

# Operational Update

September 2019

In September, the Ukrainian Government reorganized the **Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons (MinTOT)** by joining it with the Ministry for Veterans Affairs. UNHCR has already established contacts with the new Ministry and set forth priorities for cooperation. You can read more about **UNHCR's cooperation** with authorities in this **fact sheet**.

UNHCR jointly with NGO partners delivered **six trucks of humanitarian assistance** to the conflict-affected areas in eastern Ukraine. Anticipating the arrival of cold temperatures, UNHCR scaled-up its shelter assistance and completed **repairs of 285 houses** in September. UNHCR also managed to reach out to the previously inaccessible villages of **Pervomaiske** and **Sakhanka**. See **page 2**.

UNHCR published its **2019 Mid-Year Achievements** which highlight how UNHCR progressed in its **protection** and **humanitarian activities** aimed at supporting refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless, internally displaced and conflict-affected persons in Ukraine between **January and June 2019**.

## KEY INDICATORS

**20,216**

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other conflict-affected persons have received **legal assistance** from UNHCR partners in 2019.

**783**

IDPs and other conflict-affected persons have been selected to **receive cash for protection** through the individual protection assistance programme (IPA) in 2019.

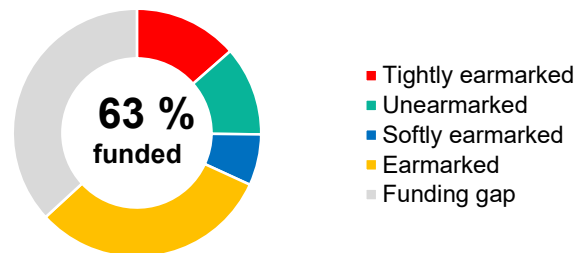
**1293**

Households in eastern Ukraine have benefited from UNHCR **shelter assistance** in 2019.

## FUNDING (AS OF 2 OCTOBER 2019)

**USD 27.8 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements 2019



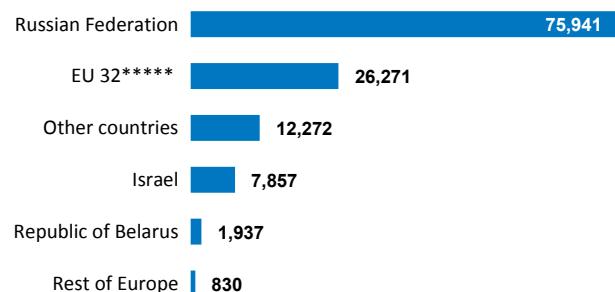
*Zinayida\*, who celebrates her centenary this year, is the eldest resident of the isolated village of Sakhanka in Donetsk oblast, near the 'contact line' where the active conflict is ongoing. In September, UNHCR reached this settlement for the first time since the start of the conflict. The woman broke into tears when telling her story to UNHCR's team. Despite the hardship caused by the intense security situation, the 100-year-old calls herself a "survivor", as she lived through the Second World War and the current conflict. Photo by UNHCR. See more on UNHCR's intervention in Sakhanka on page 2.*

## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)\* AND OTHER CONFLICT-AFFECTED PERSONS\*\*

**1.5 million**\*\*\*

## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS FROM UKRAINE

**125,108**\*\*\*\*



\*Residing more permanently in government-controlled areas (GCA)

\*\*Vulnerable, conflict-affected persons living along the 'contact line' in GCA and non-government controlled areas (NGCA)

\*\*\*Sources: 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), UNHCR

\*\*\*\*Source: UNHCR PopStats, December 2018

\*\*\*\*\*28 EU countries and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

## Operational Highlights

**Security situation:** In September, hostilities in eastern Ukraine flared-up bringing to an end a short interval of an improved security situation after the recent recommitment to the ceasefire. During the reporting period, the [OSCE's Special Monitoring Mission \(SMM\)](#) recorded **17,500 ceasefire violations**, or a **48 per cent increase**, compared to the previous month. Three civilian injuries by small-arm fire were reported, which brings the total number of civilian casualties to **115 (16 killed, 99 injured)** for 2019. [UNHCR-led Shelter Cluster](#) reported about **55 new civilian houses damaged or destroyed** as a result of continuous fighting, which represents a **12 per cent decrease**, compared to August.

**Reaching isolated settlements for the first time:** UNHCR joined forces with its NGO partners - [Proliska](#), [Right to Protection \(R2P\)](#), [Slavic Heart](#), the [Norwegian Refugee Council \(NRC\)](#), [MOST](#) and the [Donbas Development Center \(DDC\)](#) – to reach out to previously inaccessible settlements along the 'contact line', including [Pervomaiske](#) in Luhansk oblast and [Sakhanka](#) in Donetsk oblast, where **220 households and seven families** (respectively) received core relief items such as blankets, kitchen sets, buckets and jerry cans in order to address their most pressing needs after recent shelling. Approximately 450 people currently live in Sakhanka where mostly elderly people reside and require humanitarian assistance.



*Photo on the right shows the location where a shell landed in the yard of an elderly woman in Sakhanka. Part of the projective is covered by bricks and still represents a threat for the elderly woman who lives there. Photo by UNHCR.*



**Emergency and winterization needs:** During the reporting period, UNHCR provided **150 acute-emergency kits**, **60 NFI kits** and **300 sets** consisting of **bed-linen, blankets and thermal clothes** to persons with specific needs in hard-to-reach villages of Luhansk oblast (*Photo on the left by UNHCR*). Furthermore, UNHCR delivered blankets, buckets, bedding and clothes to patients of two psychoneurological dispensaries in this area.

In September, UNHCR scaled-up its preparatory work for the winter and jointly with UNICEF delivered **six trucks with humanitarian assistance** to conflict-affected communities in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. With the support of UNHCR's NGO partner the [Donbas Development Center \(DDC\)](#), the distribution of non-food and shelter items, water supply equipment and polio vaccines took place in the conflict-affected settlements along the 'contact line'. *Photo on the right shows NFI distribution by DDC. Photo by DDC.*



**Freedom of movement:** For the month of September, the [State Border Guard Service of Ukraine](#) recorded **1,5 Million crossings** over the 'contact line', or an **8 per cent decrease**, compared to the previous month. During the reporting period, UNHCR's NGO partner the [Right to Protection \(R2P\)](#) **surveyed 1,997 individuals** at all five entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) across the 'contact line' and reported the **death of an elderly woman at the EECP in Novotroitske** as a result of cardiac attack. In September, [R2P](#) also released a report entitled **'Restoration of social ties between TOT residents by improving access to the most requested services' research findings** with focus on improving services for people who cross. The report reveals that there is a high demand among responders (**82 per cent**) for improved access to administrative services, registration of birth/death registration, issuance of passports and notary services, as close to the checkpoints as possible. **78 per cent** also requested banking services at the checkpoints.



On 18 September, jointly with the Deputy Head of Luhansk civil-military administration, UNHCR undertook a protection monitoring visit to Stanytsia Luhanska pedestrian checkpoint (*photo on the left*) in order to see the progress of the repair of the pedestrian bridge. At the end of September, a temporary wooden bridge has been installed at the checkpoint by the Luhansk oblast administration, easing the burden of those who cross. In September, **12,600 persons with specific needs** were transported by the **electric car, launched by UNHCR and its NGO partner Proliska at the Stanytsia Luhanska EECP**. This number doubled, as compared to August.

**Protection response:** On 18 September, UNHCR organized a Protection Working Group in Kramatorsk with focus on winterization for elderly displaced persons in a number of settlements in Donetsk oblast. The discussion resulted in developing concrete steps to strengthen advocacy for the inclusion of elderly IDPs who live further away from the 'contact line' in coal distributions programmes by humanitarian agencies.



**FIND BELOW THE LINKS TO OUR MOST RECENT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PRODUCTS AND PUBLICATIONS:**

**UNHCR Ukraine 2019 Mid-Year Achievements:** see this two-page document to learn about progress made on our life-saving and protection activities between January and June 2019.

**The Latest Information Products:** use this guide to find our latest IM products and links to the recent documents on key policies, thematic factsheets and UNHCR-led Clusters' reports.

**"Refugees face many barriers in Ukraine":** read this article to be informed about the challenges faced by refugees and asylum seekers in Ukraine, as explained by UNHCR's Senior Protection Officer.



## Humanitarian Development Nexus

- On 3 September, UNHCR and UNDP jointly met with the local authorities and community members of Novhorodske town in Donetsk oblast to see ways in which both agencies could contribute to supporting both humanitarian and development initiatives in this community. As a result of the joint meeting, a community centre is envisioned that will serve as a space to develop affected communities' capacities, increase their resilience and facilitate access to government services.
- On 12 September, UNHCR and UNDP jointly visited the conflict-affected village of Sartana to identify the potential for implementing humanitarian and development initiatives together with the local community. Both agencies decided to compile community profiles into a single project strategy.



## Donor Relations



### Participation of Honorary Consul of Norway in Odesa Opening Ceremony:

On 6 September, UNHCR jointly with its NGO partner the [Tenth of April](#) participated in the opening ceremony of a [mini-football field in Odesa](#) as part of UNHCR's [Peaceful Coexistence Projects](#). The initiative implemented in cooperation with the Afghan community of Odesa aims at providing recreational opportunities free of charge for refugees, displaced persons and host communities. Local authorities as well as the [Honorary Consul of Norway](#) participated in the event. *Photo on the left by UNHCR.*

### Visit of the Estonian and the UK Embassy to eastern Ukraine:

On 6 September, UNHCR accompanied a joint mission of the [Estonian and the UK embassies \(DFID\)](#) to the Stanytsia Luhanska entry-exit checkpoint (EECP). During the visit, the donors' representatives were briefed on the humanitarian and security situation at the EECP. They also observed the electric car which transports persons with specific needs at the checkpoint and visited a community centre at Stanytsia Luhanska.

**Support for refugees in Ukraine from a prestigious donor:** On 12 September, UNHCR received a cheque for 15,000 Euros from the [Austrian Academy of Sciences Press](#) who manages the profits from the sales of poems by the [former Empress of Austria Elisabeth, better known as Sisi](#). The donation will be used to support the resilience of refugees in Ukraine, specifically for business grants and community-based protection for refugees in Ukraine. The event was announced on the [UNHCR Global webpage](#), Austrian local tabloid ([Heute](#)), the [Sisi Museum's Facebook Page](#) and the [Schloss Schoenbrunn Facebook Page](#). *Photo on the right shows UNHCR Deputy Representative and External Relations Officer receiving the donation from Empress Sisi handed-over by Thomas Jentzsch of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Press. Photo by UNHCR.*



### Participation of the Canadian Embassy in the opening ceremony of a sportsground for refugee children in Kyiv:

On 13 September, UNHCR jointly with local authorities and the Canadian Embassy opened a sportsground at the Kyiv Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre for children. This facility is the only space in Kyiv region that provides accommodation and care to unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. *Photo on the left by UNHCR.*

**Dutch Foreign Ministry Video Mission to Ukraine:** On 30 September, UNHCR facilitated a video mission requested by the [Dutch Embassy in Ukraine](#) to the conflict-affected settlement of Zolote. The mission was commissioned by the [Dutch Foreign Ministry](#) to prepare a series of short videos on the importance of [mental health and psychosocial support](#) for those whose lives were shattered by the conflict. The [videos](#) will be shown at the [International Conference on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Crisis Situations](#) in Amsterdam in October. *Photo depicts the filming crew visiting the displaced family who had to flee their home and faced psychological challenges caused by the conflict. Photo by UNHCR.*



## Key Advocacy Messages for September

- UNHCR welcomes the positive developments stipulated in the [draft of the national budget](#) submitted to the Parliament for review. The financial plan contains various elements crucial for UNHCR's persons of concern. These include financial contributions to the work of the State Migration Service, central authorities in charge of allocating assistance to the displaced persons, judicial organs and free legal aid providers. The draft envisages changes in the [area of housing](#), where different programmes received an overall increase in financing (such as the [affordable housing programme](#)). However, UNHCR raises its concern over decreased financing of the [State Migration Service \(SMS\)](#) which might cause impediments to refugee integration programmes. UNHCR calls upon the Government to include the displaced population, asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons into its comprehensive planning and to ensure these individuals receive much needed support.
- The [IDPs Integration and Durable Solutions Strategy and Action Plan](#) that are currently in force until the end of 2020 contain various elements of gender analysis. However, reports on the implementation of the Strategy have never been released, thus UNHCR remains concerned over the [inclusion of age, gender and diversity issues](#) in the course of needs assessment, creation of employment opportunities and elaboration of local integration programmes. UNHCR encourages the Government to: 1) regularly release progress reports in order to develop a comprehensive analysis of the current situation with observance of gender balance and equality; 2) to ensure the gender aspect provided for in the normative framework is implemented in practice.



## MULTI-SECTOR RESPONSE TO REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS

### Protection of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

- In September, travel documents issued for [persons granted Complementary Protection in Ukraine](#) were officially recognized by the European Union. From now on, any holder of this document will be eligible to travel within the EU. UNHCR and its NGO partner the [Right to Protection](#) advocated for this amendment for many years.
- On 6 and 7 September, UNHCR jointly with NGO partner the [Tenth of April](#) organized a [Forum for refugee and displaced communities](#) and a [Literacy Fair](#) in Odesa. Both events provided a stage to network and develop project management skills for refugee, IDP and Roma communities.
- On 10 September, UNHCR shared its expertise on free legal aid provision in Ukraine at the [International Legal Aid Conference](#) organized by Ukraine's Ministry of Justice in Kyiv. Following the conference, UNHCR met with the [FLAC Coordination Centre](#) to discuss the training modalities and cooperation on the [WikiLegalAid database](#).

# 2019

Legal consultations were provided to refugees and asylum seekers in Kyiv, Odesa, Zakarpattya and Kharkiv regions in September

# 948

Social consultations were provided to refugees and asylum seekers in Kyiv, Odesa, Zakarpattya and Kharkiv regions in September

# 63

Refugees and asylum seekers received psychosocial assistance in September

# 116

Home visits undertaken to unaccompanied minors in September

## Livelihood Interventions for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

- In September, UNHCR completed the analysis of the second call for applications for self-reliance business grants. Out of 36 refugee candidates who submitted their applications, 25 were shortlisted for interviews and further development of their business plans with UNHCR's support. The interview cycle is due to start in October.

# 15

Refugees' applications for self-reliance grants from UNHCR and its partners were approved in 2019

# 73

Refugees have started their own businesses with UNHCR self-reliance grants since launch of the program in 2018



*Ukraine became the new home for Nabil\* after he fled Syria. Although he lost everything back home, he brought with him knowledge of the cuisine from his homeland. Therefore, he started as a cook in a café that served Middle Eastern cuisine and was quickly appreciated among the café's clients. Last year Nabil received a self-reliance grant from UNHCR and used it to start his own restaurant. He bought equipment, rented a space in a popular spot of the city: one of Odesa's striving markets. Now Nabil's café is a popular spot in Odesa, even among Ukrainian celebrities. His café even displays an autographed photograph of a famous Ukrainian singer. Photo by UNHCR.*

## Assistance to Stateless Persons and Persons at Risk of Statelessness

- On 23 and 24 September, UNHCR and its NGO partner **NEEKA** joined a discussion aimed at developing a [roadmap on the documentation of the Roma population](#) in Ukraine. The coordination meeting organized by the Council of Europe (CoE) and the State Migration Service (SMS) of Ukraine was attended by more than **20 stakeholders**. UNHCR and the CoE developed recommendations which include a call to provide a "migration amnesty" in Ukraine within the context of the **#IBelong** campaign and formalize the status of foreigners and stateless persons who have been irregularly staying in the country for more than 10 years.

# 56

Stateless persons (or at risk of) were identified and provided with legal aid

in Kyiv, Odesa, Zakarpattia and Kharkiv regions in September thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support

# 19

Persons received passports in September

thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support

# 28

Persons received duplicates of birth certificates in September

thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support

# 2

Persons obtained their birth certificates for the first time in September

thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support



## PROTECTION FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED AND OTHER CONFLICT-AFFECTED PERSONS

### Protection Cluster

- During the reporting period, the Protection Cluster jointly with the Health Cluster and the Age and Disability Technical Working Group, has elaborated and released a **Guidance note** to provide directions for humanitarian actors on how to collect [data on people with disabilities](#) during assessment.
- On 4 September, upon the request of the [UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator](#), the Protection Cluster organized a meeting to discuss how to enhance the [Humanitarian Development Nexus \(HDN\) in Legal Aid](#) with key national and international organizations who provide legal assistance and implement projects to build the capacity of the national Free Legal Aid Centres.
- On 6 September, the Protection Cluster presented the main findings of the Protection Cluster baseline assessment on [Protection against Sexual Exploitation and abuse \(PSEA\)](#). This study revealed 81% of protection partners had specific provisions on PSEA in their Codes of Conduct and 56% had a separate policy on PSEA. Only 22% had a designated Focal Point on PSEA.



- On 12 September, the Protection Cluster discussed objectives and priority response activities for the [2020 Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#). One of the main concerns raised by partners was the abolishment of the dedicated [Ministry for IDPs](#) and the [conflict-affected population \(MinTOT\)](#) and creation of the Ministry for Veterans, Temporary Occupied Territories and IDPs. Partners requested the Protection Cluster to advocate in favor of maintaining a dedicated national agency on the issues of IDPs and conflict-affected persons.
- On 20 September, the Protection Cluster participated in the [HRP workshop](#) organized by OCHA. It facilitated a session focused on aligning the Protection Cluster specific objectives with the 2020 inter-sectoral strategic objectives.
- On 25 September, a specific protection update on the [Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund](#) has been shared at the General Coordination Meeting in Kramatorsk. Out of 35 submitted projects, six were protection projects and 17 were multi-sectoral projects with the protection component. Protection activities include mainly individual protection assistance, social accompaniment, home-based care, community centers for the elderly, in-kind assistance, assistive devices to people with disabilities, PSS for children with disabilities and protection counselling.



## UNHCR Protection Activities

- Advocacy interventions:** On 5 September, UNHCR discussed [legislative solutions for IDPs and stateless persons](#) with the Head of the Ukraine's Parliamentary Committee in charge of human rights and conflict-affected areas. UNHCR used this opportunity to advocate in favour of [granting voting rights](#) to displaced persons and [easing the administrative procedure](#) of birth/death registration and the [statelessness determination mechanism](#). On 17 September, UNHCR raised concerns over administrative impediments for conflict-affected persons during the Parliament's Human Rights Committee where draft laws on ensuring free legal aid for residents of affected areas were discussed.
- Communities' capacity building:** Between 27 and 29 September, UNHCR trained [19 community leaders](#) from Donetsk oblast on [fundraising and strategic planning](#). They will be further mentored for six months on addressing protection concerns. During the training, UNDP delivered a session on the application procedure for business grants individually and as a community.



## Legal Assistance and Protection Counselling

# 1,803

Internally displaced and other conflict-affected persons (71% female, 29% male) received legal assistance from UNHCR and its partners in September

# 3,008

Persons benefited from individual protection counselling in September

# 49

Group consultations on protection-related issues were provided to 527 persons (61% female, 39% male) in areas along the 'contact line' in September



## Social Accompaniment

- In the month of September, UNHCR's NGO partners provided social accompaniment to [210 individuals](#) who needed support in obtaining personal documentation, accessing state services, or receiving authorization to cross checkpoints, among other things. In some cases, individuals were supported with transportation to access public buildings and register for social services.

*Alina\*, who is now 4-months-old, was born thanks to the support by UNHCR's partner Proliska who found a transport to transfer her mother Tetyana\*, 19, to the maternity hospital. Proliska's team regularly visits the single mother who lives with her mother, sister and grandmother in the old part of Avdiivka, near the 'contact line'. Along with social accompaniment, Tetyana has also received individual protection assistance in cash which she used to buy a stroller and baby care products. Photo by Proliska.*





## Psychosocial assistance

# 176

80% Female | 20% Male  
**Persons received  
 Consultations in  
 September**

During the reporting period, UNHCR's NGO partners **Proliska** and **Most** provided **176 vulnerable persons** with psychological consultations to help conflict-affected persons deal with symptoms of psychological trauma, domestic violence, grief, depression, anxiety, and psychological tension.



*Yaroslava\* is only 23, but at this young age she feels very insecure about her future. Therefore, she reached out for help from a psychologist of UNHCR's partner Proliska to learn how to cope with frequent panic attacks and high anxiety. Yaroslava lives in Svitlodarsk, which is only 2 kilometres away from the 'contact line'. During the most intense days of fighting between 2014 and 2016, Yaroslava's family often hid in the basement of their house, and these memories are still haunting her. Having received psychosocial assistance, Yaroslava was able to focus on her studies again and successfully passed her exams at the university. Photo by UNHCR.*



## Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In September, UNHCR jointly with its NGO partners **Crimea SOS** and the **Tenth of April** conducted two rounds of information sessions on SGBV and HIV prevention in Poltava and Kherson cities. In total, 54 students from 12 IDP-led communities learned about the recent legislative changes and the main approaches to provision of assistance to SGBV survivors. Participants also developed their projects to join the **#16daysagainstviolence** campaign.



## Individual Protection Assistance (IPA)

# 265

IPA cash and in-kind beneficiaries selected in September

UNHCR continues identifying and providing the most vulnerable conflict-affected individuals in eastern Ukraine with **cash for protection**, used to cover different types of needs – from winterization and livelihood items to medical examination or procedures. In September 2019, the number of beneficiaries, selected for IPA programme was **265 persons**.

*Olena\* and little Daryna\* had to rebuild their lives from scratch after their family's house in Zolote was damaged by shelling. For a while, the family stayed with close relatives and later moved to social housing provided by the local administration. With assistance by UNHCR and its partner Proliska, Olena was able to buy a bed to sleep on, a small oven, a kettle and clothes for the upcoming winter. Now Daryna is ready to start going to the local kindergarten while her father has already found a job as a miner which will allow him to provide for family. Photo by Proliska.*



## Peaceful Coexistence Projects (PCPs)

# 66

Projects approved in 2019

UNHCR supports small to medium-scale infrastructure repairs proposed by communities or local authorities in eastern Ukraine. PCPs aim at creating an atmosphere of peaceful co-existence between the displaced populations and host communities and complement the resilience of IDPs and affected communities. In total, since the beginning of 2019, UNHCR has initiated the implementation of **66 Peaceful Coexistence Projects (PCPs)** in eastern Ukraine.



Olena\*, 92, lives at the nursing home in Hrekovo-Oleksandrivka in Donetsk oblast. The home called "house of mercy" takes care of elderly persons who were abandoned during the conflict. UNHCR and its partner DDC supported this PCP by providing core relief items

and installing a boiler and a washing machine at the facility to ease the daily life for its inhabitants. Photo by UNHCR.

This school in Novoazovsk received assistance from UNHCR who firstly donated roofing materials and later, jointly with NGO partner DDC, helped to install radiators and repair windows damaged by the shelling. At this PCP, DDC also implements community support initiatives, including trainings for pupils on social project management. Photo by UNHCR.



## Community Support Initiatives (CSIs)

# 96

Initiative approved in 2019

UNHCR in Ukraine empowers communities of internally displaced and other conflict-affected persons throughout the country. CSIs implemented in the spirit of Community-Based Protection approach include a range of activities designed to mobilize and empower communities, strengthen their ability to organize emergency responses and self-advocate with local and national authorities in order to find durable solutions for their own protection.

UNHCR's NGO partner Proliska organized an event called the "Festival of Colors" in the village Valuiske in Luhansk oblast. In this event, local children from displaced and host communities who used to live less than a kilometer away from the 'contact line' had a chance to participate in various outdoor activities, including a painting master class and water-based make-up sessions. Residents of surrounding villages also joined the event that ended up with a children disco party. Photo by Proliska.



## SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS

### Shelter and NFI Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- In September, UNHCR's NGO partner Mira completed 196 shelter light repairs in Donetsk oblast. 140 more households have been verified and identified for assistance. Work on 21 households (10 medium repairs and 11 heavy repairs) is ongoing in Donetsk city, Liubivka and Olenivka villages.
- To address newly identified needs due to the shelling in September, 40 households in Staromykhailivka and seven households in Sakhanka, Zaichenko and Uzhivka villages have been assisted with NFI sets.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR distributed 250 emergency shelter kits to households, composed of 600 persons in hard-to-reach settlements of Kadiivka, Holubivka, Pervomaisk, Slovianoserbsk, Brianka (50 kits for each district) in Luhansk oblast.

# 554

Shelters repaired in 2019

thanks to UNHCR and partners' support

# 589

Persons received cash for shelter repairs in 2019

thanks to UNHCR and partners' support

# 1,039

Persons received Acute Emergency Kits in 2019

thanks to UNHCR and partners' support

# 7,588

Persons provided with NFI assistance in 2019

thanks to UNHCR and partners' support





## Voluntary Relocation

# 11

Conflict-affected families relocated to safer homes in 2019

In 2019, with the conflict in Ukraine entering its fifth year with many families with specific needs still living under very difficult conditions in locations affected by the conflict, UNHCR initiated a pilot project of voluntarily relocating families who live in dangerous areas along the 'contact line'. Persons who benefit from this project are carefully selected based on protection vulnerability criteria and security assessment of the settlements where they are relocated to.



*Anastasiya\* with her six daughters and three grandchildren are about to finally move to a peaceful home in Kostiantynivka far away from the daily shelling which they endured during five years of conflict. The family used to live in Krasnohorivka, less than a kilometre from the 'contact line'. In 2015, shells landed in their garden, missing the house only by chance. With support of UNHCR and its NGO partner Proliska, Anastasiya and her big family are ready to start a new life. Photo by Proliska.*

### Shelter/NFI Cluster

- During the reporting period, the [Shelter/NFI Cluster](#) finalized its inputs for the [2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview](#). The preparatory work involved a series of working group meetings to elaborate an enhanced approach to the estimation of people in need.
- The Cluster has also participated in a coordination meeting in Mariupol to discuss how to avoid duplications in the shelter activities between humanitarian agencies working in the conflict-affected areas. For further linkages, Cluster will share the database on shelter activities analyses with the partners who conduct repairs to triangulate information and identify priorities.

### Working in Partnership

The humanitarian response to displacement in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by the government, international organizations, national and international NGOs. In providing support to persons of concern, UNHCR works closely with the Government of Ukraine. In the case of IDPs, UNHCR has signed a Letter of Understanding with the [Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons](#). In the case of refugees and stateless persons, UNHCR cooperates closely with the [State Migration Service of Ukraine](#). UNHCR works together with [13 NGO partners](#). UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI) Cluster. UNHCR together with OCHA also co-leads the logistics working group that is mainly responsible for humanitarian convoys to eastern Ukraine.

### Financial Information

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

The indicative level of funding for the operation is [US \\$4,669,183 million](#). This figure is based on contributions earmarked to Ukraine, the indicative allocation of flexible funds and adjustments.

#### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the Major donors of unearmarked contributions.

**Sweden** 99.8 million | **Private donors Spain** 54.5 million | **Norway** 44.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.5 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 27.6 million | **Germany** 26.7 million | **Denmark** 24.4 million | **Switzerland** 15.1 million | **Private Donors Japan** 16.1 million | **France** 14 million | **Private donors Italy** 12.7 million | **Private Donors Sweden** 10.4 million | **Ireland** 10.2 million

**SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD**

Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

**United States of America** 17.9 million | **Private donors Australia** 9.1 million

**EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS TO UKRAINE | USD**

**United States of America** 5.7 million | **European Union** 1.4 million | **Germany** 1.1 million | **CERF** 0.93 million | **Japan** 0.84 million | **Canada** 0.57 million | **Sweden** 0.55 million | **Norway** 0.34 million | **Russian Federation** 0.25 million | **Estonia** 0.23 million | **Lithuania** 0.03 million | **Private donors** 0.03 million

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**Links**

UNHCR Ukraine: [www.unhcr.org/ua](http://www.unhcr.org/ua) - Twitter: [www.twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine](https://www.twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv) - Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr\\_ukraine](https://www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr_ukraine)

*Please note that this report attempts to highlight the main activities implemented by UNHCR and its NGO partners within the selected reporting period. Please note that it is by no means exhaustive. For additional details about our work, do not hesitate to check [www.unhcr.org/ua](http://www.unhcr.org/ua) or, contact us directly at [ukrkom@unhcr.org](mailto:ukrkom@unhcr.org).*

*\*Please note that the names of persons who appear in this report have been changed for their protection.*