Research Terms of Reference

Multi Sector Needs Assessment

UKR2609

Ukraine

May 2026

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action

1. Executive Summary

A. General information						
Country of intervention	Ukraine					
Type of Emergency	□	Natural disaster	X	Conflict	□	Other *(specify)*
Type of Crisis	□	Sudden onset	□	Slow onset	X	Protracted
Mandating Body/ Agency	*Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), OCHA*					
IMPACT Project Code	*64BAO, 64BAG*					
Overall Research Timeframe *(from research design to final outputs / M&E)*	*04/05/2026 to 15/12/2026*					

Research Timeframe *Add planned deadlines*		
	1. Data Analysis Plan (DAP) sent for validation: 11/05/2026	7. Preliminary presentation/dissemination events: 04/09/2026
	2. Pilot/training (CATI): 08/06/2026 to 12/06/2026	8. MSNI analysis sent for validation: 04/09/2026
	3. Start data collection: 15/06/2026	9. Bulletin sent for validation: 30/11/2025
	4. Data collected: 27/07/2026	10. Bulletin published: 15/12/2026
	5. Clean dataset sent for validation: 17/08/2026	11. Other (specify): _ _/_ _/_ _ _ _
	6. Data analysis sent for validation: 31/08/2026	

Humanitarian milestones *Specify **what** will the assessment inform and **when** e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to calculate PiN numbers for the HNO analysis*	**Milestone**		**Deadline**
	X	Donor plan/strategy	12/2026
	X	Inter-cluster plan/strategy	10/2026
	X	PiN calculation / HNO	09/2026
	□	IPC (Integrated food security Phase Classification)	_ _/_ _/_ _ _
	X	Cluster plan/strategy	11/2026 (TBD)
	□	NGO platform plan/strategy	_ _/_ _/_ _ _ _
	□	Other (Specify):	_ _/_ _/_ _ _ _

	Audience type	**Dissemination**

Audience Type & Dissemination *Specify **who** will the assessment inform and **how** you will disseminate to inform the audience*	X Strategic X Programmatic □ Operational □ [Other, Specify]	X General Product Mailing (e.g. mail to NGO consortium; HCT participants; Donors) X Cluster Mailing (Education, Shelter and WASH) and presentation of findings at next cluster meeting X Presentation of findings (e.g. at HCT meeting; Cluster meeting) X Website Dissemination (Relief Web & REACH Resource Centre) □ [Other, Specify]

Detailed dissemination plan required	X	Yes	□	No

General Objective	*To inform the planning, prioritization, and strategic decision-making of humanitarian actors in Ukraine by providing a robust evidence base for the 2027 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) through the conduct of a representative household-level assessment in selected frontline priority areas within the Government-Controlled Areas (GCA) of Ukraine, measuring the magnitude and complexity of multi-sectoral humanitarian needs.*
Specific Objective(s)	1. *To assess the needs of households across priority areas of Ukraine in key humanitarian sectors, including Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), Food Security and Livelihoods, Education, Health, and Protection.* 2. *To analyze variations in the prevalence and severity of humanitarian needs among different demographic groups across the surveyed areas, highlighting sociodemographic, as well as displacement-specific vulnerabilities.* 3. *To identify geographic variations in the prevalence and severity of needs across sectors, identifying oblasts and frontline/border regions where needs are most acute to inform targeted humanitarian interventions.* 4. *To identify the main drivers and co-occurrence of humanitarian needs by location and population group, including the role of service disruption, displacement, and socioeconomic vulnerability.* 5. *To gather data on accountability to affected populations (AAP), including assistance preferences, satisfaction levels, perceived reliability of information sources, and use offeedback and complaint mechanisms.* 6. *To examine changes in humanitarian needs over time in relation to the previous rounds of MSNA data collection.* 7. *To provide analytical outputs to inform sectoral People in Need (PiN) estimates, intersectoral severity analysis, and strategic planning for the 2027 Ukraine HNRP.* 8. *To strengthen the evidence base supporting humanitarian prioritization, including the identification of the most vulnerable*

	households in proximity to the front line and the most vulnerable sub-groups among internally displaced persons (IDPs), in line with evolving humanitarian priorities.
Research Questions	1. *What are the unmet essential needs of households across the sectors of shelter and non-food items, water, sanitation and hygiene, food security, education, health, livelihoods, and protection?* 2. *What is the variation in the prevalence and severity of humanitarian needs among different household demographics and displacement groups across the surveyed area?* 3. *What are the geographic differences in the prevalence and severity of needs in each sector between the assessed regions and in front line/border areas?* 4. *What are the affected populations' preferences for aid types and modalities, their satisfaction with humanitarian assistance, and challenges with aid information and voicing feedback?*
Geographic Coverage	*Frontline oblasts of Ukraine that are adjacent to the front line or bordering the Russian Federation: Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka Oblasts, with the exception of households in settlements not under control of the Government of Ukraine as of shortly before the envisioned start date of the data collection (15 June 2026). There are very limited settlements in Luhanska Oblast which are under the control of the Government of Ukraine which are excluded from this assessment.*
Secondary data sources	*2025 REACH Ukraine Multi-Sector Needs Assessment – General Population Dataset* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency Tables at National level* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency tables at Macro-region level* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency tables at Frontline Oblast level* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency Tables at Strata level* *2026 REACH Ukraine Calibration Assessment Round 4* Frequency Tables at Strata level 2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA Overview of Humanitarian Needs 2026 REACH Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM) 2026 REACH Ukraine Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)[1] *2026 Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP)* *2025-2026 OCHA Ukraine Situation Reports* *2026 IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)* *2025 Ukraine UNFPA Subnational Population Statistics* *More detailed information can be found under Point 3.3 Secondary Data Review in the Methodology section.*

B. Sampling				
Population groups	□	IDPs in camp	□	IDPs in informal sites

[1] Forthcoming.

Select all population group which your assessment will collect data on	X	IDPs in host communities	X	IDPs [Other, Specify]
	□	Refugees in camp	□	Refugees in informal sites
	□	Refugees in host communities	□	Refugees [Other, Specify]
	X	Host communities (including non-displaced conflict-affected populations)	X	Returnees (IDPs and refugees)
Structured questionnaire (Quantitative) – *Select all the apply*	X	Probability sampling	□	Non - Probability sampling
Data collection level:	X	Individual	X	Household
	X	Settlement	□	Other (specify): _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

If probability sampling

Sampling method: X Random sampling □ Cluster sampling

The sampling is stratified: X Yes □ No

If yes what are the stratifications:

° Geographic:

- Frontline and border oblasts: three strata - (i) **oblast center**, (ii) **areas within 50km** of the frontline or border, and (iii) **areas beyond 50km.**
- For those oblasts which lie predominantly within the 50km zone, the oblast and the oblast center are the two strata (i.e., Donetska, Khersonska and Zaporizka Oblasts).
- Odeska Oblast, given its unique geographic location to the front line, is stratified accordingly: Odesa (admin-4) and Odeskyi (admin-2) without Odesa.

° Population groups: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

° Other:_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

What is the Primary sampling unit (PSU)**:** Household

If cluster sampling, what is the mininum cluster size? _ _ _ _ _

Sampling frame:

Do you have the population number at PSU level for **all** population groups? X Yes □ No

Selection:

Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) : □ Yes X No

Selection of PSUs with replacement? : □ Yes X No

Aimed precision at stratification level:

95% level of confidence

5 to 8 +/- % margin of error

Buffer**:** 5 %

Total sample size: (Target #): 4,580

Resampling:

Do you have a reserve list of PSUs / households in case of inacessible area ? □ Yes X No

Data collection method: □ Face to face X Remote data collection

If non-probability sampling

Sampling method: □ Quota sampling □ Purposive □ Snowballing

The sampling is stratifed: □ Yes □ No

If yes what are the stratifications:

° Geographic:_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

° Population groups: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

° Other:_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

If quota sampling, what characteristics will be used as quota?**:** _

Data collection method □ Face to face □ Remote data collection

C. Questionnaire

Questionnaire design	**MSNA mandatory indicators** All the mandatory indicators from the MSNA indicator bank, have been included without alteration: □ Yes X No **XLSform for mandatory indicators** The kobo questionnaire provided for the mandatory indicators was used without alteration: □ Yes X No	
Data management platform(s)	X IMPACT □ UNHCR X Other, Specify (HDX)	
Expected ouput type(s)	X MSNA Bulletin #: 1 X Presentation (Preliminary findings) #: 6 X Interactive dashboard #: 1 □ Report #: _ _ □ Profile #: _ _ X Presentation (Final) #: 1 □ Webmap #: _ _ □ Factsheet #: _ _ □ Map #: _ _ X Brief/Situation overview #: 1	
Data publication plan	X	Final (anonymised) dataset public, available on REACH resource center
	X	Final (anonymised) dataset public, through HDX connect
	X	Analysis table public, available on REACH resource center
	□	Analysis table public, available on HDX

Visibility *Specify which* ***logos*** *should be on outputs*	***REACH***
	Donor: *Department of State, FCDO*
	Coordination Framework: *Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)*
	Partners: *Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS)*

2. Rationale

2.1 Background

Four years after the escalation of the war in Ukraine since February 2022, the humanitarian crisis has become increasingly protracted, while continuing to evolve in scale, severity, and geographic distribution. As of early 2026, an estimated 3.9 million people remain internally displaced across Ukraine,[2] while and estimated of 4.2 million people have returned to their areas of origin,[3] and 5.76 million refugees from Ukraine have been recorded globally.[4] The overall context is now characterized by prolonged displacement, repeated shocks, and eroded coping capacities. Humanitarian needs remain persistent, although continue to shift in response to changes in front lines, patterns of attacks, and access to services. According to the 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), an estimated 10.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance.[5]

Active hostilities persist across northern, eastern, and southern oblasts, with continued shelling, missiles, and drone attacks reported throughout late 2025 and early 2026. These dynamics have resulted in ongoing civilian casualties and sustained damage to housing, infrastructure, and productive assets.[6] Recurrent attacks on energy systems and other critical infrastructure continue to disrupt the provision of essential services, including electricity, heating, water supply and sanitation, healthcare, and education. The 2025–2026 winter season was particularly severe, with cold temperatures, repeated attacks on the energy network, and eroded household resources compounding vulnerabilities and exacerbating humanitarian needs.[7] In this context, many households face overlapping and compounding vulnerabilities, particularly during winter periods and in areas close to the front line.[8]

Findings from REACH's 2025 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) highlight the persistence of humanitarian needs across the country, with a large proportion of households experiencing sectoral needs and a significant share facing acute or extreme deprivations in frontline areas.[9] Additional evidence collected through the Calibration Assessment in the beginning of 2026 points to sustained conditions in key sectors, particularly livelihoods, health, and access to services.[10] The protracted nature of the crisis in these areas has deepened pre-existing socioeconomic vulnerabilities, with livelihoods erosion, limited access to services, and protection risks continuing to drive humanitarian needs most severely among those who were most vulnerable before the full-scale invasion (e.g., older households and households with a member with a disability). Despite their protracted nature, the nature and severity of needs are not static nor monolithic: they vary across geographic areas and

[2] IOM, Internal Displacement Report — General Population Survey Round 23 (May 2026)
[3] IOM, Returns Report — General Population Survey Round 23 (May 2026)
[4] UNHCR, Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation, Situation Ukraine Refugee Situation (accessed May 06 2026)
[5] OCHA, Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2026 (January 2026)
[6] UN, Ukraine violence 'worse than ever', Security Council hears , March 2026
[7] IOM, Ukraine — The Cost of Winter in Ukraine: Household Heating Costs, Utility Disruptions and Compounded Vulnerabilities in 2025-2026 , May 2026
[8] NRC, Ukraine: Families in the firing line. March 2026
[9] REACH, Ukraine Multi-Sector Needs Assessment – General Population Dataset, September 2025
[10] REACH, Ukraine Calibration 2026 – Dataset, March 2026

population groups and are influenced by ongoing displacement dynamics and repeated and new exposure to shocks.

The humanitarian response environment has been further affected by continued reductions in funding throughout 2025 and into 2026, compounded by the ongoing effects of shifts in major donor priorities. These funding challenges have had direct implications for the operational capacities of Humanitarian Clusters, international and national NGOs, and Ukrainian civil society organizations (CSOs), leading to reductions in staffing, scale-back of activities, and gaps in the delivery of assistance across sectors such as cash assistance, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, protection, food security and livelihoods, and shelter. Further, the humanitarian community has continued to operate under a prioritised framework within the 2026 HNRP, focusing available resources on the most critical needs, including: (i) supporting the most vulnerable populations in frontline areas, (ii) facilitating safe and timely evacuations, (iii) delivering rapid assistance in the aftermath of strikes, and (iv) addressing the needs of the most vulnerable displaced populations.

Against this backdrop of a protracted yet evolving crisis, characterized by sustained high levels of need, reduced funding capacities, and a prioritised humanitarian response, REACH Ukraine will implement the 2026 MSNA at the request of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), to generate updated, robust, and actionable evidence on humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities to support response planning.

2.2 Intended impact

The 2026 MSNA aims to provide comprehensive and representative multi-sectoral data on the evolving humanitarian situation in the frontline areas in Ukraine to inform strategic decision-making by the HCT, ICCG, and Humanitarian Clusters and relevant Working Groups. It will further support the programmatic planning and operational prioritisation of international and national humanitarian actors. As in previous years, the MSNA constitutes a central evidence base for humanitarian planning in Ukraine and is expected to directly inform the development of the 2027 HNRP, including People in Need (PiN) estimations, severity analysis, and geographic targeting.

Building on previous rounds, the assessment will collect data at settlement, household and individual levels to measure the prevalence and severity of humanitarian needs, as well as to better understand their underlying drivers in a protracted crisis context. It will examine how needs differ across geographic areas and among key population groups, including by gender, age, disability status, household composition, and displacement status. Particular attention will be paid to capturing variations in needs among different groupings of the conflict-affected population, including IDPs, returnees, and non-displaced households residing in high-risk areas.

The MSNA will also continue to integrate components related to Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), including preferences for assistance modalities, levels of satisfaction with aid, and barriers to accessing services, information, and feedback mechanisms. This component is especially critical in the context of constrained resources, where understanding prioritisation, coverage gaps, and perceived effectiveness of assistance is essential.

In recognition of both the protracted nature of the crisis and the evolving patterns of vulnerability, the 2026 MSNA will contribute to strengthening the evidence base underpinning humanitarian prioritisation. It will provide granular insights into needs in frontline and border areas, as well as detailed analysis of the severity and

drivers of needs among displaced and otherwise conflict-affected populations, with the aim of supporting more targeted, efficient, and equitable humanitarian action.

The 2026 MSNA builds on the approach and learning from the 2022, 2023 and 2024 2025 Ukraine MSNA and is conducted in close collaboration with the HCT and ICCG, and in alignment with UN OCHA.

3. Methodology

3.1 Methodology overview

The 2026 MSNA will utilize a quantitative methodology to collect mostly household-level data through randomized Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) surveys. This approach involves trained enumerators conducting structured interviews via mobile phone with respondents selected through Random Digit Dialing (RDD). The sampling strategy is designed to achieve a 95% confidence level, with margins of error ranging from approximately 5% to 8% depending on the achieved sample size within each stratum. As in previous years, REACH will subcontract data collection to the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS), ensuring adherence to REACH's data quality standards and ethical protocols. In total, approximately 4,580 household interviews will be conducted.

The sample design is based on 22 strata, listed in the Sampling summary table in Section 3.4, across nine frontline oblasts of Ukraine: Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka. Within these oblasts, stratification reflects both geographic proximity to the frontline or the border with the Russian Federation and key urban centres. Specifically, strata are defined as:

- Oblast centres (i.e., Chernhiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia);
- Areas located within 0 to50 kilometres of the front line or border with the Russian Federation (excluding centres where applicable);
- Areas located beyond 50 kilometres from the frontline or border (excluding centres where applicable).

While a base target of approximately 158 completed interviews per stratum is applied which includes a 5% buffer, selected strata are intentionally oversampled to increase analytical coverage in frontline raions (admin-2) affected by significant depopulation. Direct raion-level representativity is not feasible under current demographic conditions, particularly in heavily depopulated frontline raions. To mitigate this limitation, the sampling approach incorporates targeted oversampling across relevant strata, thereby increasing the likelihood of capturing sufficient observations within frontline raions without formally stratifying at that level. The targeted oversampling to provide a predicted raion-level representativity was determined by estimated population distributions according to the most recent update to the 2022 Government of Ukraine census provided by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Common Operational Dataset on Population Statistics (COD-PS) published in summer 2025.

Based on such feasibility assessments, approximately 11 out of 23 frontline raions are expected to be reliably covered, with up to 16 potentially captured under favourable conditions. A limited number are unlikely to reach sufficient sample sizes. Raion-level analysis will only be conducted where adequate data is available, and in some cases neighbouring raions may be used as analytical proxies, with appropriate caveats.

The 2026 MSNA deploys this oversampling approach because there is a potential misalignment between the units of analysis for the 2027 HNRP (which continues to emphasize distance to the front line and/or border with the Russian Federation) and the reporting requirements of OCHA, as well as key funders which continue to report at the raion-level (admin-2). Given the additional consideration that strata selection is designed to facilitate the sampling of homogeneous units according to particular criteria, which for the 2026 MSNA in Ukraine should consider proximity to hostilities, the 2026 MSNA deploys such an approach to meet these competing needs.

As a result, the survey design is expected to ensure representativity at the following levels:

- Oblast level (admin-1);
- 0–50 km and 50+ km zones within oblasts;
- Oblast centres (admin-4);
- A majority of frontline raions on a probabilistic basis, where sufficient observations are captured.

Results should be interpreted as representative at the stratum level, assuming sufficient mobile phone coverage and response rates. Aggregated estimates will be produced by pooling relevant strata to generate oblast-level and cross-strata indicators. As such, the precision of estimates will vary depending on effective sample sizes, but will fall within the 5–8% margin of error range at the 95% confidence level. The 2026 MSNA will report on raion-level if the margin of error falls below 11%.

To ensure alignment between the achieved sample and population distributions, REACH will apply post-stratification weighting. This will draw on:

- the most recent United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Common Operational Dataset on Population Statistics (COD-PS);
- 2022 settlement-level population statistics published by the Government of Ukraine prior to the full-scale invasion.

Settlement-level figures from the 2022 census will be updated using raion-level population change factors derived from COD-PS, enabling the construction of a calibrated population baseline. Survey weights will then adjust for unequal probabilities of selection resulting from stratification and oversampling, as well as for geographic population distribution.

The sampling approach does not allow for representative inference for specific population subgroups, such as internally displaced persons or returnees. While results will be disaggregated by sociodemographic characteristics and geographic variables, these findings should be interpreted as indicative due to reduced effective sample sizes.

The results are analyzed according to various geographies and demographics.[11] Geographic analyses include oblast-level and strata-specific disaggregations. Furthermore, the analysis results are disaggregated to highlight variations across other geographies (e.g.,, urban/rural, 20-kilometres and 21-50 kilometres distance from the front line and border with the Russian Federation) and sociodemographic groups (e.g., age and gender composition of the household, type of caregiver household size, presence of members with disability, households with children, income levels, etc.).

[11] See 3.5 Data Processing and Analysis section of the current ToR.

The analysis will be conducted through two complementary analytical frameworks: (i) the Multi-Sector Needs Index (MSNI), developed by IMPACT Initiatives to assess the severity of humanitarian needs across sectors; (ii) the Contextualized Composite Indicator Analysis (CCIA), developed by REACH Ukraine to capture context-specific patterns of need severity and previously applied to the 2025 MSNA.

3.1.1 Key definitions

- **Government-controlled areas:** Areas that are under the control of the Government of Ukraine (GoU) at the time of the sampling, as monitored by LiveUA.
- **Areas beyond the control of the GoU:** Areas/territories of Donetska, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Luhanska, Sumska, and Zaporizka occupied by the Russian Federation at the time of sampling, as monitored by LiveUA, and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- **Non-frontline oblasts:** Oblasts that do not have any part of their territory located within 50 kilometres of the front line or the border with the Russian Federation. These oblasts include: Cherkaska, Chernivetska, Ivano-Frankivska, Khmelnytska, Kirovohradska, Kyiv, Kyivska, Lvivska, Poltavska, Rivnenska, Ternopilska, Vinnytska, Volynska, Zakarpatska, and Zhytomyrska.
- **Frontline oblasts:** Oblasts that have a part of their territory located within 50 kilometres of the front line or the border with the Russian Federation. These oblasts include: Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka Oblasts.
- **Oblast centers:** Oblast centers refer to the administrative capital or main city of an oblast. They typically serve as the political, economic, and administrative hub of the oblast, hosting regional government institutions and offering a concentration of services, infrastructure, and population compared to other areas within the same oblast.
- **50-kilometre zone:** This category includes settlements where any portion lies within 50 kilometres of the front line and/or the border with the Russian Federation. The 50-kilometer zone was selected based on the contextual relevance of humanitarian needs to proximity to hostilities. While the 20-kilometre-zone is prioritized most in the humanitarian response, this zonage provides a sufficient population size for representative sampling. Further, data from Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM) has shown that within this zone, humanitarian needs tend to increase with proximity to the frontline or border.[12] REACH Ukraine utilizes front line data one week before the beginning of data collection for the definition of the 50-kilometre zone (expected timeline: 15 June 2026), allowing for accurate GIS adjustments.
- **Household member:** Those who are currently present in the household. Those household members who are temporarily absent are not included when respondents are considering their responses to questions, as well as family members. Family members in the military are also not included in the household if they are no longer residing in the household. However, the income of family members in the military are included if income continues to be pooled at the household from those serving in the Ukrainian Armed Forces but residing away from the household.
- **Head of Household:** A person who makes decisions on behalf of the entire household. The MSNA interviews respondents who either 1) report serving as the head of household or 2) report they are able to answer on behalf of the head(s) of household. The Ukraine MSNA allows for two heads of household to be selected.
- **Internally Displaced Person (IDP):** Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee, or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or

[12] REACH, Four years of evolution from emergency monitoring to frontline (April 2026).

natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognised State border.[13] In Ukraine, IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) operationalizes this definition by categorizing as IDPs those that moved from their city/village of permanent place of residence because of the full-scale war.[14] For this assessment, REACH aligns its IDP category with this definition and creates a separate category labelled "households displaced within settlements" to capture those who have been displaced but not outside of their city/village. The dominant focus of the MSNA is those IDPs which have been displaced at any point beginning from 24 February 2022 beyond their settlement.

- **Returnee:** A person who had undergone a migratory movement and returned to their original place of habitual residence.[15] REACH aligns with the definition operationalized by the IOM which requires that returnees have left the place of their habitual residence since February 24th, 2022 due to the current war for a minimum of 2 weeks (14 days). Returnees are not restricted only to IDPs, but can also include those who were displaced internationally.
- **IDP household:** IDP households refer to those households that have at least one head of household who is an IDP.
- **General population:** This refers to all individuals/households residing in Ukraine without reference to any specific characteristic.
- **Computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) surveys:** In this method, questions are displayed through an application or software (e.g., Kobo) on an electronic device such as a mobile or computer screen, which the interviewer then reads to a respondent over a phone call and enters the respondent's answers directly into the electronic advice. The MSNA utilizes Kobo.
- **Household:** The MSNA considers a household to be a small group of persons who share the same living accommodation, who pool some, or all, of their income and wealth and who consume certain types of goods and services collectively, mainly housing and food. It excludes household members who are temporarily absent from the home for six months or more, including children who are absent, as well as members who serve in the military and do not live at home.
- **Critical infrastructure:** Schools and education facilities (including scientific institutions), markets and grocery stores, railway, road, bridges, wastewater infrastructure (e.g. pipes, treatment facilities, buildings, etc.), water infrastructure (e.g. pipes, treatment facilities, buildings, etc.), district heating stations, gas stations and gas supply network, government buildings, fire stations, industrial facilities, power stations/facilities and electricity supply network, health facilities and pharmacies, warehouses, humanitarian aid distribution centres, telecommunications infrastructure.

3.2 Population of interest

The points below outline the geographical area and population assessed as well as unit of measurement.

- **Geographical area assessed:** Overall, the MSNA aims to cover nine frontline oblasts: Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka Oblasts, excluding the households not under the control of the Government of Ukraine.
- **Population assessed**: The general population residing in the assessed areas. While the assessment does not conduct stratification by demographic groups, results are disaggregated by key demographic characteristics during the analysis stage.
- **Unit of measurement:** The unit of measurement is the household. The MSNA will include an individual module on employment, health and education indicators measured at the individual level.

[13] IOM, *Glossary on Migration* (2019).
[14] IOM, *Methodological Note: General Population Survey Ukraine* (August 2023).
[15] IOM, *Glossary on Migration* (2019).

At times, households are prompted to answer questions on their community or area of residence, as well (i.e., settlement).

3.3 Secondary data review

Source	Relevance	Usage
IMPACT 2026 MSNA Indicator Bank	The MSNA Indicator Bank constitutes IMPACT Initiatives guidance on core MSNA sectoral indicators	To inform the questionnaire's indicators and design.
REACH Ukraine 2025 MSNA Data Analysis Plan	The Data Analysis Plan lists the indicators measured through the 2025 MSNA.	To inform the methodology and questionnaire design for the 2025 MSNA.
2025 REACH Ukraine Multi-Sector Needs Assessment – General Population Dataset	The General Population Dataset gathers the data collected through the 2025 MSNA on the general population of Ukraine.	Where possible, to conduct comparative and trend analysis between MSNA rounds.
2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency Tables at National level *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency tables at Macro-region level* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency tables at Frontline Oblast level* *2025 REACH Ukraine MSNA General Population Frequency Tables at Strata level*	The MSNA frequency tables show the results of the analysis of core MSNA indicators across multiple sectors: Displacement, Education, Food Security, Livelihoods, Health, Protection, Shelter and NFI, WASH, and Accountability to Affected Populations. The frequency tables are available at four different geographical levels: National, Macro-region, Oblast, and Strata.	To provide contextual data on general populations' multi-sectoral needs, triangulate and compare findings between MSNA rounds.
2026 REACH Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM)	Provides detailed information on humanitarian needs and service access in conflict-affected settlements in Ukraine within the 0-50 kilometre zone.	Inform assessment methodology, including questionnaire and sampling design, verify/triangulate primary data and findings and try to compare trends over time.
2026 REACH Ukraine Calibration Assessment Round 4 – Dataset 2026 REACH Ukraine Calibration Assessment Round 4 – Frequency Tables at Strata level 2026 REACH Ukraine Calibration Assessment Round 4 – Frequency Tables Frontline Oblasts	The report presents the results of the Calibration Assessment Roud 4, providing an update on multisectoral needs as of January 2026.	To inform analysis, emerging trends, seasonal drivers of vulnerability and needs across sectors in 2026.

2026 REACH Ukraine Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)[16]	JMMI reports track prices and availability of commodities, market dynamics in Ukraine, and inform cash-based humanitarian responses within the 0-50 kikometre zone.	To facilitate context analysis and triangulate primary data collected by different research cycles.
2026 Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP)	The 2026 HNRP provides an overview of the impact of the war on the people of Ukraine, the most pressing humanitarian needs, the estimated number of people who need assistance. It outlines the strategy to ensure adequate and timely humanitarian response.	Aid understanding of the context, informs assessment methodology, including questionnaire and sampling design.
2025-2026 OCHA Ukraine Situation Reports	Compilation of latest information concerning the humanitarian situation in Ukraine.	To enhance understanding of the context and key definitions, corroborate primary data, and validate findings through triangulation.
2026 IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)	Tracks displacement trends and provides information on conflict-affected displaced groups in Ukraine.	Aid understanding of the context, specifically in relation to displacement.
2025 Ukraine UNFPA Subnational Population Statistics	Restricted dataset on population statistics disaggregated by geographic and demographic groups. The dataset is updated annually in the summer to allow for more accurate weighting.	To generate survey weights for the MSNA dataset.
REACH Ukraine UNHCR Ukraine Quarterly Operational Updates UNICEF Ukraine Situation Reports WFP Ukraine Situation Reports ACAPS Ukraine Special Reports	Compilation of latest information products from UN Agencies and INGOs on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine.	To enhance understanding of the context and key definitions, corroborate primary data, and validate findings through triangulation.
Cluster reports	Compilation of Clusters and NGO partners' reports on sectoral and localized needs.	To triangulate primary data and findings on sectoral and localized needs.

3.4 Primary Data Collection

3.4.1 Method

The MSNA will include approximately 4,580 household-level CATI interviews conducted across nine frontline oblasts of Ukraine. The CATI methodology was selected over face-to-face (F2F) data collection due to its cost- and time-efficiency, alignment with the approach used in the 2025 MSNA, and its ability to safely access households in frontline and border areas – which are increasingly the focus of the humanitarian response – without exposing enumerators to security risks.

Data collection will be implemented by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS), under the oversight of REACH. KIIS brings substantial operational capacity and extensive experience in CATI implementation, having

[16] Forthcoming.

conducted data collection for multiple MSNA and HSM cycles, as well as previous assessment rounds in Ukraine. As a long-standing REACH partner, KIIS is fully familiar with REACH methodologies, data quality standards, and ethical protocols. In parallel, REACH will ensure technical oversight of the process, including correct implementation of the sampling design, and data quality monitoring. KIIS enumerators will be trained in accordance with REACH standards to ensure consistency in implementation. Data collection is planned to take place over a five-week period from 15 June to 27 July 2026, following a one-week training period, which includes testing and piloting.

3.4.2 Sampling

The MSNA 2026 will adopt a probability-based sampling methodology using stratified random sampling. The sampling design has been developed to balance operational constraints, including timeline, budget, and access limitations, with the need to generate a robust and policy-relevant evidence base for the 2027 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP).

The sampling framework covers nine frontline oblasts, namely Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka, and is structured around 22 strata defined by geographic proximity to the frontline or the border with the Russian Federation, as well as key urban centres. These strata include:

- Oblast centres;
- Areas located within 0–50 kilometres from the frontline or border (excluding centres where applicable);
- Areas located beyond 50 kilometres from the frontline or border (excluding centres where applicable).

A baseline target of approximately 158 completed interviews per stratum is applied, with selected strata deliberately oversampled to improve analytical coverage in frontline areas, particularly regarding raion (admin-2) representativity.

Direct raion-level representativity is not feasible under current conditions given the depopulation of certain frontline raions, which a stagnant frontline has exacerbated. As such, the sampling strategy incorporates targeted oversampling across strata to increase the probability of capturing observations from frontline raions without explicitly stratifying at that level. The estimation of the oversample is based off updated settlement-level statistics through the same approach described above for weighting the dataset.

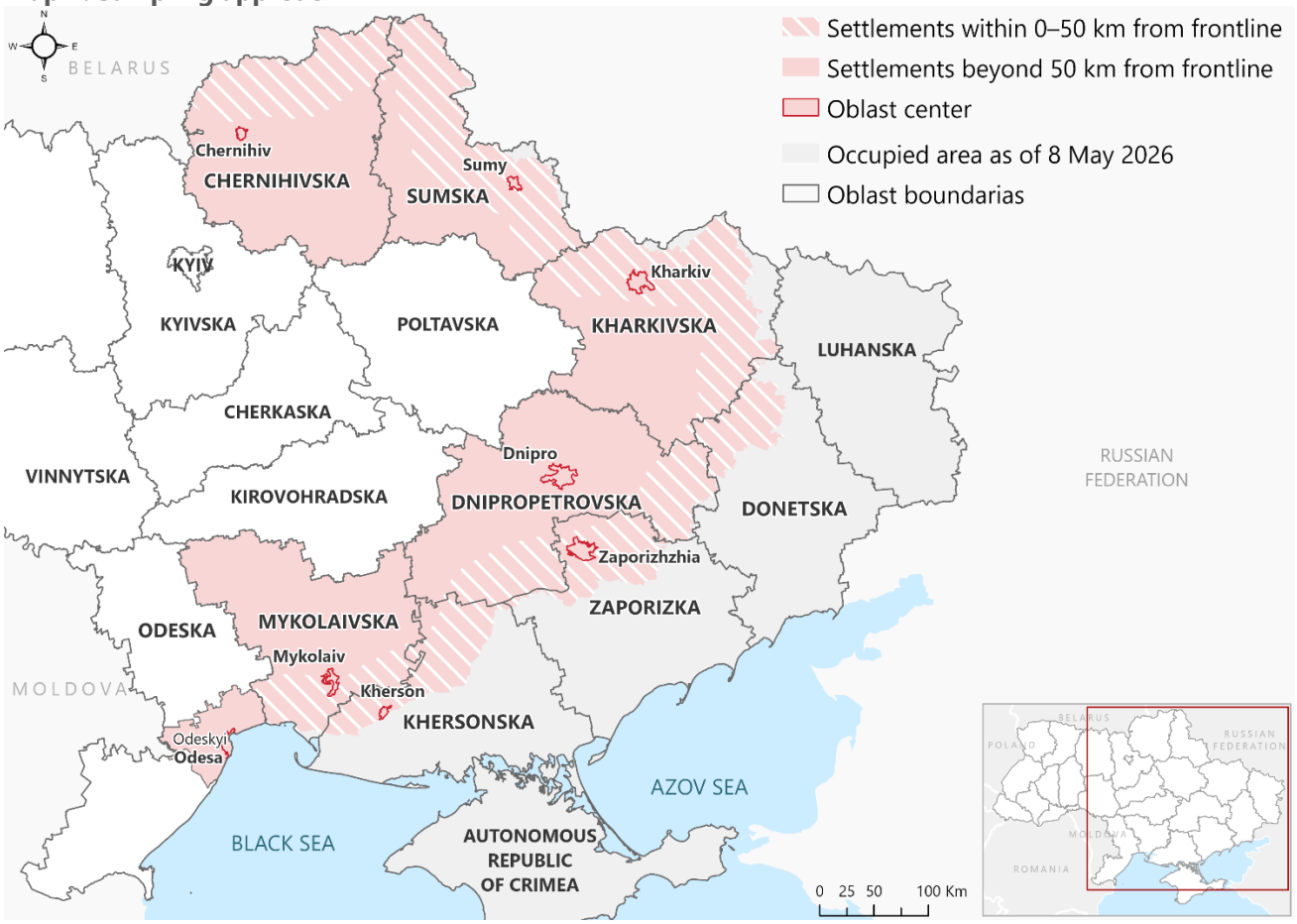
This approach is expected to ensure representativity at:

- Oblast level (admin-1);
- 0–50 km and 50+ km zones within oblasts;
- Oblast centres (admin-4);
- A majority of frontline raions on a probabilistic basis, where sufficient observations are captured.

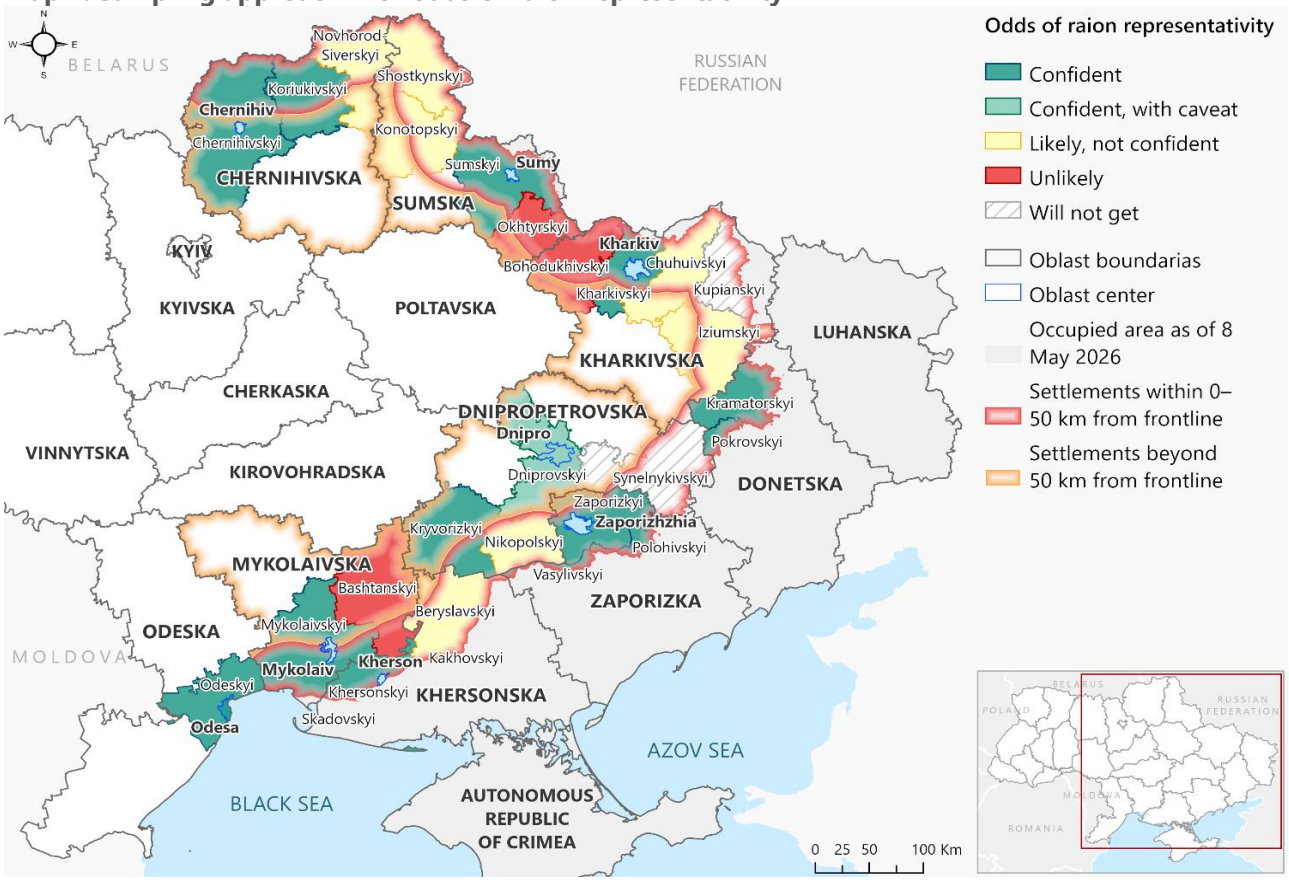
While approximately 11 out of 23 frontline raions are expected to be reliably represented, coverage could extend to up to 16 raions under favourable conditions. A limited number of raions are unlikely to reach sufficient sample sizes. Consequently, raion-level analysis will only be conducted where adequate data is available, and findings for specific raions should be interpreted with caution.

Given the CATI RDD methodology, results are considered representative at the stratum level, assuming adequate mobile phone coverage and response rates. Aggregated estimates will be produced by pooling relevant strata to generate oblast-level and cross-strata indicators. The margin of error will vary depending on effective sample sizes, but is expected to fall within the range of approximately 5% to 8% at a 95% confidence level, with the 2026 reporting on the raion level when the margin of error falls below 11%.

Map 1: Sampling approach



Map 2: Sampling approach with odds of raion representativity



Households covered by the 2026 MSNA are located exclusively in nine frontline oblasts of Ukraine: Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, and Zaporizka. Within these oblasts, the sampling framework applies stratified random sampling, with strata defined based on proximity to the front line or the border with the Russian Federation, as well as the inclusion of key urban centres.

Specifically, strata are defined based on proximity to the frontline or the border with the Russian Federation, as well as the inclusion of selected oblast centres. These include: (i) areas located within the 0–50 km zone; (ii) areas located beyond 50 km, where applicable; and (iii) oblast centres, where these are treated as distinct strata.

In Donetska Oblast, given the limited accessibility and the concentration of the surveyed population in Kramatorsk, a single stratum covering the accessible areas is applied. In Khersonska and Zaporizka Oblasts, where the majority of territory lies within the 0–50 km zone, two strata are defined: the oblast centre and the remainder of the oblast within the 0–50 km zone, with no 50+ stratum included. In contrast, in oblasts such as Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Sumska, Chernihivska, and Mykolaivska, where both frontline-proximate and more distant populations are accessible, stratification distinguishes between 0–50km areas, 50+ km areas, and, where relevant, oblast centres.

In Odeska oblast, stratification is not based on distance to the frontline, but instead distinguishes between the city of Odesa and Odeskyi (admin-2). Given the shape of Odeska Oblast and the particularities of its geography in relation to the ongoing conflict, Odesa (admin-4) and Odeskyi (admin-2) with the oblast centre removed were preferred as the two sampling units, over Odesa and Odeska (admin-1).

Oblast centres sampled as distinct strata include Chernihiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhia. These cities are treated separately to prevent large urban populations from disproportionately influencing estimates for surrounding areas, particularly within the 0–50 km zones or broader oblast-level strata.

While no dedicated sample of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is drawn, previous CATI-based assessments indicate that a substantial number of IDP households are likely to be included in the sample, particularly within frontline oblasts. As such, findings related to IDPs may provide useful insights and, in some cases, approach acceptable levels of precision; however, they should not be assumed to be fully representative. Any disaggregation by displacement status will therefore be treated as indicative and interpreted with caution.

The target sample size is approximately 158 completed interviews per stratum, with larger allocations in selected strata to support oversampling. This results in a total sample of approximately 4,580 household interviews across 22 strata. At the stratum level, this corresponds to a 95% confidence level, with margins of error generally ranging from approximately 5% to 8% depending on achieved sample sizes. A buffer of approximately 5% is included to account for interviews that may be excluded following data quality checks.

The primary sampling unit is the household. Samples are drawn within each stratum using Random Digit Dialing (RDD), whereby mobile phone numbers are randomly generated based on operator prefixes and remaining digits. Enumerators conduct multiple call attempts at different times and on different days to maximise response rates. Data collection is implemented through a call centre operated by KIIS with guidance and monitoring from REACH ensuring standardized procedures, supervision, and adherence to established data quality and ethical standards.

Sampling summary table:

Stratification	Confidence level	Error margin	Buffer	Sample size	Sampling type
Chernihivska – Chernihiv (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Chernihivska – 50 kilometer zone	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*300*	*Probability*
Chernihivska – Beyond 50 kilometer zone minus Chernihiv	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*300*	*Probability*
Dnipropetrovska – Dnipro (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Dnipropetrovska – 50 kilometer zone	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*180*	*Probability*
Dnipropetrovska – Beyond 50 kilometer zone minus Dnipro	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	180	*Probability*
Donetska – Donetska	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Kharkivska – Kharkiv (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Kharkivska – 50 kilometes zone minus Kharkiv	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	334	*Probability*
Kharkivska – Beyond 50 kilometer zone	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	334	*Probability*
Khersonska – Kherson (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Khersonska – Khersonska minus Kherson	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*180*	*Probability*
Mykolaivska – Mykolaiv (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Mykolaivska – 50 kilometer zone minus Mykolaiv	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Mykolaivska – Beyond 50 kilometer zone	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Odeska – Odesa (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Odeska – Odeskyi minus Odesa	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Sumska – Sumy (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Sumska – 50 kilometer zone minus Sumy	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*359*	*Probability*
Sumska – Beyond 50 kilometer zone	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	359	*Probability*
Zaporizka – Zaporizhzhia (oblast center)	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
Zaporizka – Zaporizka minus Zaporizhzhia	*95%*	*5-8%*	*5%*	*158*	*Probability*
			Total sample size	**4,580**	

3.4.3 Tools

The 2026 MSNA will utilize a quantitative household survey instrument developed based on the existing framework applied in previous MSNA rounds, building on lessons learned and refinements introduced in 2024 and 2025. The questionnaire incorporates the majority of mandatory (Tier 1) indicators from the MSNA Indicator Bank, with targeted adaptations to better reflect the Ukrainian context and evolving humanitarian priorities. In

particular, adjustments were made within the Protection and Shelter sections to ensure relevance to current operational realities. These revisions were undertaken in close consultation with key stakeholders involved in the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), including 13 Clusters and Technical Working Groups. Partners were provided with the opportunity to review and provide detailed feedback on the draft questionnaire to ensure alignment with sectoral information needs.

While the Kobo questionnaire template provided by IMPACT HQ for mandatory indicators was reviewed, the MSNA Ukraine team opted not to adopt it in its original format. Instead, a tailored Kobo XLSForm is used, supported by customized data cleaning and analysis scripts that have been refined over three consecutive MSNA cycles. This adapted tool is designed to improve data accuracy, streamline processing, and ensure consistency with Ukraine-specific methodological requirements. A detailed list of indicators that have been removed, modified, or added is provided in the technical annex. However, variable names align with those provided by IMPACT HQ.

Enumerators contracted by KIIS will undergo a five-day training prior to data collection. The training will cover what IMPACT is, the purpose of the assessment, the structure of the questionnaire, the rationale behind each module, and detailed guidance on response options, with particular emphasis on modules identified as challenging in previous rounds, including displacement, income and expenditure, and food security indicators. The training combines theoretical sessions with practical exercises using the Kobo tool. Enumerator readiness will be assessed through a knowledge test and the completion of two pilot interviews prior to the start of data collection. Both must be completed successfully to proceed with data collection.

During data collection, the REACH Data Team will conduct regular quality assurance checks, monitoring key indicators such as interview duration, call patterns, response consistency, and logical coherence of responses. Findings from these checks will be systematically documented and shared with KIIS focal points on a weekly basis. The Data and Assessment Teams will jointly review identified issues and determine appropriate corrective actions based on their frequency and severity. In addition, enumerators will be able to provide structured feedback directly within the Kobo tool, including observations related to questionnaire design, respondent comprehension, or contextual factors affecting the interview.

In the event that target sample sizes are not achieved in specific strata due to elevated non-response rates or access constraints, KIIS will intensify call-back procedures using the Random Digit Dialing (RDD) system, including repeated attempts at different times and days. Given the CATI-based methodology, it is anticipated that sufficient coverage will be achieved in most strata. However, in cases where persistent challenges arise, particularly in areas close to the frontline, REACH will assess feasible mitigation measures, including adjustments in fieldwork intensity or extended data collection periods, as well as combining strata. Any deviations from the planned sampling approach, as well as their implications for representativity and analysis, will be transparently documented during the data processing and reporting stages.

3.5 Data Processing & Analysis

Once the data collection is completed, primary data collected through Kobo will be exported to Excel and utilized by REACH for data processing. REACH Data Teams will keep a log of any changes, aligning to IMPACT's Minimum Standards Checklist for Data Cleaning and Processing for Structured (Quantitative) Data [17] as well as IMPACT's Data Protection SoPs. Data cleaning will involve verifying logical consistency through cross-checks during data

[17] Internal document.

collection, ensuring that metadata is complete, appropriately recoding "other" responses, and removing all personal or identifying information from the dataset.

Primary data collected through the 2026 MSNA will be analyzed to assess the overall state of humanitarian needs across sectors, geographies and demographic groups, identify key drivers of vulnerability, and map common need profiles. During the analysis phase, sampling weights will be applied to different strata to ensure that the sample more adequately reflects the population distribution, based on UNFPA's most updated COD-PS data.

The 2026 MSNA data will be processed using two analysis frameworks: (i) the **Multi-Sector Needs Index**, and the (ii) **Contextualized Composite Indicator Analysis (CCIA)** framework. The 2026 Multi-Sector Needs Index framework[18] will be developed by IMPACT Initiatives to facilitate the analysis and comparison of crisis-level data across sectors and humanitarian operations, using standard indicators to compare crises across contexts. The CCIA was developed by REACH Ukraine in 2024 in collaboration with Clusters, Working Groups, and Areas of Responsibility, to measure the magnitude and complexity of humanitarian needs in Education, Food Security, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, SNFI, and WASH. It was then updated in 2025. The CCIA is specifically tailored to the Ukrainian context, with localized indicators and dimensions that reflect the unique characteristics of the crisis to facilitate dissemination of findings.

Both analysis frameworks classify households based on the severity of humanitarian needs into five categories: None/Minimal (1), Stress (2), Severe (3), Extreme (4), and Extreme (4+). A household is considered in need if it scores above 3, and in extreme need if it scores 4 or higher. The final severity score is based on the highest sectoral severity experienced by the household.

The critical indicators and dimensions analysed through the CCIA include:

- **Education**: capturing information about children's school attendance, schooling modalities, reasons for not accessing formal school, education disruption events, and the presence of a conducive environment to education.
- **SNFI**: shelter type, capturing proportion of HHs living in safe and dignified dwellings, proportion of HHs living in functional domestic space, conflict damage and non-conflict related shelter issues, security of tenure, types of electricity and heating, interruptions to main utility services, and access to essential non-food items.
- **WASH**: capturing information about access to sufficient quantity of drinking water, primary sources of drinking water, access to improved water sources, water-fetching time, treatment of water, types and safety of sanitation facilities used, access to technical water, hygiene and access to hygiene NFIs.
- **Food security:** capturing Food Consumption Score (FCS) and Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI), Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs (ECMEN)
- **Livelihoods, Cash and markets:** capturing information about households's primary income sources, income quantity, utilization of livelihood coping strategies (LCS), estimation of monthly expenditure per capita, and debt repayment challenges.
- **Health**: capturing information about the proportion of households with health needs, forgone care, disability and chronic conditions, barriers to accessing healthcare and medicines, and distance to the nearest medical facility.

[18] Forthcoming.

- **Protection**: capturing information on exposure to conflict events, safety and security incidents, key concerns in relation to housing/property/land, inability to access legal assistance and social and administrative services, and child separation.

The findings will be disaggregated to highlight variations across administrative and geographic specifications (urban/rural, strata, distance from the frontline and border with the Russian Federation), as well as sociodemographic criteria. Nevertheless, given the small sample size, the analysis based on such disaggregations will be only indicative. Key disaggregations will include:

- HHs with at least one member with a reported or registered disability: HHs with a member with a disability, HHs without a member with a disability
- Displacement status of head of household: IDP HHs, Intra-settlement displaced HHs, Non-displaced HHs, Returnee HHs
- Age of HH members: Mixed HHs (both 60+ and under), Non-elderly HHs, Elderly HHs.
- HH size: Single HH member, HHs with 2-4 members, HHs with 5+ members
- Rural/urban: Rural HHs, Urban HHs
- By 50-km proximity to the Frontline / border with the Russian Federation: HHs living in settlements away from the frontline or Russian border, HHs living in settlements close to the frontline or Russian border.
- By presence of children: HHs with children (HH member <18 years old), HHs without children
- By caregiving status: Household without children, Multiple adults with children, Single female adult with children, Single male adult with children
- By income per capita: HHs in 0-25% income quartile, HHs in 25-50% income quartile, HHs in 50-75% income quartile, HHs in 75-100% income quartile
- By head of household type: Joint-headed households, Single-headed female households, Single-headed male households
- By gender of respondent: Men-respondent, Women-respondent
- By age of respondents: 18-29 y.o. respondents, 30-44 y.o. respondents, 45-59 y.o. respondents, 60+ y.o. respondents.

3.6 Limitations

The 2026 MSNA faces several limitations related to its data collection modality and sampling strategy. The use of CATI interviewing, while cost-effective and enabling access to hard-to-reach areas near the front line, may introduce coverage bias by underrepresenting households without reliable access to mobile phones. This includes, for example, older individuals, populations living in remote areas, and households in frontline settlements affected by disruptions to telecommunications infrastructure. In addition, CATI surveys are less suited to lengthy questionnaires, as the absence of face-to-face interaction can contribute to respondent fatigue, increased non-response rates, and incomplete interviews. To mitigate these risks, the MSNA questionnaire has been streamlined and structured to ensure an average completion time of approximately 45 to 60 minutes, including the use of shorter and more focused sectoral modules.

As data collection will be implemented by KIIS rather than REACH enumerators, REACH will have reduced direct control over fieldwork operations. This may introduce risks related to data quality and consistency. To address this, REACH will maintain strong oversight through the implementation of comprehensive data quality assurance mechanisms, including regular monitoring of interview patterns, logic checks, and systematic review of incoming data. In addition, REACH will hold regular coordination meetings with KIIS to review progress, address challenges, and ensure adherence to established protocols.

While the assessment is designed to achieve a 95% confidence level, the margin of error varies across strata, generally ranging from approximately 5% to 8% depending on achieved sample sizes. The survey is representative at the stratum level and supports aggregation to oblast level, as well as to 0–50 km and 50+ km zones where applicable. However, due to the stratified design and the use of targeted oversampling, precision will differ across geographic aggregations. Furthermore, the approach does not guarantee full representativity at the raion level; although the sampling strategy increases the likelihood of capturing data from frontline raions, coverage remains partial and probabilistic.

The sampling design does not include dedicated samples for specific population groups, such as IDPS. While a substantial number of IDP households are expected to be captured, any analysis disaggregated by displacement status should be considered indicative rather than statistically representative. The same applies to other population subgroups, including households with specific vulnerabilities, given the reduced effective sample sizes when disaggregating the data.

Finally, differences between MSNA geographic classifications and those used by other actors (e.g. OCHA definitions of frontline areas or proximity zones) may lead to discrepancies in interpretation. These differences will be clearly documented and communicated during analysis and dissemination to support coherent inter-agency use of the findings.

4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

The proposed research design meets / does not meet the following criteria:

The proposed research design…	***Yes/ No***	***Details if no (including mitigation)***
… Has been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to **avoid unnecessary duplication** of data collection efforts?	Yes	
… **Respects respondents, their rights and dignity** (*specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing length of survey/ discussion while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided*)?	Yes	
… Does not **expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result** of participation in data collection?	Yes	
… Does not **expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result** of participation in data collection?	No	Respondent telephone numbers will be requested during the interview in case of a need to clarify responses during cleaning or conduct follow-up data collection. However, respondents will first be informed of how their number will be used and stored and their numbers will only be collected if they provide their consent. To mitigate the risk of exposure of personally identifiable data, IMPACT SOPs for management of such information are followed. In addition, respondents are

		not asked sensitive political or ideological questions that could put them at risk or make them feel uncomfortable.
… Does not involve **collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising** for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	No	The assessment includes questions on vulnerability, income, disability, healthcare needs, exposure to conflict, main safety and security incidents affecting the households, any of which can be sensitive for a respondent and trigger potential feeling of shame and/or discomfort of respondent. Risk is mitigated by careful phrasing of the questions and adding an option to refuse to answer. In addition, enumerators are trained on how to approach sensitive topics during interviews.
… Does not involve **data collection with minors** i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
… Does not involve **data collection with other vulnerable groups** e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	No	While vulnerable groups are not purposefully sampled as part of this assessment, Heads of households (HoH) or household members that are interviewed could represent an at-risk group. Respondents have the right to refuse the whole interview or answer specific questions. In addition, enumerators will be trained on ethical considerations and referral and reporting mechanisms
… Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of **personally identifiable information**?	Yes	

5. Roles and responsibilities

Table 3: Description of roles and responsibilities

Task Description	*Responsible*	*Accountable*	*Consulted*	*Informed*
Research design	*Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*	*Research Department at IMPACT HQ, Deputy Country Coordinator*	*13 HNRP stakeholders*
Supervising data collection	*Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer, Senior Data Officer*	*Research Manager*		
Data processing (checking, cleaning)	*Senior Data Officer, Data Officer, GIS Officer, Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*		
Data analysis	*Senior Data Officer, Data Officer, GIS Officer, Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*	*Research Department at IMPACT HQ, Deputy Country Coordinator*	*13 HNRP stakeholders*
Output production	*Senior Assessment Officer, Assesment Officer*	*Research Manager*		
Dissemination	*Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*		
Monitoring & Evaluation	*Senior Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*		
Lessons learned	*Senior Data Officer, Data Officer, GIS Officer, Senior Assessment Officer, Assessment Officer*	*Research Manager*		

Responsible: *the person(s) who executes the task*

Accountable: *the person who validates the completion of the task and is accountable of the final output or milestone*

Consulted: *the person(s) who must be consulted when the task is implemented*

Informed: *the person(s) who need to be informed when the task is completed*

6. Data Analysis Plan

Available on the IMPACT Document Repository platform at this link.