

# KAKHOVKA DAM FLOOD RESPONSE

JUNE 2023



IOM partner Rescue Now distributions aid packages to people affected by the floods ©Rescue Now 2023

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

In the early hours of 06 June 2023, the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Dam in the city of Nova Kakhovka in Ukraine’s Kherson Region was damaged. The resulting flooding, occurring across an active frontline, impacted both Ukrainian and Russian-controlled areas of Ukraine’s Kherson Region and has led to the loss of life and property as well as displacement. As the floodwaters recede, the impact on vital services, employment opportunities, community infrastructure and housing in areas along the banks of the Dnipro River and those depending on the Kakhovka reservoir for water supply has not diminished.<sup>1</sup>

**Over 2,880 people** displaced from their homes in flood-affected areas as of 16 June (IOM DTM)

**61%** of those displaced remained within Kherson Region (IOM DTM)

**32 settlements** on the right bank of the Dnipro River severely affected by the flood, with at least 3,801 houses recorded as damaged (Ministry for the Restoration of Ukraine)

### APPEAL AMOUNT

**USD 12,000,000**  
Urgent humanitarian support for the first six months.

**USD 14,500,000**  
Recovery & resilience efforts for the next 12 months.

**22%**  
Total need: USD 26,500,000  
22% funded

1. As of 19 June, assessments of needs are only possible in areas controlled by the Government of Ukraine. The figures cited refer to needs identified on the left bank of the Dnipro River.

The depletion of the Kakhovka Reservoir has created urgent and critical humanitarian needs across southern Ukraine where tens of thousands of people have already lost access to piped water, mainly in Dnipropetrovsk Region. The reservoir is a source of drinking water to at least 700,000 people and its capacity has reportedly decreased by 70 per cent, according to Ukrainian authorities.<sup>2</sup> Surrounding regions have experienced flooding and severe water shortages, as well as damage to private homes, businesses, land along with community infrastructure and services. People affected have lost household items, as well as access to financial support and employment opportunities. According to the International Organization for Migration’s (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), flood damage and partial destruction of houses, along with the need for demining are key concerns of affected populations, as is the need to replace lost household items. Critically, this crisis is happening in an area where many people are already heavily impacted by the war. It will likely contribute to stress and trauma as well as increase protection risks.

In addition to immediate humanitarian needs, the destruction of the dam is anticipated to negatively impact livelihoods, food production and food security. Increased health risks may include waterborne diseases due to the lack of safe water, inadequate sanitation and disruptions to health services. Environmental impacts, including due to the contamination of groundwater, may impact health, as well as agricultural outputs. The destruction requires investments to restore the water, sanitation and energy infrastructure, which is particularly critical before winter. Access to cash or economic redevelopment support is particularly important to enable people to recover sustainably.

Comprehensive, Multi-sector emergency support and preparedness efforts are critical to assist Kherson Region and avoid a further deterioration of the situation before winter sets in.

## PRIORITY ACTIVITIES, IMMEDIATE & LONGER-TERM NEEDS

IOM is appealing for USD 12,000,000 to respond to urgent humanitarian needs over the next six months. Early recovery and longer-term activities, to be initiated in parallel where possible, are estimated to require an additional USD 14,500,000 over the next 12 months. Additionally, support through in-kind contributions of specialist machinery such as dislodging trucks, buses and generators, is needed.

### Shelter & Settlements

**Immediate response:** As an immediate response, IOM will provide rental assistance for evacuees outside of flooded locations. IOM will also provide light and medium repairs to collective centres which are receiving evacuees from the flooded areas, to equip them with basic amenities and improve living conditions. Emergency shelter kits as well as other emergency shelter materials will be provided for either public buildings hosting evacuees or for private houses as a first response.



**USD 4,600,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 4,600,000**  
Recovery & resilience funding needs

**Recovery and resilience response:** Once the situation allows, IOM will contribute to cleaning and drying submerged buildings through the provision of specialized equipment. Following this, IOM will support light and medium repairs to critical and social infrastructures, as well as repairs to damaged private houses, either multi-story apartment buildings or detached houses. IOM will offer inclusion in the individual house repair programme to cash-for-rent beneficiaries, as part of an exit strategy and synergistic response.

2. OCHA, Flash Update, 16 June.



## Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Energy & Equipment

**Immediate response:** Many communities urgently need support to improve or maintain access to clean water and sanitation services and IOM has received several requests from the Government of Ukraine, the State Emergency Services and the regional administration to urgently provide much needed items and equipment. IOM will contribute to these efforts through water trucking, water treatment equipment, as well as the provision of water containers, pumps, pipes, fittings, and hygiene items. Cleaning and rubbish disposal items are also urgently needed, as are flood mitigation and response equipment. To this end, IOM will make available prefabricated dams, boats, generators, heaters and machinery. IOM has already provided some urgently needed items and is well-positioned to procure and deliver additional items quickly through pre-existing agreements with suppliers and a network of warehouses.

**Recovery & resilience response:** IOM will support efforts to restore water supply systems and energy infrastructures, and to rehabilitate water sources (including ground and surface water) and distribution networks. In addition, sanitation systems and hygiene services will be supported as they are crucial to prevent health risks such as water-borne diseases, including cholera.



**USD 2,300,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 7,100,000**  
Recovery & resilience funding needs



## Health



**USD 1,100,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 1,000,000**  
Recovery & resilience funding needs

**Immediate response:** Preventing disease and serious health outbreaks is critical, particularly as clean water shortages are predicted to grow and can lead to an uptick in diseases and epidemics. IOM will continue to provide information communication and education (IEC) materials on waterborne diseases and will utilize its mobile health teams to support populations' access to primary healthcare should there be a disease outbreak.

**Recovery & resilience response:** As the water recedes, IOM will support in restoring and repairing affected health facilities to uphold local communities' access to healthcare and critical services, along with procuring and delivering critical medical equipment when conditions allow.



Woman carries aid package received from IOM partner in Kherson during the floods ©Rescue Now



## Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

**Immediate response:** MHPSS needs are growing across the country and IOM will provide support to the communities affected by this crisis and to displaced families, including through local partners. IOM scaled up its emotional support hotline, providing essential MHPSS support to those impacted. Area-based teams in locations receiving displaced persons will scale up the provision of psychological first aid (PFA) and referrals to other specialized mental health services for those who need it.

**Recovery & resilience response:** IOM will extend MHPSS support in the affected locations through focused and specialized services to mitigate the negative impact of the crisis and reduce vulnerabilities long-term. This can include supporting people with emerging moderate and severe forms of mental health consequences caused by the flooding and subsequent displacement.



**USD 100,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 100,000**  
Recovery & resilience funding needs



## Non-Food Items (NFIs)

**Immediate response:** There are urgent and widespread needs among the affected population, including for NFIs such as sanitary items, hygiene kits, clothing and bedding, which IOM will help address through its direct distribution capacity. IOM will also procure and make NFIs available to local partners to provide relief through scaling up the Common Pipeline programme.

**Recovery & resilience response:** Affected households who have remained or are returning to their homes after the initial flooding recedes will also require support tailored to that phase of their recovery. IOM will provide sanitary items, NFIs and clothing, and other needed items.



**USD 500,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 500,000**  
Recovery and resilience funding needs



## Support to Affected People & Micro/small Businesses

**Immediate Response:** Based on needs and in effort to support self-reliance, IOM will promote small, family-scale sustenance by providing households in need in the affected areas with conditional cash grants and in-kind support. This support will be tailored to enhance the beneficiaries' capacity to increase their resilience and family income, enabling them to be self-sufficient and able to provide for their basic needs. Micro and small businesses have been impacted by the flooding. IOM will provide small grants to impacted businesses, providing essential goods and services to support markets for needed goods in re-establishing themselves quickly. The grants will be used to make essential repairs or build up working capital to have sufficient supplies for the market. IOM will also assist businesses in re-establishing supply chains or in identifying new supply chains when possible. This is also critical to improve the impacts of cash-based interventions as cash support requires a well-functioning local market economy in order to be effective.

**Recovery & Resilience Response:** In the longer term, IOM will expand its focus beyond businesses providing essential goods and services, to include businesses that may have lost needed fixed assets, moved to new locations due to the flooding or for pre-existing businesses to re-establish their production or services. Technical support can be provided to support businesses in developing supply chain networks and conducting market analysis, as needed.



**USD 600,000**  
Immediate funding needs



**USD 1,200,000**  
Recovery & resilience funding needs



IOM loads aid items at its warehouse in Odesa to be dispatched to Kherson ©IOM 2023



## Cash-based interventions (CBI)

**Immediate response:** IOM, the co-chair of the Cash Working Group (CWG) in Ukraine, continues to facilitate its CBI programme in Mykolaiv and Kherson regions and will provide cash-based assistance amounting to UAH 6,600 to affected populations and evacuees, for an estimated 40,000 individuals. IOM is working in collaboration with the Government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian post office, Ukrposhta, to provide additional support in response. On request of the Government, IOM will take the lead on this intervention.



**USD 4,000,000**  
Immediate funding needs

### ADDITIONAL SECTORS FULLY FUNDED FOR THIS RESPONSE



## Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM)

In the initial days after the onset of the crisis, IOM extended material support to collective centres in Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv and other locations in proximity to the flooding to prepare for new arrivals and evacuations. IOM is conducting assessments, monitoring sites across the affected regions, and procuring items as part of preparedness. In case of an increase in the number of evacuees in IOM-supported collective centres, cash grants to site management for medium-term support can be allocated. IOM can also hold capacity building trainings on minimum standards to site management, for any newly established collective centers.



## Data & Analytics

Field teams were deployed to report on displacement patterns, and continue to assess mobility dynamics and needs, and publish assessments to provide evidence to humanitarian communities. Three flash alerts and three multi-sectoral Rapid Needs Assessment (RNAs) have been produced.<sup>3</sup> IOM identified that displacement remained relatively isolated to neighbouring communities, with households seeking to return to their homes as soon as possible. IOM will continue to support evidence-based response programming. IOM will continue to monitor displacement and needs in directly and indirectly affected areas including transit points, and produce Flash Reports, RNAs or other assessments and make them available to response actors to promote targeting and accountability.

3. Latest Rapid Needs Assessment and flash alert reports are available from IOM upon request. These reports are shared by IOM directly with OCHA structures, the Humanitarian Country Team and individual response partners and networks due to the sensitivity of the data.



## Protection

IOM has protection teams present in Dnipro and Odesa, while implementing partners are active in Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa, Kherson, and Mykolaiv regions. IOM and implementing partners are coordinating with the Government of Ukraine's social services to assist the most vulnerable affected populations on a case-by-case basis. IOM and partners can provide case management services which, based on the identified individual needs, may consist of counselling, support with the restoration of documents, basic emergency assistance (i.e., food, clothes, hygiene items, etc.), psychosocial support, legal advice, health services, temporary accommodation or referrals to the relevant service providers. IOM and partners can also conduct awareness-raising activities and disseminate informational materials on safe migration and employment as well as the prevention of human trafficking among the affected populations.

## IOM CAPACITY & COORDINATION

IOM Ukraine was established in 1996 and now has presence across the country, with over 800 staff. This includes 30 staff in an operational hub in Odesa covering the southern regions, and field presence in Mykolaiv and Kherson regions alongside a network of local implementing partners. IOM has a network of 17 warehouses across Ukraine that are well-positioned as resources to allow a rapid response with essential items.

IOM Ukraine had an operational budget of USD \$475 M in 2022 and is an active member of the UN Country Team (UNCT), UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and IASC Clusters.

IOM works in close coordination with other humanitarian actors to avoid the duplication of assistance and is an active member of the humanitarian community in Ukraine, pro-actively participating in inter-agency coordinator meetings. IOM has been appointed as the co-chair of the Cash Working Group (CWG) and sits on the Durable Solutions Steering Committee. IOM further co-chairs the Assessment and Analysis Working Group (AAWG) serving as a dedicated space for reviewing evidence and information gaps, as well as a source of key data for Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and HCT decision-making on the Kakhovka dam disaster response.

IOM takes on localization approach in Ukraine to support ownership and exit strategies and operates the Common Pipeline, including in the response to the Kakhovka dam crisis. The Common Pipeline is a humanitarian supply chain programme utilizing IOM's global logistics and procurement footprint to assist national and sub-national organizations to access humanitarian supplies for immediate utilization. By procuring and pre-positioning standard NFI materials, the response is unified and rapid, yet locally owned and contextually appropriate. Since the breach of the dam, IOM has cooperated with the following partners to respond to the identified needs: Informational and Analytical Center of the International Society for Human Rights (IAC ISHR), Global Empowerment Mission (GEM), Rescue Now, Medical Teams International, the Ukrainian Red Cross, Solidarities International and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

Using well-established coordination mechanisms, IOM has held in-depth discussions with Kherson local authorities and government agencies to understand critical needs and support affected families through a multi-sectoral response. Programming is implemented through direct distributions/implementation, partnerships with local organisations, as well as participation in inter-agency convoys.



*IOM conducts water trucking to areas in Kherson experiencing water shortages following the dam destruction ©IOM 2023*

IOM is supporting the Government of Ukraine and partners to meet urgent and longer-term needs. Working in coordination with partners through the cluster system, relevant national actors, as well as the regional and local authorities in Kherson and Mykolaiv regions.