

UKRAINE

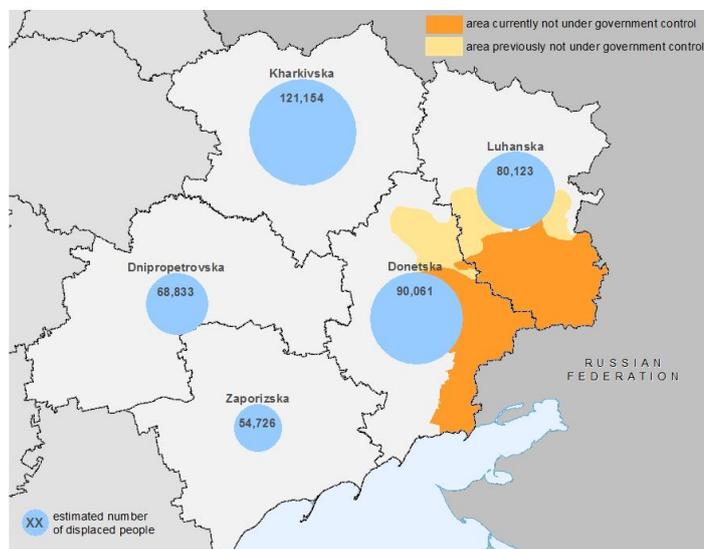
Situation report No.23 as of 9 January 2014



OCHA



This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers 27 December 2014 – 9 January 2015, unless otherwise noted. The next report will be published on 23 January.



The 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 provided by the State Emergency Service, Government of Ukraine, as of 8 January 2015. On this map the displacement is indicated only for five Eastern oblasts.

Highlights

- More than one million people have been driven from their homes by the conflict.
- 633,523 people have been internally displaced in Ukraine as of 8 January, while 593,622 people have fled to neighboring countries.
- The humanitarian community estimates that 1.4 million people are highly vulnerable and in need of assistance.
- The Ministry of Social Policy has extended the deadline to 1 February 2015 to receive social benefits and pensions (upon registration as an IDP)

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Estimated number of people living in conflict-affected areas as of 28 November

633,523 Total internally displaced people as of 8 January (source: SES)

593,622 Fled to neighboring countries as of 9 January

Situation Overview

The humanitarian community regrettably notes an increase in military activities and the intensification of hostilities. There were multiple reports of rockets being fired in the vicinity of Donetsk and Luhansk cities, an indication that the cease fire is regularly breached.

There are alarming reports from conflict-affected areas that thousands of people are highly vulnerable and in need of assistance. Along with financial problems, many lack the ability to buy essential food and medicines and are living in frigid winter conditions.

The Ministry of Social Policy has announced that people who transferred their pensions to government-controlled territory prior to the adoption of Resolution 509 (on IDP registration) can now register their IDP status until 1 February 2015. The previous deadline was 31 December 2014.

The leaders of Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France are expected to meet on 15 January in Kazakhstan to consider solutions to the conflict. The talks have not yet been confirmed.

OCHA will soon switch to Ministry of Social Policy displacement data, which has been registering IDPs as of 15 October. This data will be disaggregated by district, gender and age. To date, figures have been provided by the Ukrainian State Emergency Services.

MSF France, MSF Switzerland and MSF Netherlands are planning to set up humanitarian operations in Ukraine.

To date, at least 4,808 people have been killed (including 298 from flight MH-17) and 10,468 wounded in eastern Ukraine from mid-April 2014 to 6 January 2015 (source: OHCHR/WHO)¹.

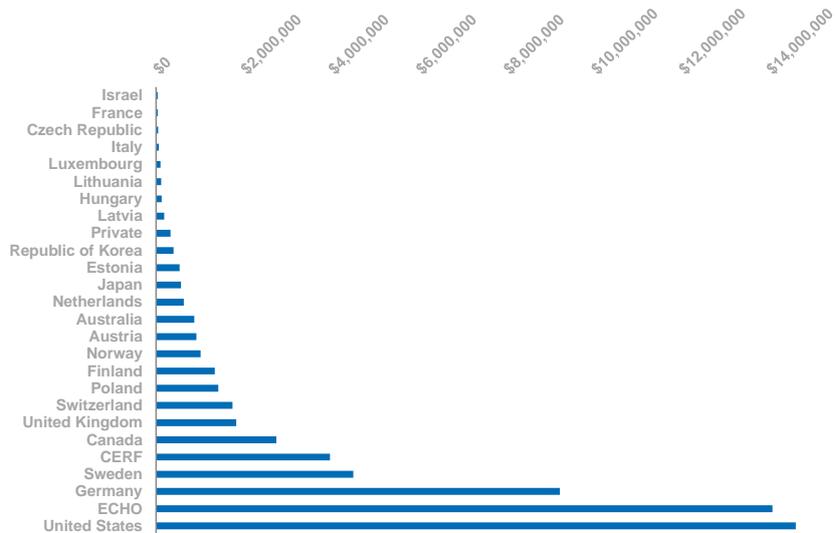
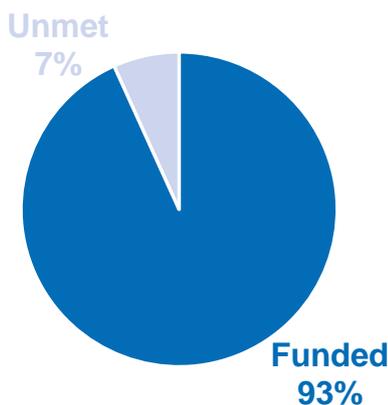
Funding

The Preliminary Response Plan (PRP) was launched on 14 August, against which UN agencies requested an initial \$33.3 million for immediate life-saving needs. Since the launch of the PRP, the situation has significantly deteriorated and needs have risen further. As of 9 January, donors have contributed \$31 million (UN only).

As of 9 January, the total amount provided by donors to international aid organizations for relief activities in Ukraine amounts to \$61.5 million.

Ukraine Crisis 2014

\$33.3 million requested



Humanitarian Response



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

Needs:

- Due to on-going shelling new housing infrastructure was damaged in the reported period both in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts.
- There are at least two reports when due to accidents the heating was stopped in part of Alchevsk and Stanitsa Luhanska cities. In Alchevsk communal services did not manage to pump the water out of the system and it led to its freezing. It seems that no heating will be restored in affected parts of the city in the near future, and in current -20 temperature this may bring significant risks to health.
- Disruptions of different public services noted in several cities (e.g. water supply in Kramatorsk). Electricity cuts were reported due to weather conditions and technological accidents.
- Livelihoods has significantly worsened in all front-line cities (Avdeevka, Stanitsa Luhansk, Debaltseve, Horlivka etc.).

Response:

- The administrative division of the Ukrainian governmental control area in Donetsk oblast has been changed. This enabled payment of social benefits to people who still live in territories controlled by anti-government forces. Already 2400 citizens received social benefits in the amount of USD 300,000.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The government of Ukraine has decided to halt public transportation in the territories that it does not control.

¹ This is a very conservative estimate by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and the World Health Organization based on available official data. These totals include: Ukrainian armed forces casualties as reported by the Ukrainian authorities; 298 people from flight MH-17; casualties reported by civil medical establishments and local administrations of Donetsk and Luhansk regions; and civilians and some members of armed groups (without distinguishing them). OHCHR and WHO believe that actual fatality numbers are considerably higher.

- The government of Ukraine has decided to have seven transport corridors to the rebel controlled areas.
- On-going military activities, though on a lesser scale than before, still pose a security risk for the operation of international organizations.



Education (cluster leads: Rudi Luchmann, rluchmann@unicef.org; Olena Sakovych, osakovych@unicef.org)

Needs:

- According to the OSCE, the main hindrance to children's access to education in conflict-affected areas is the lack of access to public transportation to get to school. For example, in Orlovske town (Donetsk oblast) children are not allowed to cross the checkpoint.

Response:

- The Deputy Minister of Education appointed a respective focal point in the Ministry to support the work of the cluster.
- UNICEF Education Specialist visited approx. 10 schools in government-controlled areas in Donetsk and Luhansk oblast, to prepare a renovation plan as well as the distribution of educational equipment and furniture.
- 91 early childhood development kits (for 910 IDP children) were delivered to school psychologists who are participating in psychosocial work with school age children in Severodonetsk, Slavyansk and Mariupol.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Limited access to the areas affected by the conflict remains one of the major hindrances to a proper assessment of the education situation in those regions.



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

Needs:

- IOM has identified 6 Collective Centres in need of assistance with construction materials and NFIs in Zaporizhzhia, Odesa, Kharkiv and Donetsk regions.
- As temperatures drop, the need for in-kind winterization NFIs becomes more urgent: blankets, bed linen, thermal underwear and winter clothing. Coal and wood for heating are also in high demand.

Response:

- **Cash assistance:** 9 Sector partners are now providing cash assistance for winterization: Caritas, Save the Children, DRC, ADRA, PiN, IRD, IOM, PCMC and UNHCR. To date, PiN has provided cash assistance to more than 1,096 IDPs in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, Caritas to some 2,089 IDPs in Kyiv, Odesa, Lviv, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi and Volyn regions, ADRA – to some 770 HHs, IOM – to 1,050 IDPs in Kharkiv region, PCPM has distributed 1,000 ATM cards in Kharkiv region, Save the Children has assisted 340 HHs in Dnipropetrovsk region, DRC – 143 HHs in Zaporizhzhia region. UNHCR has provided cash assistance to 4,640 HHs (11,829 ind.) in 11 regions of Ukraine, 9 more regions with some 4,278 vulnerable families (11,347 IDPs) are on the waiting list.
- **Collective Centers:** PCPM has completed the rehabilitation of a Collective Centre in Kharkiv region, increasing total capacity to 400 places. Samaritan Foundation initiated agreements with hostels to accommodate 20 IDPs in Kyiv as a pilot project. UNHCR has delivered construction materials to 9 Collective Centres in Odesa, Kyiv and Kharkiv regions, improving living conditions for some 1,000 IDPs. Additionally, UNHCR, together with its partner People in Need, is currently renovating eight collective centres in the Slovyansk area in northern Donetsk region, increasing the total number of collective centres renovated with UNHCR's assistance to 52 facilities.
- **NFI in Kind:** Samaritan Foundation has provided assistance to 1,400 IDPs in Kyiv and 750 in Kharkiv with in-kind NFIs, IOM to some 506 IDPs in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Mykolayiv, Odesa, Poltava and Sumy regions. UNHCR has provided assistance: blankets, warm clothes, towels, sleeping bags and warm underwear to some 600 IDPs in Kharkiv, Donetsk and Luhansk region.
- In December, UNHCR established a presence in Donetsk to meet the acute needs of the affected population in the areas controlled by anti-government elements. UNHCR together with partner NGOs distributed 6,000 square metres of reinforced tarpaulin and 3,000 blankets in areas not controlled by the Government. A further 3,500 blankets, 3,500 bed linen kits and 7,000 blankets have been prepositioned in Donetsk.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Unclear information provided by IDPs to receive assistance hinders proper and efficient response.
- Complicated tax legislation in force as of 1 January 2015 leads to confusion among providers of humanitarian assistance.



Food and Nutrition Security (cluster leads: Sultan Mehmood, sultan.mehmood@wfp.org; Valeriya Taran, vtaran@unicef.org)

Preparedness:

- WFP initiated work on targeting criteria for cash, food and vouchers.
- As part of preparedness measures a suggestion was given to the members to nominate cluster focal points at key rayon/district level as well for regular interaction on food and nutrition related needs, issues, information sharing between field and country level.
- WFP plans to distribute 40,000 food parcels by end of January 2015. Distribution of 30,000 vouchers (valued at USD 45 each) will start by Mid-January 2015, while cash distribution options are also being explored, starting in February 2015.
- UNDP reported that it is planning to extend its aid and distribute 30,000 more food packages to IDPs across Ukraine in the cities of Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Dneprodzerzhinsk, Pavlohrad, Novomoskovsk, Zaporizhia, Melitopol, Berdyansk, Primorsk, Mariupol, Izum, Lozova and other areas.
- UNDP has delivered 5,000 food kits to the People In Need (PIN) warehouse in Slovyansk which will be distributed by PIN to social institutions in the Donetsk region located on the territories that are not under Government control.

Needs:

- Lack of cash and exhausted savings were also reported by Save Ukraine Now (SUN) in some of the areas where food is available but buying capacity does not exist.
- French Red Cross plans to conduct capacity and needs assessment in Zaporizhia which will be followed by food and voucher distribution in the same area.
- A WFP mission is presently in Kharkiv for monitoring of food distribution, conducting training of its partner staff monitoring and reporting of food distribution and also to visit the UN outpost building in Kramatorsk.

Response:

- WFP continued its distribution of 10,000 food parcels through its partners People In Need, ADRA and IRD in non-government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The caloric value of rations have been increased by WFP due to winter.
- During the last 10 days of December 2014, UNDP distributed more than 25,000 food packages to IDPs in towns located in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Poltava regions/oblasts.
- In addition, 23 social institutions (including senior homes, hospitals, psycho neurological boarding institutions and schools) located in Luhansk region on the territories that are not under Government control received 4,734 food parcels. The aid delivery was coordinated by International Relief and Development, Inc.
- Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) starts distribution of 3,700 standard food parcels in Luhansk Oblast (Severodonetsk, Lysychansk, and Popasna) at the start of January 2015.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Availability of a clean and final list of registered affected population is required by the cluster.



Health (sector lead: Dr. Dorit Nitzan, DON@euro.who.int; Patricia Kormoss, kpi@euro.who.int)

Needs:

- As of 6 January, 10,468 people including 120 children were reported wounded and 4,808 people including 45 children were killed (source: OHCHR/WHO, including flight MH-17 victims).
- The following items are needed: insulin, dialysis equipment, blood transfusion, emergency and trauma care, diagnostic equipment for laboratories, vaccines, TB, HIV and cancer drugs. Food supplies for hospitals and fuel supply for ambulances in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts remains unmet.

Response:

- A Donor Conference organized by WHO with the support of OCHA, and the Ukrainian Ambassador to the UN Office in Geneva will be held on 15 January at the Palais de Nation.
- On 12 January, a two week training will begin in Kyiv for 30 medical professional staff for Mobile Emergency Primary Health Care Units. During the 2-months pilot, the training manual will be finalized.

Gaps & Constraints:

- IDPs lack funds to procure a full package of health care services (mainly pharmaceuticals and laboratory services) and people who stay in the non-government controlled area do not have access to cash, while medicine prices are constantly increasing.

- Providing specialized health care in the rebel controlled areas is unsustainable because most doctors and nurses have left the area. Medical facilities in rebel controlled areas are still functioning.
- Lack of fuel in conflict area has resulted in a 20% decrease in the number of ambulances that are operating. Health specialists face major security concerns operating within the contact line due to unpredictable shooting and the presence of ERW in the area.
- Due to the lack of drugs needed in the regions, treating MDR-TB patients is suspected to be out of line with recommended protocols, raising the concern of further resistance.



Protection (co-cluster leads: Ilija Todorovic, todorovi@unhcr.org; Fiona Frazer, ffrazer@ohchr.org)

Preparedness:

- Ministry of Social Policy has announced that people who transferred their pensions to the Government-controlled territory prior to the adoption of Resolution 509 (on IDP registration) have until 1 February 2015 to register as an IDP. Previously the deadline was 31 December 2014.
- The UN Human Rights Mission in Ukraine (HRMU) continued to monitor casualties, detentions, enforced disappearances, torture, ill-treatment, reprisals and access to basic social services in the conflict area. Special attention was paid to releases of detainees.
- UNHCR announced the call for expression of interest to implement the project “Protection of internally displaced persons and other affected populations in Ukraine”.
- UNHCR office in Mariupol along with the Mariupol Social Service will establish a social rehabilitation center for IDP families. It would serve as a mediation point for IDP mothers and their children where they could share positive practices of social integration as well as gain psychosocial support.

Needs:

- People, particularly civilians, held by armed groups must be protected from ill-treatment, including forced labour. People detained by Ukrainian law enforcement agencies need to be treated humanely and with due respect of their rights.
- Passport issues of Ukrainian citizens, residing in Crimea (i.e. passport renewal, amendments) should be facilitated.
- Donors and international NGOs are still calling for a predictable framework for the delivery of aid to areas not controlled by the Government.
- Additional capacity-building with the government on registration issues is needed.
- There is a strong need for further legal advocacy on a long list of the legislation on IDPs requiring amendment, as well as drafting new one.

Response:

- The HRMMU followed a number of abductions by the armed groups and cases of arbitrary detention by the Ukrainian law enforcement agencies.
- DRC is assisting internally displaced Ukrainians in the areas surrounding the cities of Berdyansk, Mariupol, and Dnipropetrovsk and is expecting to expand operations and outreach in the month to come.
- UNHCR partners “Right to Protect”, “KrymsOS” and civil society has been advocating for amending Resolutions 505 and 509. The relevant propositions were submitted to the Ministry of Social Policy.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The problem of registration of unaccompanied children remains unsolved. There are no changes in registration of people with special needs who physically cannot come to social protection departments.
- People with special needs face a number of problems, most of which are related to the accessibility of services and transportation in areas re-taken by the government.
- Since 26 December 2014 train and bus connection to Crimea have been suspended. This creates additional tension among people willing to keep their access both to Crimea and Ukraine.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (cluster lead: Rudi Luchmann, rluchmann@unicef.org)

Needs:

- The UNICEF WASH Specialist was on a monitoring mission in Donetsk and Luhansk oblast on 14-19 December to assess the WASH situation and response to the existing needs. Meetings were held with authorities including governor, deputy governor, mayors and water supply companies such as Gorvodokanal and Voda Donbasa.
- WASH needs exist in Donetsk and Luhansk. Gorvodokanal (responsible for the provision of safe water in Slavyansk) requested that UNICEF support the repair of filters, which serve 50,000 people including IDPs in Slavyansk. Voda Donbasa (a water provision company for Donetsk Oblast) highlighted that there is a need of water purification plants as contingency due to the fact that six major cities were without water for 86 days in summer and needs may arise at any time.

- 1000 households, approximately 3000 people, in the town of Triokhizbenka (Luhansk oblast), located on the contact line, are cut off from electricity, heating and gas, and there is a dire need for water and hygiene supplies.

Response:

- Sector lead together with partners is distributing hygiene items to children and families living in bomb shelters in Donetsk. During the reported period, 887 adult kits were distributed benefitting 1774 people, as well as 500 baby kits benefitting 1000 children. UNICEF also provided hygiene supplies for 500 individuals to a mental health facility in Slavyanoserbksk inside the Luhansk part of the non-government controlled areas.
- 15,581 6-litre bottles of water are going to be distributed at the town of Schastye (Luhansk oblast) in partnership with HORSE NGO and local city administration.
- Sector lead is carrying out a WASH assessment through a local partner to identify the WASH gaps in 33 locations and is also collecting information from sector partners to prioritize the needs accordingly.
- The WASH cluster requested WHO to carry out the water quality assessment in the conflict affected regions in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.
- Hygiene promotion sessions continue at schools with implementing partner NGO 'Mama 86'. The set of educational materials have been developed for hygiene promotion activities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Limited access to the areas affected by the conflict remains one of the major hindrances to a proper assessment of WASH situation in those regions.

General Coordination

- The **NGO Forum** meets every second Tuesday at 10:00 am at People in Need (PIN). This meeting alternates with the **OCHA-NGO Forum** at 10:00 am at OCHA.
- The **Cash Transfer Technical Working Group** can be contacted through OCHA or WFP should your organization wish to receive information and guidance on cash transfer activities in Ukraine.
- The **Humanitarian Response website** aims to streamline information sharing among the humanitarian community in Ukraine and beyond. It is easy to navigate and provides useful overviews of contacts, events/meetings, key documents, maps and infographics, statistics and other operational data. Each sector has a dedicated page to upload sector-specific information. We will populate the website over the coming weeks and welcome any suggestions you might have to improve layout and content.
- Regular sector meetings are held in Kyiv and the field, including Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Slaviansk and Zaporizhzhia. Please click [here](#) for the meeting schedule.

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, as well as the events which occurred in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC) in March 2014, people have been forced to flee their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable as the conflict intensified and spread. Those staying in Donbas region, particularly in areas 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.

The displaced population has significantly increased since early June 2014. To date, 633,523 people have reportedly been internally displaced and 593,622 people have reportedly fled to neighbouring countries. Most have left with few belongings and are in need of shelter, food and non-food assistance, placing pressure on neighbouring regions.

For further information, please contact:

Alexandra Eurdolian, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Kyiv | eurdolian@un.org | +380 95 284 7322
 Jake Morland, Desk Officer, New York | morland@un.org | +1 212 963 2066

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