a horizontal row of 17 colorful icons representing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main content area has a dark blue background with the text 'Ukraine Community Recovery Fund' in large white letters, and 'Ukraine Community Recovery Fund' in smaller white letters below it. To the right of this text is the UCRF logo. Below the main heading is a secondary navigation menu with 'Overview' (underlined), 'Contributors', 'Financials', 'Objectives', 'Governance', 'Projects', 'Results', 'News', 'Documents', 'Contacts', and a 'Tools' button with a dropdown arrow. At the bottom of the page, there are two light gray boxes, each containing the word 'OVERVIEW'.

For further information

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Remotely-operated demining machine.

Photo credit: Oleh Marchuk, UNOPS