

Ukraine

01-30 June 2017

Situational overview: Security situation remained volatile, with continued targeting of civilian infrastructure.

Protection concerns: The Government passed amendments to revise criteria for inclusion in the targeted financial assistance programme.

Assistance provided: In June, UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter assistance to more than 1,000 people.

KEY INDICATORS

42,400

people reached through **NFI assistance** from UNHCR and partners in the first six months 2017.

20,500

IDPs and people at risk of displacement received **legal assistance** from UNHCR partners in Jan-Jun 2017.

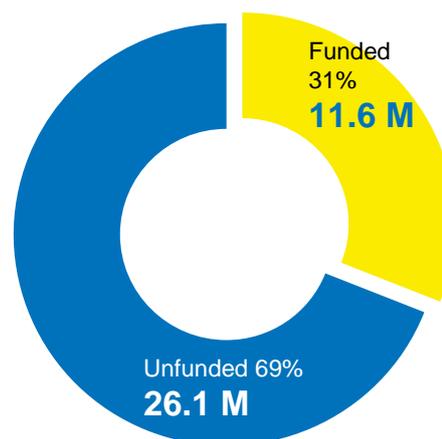
1,700

households in eastern Ukraine received UNHCR **shelter assistance** in first six months of 2017.

FUNDING (AS OF 24 JULY)

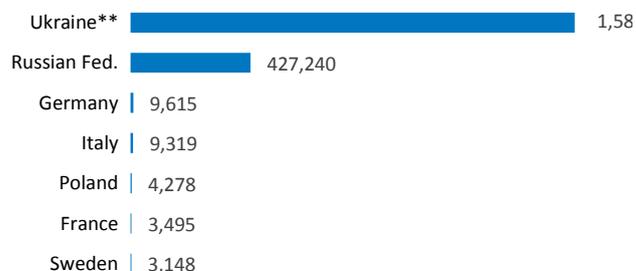
USD 37.7 M

requested for the Ukraine situation



INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Host countries*



* Top seven host countries.

** Registered IDPs according to the Ministry of Social Policy (13 July 2017).

Source (external displacement): UNHCR

External displacement data refers to the total number of asylum applications by Ukrainians (first time applications) since the beginning of the Ukraine situation in January 2014.



Update On Achievements

Operational Context

Despite the 'harvest ceasefire' which took effect on 24 June, armed conflict in eastern Ukraine continues to damage people's homes and critical civilian infrastructure, particularly water systems, upon which some 1.5 million people in Donetsk region depend. The ongoing destruction and disruption is leading to new humanitarian needs and creating risks of displacement. At least six conflict-related civilian fatalities occurred during June, bringing the total to 52 confirmed civilian fatalities so far in 2017, according to OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) [reports](#). In June, the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) recorded more than 1,100,000 crossings of the line of contact. Fighting near the line of contact often inhibits freedom of movement across checkpoints. There are frequently long queues and correspondingly long waiting times. Those waiting to cross face poor service at checkpoints as staff deal with the often-malfunctioning electronic permit database. Those waiting to cross have including limited access to basic services such as, drinking water, latrines, weather shelters, and medical care. UNOCHA's [Humanitarian Snapshot](#) provides an overview of the humanitarian situation.



Tetiana Kovalenko, 83, had to leave Donetsk city after her home was shelled. Since 2015, she has lived in government-controlled Myrnohrad, in Donetsk region, and is registered as an internally displaced person. She is one of thousands who have lost their pensions due to registration verification requirements. Tetiana, a retired coalmine worker, stopped receiving her pension of USD 73 per month in April, after the social security service mistakenly registered her as living in the non-government controlled area. Photo: UNHCR/David Gasparyan
Read more: [Thousands in eastern Ukraine lose access to pensions](#)

Achievements



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster led by UNHCR noted with concern the deteriorating security and protection situation in eastern Ukraine during the first six months of the 2017. Reported security incidents increased by 47 per cent compared to the same time last year, and civilian casualties have increased by nearly 50 per cent compared to 2016. Freedom of movement constraints remain, with more than 1.1 million people crossing the line of contact in June.
- The Protection Cluster issued a note on the protection concerns of [LGBTI Displaced and Conflict-affected People in Ukraine \[pdf\]](#). The note outlines key protection concerns specific to Ukraine and provides recommendations and resources for humanitarian actors on how to make their work more inclusive.
- The Protection Cluster translated the [IASC Guidelines on Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations in the Humanitarian Cycle \[pdf\]](#) into [Ukrainian \[pdf\]](#) and [Russian \[pdf\]](#) in order to facilitate use by national humanitarian actors. The Cluster shared the documents with its partners and the wider humanitarian community in Ukraine. This supports the recommendations of the [P2P Support mission report](#), which highlighted strengthening of accountability to affected populations and capacity building of local actors.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the [June factsheet \[pdf\]](#).

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- The Government amended Resolution no. 505, “*On providing monthly targeted financial support to persons who are moving from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and anti-terrorist operation (“ATO”) conduct area to cover livelihoods, including housing and utilities*”. The amendments provide targeted assistance to IDPs with destroyed homes or poor living conditions due to the conflict. A reference in the amendments to Resolution no. 1085, “*On Approving the List of Settlements where State Authorities Temporarily do Not Fulfil Their Functions*”, may lead to the cancellation of social assistance to those whose place of origin is not included in the list. The amendment also stipulates that families owning property are ineligible for targeted assistance, regardless of whether the property meets their housing needs.
- UNHCR continued its advocacy in support of IDP access to pensions and social assistance through a series of meetings with key ambassadors and state entities jointly with OHCHR. UNHCR also spoke at the parliament’s Human Rights Committee, Social

Protection Committee and at a joint press conference with NGOs on the issue. According to recently released data by the pension fund, between January 2016 and April 2017 the number of persons from the NGCA receiving pensions dropped dramatically by more than 560,000, due to ongoing verifications. By April 2017, 391,000 persons from the NGCA were in receipt of pensions, representing only 30 per cent of pensioners who were residing in the NGCA in August 2014.

- The Humanitarian Coordinator has shared an advocacy note drafted jointly by UNHCR and OHCHR with key donor governments explaining why and how Ukraine should reinstate pensions. UNHCR and OHCHR are conducting meetings with key national stakeholders and donor governments to reinforce this message. During June, UNHCR held meetings on the subject with the EU delegation and the embassies of Canada, Japan, Germany, Italy, and U.K. Meetings took place with the Minister of Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs, and the Ombudsperson. UNHCR spoke at the parliament's Human Rights Committee, Social Protection Committee and at a joint press conference with NGOs on this issue.
- On 9 June, UNHCR Ukraine and the Council of Europe (CoE) co-organized a 'Joint Seminar on the Prohibition of Discrimination in the context of Internal Displacement: Universal and European Standards.' The event provided a platform for discussion and assessment of the impact of the overall perception of IDPs and other minorities in Ukraine, including refugees and asylum seekers, as well as at securing their rights and their protection from discrimination. As a follow-up, UNHCR and CoE are planning to develop recommendations on how to raise awareness of discrimination. These recommendations will shape UNHCR's operational response to discrimination over the next years.
- UNHCR has published the [Ukraine 2017 Participatory Assessment report \[pdf\]](#). Between February and March 2017, UNHCR conducted assessments with refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, and persons at risk of displacement. Participatory assessment aims to gather accurate information on specific protection risks faced by persons of concern and to hear their proposed solutions. The assessment report presents recommendations for each target group, and by rights group. The findings will influence the design of UNHCR's programmatic responses in Ukraine.
- In June, UNHCR and its partners provided over 7,500 consultations to IDPs and people at risk of displacement. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR partner **Chirikli** provided nine legal consultations. **CrimeaSOS** provided 600 legal consultations and 424 protection consultations. Main concerns included civil documentation, targeted financial assistance, administrative services, housing, education, freedom of movement, social, humanitarian and medical assistance. 66 per cent of consultations were provided to women. Slavic Heart provided protection consultations to 52 persons. **Desyate Kvitnya** provided 175 legal consultations. The **Norwegian Refugee Council** (NRC) provided protection counselling to 675 persons, information assistance to 732 persons, and legal assistance to 57 persons. NRC Legal Aid Centers in Sievierodonetsk, Kramatorsk and

Stanytsia Luhanska assisted 319 visitors and 286 hotline callers. 70 per cent of those assisted were women. Concerns included pensions, inheritance, and civil documentation.

- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk, UNHCR partners provided 2,288 protection consultations and 32 group protection consultations for 775 people, 639 legal consultations (32 of which were to women), and 1,742 group and individual psychosocial consultations. Partners also conducted 48 home visits to persons with disabilities and older people and responded to 256 hotline enquiries. Main concerns included humanitarian assistance, civil documentation, housing, land and property, pensions, social assistance, medical assistance, crossing the line of contact, depression and stress. 930 people participated in capacity development workshops on subjects including personal development, interpersonal communication, personal safety and career advice. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR provided 29 protection consultations and 47 hotline consultations. Main concerns were access to pensions and social assistance, housing repairs, and access to humanitarian assistance.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Shelter and NFIs Cluster

- The Shelter and NFI Cluster led by UNHCR and co-chaired by People in Need, began consultations to prepare for winterization 2017-2018. Partners met in Sloviansk, Sievierodonetsk, Donetsk, and Luhansk to discuss preparations. In government-controlled areas (GCA), Cluster partners will prioritize the provision of heating assistance while also mainstreaming recovery to improve preparedness of the local population for future winters. Needs in non-government controlled areas (NGCA) include heating, winterization NFIs, and shelter insulation.
- In June, the Shelter and NFI Cluster team conducted a monitoring mission to the NGCA. The aim of the mission was to visit several ongoing shelter repair projects and to forecast needs. Cluster partners working in the area report that damage occurs to 40 to 60 homes each week leading to a constant need for emergency shelter materials. Due to the enduring nature of the conflict, humanitarian agencies have only met a fraction of shelter needs; some 10,000 households require repairs.
- In June, the Sub-national Shelter and NFI Cluster reviewed the damage and repair situation in Popasna, in the GCA of Luhansk region. The town is significant both a catchment area for IDPs and as a place that has incurred extensive damage. The Sub-national cluster produced a [note \[pdf\]](#) illustrating the shelter and NFI response.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the [June factsheet \[pdf\]](#).

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- In June, UNHCR NFI and shelter assistance was provided to over 1,000 people. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR provided 845 tonnes of coal to 230 households in northern Donetsk. UNHCR partner People in Need (PiN) provided shelter assistance to 62 households in the area. PiN assisted a further seven households in southern Donetsk. UNHCR provided emergency NFI kits to NGO Proliska for distribution to 148 households near Mariupol. UNHCR oversaw the distribution of 710 tonnes of coal to households in three villages near Sievierodonetsk.
- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk, UNHCR provided NFIs to 14 vulnerable households. UNHCR provided 8,900 m² of tarpaulin for households near the line of contact. UNHCR also provided 100 tonnes of sand to the local water distribution company to insulate pipes in the area benefitting some 50,000 people. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 162 households and shelter materials to 28 households. A local construction company contracted by UNHCR completed repairs to seven houses. UNHCR also distributed 3,228 IOM-provided diapers and 66 WFP-provided food parcels to vulnerable people.

Working in partnership

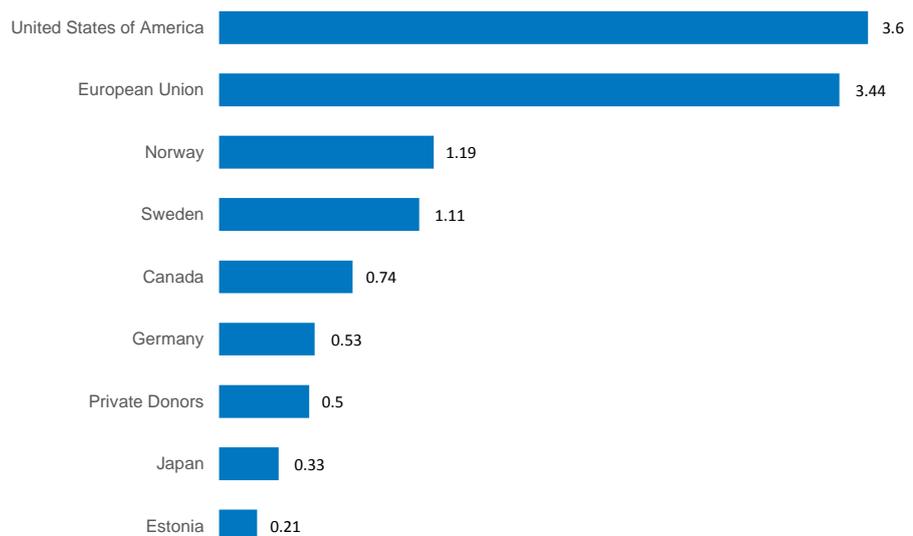
- The humanitarian response to the internal displacement situation in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by international organizations, the Government, local and international NGOs.
- UNHCR signed a Letter of Understanding with the Ministry for [Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons](#) establishing a framework for collaboration and coordination aimed at maximizing the capacity of UNHCR and the Ministry to assist IDPs.
- UNHCR works together with [11 implementing partners](#) as well as other partners providing support to IDPs through protection and legal assistance, policy development and capacity building and the distribution of emergency shelter materials and non-food items. UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and co-chairs the Shelter and Non-food Item Cluster together with [People in Need](#).

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 11.6 million**, including **US\$ 7.3** million for the situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received (in million USD)



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M)
Private Donors Spain (24 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada
(16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Private Donors Spain (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12
M) | Italy (10 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland
| Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico Monaco |
Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Singapore | Sri Lanka Thailand |
Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors

CONTACTS

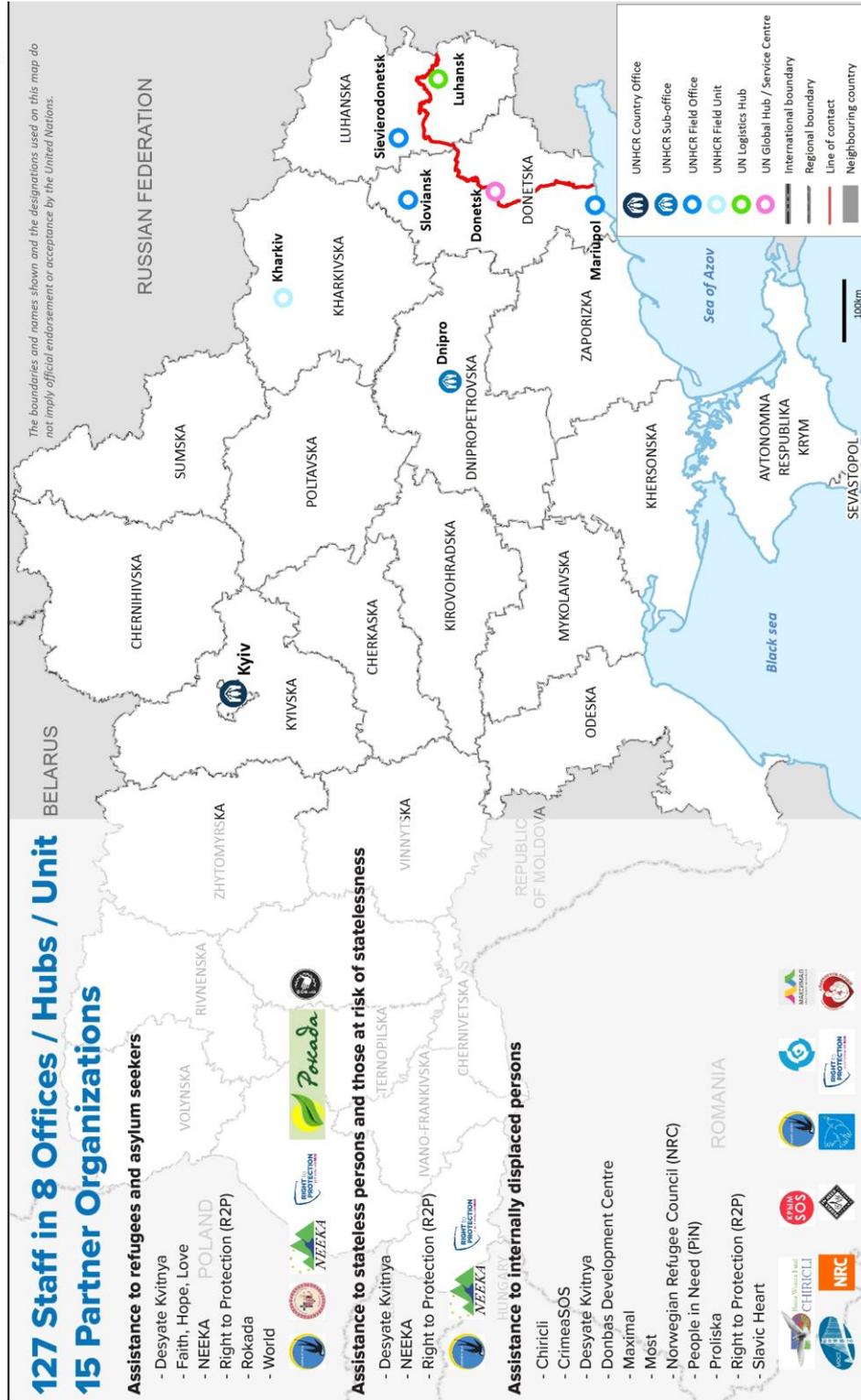
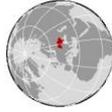
Nina Sorokopud, Public Information Officer Ukraine,
sorokopu@unhcr.org, Tel: +38 044 288-9710 ext.116

LINKS

UNHCR Ukraine: www.unhcr.org.ua/en - Twitter: www.twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine
Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv - Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr_ukraine

Annexes

1.



Date: 21 Jun 2017 Sources: UNHCR Author: UNHCR - Kyiv Feedback: InformationManagement@unhcr.org Filename: UNHCR_presence_Eng_Y1