

UKRAINE

Situation report No.38 as of 1 May 2015



OCHA



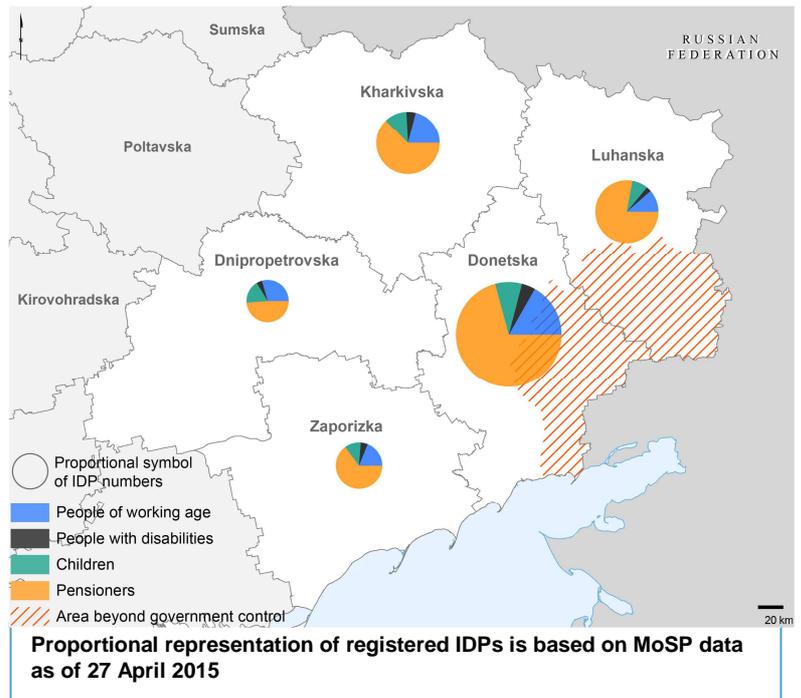
This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period of 25 April – 1 May 2015, unless otherwise noted. The next report will be published on or around 8 May.

Highlights¹

- Artillery and small arms exchanges continued along the line of contact between Ukrainian armed forces and armed groups.
- Government authorities in Luhanska oblast issued a decree further restricting movement across the contact line from 1 May.
- According to the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP), about 19,200 internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been registered across the country over the past week.
- Funding for humanitarian operations remains low: only 24 percent of US\$316 required for Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2015 is funded or pledged.

1.2 million registered IDPs

Source: MoSP



Situation Overview

Between 24 and 29 April, artillery and small arms exchanges continued along the line of contact between Ukrainian armed forces and armed groups. The contested villages of Pisky (near Donetsk airport) and Shyrokyne (south of Donetsk oblast) remained the major flashpoints. Civilian and military casualties continued to grow. On 26 April, the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) observed what it assessed to be the most intense shelling in Shyrokyne since February 2015. Between mid-April 2014 and 29 April 2015, at least 6,238 people had been documented as killed and 15,594 as wounded in the conflict zone of eastern Ukraine or an increase of 13 killed and 83 wounded compared to the previous week, respectively. This includes 176 children who were killed and 68 children wounded.²

Government authorities in Luhanska oblast issued a decree placing restrictions on movement across the contact line from 1 May 2015. The decree restricts cross-contact line movements within the corridor of Lysychansk-Gorskoye-Zolotoye-Pervomaisk and suspends railway communication through the Sentyanivka-Nijnyanskii-Shilipove-Svitlanovo route. Civilian travel via contact line is limited to light vehicles or crossing on foot, which is expected to seriously impact movement of civilians and aid agencies. While humanitarian actors are exempt from these restrictions, conflicting information provided to partners by the oblast authorities has raised concerns about

¹The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Internal Displacement data was provided by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine as of 6 April 2015.

²This is a conservative estimate of the UN Human Rights Mission in Ukraine (HRMU) and the World Health Organization based on available official data: casualties of the Ukrainian armed forces as reported by the Ukrainian authorities; 298 people from flight MH-17; and casualties reported by medical establishments of Donetsk and Luhanska Oblasts: civilians and some members of the armed groups. The HRMU and WHO believe that the actual numbers of fatalities are considerably higher.

the potential impact on humanitarian access, especially in relation to the distribution of much needed shelter and non-food items (NFIs) assistance. Humanitarian organisations are seeking clarification from the authorities on the issue.

By 27 April, MoSP had registered 1,255,700 IDPs across Ukraine. This is an increase of about 19,200 people compared to the previous week. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) reports that the Government is facing challenges in terms of accurately registering IDPs. Accurate registration is essential to provide IDPs with access to social assistance and other forms of aid. UNHCR is working with MoSP to improve the IDP database.

According to the UNHCR, by 30 April, close to 801,000 Ukrainians had sought asylum, residence permits or other forms of legal stay in neighbouring countries. This includes 678,200 individuals in Russia, 81,065 individuals in Belarus and another 50,172 individuals in Poland. The number of Ukrainian nationals who had sought asylum, residence permits or other forms of legal stay in Russia increased by about 19,000 people compared to the previous week. As of 30 April, since the beginning of the crisis there were 3,648 applications for international protection in Germany, 3,270 in Poland, 2,647 in Italy, 1,637 in Sweden, 1,625 in France, 200 in Moldova, 50 in Romania, 50 in Hungary and 20 in Slovakia, according to government sources in receiving countries.

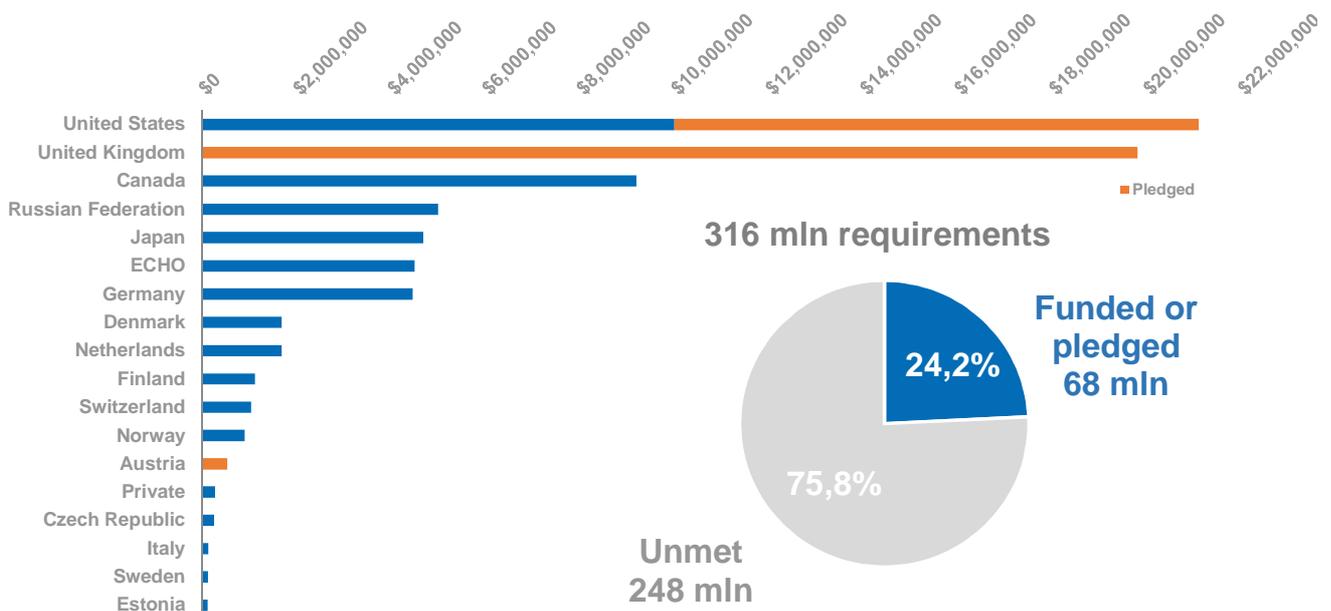
Assessment of the needs of some members of displaced vulnerable ethnic minority groups in Khersonska, Odessa oblasts and Kharkiv city indicate that they require support in terms of medicines and medical supplies as well as food, water and clothing. This includes 170 Crimean Tatars in Kherson, 25 Meskhetian Turks in Chaplinskiy, Khersonska oblast, 24 Roma families in Belyaiev district in Odessa oblast, 20 Roma families and 30 Crimean Roma IDPs in Kharkiv city, and 45 Roma in Novoalekseevka, Khersonska oblast. The living conditions of Roma IDPs are reported to be particularly poor (e.g. restricted supply of water and electricity), and they report not having equal access to health care services and treatment.

The initial draft concept of the new law on humanitarian assistance in Ukraine is being developed by the working group of the Parliamentary Committee, with considerable advisory support from humanitarian community. The concept note on the law will be circulated shortly to the Government agencies involved in the process for comment. The following step will be consolidating all those inputs and drafting the main body/text of the new law, which is expected to be submitted to the Parliament towards the end of June.

Funding

Following the launch of the revised Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2015 for Ukraine on 25 February, which appeals to the generosity of the international community to fund life-saving activities targeting 3.2 million people across Ukraine, as of 1 May donors funded or pledged around US\$76.6 million, or 24 percent of the \$316 million required for 2015. This includes \$45.2 million (14 per cent) that has been disbursed by donors, while another \$31.4 million has been pledged (10 per cent), but not yet disbursed.

Low level of funding coupled with a lack of implementing partners on the ground prevents many clusters from



Source: Financial Tracking System (FTS)

expanding their activities to meet the needs of thousands of people in need.

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Humanitarian Response



Livelihoods and Early Recovery (cluster coordinator: Inita Paulovica, Inita.Paulovica@undp.org)

Needs:

- The de-facto authorities of the self-proclaimed 'Donetsk People's Republic' stated that 95 per cent of enterprises were re-registered, thereby enabling more effective taxation.
- Salary arrears for miners are reportedly on the rise in non-government controlled areas. Meanwhile, salary arrears are also reported in several major industrial enterprises that are located in non-government controlled areas.

Response:

- Between January 2015 and 30 April 2015, about 1,400 IDPs have undergone self-employment training.
- Consultations on employment and re-registration were provided to 52 IDPs.
- 43 IDPs were provided with micro-enterprise development grants on a competitive basis to jump start micro businesses in Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv and Ternopil oblasts.
- Business plan approval sessions for micro-granting for IDPs were held in Odessa, Lviv and Kharkiv oblasts.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access remains one of the key problems. There are reports of alleged corruption at checkpoints.
- Uncertainty about how the conflict can evolve bears risks with regard to the effectiveness of large scale recovery efforts.
- Lack of banking system and financial settlement tools is a significant impediment to restoration of livelihoods in non-government controlled areas.
- During a recent assessment visit to oblasts adjacent to conflict zone, communities reported difficult situation with employment (especially in return areas), lack of accommodation for IDPs, pressure on the banking systems in cities that are close to the contact line due to a high number of commuters, and overcrowded kindergartens. Communities with the highest numbers of IDPs reported tension within communities, especially in educational institutions.
- IDPs participating in micro-enterprise/self-employment development programmes report problems in employment opportunities in places of resettlement. Issues reported include lack of vacancies, gaps between skills and labour market, unofficial employment without any guarantees, low salaries, delays in payments and discrimination.



Education (cluster coordinator: Rekha Das, redas@unicef.org)

Needs:

- The Education Cluster partners continue to raise protection concerns with regards to children crossing the contact line and separation of minors from non-government-controlled areas taking their exams in government-controlled areas (GCA). School graduates from non-government controlled areas can now pass the line of contact without any identification documents to undertake their exams in government-controlled areas following the decision of the de-facto authorities. To cross the line of contact students need proof that they are graduates. It is still not clear how many children from non-government controlled areas have registered for the examination (the deadline was 20 April), how many intend to take their exams in government-controlled areas and how many students will travel alone. Some boarding schools and institutions are ready to accommodate the children during the examination period, but it is unclear which children will board and whether they have the necessary funding.
- There is a need for smaller and more flexible funding for volunteer organisations, which could assist more partners in short-term and spontaneous activities such as summer camps and short catch-up classes for students.
- In government-controlled areas, there is still confusion about the number of registered IDP children compared to the number of enrolled children and children assumed 'out of school'. The significant discrepancy between IDP statistics from the State Emergency Service (SES), MoSP and the local

Departments of Education show a high number of registered school-age children that are not enrolled in school. Many Education Cluster partners express doubts about the high numbers ascribing them to the movement of IDPs.

- In an attempt to get some clarity on the numbers of IDP children out of school, the national NGO Station Kharkiv (transit point for IDPs) will begin to compile information from new IDPs regarding children out of school in Kharkiv. To obtain a more reliable data on registered IDPs and their children, there is a need for a new round of registration and tracking of IDPs who have moved and no longer registered as IDPs. More accurate data will assist programming and prevent confusion.

Response:

- Centre of Practical Psychology and Social Work (Department of Ministry of Education of Kharkiv oblast) organised 16 trainings and seminars in methods and standards for psychosocial support for 334 psychologists, social pedagogues, coordinators and 70 head teachers. A total of 3,895 IDP children and 3,145 adults (IDP parents) have so far received psychosocial assistance in Kharkiv region. However, the need for psychosocial support is still unmet, including professional support to adults and children as well as building the capacity of educational professionals. The Centre reports the following training needs in Kharkiv: 46 per cent of 256 psychologists in kindergartens, 51 per cent of 460 school psychologists, 33 per cent of 272 social educators and 43 per cent of 68 methodical coordinators of psychological work.
- The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) with National Assembly of Persons with Disabilities distributed 52 early childhood development kits, reaching 495 children with disabilities from Vinnytsia, Chernivtsi, Zhytomyr, Donetska and Luhanska oblasts.
- The national NGO La Strada has conducted trainings in psychosocial support to 3,474 educational specialists in 21 oblasts across the country. Meanwhile, the Association of Child and Family Psychologists started trainings for school psychologists and social educators (22 participants) in Druzhkivka, Donetska oblast.
- In addition to the regular summer camps traditionally arranged by the Ukrainian education system, several education partners agree that summer camps are an opportunity to offer IDP children recreational activities combined with extra classes for those who have missed classes during the school year. The national NGOs Human Home and Ukrainian Frontier are planning summer camps in Kharkiv. The international NGO ADRA will be arranging summer camps in Bucha, Kyiv oblast for around 100 children. ADRA is also planning to organise summer camps for some 100 children in Lviv.
- UNICEF is progressing with the project of rehabilitating 45 schools in government-controlled areas in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts – the project plan has been approved and procurement of 15,000 education kits is in progress.

Gaps & Constraints:

- To obtain more information from non-government controlled areas in Luhanska oblast in order to estimate the needs and gaps in education remains a challenge as the available data from those parts is still scarce. While information about the education situation in non-government controlled areas in Donetska oblast has increased with the establishment of a cluster, reporting from partners and dialogue with the de-facto authorities in Donetsk is an ongoing challenge.
- Getting more accurate information about movement and return plans of IDPs to help organisations on both sides of the contact line to prepare their programmes is a concern. Anecdotal information shows that many IDP families have returned or plan to return to their places of origin during the upcoming summer holidays. They reportedly plan to enroll their children at school in their places of origin.
- Few education cluster partners are prepared for a potential escalation of the conflict and new waves of IDPs. Most partners have depleted their stocks and have neither procured nor planned warehousing for education materials or school supplies. As the summer holidays are approaching some partners do not see the need. This is a challenge for the education cluster should the response needs increase rapidly.



Emergency Shelter and NFI (cluster coordinator: Igor Chantefor, chantefo@unhcr.org)

Needs:

- Some Collective Centres, which intended to act as summer camps during warm season, have already notified IDPs to vacate these centres as they need to prepare for their commercial recreation activities. This means a caseload of IDPs will be in need of a new housing solution.
- Southern parts of Donetska and Luhanska oblasts (non-government controlled areas) are yet to be reached with assistance and/or less covered compared to other areas.

Response:

- Shelter/NFI Cluster Factsheet has been released (available at http://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/factsheet_april_2015_final.pdf). Multifunctional cash grant, repairs of Collective Centres, acute emergency repairs and NFI distributions progress is in line with

the timeline. Contingency prepositioning and permanent shelter as well as activities foreseen as seasonal and 2015-16 winterisation were not yet activated.

- The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has allocated 14.8 million Ukrainian Hryvnias (UAH) – equivalent to about US\$700,000 - to reimburse Collective Centres for payment of accommodation of IDPs, prioritizing Odesa, Donetsk and Zhytomyr oblasts. Kharkiv is not listed, while Dnipropetrovska oblast will receive only UAH 733,000 (as stipulated in the Government Resolution). Shelter cluster will follow up with further clarification and analysis on the issue.
- DRC has finalized provision of cash assistance to 650 most vulnerable families as a second round. This brings total assisted with cash assistance in 2015 to 38,615 families.
- During the reporting period, some 3,000 individuals in government-controlled areas have received NFI assistance. About 95 per cent of these distributions occurred in Zone 3, an area that received high number of IDPs.
- Acute emergency shelter and repairs: UNHCR together with the international NGO People in Need (PIN) has provided asbestos-free roofing slate, metal sheets and timber for rehabilitation of 66 individual houses in government-controlled areas in northern parts of Donetsk oblast.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Procurement of big quantities of shelter materials and NFIs requires more time and this constrains deliveries on the ground.
- Zone 4 is still under-covered with only an average of 12 per cent of IDPs population, which received any kind of shelter/NFI assistance, when the average for Zone 3 is up to 19 per cent. Zone 4 is an area with relatively limited influx of IDPs.



Food Security (cluster coordinator: Giancarlo Stopponi giancarlo.stopponi@wfp.org)

Needs:

- According to the Rapid Market Assessment for Donetsk oblast, conducted by Save the Children, the reduction of purchasing power lead to the decrease of the demand [DEMAND OF WHAT?] in both government and non-government controlled areas. No major changes took place in supply routes for fruit or vegetables and all sourcing of buckwheat, pasta, sugar, flour from Donetsk has substituted with the supplies from Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Aleksandrovka, Zaporizhzhia and Poltava. However, fresh fruit and vegetables prices increased by up to 60-383 per cent. Food for children increased by up to 37-186 per cent. (<http://foodsecuritycluster.net/sites/default/files/RAM%20Ukraine%20Report%20-%20Kramatorsk%20-%20Slovyansk%20-%20March%202015%20FINAL.pdf>).
- According to the preliminary findings of FAO's detailed assessment, the number of households in need of receiving farming inputs is growing from the previously estimated 26,750 households in January. In the rural parts of government-controlled areas and across the buffer zone, provision of seeds, fodder and rebuilding of herds are the priorities. Vulnerable households need good quality seeds for cultivation of their backyard land plots.
- The needs of 79 villages of the Luhanska oblast and 147 villages of the Donetsk oblast that are located along the 30-km buffer zone differ because of sporadic violence and instability. Villagers are in urgent need of fodder to keep their remaining animals alive. Local capacities of the vulnerable households residing in the rural and suburban areas remain unutilised for small scale production of vegetables, meat, milk and other basic food items. Partners are exploring possibilities of partnership to prepare joint project proposals to address these needs.

Response:

- Food Security Cluster partners distributed vouchers for 8,420 beneficiaries in government-controlled areas in Donetsk oblast, namely Krasnoarmiysk, Demitrov, Dobropolie, Kramatorsk and Selidovo.
- FAO is planning local procurement and distribution of 100 metric tonnes (MT) of high-quality, certified potato seeds. These seeds will be distributed to about 1,000 households with a 100kg ration per household. About 300 square meters of backyard land can be planted with the provided seeds and beneficiaries can harvest 500kg or more of potato starting from August.
- FAO is undertaking preparatory works for identification of highly affected rural households, procurement and distribution of the animal fodder for livestock and poultry that vulnerable households are holding.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Despite the highlighted importance of the agriculture-based interventions in the HRP, livelihoods projects continue to be underfunded and almost depending on internal funding.
- The possibility of setting small scale projects for distribution of poultry in the villages located in the buffer zone is being explored. Due to limited resources this project component can only have a small scale of a pilot concentrated in 2-4 villages.



Health & Nutrition (cluster lead: Dr. Dorit Nitzan, DON@euro.who.int; Patricia Kormoss, kpj@euro.who.int)

Needs

- De-facto health authorities in non-government controlled areas in Donetsk oblast identified the urgent needs in vaccines (i.e. rabies, polio, tetanus, tuberculin skin test).
- Rapid assessment conducted by cluster partners showed multiple requests for infant formula and baby food. Therefore, promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding to mothers and caregivers of children aged 0-23 months and complementary food distribution to children aged 6-23 months is an urgent need.
- During the reporting period, an assessment of Lugansk Regional Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) clinic in non-government controlled areas in Luhanska oblast was undertaken. The hospital is partially operational and needs medicines, including antibiotics, anti-inflammatory and anti-allergic drugs.
- Assessment of the Regional Children's Hospital that was relocated from Luhansk city in March 2015 and is now based in government-controlled area in Luhanska oblast was undertaken. The hospital is partially operational and is in urgent need for properly equipped ambulance, especially given the state of roads and distances between settlements in the region.
- Assessments of collective centers in Kharkiv city (501 IDPs in Mobile City and Camp Romashka) indicated the need for more frequent visits by doctors.

Response:

- During the reporting period, 2,092 consultations for IDPs and resident population were provided by MEPU (Mobile Emergency Primary Health-care Units) teams in Sieverodonetsk (Luhanska oblast), Sloviansk, Sviatohorsk and Krasnyi Lyman (Donetska oblast), Kupyansk, Izium (Kharkivska oblast), Zaporizhzhia city (Zaporizka oblast), Pavlohrad and Dniprodzerzhynsk (Dnipropetrovska oblast).
- Based on global recommendations on nutrition in emergencies, local context and funding restraints, composition of complementary food basket for children aged 6-23 months has been developed, discussed and agreed upon by the Nutrition Sub-Cluster. Nutrition Sub-Cluster has prioritized targeted beneficiaries of complementary food backed in the following order: children aged 6-11 months living in non-government controlled areas; IDP children aged 6-11 months living in five priority oblasts and children aged 12-23 months living in non-government controlled areas; IDP children aged 12-23 months living in five priority oblasts.
- To address 90 per cent of needs, Nutrition Sub-Cluster requires US\$9.3 million, with \$3.7 million the primary priority. Only one partner currently distributes baby food baskets and more funding is required in order to scale up the response. UNICEF is exploring possibilities to import micronutrient powder for children to increase content of micronutrients in baby food basket.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of funding remains the main challenge hampering the efforts of cluster partners to meet growing health and nutritional needs. The Nutrition Sub-Cluster has recommended separate baskets for children aged 6-11 and 12-23 months. Each basket intends to cover 50 per cent of energy and physiological requirements of children 6-23 months old.
- The 'de-facto authorities' in non-government controlled areas in Luhanska oblast are planning a health reform, which aims to reduce the number of administrative entities and to reduce the number of hospitals (hospital beds). The impact is yet to be determined.
- The vaccination calendar in non-government controlled areas in Donetsk oblast will be slightly modified by the de-facto local health authorities. However, additional information is needed in order to verify whether the new vaccination calendar will conform to international standards.
- To address 90 per cent of needs, Nutrition Sub-Cluster requires US\$9.3 million, with \$3.7 million being the top priority. Only one partner currently distributes baby food baskets and more funding is required in order to scale up the response. UNICEF is exploring possibilities to import micronutrient powder for children to increase content of micronutrients in baby food basket.
- A protection cluster partner interviewed representatives of several medical institutions in non-government controlled areas in Donetsk oblast who reported that armed groups have taken away licensing and registration documents of these institutions requiring them to re-register with the self-proclaimed 'Donetsk People's Republic' in order to continue to provide medical care.



Protection (cluster co-coordinators: Christine Goyer, goyer@unhcr.org; Fiona Frazer, ffraser@ohchr.org) – see also overview

Needs:

- There is a need to disseminate information to IDPs and local officials on the 24 April resolution #212, which extends the time period of state payments to IDPs to cover livelihood including housing and utilities (as per resolution #505). Many IDPs, especially those living in rural areas are not aware about the required registration at the Migration authorities and need advice about the procedure and entitlements.
- More information on the available service providers for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors needs to be disseminated, while more awareness raising and advocacy is needed for decision makers about the importance to respond to SGBV. Additionally, there are not enough temporary shelters for women-survivors of violence.

Response:

- To better disseminate information, Responsibility to Protect (R2P) advocacy team prepared an infographic about the draft law # 2167 (on compensation of lost and damaged property to IDPs) and disseminated it via Facebook. The document provides basic information about international and national standards on this matter and the possible positive social effects to be expected should the law be adopted.
- During 23-24 and 28-29 April 2015, UNFPA conducted training workshop for heads of district departments of district police officers of Dnipropetrovska oblast. Training curriculum, developed by ICF «Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health» and endorsed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, was used. Training is aimed at strengthening capacities of law enforcement officials on prevention and response to cases of domestic violence.
- GBV Referral Card for Kharkivska oblast is developed and soon will be widely disseminated among population of the oblast and local service providers.
- R2P in Kharkiv provided legal counselling and assisted some 100 IDPs in several areas: information on the procedure of getting special permits, procedure and necessity of getting registration and receiving the stamp at the State Migration Service (SMS), assistance in submitting requests to the Departments of Social Protection and the Pension Fund seeking clarification of the reasons of termination of social payments and pensions. Additionally, R2P disseminated leaflets with information for IDPs on the procedure of getting permits, prolongation of IDP certificates and social payments, and getting a stamp of the temporary place of residence at several places of distribution of humanitarian assistance.
- With support of UNICEF, Danish Refugee Council (DRC)/Danish Demining Group (DDG) survey on knowledge, attitudes and practice regarding mine risk awareness is being finalized. Household interviews were processed in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts. The final report will be available by the end of May and will be useful for mine-risk education programming and education programming.
- The international NGO YMCA is targeting 6,000 schoolchildren and 2,500 adults with a mine risk awareness campaign in Antratsit and Krasnyi Lutch, in non-government controlled areas of Luhanska oblast. They will also receive first aid and psycho-social training.

Gaps & Constraints

- The extension of IDP certificates for an additional six months continues to create confusion amongst local level authorities. Even though all of the local offices for Social Protection received the official notification about the extension, the very same authorities have not taken any action in this respect, reportedly awaiting implementation instructions.
- Registration of minor students and children accompanied by relatives but not parents remains a problem in Luhanska, northern parts of Donetska, Dnipropetrovska, and Kharkivska oblasts. As a response to the information published on official site of the Luhansk region prosecutor's office (http://lug.gp.gov.ua/ua/news.html?_m=publications&_t=rec&id=154546), departments of social protection in Svatovskiyi and Merkovskiyi districts confirmed that if the court does decide that it is possible to assign monetary support to children who are not accompanied by their parents or legal guardians, the department will assign such support upon receiving court decision. No confirmation was received from Troitskiy district.
- An increasing trend of newly-issued or renewed documentation (including 'IDs, passports, driving licenses', etc) by the self-proclaimed 'Luhansk People's Republic' authorities has been noted. This might affect a number of IDPs (including newborns whose 'birth certificates' are not recognized), limiting their ability to access certain rights and entitlements.
- While the exchange of information on pension payments has been established between the Russian Federation and Ukraine to avoid double payments in Crimea, no mechanisms are yet in place for exchange of information or automatic recognition of civil registration documents between the two countries regarding Crimean residents. The Presidential administration has been lobbying for such a procedure to be introduced, however the Ministry of Justice has been reluctant to adopt it, resulting in numerous court cases.

- The list of areas beyond government control stipulated by Resolution 1085-r has been recently extended with the inclusion of the following locations: the village of Shyrokyne, the cities of Mariinka, Debaltseve etc. Cities and villages as Dzerzhynsk, Sartana, Talakivka, Lomakine, Vynogradne have been also been added to the list. Upon inclusion of these locations into the list, all the budgetary payments have been terminated in those locations, which resulted in major concerns and tension amongst the local population.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (cluster lead: Silvia Ramos, washcluster.ukraine@gmail.com)

Needs:

- Lack of financial resources for affected population is resulting in the increased demand for hygiene kits in all areas of Donetska, Luhanska and Kharkivska oblasts, particularly amongst IDPs. Replenishment and continued distribution of consumable hygiene items is needed, especially for most vulnerable conflict-affected people.
- The issue of lack of resources that water companies, especially in non-government controlled areas, are experiencing is becoming more problematic, which results in increased demand to WASH partners to provide assistance with spare parts, chemicals for water treatment and water quality analysis.
- A total of 2,200-2,300 km of water pipelines operated by the main water distribution company Voda Donbasa is reported to have been damaged. The company highlighted the difficulties in proceeding with repairs due to a severe lack of resources to buy spare parts as well as difficulties in obtaining them in non-government controlled areas.
- The main water treatment station located in the vicinity of contact line in non-government controlled areas in Luhanska oblast was destroyed, with over 100,000 people without access to safe water. While it is being repaired, water trucking has been identified as emergency solution for areas with no water supply. However, insufficient number of licensed trucks in non-government controlled areas has been reported, further complicating the issue.

Response:

- 14 MT of liquid chlorine reached Voda Donbassa and is delivered to Chervonoarmiysk pumping station, Velykoanadolsk and Chervonoarmiysk water filter stations. This will ensure the provision of potable water for approximately 1 million people in both government and non-government controlled areas.
- More than 40,000 people have received hygiene items since the beginning of the year. However, the needs of affected people are increasing. Population movements are a challenge for partners in the distribution of consumable hygiene items as well as for the distribution to new beneficiaries.
- During the reporting period, about 3,250 people in Luhanska oblast and Kharkivska oblasts received hygiene kits (baby, adult and family) provided by UNICEF and its partner organisations. This includes 2,500 people Luhansk, Alchevsk and Brianka in Luhanska oblast and another 750 people in Izium city, Kharkivska oblast.
- During the reported week, PIN and UNICEF have distributed 1,522 packages of diapers in Donetska) and Luhanska oblasts. Assessments of hygiene needs are underway in non-covered areas of Luhanska oblast.
- WASH Cluster partners are now focusing on responding to hygiene demands of elderly people.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Hampered access to water infrastructure in the vicinity of contact line areas prevents comprehensive repair work as well as emergency assistance through water trucking.
- Difficulties in assessing impact of conflict in water and sanitation infrastructure due to poor pre-crisis WASH services.
- Insufficient number of partners to cover all identified needs as well as to conduct comprehensive assessments in all conflict-affected areas.
- No partner has been identified to assist Donbas region in the repairs of the sewage system.
- Lack of standardized assessment methodology is a challenge for needs analysis.



Logistics (cluster lead: Matthew Serventy, matthew.serventy@wfp.org)

Response:

- A truck carrying UNICEF humanitarian cargo crossed Kurakhove check-point on 28 April and arrived to Donetsk the same day. A Logistics Cluster representative together with the consignee organisation staff were present at the check-point to facilitate the access. A 'humanitarian lane' was provided by the

Ukrainian Military to prioritise the Logistics Cluster vehicle through the check-point in government-controlled territory.

- Seven more cargoes from international humanitarian organisations, including a movement to Luhansk are pending permissions and three are currently standing by at the Dnipropetrovsk Logistics Cluster warehouse.
- Instructions on how to fill the Service Request Form and updated guidelines and SOPs for transport and storage requests have been prepared by the Logistic Cluster and were posted on the Logistics Cluster web-site to facilitate the application process for partners. Ukrainian versions are being developed and will be posted on the web site as well.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Increasing cargo movements into non-government controlled areas will require more frequent Logistics Cluster presence at check-points. Security restrictions related to the number of vehicles and Logistics Cluster limited resources will require close collaboration with other UN agencies that have presence in Donetsk oblast.

Coordination

- An Interagency (IASC) Gender Capacity (GenCap) advisor has been deployed to support the Ukraine humanitarian response with the view of promoting gender equality in humanitarian action. UNFPA and UNHCR are co-hosts, although the GenCap advisor is a resource to all clusters and partners. The advisor will assist with strengthening gender analysis, and profiling gender issues and concerns, as well as to strengthen capacity of humanitarian stakeholders with gender mainstreaming.
- Humanitarian Response website (<http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/ukraine>) aims to strengthen information sharing among the humanitarian community in Ukraine and beyond. It is easy to navigate and provides useful overview of contacts, events/meetings, key documents, maps and infographics, statistics and other operational data. Each cluster has a dedicated page to upload cluster-specific information.

Background on the crisis

In April 2014, armed groups in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk) began to seize buildings and arms. As a result of ongoing fighting between armed groups and government forces, and events in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC) in March 2014, people fled their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable as the conflict spread. Those in parts of Donbas affected by fighting, face imminent security threats due to military activities by all parties to the conflict that are increasingly concentrated in densely populated urban areas. Provision of basic services has been disrupted, supplies are increasingly limited, and an upsurge in lawlessness has occurred. Ongoing daily ceasefire violations continue to be reported, despite the 5 September Ceasefire and 19 September nine-point Memorandum agreed in Minsk. Indiscriminate shelling and continued insecurity are placing conflict-affected people and humanitarian actors at risk. An 11 February Minsk II Agreement resulted in general adherence to ceasefire. However, tensions and hostilities remain and pose continued security risks both to local population and humanitarian actors on the ground.

For further information, please contact:

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