Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Activity: OCHA Humanitarian Fund for Ukraine 2026 (26-0001195)

Id	26-0001195
Date	14-07-2026
SAP application number	

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Key data

Activity basics

Type	Standard
Short name	OCHA Humanitarian Fund for Ukraine 2026
Contract party	UNOCHA (Office Coordination Of Humanitarian Aff) (30012474)
ODA	Yes
Amount EUR	13000000
Start date	01-07-2026
End date	30-06-2027
Full name	OCHA Country Based Pooled Fund for Ukraine: Ukraine Humanitarian Fund NL contribution for 2026 and 1st Semester 2027 (full winter cycle)
Summary	Contribution to alleviating humanitarian needs in Ukraine.

Activity details

Date of receipt of proposal	01-01-2026
Proposal's reference number	
Budget holder	DSH (8141DSH)
Limit access	No
Related activity	260001195; 250000622

Accounting data

SAP application number	
Main funds center	Humanitarian aid UKR (1705U0302)

Policy data

Cooperation modality	Non-earmarked contributions
Technical assistance	0% of the activity budget
CRS code	72010 Material relief assistance and services
Policy Keywords	
Refugees & host communities	Yes
Team Europe Initiative	No
Policy Markers	
__Trade & The Economy	Significant
_Security & Stability	Not targeted
Biodiversity	Not targeted
Climate change: adaptation	Not targeted
Climate change: mitigation	Not targeted
Desertification	Not targeted
Equality between men & women	Significant
Migration	Not targeted
Access to education for girls	Significant
Drinking water and sanitation	Principal
Food security	Principal
Physical infrastructure	Significant
Reducing infant and child mortality	Principal
Universal primary education	Principal
Explain your choices	The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) delivers flexible, rapid funding to meet urgent humanitarian needs arising from the ongoing conflict and displacement. UHF supports protection and dignity by providing lifesaving assistance, including shelter, food, and non-food items to vulnerable populations. It promotes gender equality through funding programs that address the specific needs of women, girls, and marginalized groups. UHF strengthens access to healthcare by supporting emergency medical services and mental health care. It enhances education by ensuring safe learning environments and essential supplies for children affected by crisis. UHF contributes to water, sanitation, and hygiene improvements, safeguarding public health. It also reinforces livelihoods and food security by backing community resilience initiatives and nutrition programs. Through coordinated funding, the UHF upholds the rights and well-being of affected communities, fostering hope and stability amid adversity.

Beneficiary location

Beneficiary location	Country
Country	Ukraine
Location type	Territory
Specific location	

Policy Appraisal

The current bemo is separate from the bemo for the 2025 contribution to the UHF, as the amount involved is considerable, and higher than allowed to be arranged through a top-up bemo. Also, externally, with OCHA, the current contribution will be dealt with along with contributions to a number of other CBPFs for which the Humanitarian Affairs Section is starting a new cycle in 2026. The contribution to the Ukraine CBPF comes from another begrotingsartikel than for the other CBPFs which is why a separate internal commitment has to be arranged.
The below text is nearly similar to the text in the bemo on the contributon to UHF 2025. Only where changes since last year require so, the text has been adapted.

Policy relevance

- The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) holds significant policy relevance for donors such as the Netherlands as it closely aligns with Dutch humanitarian priorities. UHF provides a mechanism to pool resources from multiple donors, enabling flexible and rapid allocation of funds to meet urgent needs emerging from the conflict and displacement in Ukraine. This capacity for quick response fits well with the Netherlands' commitment to efficient, adaptive, and timely humanitarian assistance.
- By contributing to UHF, the Netherlands supports coordinated efforts among international donors, United Nations agencies, and local partners, reinforcing coherence and complementarity in Ukraine's humanitarian response.
- Another key aspect is UHF's emphasis on locally-led humanitarian action and accountability. The Netherlands prioritizes empowering Ukrainian local actors and ensuring aid reaches the most affected populations. UHF channels funds directly to national and local organizations, fostering local ownership of humanitarian efforts and improving accountability to those impacted — key pillars of Dutch humanitarian policy.
- Strategically and financially, UHF offers a cost-effective way for the Netherlands to support a broad range of humanitarian activities through a single pooled fund. This reduces administrative overhead, minimizes fragmentation, and enables funds to be swiftly reallocated in response to the evolving crisis, matching the Dutch preference for evidence-based, adaptable interventions.

Rationale

- The Ukraine crisis has created complex, protracted humanitarian needs marked by displacement, damage to infrastructure, and protection challenges. The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund plays a critical role by pooling donor resources at the country level and managing them through inclusive, locally-informed coordination platforms. This approach addresses inefficiencies, duplication, and funding gaps, enabling rapid, flexible disbursement of funds aligned with evolving local priorities.
- UHF promotes equitable access to funding for local and national actors who are often excluded from traditional humanitarian financing. Through enhanced coordination and accountability, UHF strengthens Ukraine's collective humanitarian response, delivering more coherent and contextually appropriate assistance that protects vulnerable communities and helps build resilience amid ongoing conflict.

Contextual analysis

- The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund focuses on populations affected by the conflict, including internally displaced persons, vulnerable women and children, older persons, and people with disabilities. UHF supports rapid, coordinated humanitarian assistance tailored to urgent needs across Ukraine's most affected regions.
- Stakeholders involved in UHF include donor governments, UN agencies, international and Ukrainian NGOs, and government authorities, all collaborating through Ukraine's humanitarian coordination mechanisms.
- The fund's priorities are determined through participatory needs assessments and joint planning by the Humanitarian Country Team, ensuring funding aligns with real-time needs. This inclusive process enhances accountability and coordination, ensuring resources address the most critical challenges on the ground.

Added value

- The Dutch government brings particular added value to UHF through its strong commitment to humanitarian principles and expertise in promoting sustainable, locally-driven solutions. Compared to other donors, the Netherlands emphasizes partnerships with Ukrainian local organizations and supports integration of humanitarian assistance with resilience-building and recovery efforts.
- This complements broader donor contributions by fostering community-led responses and improving accountability. The Dutch government's active engagement in coordination and its flexible funding approach help improve UHF's efficiency and impact on the ground.

- Affected communities in Ukraine increasingly participate in the design, implementation, and monitoring of activities, fostering local ownership and empowerment, which enhances the relevance and sustainability of humanitarian interventions.

Lessons learned

- *Localization:* Empowering Ukrainian local actors in humanitarian responses improves relevance and sustainability. However, challenges like capacity gaps and donor requirements remain. Strengthening local capacities and simplifying funding access are priorities for advancing localization within UHF.
- *Risk sharing:* Extending risk-sharing mechanisms to Ukrainian local partners fosters trust and resilience by providing direct funding access coupled with capacity building and risk mitigation.
- *Coordination and alignment:* UHF improves coordination among humanitarian actors by aligning funding with Ukraine's Humanitarian Response Plan, reducing duplication and promoting complementary efforts.
- *Efficiency and impact:* Pooling donor resources reduces administrative burdens, allowing more funds to reach affected communities. Continuous monitoring and learning help maximize humanitarian outcomes.
- *Accountability to affected people:* UHF incorporates feedback mechanisms and encourages meaningful participation of affected populations to ensure aid is relevant, respectful, and effective.

Durability

- The sustainability of UHF-funded results depends on building Ukrainian local capacities, fostering strong partnerships, and aligning interventions with longer-term recovery and resilience goals. UHF prioritizes empowering local NGOs, community groups, and government bodies to increasingly lead humanitarian responses.
- Exit strategies include close coordination with development actors and authorities to integrate emergency responses into national frameworks, supporting communities to build resilience against future shocks.

Gender

- UHF integrates gender analysis into planning and programming to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women, men, girls, and boys affected by the conflict. This ensures humanitarian interventions promote gender equality and equitable access to services.
- Women and girls, who face increased risks such as gender-based violence and limited healthcare access, benefit from targeted protection and empowerment initiatives. The participation of women and youth in coordination mechanisms ensures diverse perspectives shape UHF-supported programs.

Climate change

- Country-Based Pooled Funds generally incorporate an analysis of the potential effects of climate change on humanitarian activities and their outcomes. Recognizing that climate-related shocks such as droughts, floods, and extreme weather events exacerbate vulnerabilities and complicate crisis response, CBPFs assess how these risks might impact both the target populations and the effectiveness of interventions. This analysis helps ensure that funded activities are resilient and adaptive to changing environmental conditions.
- Many CBPF-supported projects include interventions aimed at climate change adaptation and mitigation. These can involve promoting sustainable livelihoods, improving water and sanitation infrastructure to withstand climate stress, and supporting disaster risk reduction measures. Additionally, there is growing emphasis on **anticipatory action**—proactively implementing early warning systems and preparedness activities to reduce the impact of anticipated climate-related disasters. This approach allows humanitarian actors to act before crises fully unfold, thereby minimizing loss and damage to vulnerable communities.
- By integrating climate risk analysis and anticipatory action into their programming, CBPFs enhance the sustainability and responsiveness of humanitarian assistance in increasingly climate-affected contexts.

Cooperation, harmonisation and alignment

- UHF promotes close cooperation among Dutch organizations, the European Union, other donors, Ukrainian local NGOs, government institutions, and UN agencies. This collective effort pools resources and expertise to respond effectively to Ukraine's humanitarian crisis.
- By consolidating multiple donor contributions into a single funding mechanism, UHF reduces duplication and streamlines funding flows, enabling coordinated planning aligned with Ukraine's Humanitarian Response Plan. Dutch embassies often contribute strategic guidance and donor coordination to UHF advisory boards.

Digitalisation

- UHF emphasizes user-centered design by involving affected communities and partners in developing digital tools, such as mobile cash transfers and data collection apps adapted to local needs.

- Assessments of local digital infrastructure, digital literacy, and data protection practices ensure digital interventions are accessible, secure, and sustainable. Coordination with humanitarian clusters helps avoid duplication and promotes complementarity of digital initiatives funded by UHF.

Results

Humanitarian Aid

Effective and efficient international humanitarian aid provided to save lives, reduce human suffering, protect human dignity, and mitigate the effects of crises, conflicts, and disasters; enabled by Dutch multi-year, flexible financing to UN organizations, the Red Cross movement and the Dutch Relief Alliance and through subsidies to other partners.

Monitoring and evaluation

Below, find the description of the overall monitoring and evaluation arrangements for NL contributions to all CBPFs. These arrangements also apply to the NL 2026 (into 2027) contribution to the UHF, as noted in bemo 260001195.
Although internally, the commitment for UHF is arranged in this separate bemo (on begrotingsplaats 5.3), the external commitment will be taken along in the overall arrangement with OCHA for NL contributions to several CBPFs (260001195). Therefore, in this bemo, reference is made to the reporting requirements for that activity, which are not separately mentioned here to avoid the system doubly following whether reports are received etc.
Thuis, no separate reporting is requested. OCHA does prepare annual reports for all donors involved and general public. NL does indicate to OCHA and to UHF that it may require examples of what is being done and supported by UHF in order to have up-do-date (anecdotal) information on the use of funds to whihc the Netherlands has alos contributed.

Monitoring

- The Common Performance Framework (CPF) is a management tool for assessing the performance of Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) against the policy objectives and operational standards outlined in the CBPF Global Guidelines. It employs 15 indicators across five key dimensions— inclusiveness, flexibility, timeliness, efficiency, and accountability & risk management— to help fund managers and stakeholders identify and address challenges in fund performance.
- Recently, the CPF has been integrated into OCHA's One Grant Management System (OneGMS), enabling real-time monitoring and reporting that enhances transparency and decision-making. This integration also strengthens the CPF's role within the broader CBPF accountability framework by linking it to annual reports, data analytics via the Pooled Fund Data Hub, audits, and evaluations, thereby supporting more effective and adaptive humanitarian financing.
- Monitoring by NL of OCHA CBPF activities is conducted through multiple channels to ensure oversight and coordination. Dutch Embassies maintain regular contact with OCHA and other donors, receiving updates and engaging in discussions.
- Embassy representative can also participate in the CBPF Advisory Board at country level, offering strategic guidance and feedback on fund allocations and priorities. Where this is not possible due to capacity or rotation, feedback is given/received through engaging with other (likeminded) donors.
- In addition, monitoring occurs through engagement in the Pooled Fund Working Group (PFWG), allowing DSH to track implementation, review performance, and coordinate with other stakeholders to support effective and accountable humanitarian programming. As co-chair (together with OCHA) of the PFWG from June 2026 - May 2027, the Netherlands will play an active role in shaping the strategic direction of pooled funds, promoting accountability and good governance, and facilitating dialogue on the continued effectiveness and evolution of the CBPF system.

Evaluation

- OCHA's evaluation framework for CBPFs emphasizes continuous learning and accountability, focusing on assessing the impact, outcomes, and efficiency of pooled fund allocations. Recent evaluations, such as the impact assessment of anticipatory action in Bentiu, South Sudan, have highlighted the effectiveness of early funding in mitigating the effects of disasters. These evaluations are supported by real-time data from the CBPF Data Hub, which tracks contributions, allocations, and project outcomes, providing stakeholders with transparent insights into fund performance.
- The most recent global evaluation of CBPFs was conducted in 2019 by OCHA, and was partly financed by the Netherlands. This evaluation assessed CBPF performance across four key areas: impact, outcomes, activities and outputs, and inputs. It highlighted several strengths, including the funds' ability to deliver timely, coordinated, and principled humanitarian assistance, particularly in complex and protracted crises. The evaluation also noted the effectiveness of CBPFs in supporting local and national actors, enhancing their capacity to respond to emergencies. However, challenges were identified in areas such as the narrow donor base, which can limit funding flexibility, and the need for improved visibility and recognition of CBPFs' value beyond immediate stakeholders. Recommendations from the evaluation included diversifying the donor base, enhancing communication strategies, and continuing to streamline processes to improve efficiency and effectiveness in humanitarian response.
- A thematic evaluation was conducted in 2023. This evaluation focused on assessing the role of OCHA-managed pooled funds, including CBPFs, in addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. The evaluation examined how humanitarian assistance provided through these funds contributes to minimizing and addressing aspects of loss and damage, particularly in vulnerable countries affected by extreme weather events and slow-onset disasters. It highlighted the effectiveness of CBPFs in delivering timely and coordinated responses to climate-induced crises, emphasizing their role in supporting communities facing the brunt of climate change impacts. The findings underscored

the need for continued investment in and support for OCHA-managed pooled funds to enhance their capacity to respond to the evolving challenges posed by climate change.

- As of now, OCHA has not publicly announced the date for the next global evaluation.

Finance

Budget breakdown

- The Netherlands contribution amounts to EUR 13 mln to alleviate humanitarian needs in Ukraine.
- The contribution is based on the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2026. As it is only allotted in July 2026, it can be used into 2027 as well. The new humanitrian reponse plan for 2027 will be published end of 206 or very early 2027.
- This contribution was presented in two Letters to Parliament: a letter of October 2025, Situatie in Oekraïne (Kamerstuk 36045 nr 239) and a letter of 2 July 2026, De NL inzet tijdens de Ukraine Recovery Conference in Gdansk (Kamerstuk 36045 nr 309).

Earmarking & prepayments & audit opinions

- The contribution is earmarked for the UHF, but apart from that it is unearmarked.
- It is provided as a lump-sum payment and disbursed in a single installment.
- No separate audit is required. The activity falls under a framework agreement (UN).

Available resources

The Humanitarian Response Plan for Ukraine 2026 states that 10.8 mln people are in need in Ukraine, of whom the plan strives to reach and support 4.1 mln. Of the 4.1 mln a number of 3.6 mln is "super prioritized". The total requirements to support 4.1 mln people are budgeted at USD 2.3 bln, the superprioritized group would require USD 2 bln.
The UHF is one of the channels that can reach the people most in need as planned under the HRP. As of , 2026, a total amount has been pledged to UHF in 2026 of USD 213.7 mln, of which a total of USD 202.5 mln has been disbursed to UHF.
The NL contribution in 2026 of EUR 13 mln equals over 7 % of the total transferred contributions to UHF in 2026 as per July 6 (EUR 13 mln against NL MFA spot rate = USD 14.77 mln) .