

Ukraine

01-31 May 2017

Situational overview: Security situation remained volatile, with increasing violence on the line of contact in Luhansk.

Protection concerns: MPs introduced new draft legislation regarding the status of the non-government controlled areas.

Assistance provided: In May, UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter assistance to more than 10,100 people.

KEY INDICATORS

39,200

people reached through NFI assistance from UNHCR and partners in 2017.

8,500

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

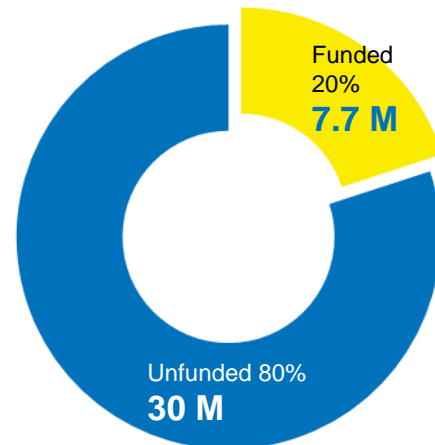
1,700

households in eastern Ukraine received UNHCR shelter assistance in 2017.

FUNDING (AS OF 20 JUNE)

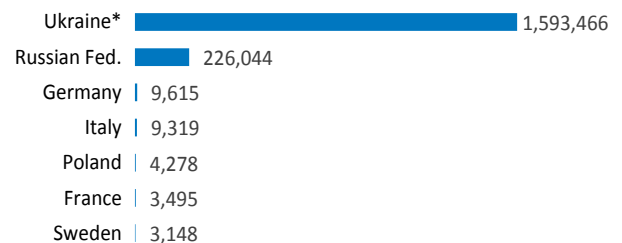
USD 37.7 M

requested for the Ukraine situation



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Host countries



* Registered IDPs according to the Ministry of Social Policy (8 June 2017).
Source (external displacement): UNHCR/respective government authorities

Update On Achievements

Operational Context

During May, the security situation on the line of contact remained volatile with the number of ceasefire violations fluctuating throughout the month according to OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) [reports](#). Fighting remained concentrated in northern Donetsk between Maiorsk and Mariinka checkpoints on the line of contact, and east of Mariupol, while violence increased on the Luhansk sector of the line of contact. At least five conflict-related civilian fatalities occurred during the period. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) indicated an increase of civilian deaths by 120 per cent compared to the same time last year. Depending on the intensity of hostilities, an average of between 20 and 140 houses are damaged weekly in government-controlled areas (GCA) of eastern Ukraine. The presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) continues to pose a risk to the civilian population in areas near the line of contact leading to casualties and affecting livelihoods. UNOCHA's [Humanitarian Bulletin](#) provides an overview of the humanitarian situation.



On 31 May, ahead of International Children's Day, UNHCR presented an illustrated book entitled "Telling Children About the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities". Because of the ongoing conflict in the eastern Ukraine, almost 58,000 people with disabilities had to flee their homes, and some 320,000 remain in the conflict-affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Photo: UNHCR Ukraine/Anton Fedorov

Achievements



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster led by UNHCR held a workshop on Protection Coordination and Information Management in the non-government controlled area (NGCA) of Donetsk region. 26 persons from 11 organizations participated in the event. The objective of the workshop was to reinforce Protection Cluster partners' knowledge about the Cluster's role, information products and tools, including the 5W and the online dashboard, and to ensure more effective data collection and reporting.
- The Protection Cluster Coordinator conducted field missions to Donetsk and Luhansk to chair protection working group meetings, conduct training and meet with partners.
- On May 17, Protection Cluster conducted training on humanitarian and protection principles for staff of the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) contracted by WFP to conduct an assessment on food security in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The training objective was to familiarize the staff with the humanitarian principles and to provide information on protection-sensitive interviewing techniques. 15 Interviewers and WFP staff participated in the training.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the [May factsheet \[pdf\]](#).

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- MPs introduced new draft legislation regarding the status of the NGCA. There are currently three draft laws pending before Parliament. Draft law no. 6400, "*On the territory of Ukraine temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation*" contains several problematic provisions, such as the prohibition on payment of pensions to persons living in the NGCAs. The two alternative drafts, for which UNHCR has provided inputs, (no. 6400-1 and no. 6400-2) protect the rights of pensioners in the NGCAs and would facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- UNHCR actively worked with five collective centers in Kyiv and Odesa to find alternative housing solutions for their occupants. Initial findings suggest that some 70 per cent of IDPs (out of 206) are ready to move out of the collective centers if offered permanent solutions. They do not consider cash for rent as an option fearing the unsustainable nature of such programs. The current approach of finding alternative solutions is to discuss with IDPs themselves where they could potentially see themselves living and integrating. UNHCR accompanied collective centre residents on

visits to places of possible relocation, holding meetings with the heads of local authorities explaining the situation of IDPs, the role of UNHCR and how UNHCR projects could be developed if they agree to host IDPs. So far, the villages of Zmitnev and Pereyaslov-Khmelnytskyi agreed to host IDPs. UNHCR is assessing the possibility of repairing some rooms in social housing at Pereyaslov-Khmelnytskyi through Quick Impact Projects.

- With support from UNHCR's Europe Bureau, UNHCR Ukraine organized a workshop on judicial engagement with legal actors in Ukraine. Partners described strategic litigation activities relating to asylum, access to the territory, pensions, compensation for damaged/destroyed housing and other IDP issues. Ukrainian cases are likely to contribute significantly to the European Court of Human Rights' (ECtHR) jurisprudence on IDP-related matters. It is therefore important for UNHCR to work closely with the Ukrainian legal community on these cases.
- In May, UNHCR and its partners provided over 1,300 legal assistance consultations, and protection counselling to some 6,500 IDPs and people at risk of displacement. Over 2,000 people, including 400 children, received community development, human rights or capacity development training. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR partner **Proliska** provided 603 individual case management consultations, 1,550 information consultations, 2,021 individual consultations and 728 group consultations. **Chirikli** provided 17 legal consultations. **CrimeaSOS** provided 591 legal consultations dealing with civil documentation, targeted financial assistance, administrative services, housing, social assistance, and freedom of movement. The NGO also provided 364 social consultations on issues including social, humanitarian, and medical assistance. **Desyate Kvitnya** provided 91 legal consultations. The **Norwegian Refugee Council** (NRC) provided counselling to 630 persons, and legal assistance to 35 persons. Main concerns included freedom of movement, pensions, inheritance, civil documentation, and targeted assistance for IDPs.
- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk region, UNHCR partners provided 327 information consultations, 214 general consultations, 615 legal consultations, as well as group and individual psychosocial consultations to 1,454 people. Mobile teams conducted 132 home visits assisting 1,479 people. Main concerns include humanitarian assistance, civil documentation, social assistance, housing, land and property, crossing the line of contact, as well as stress and anxiety caused by the conflict. 400 schoolchildren took part in six training sessions on human rights. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR provided 17 general consultations and 32 hotline consultations. Main concerns included civil documentation, HLP, and humanitarian assistance.

**SHELTER AND NFIS****Shelter and NFIs Cluster**

- The Shelter and NFI Cluster led by UNHCR and co-chaired by People in Need, noted an increase in the number of newly damaged homes near the line of contact. The Cluster has been monitoring the level of damage, as explained in its [Technical Note on the scale of emergency](#). If the conflict continues on its current trajectory, initial cluster projections for newly damaged homes will be off by an estimated 577 households, adding up to over 1,000 households by December 2017. As noted in the chart (see annex 1), cumulative damage in the GCA has surpassed the Cluster's initial projection and is stretching the resources of humanitarian agencies.
- In May, the Shelter Cluster collaborated with several agencies to complete data collection on the status of collective centres throughout Ukraine. People in Need, the Danish Refugee Council, Stabilization Support Services, and UNHCR worked with the Shelter Cluster team called, visited, and spoke directly with IDPs and collective centre management. The survey revealed a high number of closures since last year's update, largely due to lack of resources. The Cluster will publish monitoring findings in June.

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- In May, over 10,100 people received UNHCR shelter and NFI assistance. NFIs continue to be important in addressing new emergency needs related to the ongoing conflict, as well as responding to seasonal needs in areas where markets function poorly. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR provided shelter assistance to 206 households in Balakliya, Kharkiv region, following an explosion at a munitions depot. In Donetsk, UNHCR provided NFIs and clothing to 839 persons and coal to 445 households in settlements near the line of contact, east of Mariupol. UNHCR supplied emergency NFI kits to community centres in Avdiivka, Mariinka, and Mariupol run by partner NGO Proliska. Mariupol Social Services Center distributed NFIs provided by UNHCR to 450 people. In Luhansk region, UNHCR oversaw the delivery of 452 tonnes of coal. UNHCR also provided NRC with shelter materials for distribution in the area.
- In the non-government controlled areas of Donetsk region, UNHCR and its partners provided shelter assistance to 271 households near the line of contact. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR distributed NFIs to some 400 IDPs living near the line of contact. UNHCR also distributed 12,672 food parcels supplied by WFP, 3,546 hygiene kits supplied by UNICEF, and 114,968 diapers supplied by IOM.

Working in partnership

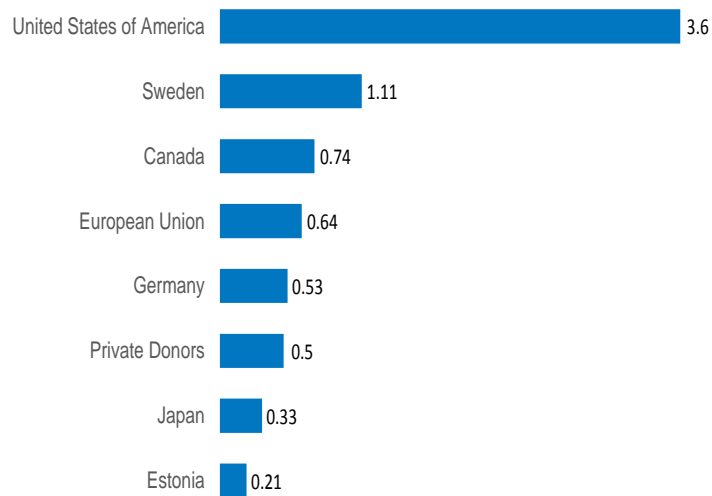
- The humanitarian response to the internal displacement situation in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by international organizations, the Government, local and international NGOs.
- UNHCR signed a Letter of Understanding with the Ministry for [Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced 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](#) and 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\$ 7.7 million**, including **US\$ 3.3** 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) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (12 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 | Korea | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | 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.

Prediction of Damages in 2017, GCA Only

