

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

APRIL 26, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

3.4
million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance
UN – December 2017

1.5
million

IDPs in Ukraine
GoU Ministry of Social Policy – April 2018

1.2
million

Food-Insecure People in the Donbas Region
UN – December 2017

1.1
million

People Displaced to Neighboring Countries
UN – November 2016

2,500

Estimated Conflict-Related Civilian Deaths since April 2014
UN – December 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Shelling and landmines remain leading causes of civilian casualties in 2018
- Winter weather disrupts electricity, heat, and water services for populations in eastern Ukraine
- WFP ceases emergency food assistance in eastern Ukraine due to access and funding constraints

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2017 AND FY 2018

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$9,364,567
USAID/FFP ²	\$3,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$17,600,000
\$29,964,567	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Despite persistent conflict-related threats to civilians on a daily basis, the overall number of casualties in Ukraine decreased by 16 percent from November 2017–February 2018 compared to November 2016–February 2017, according to the UN. February 2018 casualties also comprised the fewest casualties per month since the onset of the conflict.
- Thousands of Ukrainians living in more than 90 settlements on both sides of the contact line experienced disrupted electricity, heating, and water systems as a result of unusually low temperatures in February, the UN reports. Heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures from November 2017 to March 2018 reduced water and heat supplies, as well as access to basic services, critical facilities, and markets on both sides of the contact line.
- Following shelling, the UN reports that landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) accounted for the second highest cause of civilian casualties in 2017.
- In February, the UN World Food Program (WFP) closed its emergency food assistance operation in Ukraine, citing insufficient funding and decreasing humanitarian access, particularly in the non-government controlled area (NGCA). The UN agency reached approximately 1.1 million people with emergency food assistance in the government-controlled area (GCA) and NGCA through cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and locally-procured food since beginning operations in Ukraine in November 2014.
- Authorities shut down the Donetsk Filter Station, which supplies safe drinking water to more than 345,000 people on both sides of the contact line, after five employees were injured by unknown armed actors in an attack on April 17.
- To date in FY 2018, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided approximately \$2.5 million in humanitarian assistance to meet emergency food, health, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs in eastern Ukraine.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY AND PROTECTION

- The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights reported that from November 2017–February 2018 the overall number of casualties in Ukraine decreased by 16 percent compared to November 2016–February 2017, and February 2018 casualties comprised the fewest casualties per month since the onset of the conflict in 2014. However, the UN emphasized that despite this relative decrease, armed hostilities continue to endanger the population on a daily basis.
- Landmines and UXO ranked as the second highest cause of civilian casualties after shelling in 2017, resulting in the deaths of or injuries to approximately 240 people, the UN reports. More than 2 million Ukrainians—including as many as 220,000 children—are living in areas affected by landmines and UXO, which have resulted in the deaths of or injuries to more than 1,600 civilians in eastern Ukraine since the March 2014 onset of hostilities, particularly in the Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts*, according to the UN.
- Restrictions on freedom of movement further isolated residents in villages close to the contact line, cutting off access to basic goods and services—including education and healthcare facilities, humanitarian aid, and markets, the UN reported. Although repairs to the wooden ramps connecting the broken parts of the bridge at the Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint in Luhansk *oblast* enabled increased movement through the checkpoint, maneuvering up and down the steep ramps at the sole crossing route in the entire Luhansk region remains difficult for people with disabilities, older people, and families with small children. The 35,000 daily crossings that occur on the contact line have created long lines at the five official crossing routes, increasing security risks due to nearby shelling, landmine contamination, and freezing temperatures. In addition, large populations in eastern Ukraine lack adequate access to basic hygiene, heating, and medical facilities, according to the UN.
- In March, a member of the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—provided legal assistance to nearly 1,700 people through a hotline, mobile teams, and legal aid centers in Kramatorsk, Severodonetsk and Stanytsia Luhanska, Mariinka, and Mayorske checkpoints. Two other cluster members provided psychosocial support to more than 1,200 older people in Donetsk through individual sessions and mobile group visits in March.
- The National 24/7 Hotline for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors received nearly 2,000 calls for informational, psychological, and legal consultations in March; callers reported more than 1,000 GBV cases, of which 39 percent were attributed to sexual and physical violence. The same month, 25 GBV survivors, 15 women and 10 children, received safe space accommodation and protection support at UN Population Fund (UNFPA)-supported shelters in Kharkiv, Kryvyi Rih, Berdiansk, Mariupol, and Krasnopavlivka.

WASH

- In March and April, armed actors attacked the Donetsk Filter Station on five separate occasions, the UN reports. An April 17 attack injured five station employees and prompted authorities to shut down operations of the water filter station, which supplies safe drinking water to more than 345,000 people on both sides of the contact line. In response to earlier attacks, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Ukraine Neal Walker issued a statement on March 14, urging the parties to the conflict to respect civilian infrastructure and protect civilians in accordance with international humanitarian law.
- Winter weather and below-average temperatures in February and March led to electricity, heat, and water supply disruptions and access constraints for thousands of Ukrainians living in more than 90 settlements on both sides of the contact line, the UN reports. Additionally, as many as 100,000 people on both sides of the contact line experienced water supply interruptions for more than 24 hours following a weather-related disruption to the First Lift Pumping Station of the South Donbas Water Pipeline on March 1, according to the UN. When water supplies are interrupted, heating systems often stop functioning, affecting thousands of vulnerable people. Heating needs were further exacerbated for those who collect wood as a heat source by landmine contamination in nearby forests. Large snow drifts caused by above-average snowfall in February also blocked roads, hindering access by vulnerable populations to educational and health facilities, markets, and public services, according to the UN.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

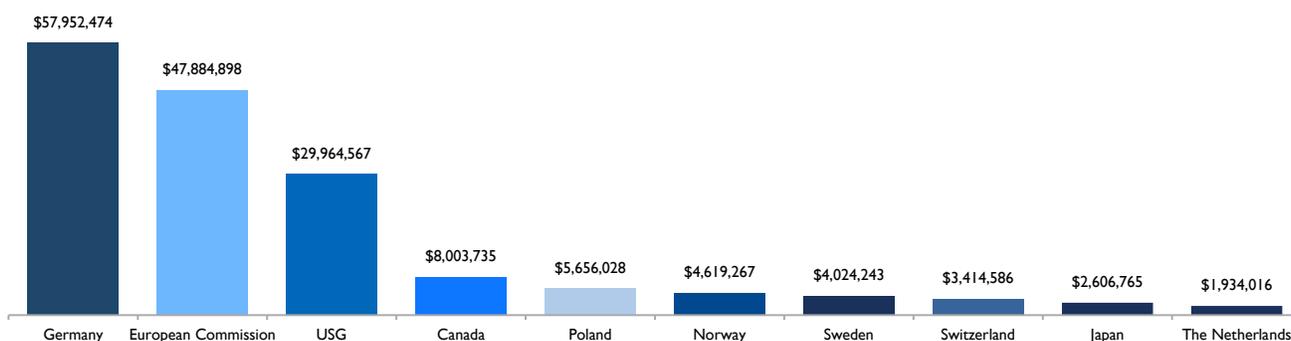
- Conflict has inhibited agricultural production, which serves as a primary source of food and income for thousands of people in Ukraine, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Lack of access to quality agricultural inputs—such as seeds and fertilizers—is a primary production impediment for populations in eastern Ukraine, according to a FAO needs assessment conducted in March. Additionally, increased prices, limited market functionality, restricted access to pasturelands, mine contamination, and continued insecurity have resulted in insufficient animal feed reserves to sustain household-level livestock production, particularly in Donetsk and Luhansk.
 - Pensioners residing in territory controlled by armed groups continue to face restrictions in accessing their pensions due to the Government of Ukraine (GoU) policy linking pension payments with IDP status and residence registration. However a recent Supreme Court decision reversed the withholding of pension payments in individual cases.
 - Food insecurity is particularly acute in the NGCA, according to UN and humanitarian sources. According to a March market assessment, WFP reported that food is available in the NGCA; however, prices are higher in the NGCA than in the GCA. Additionally, approximately 150,000 people living in the NGCA are severely food insecure, compared to the 26,000 people in the GCA, according to a March Food Security Cluster report.
 - With support from USAID/FFP in late 2017, WFP extended its operation through January and early February, during which harsh weather conditions traditionally exacerbate food insecurity for Ukraine’s most vulnerable populations. In February, WFP provided cash transfers for food to nearly 18,000 conflict-affected people in the GCA.
 - In late February, WFP ceased its emergency food assistance operation in Ukraine due to insufficient funding and decreasing humanitarian access, particularly in the NGCA. The UN agency remains in close contact with local stakeholders to monitor the food security situation in the area. Since beginning Ukraine operations in November 2014, WFP reached approximately 1.1 million people in both the GCA and the NGCA with emergency food assistance, including cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and locally-procured food.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The European Commission announced approximately \$29.5 million in humanitarian assistance for the 2018 humanitarian response in Ukraine at a late February high-level conference in Brussels, Belgium, organized by the European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The governments of Germany and Norway also announced approximately \$14.8 million and \$3.7 million, respectively, for humanitarian response activities in Ukraine.
- Humanitarian donor nations had contributed more than \$8 million—or approximately 4 percent of the total funding appeal—to the 2018 Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) as of April 20. The HRP, launched in December 2017, requested \$187 million to reach approximately 3.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Ukraine. Total 2018 humanitarian funding for the 2018 Ukraine response, including contributions outside of the HRP, amounted to \$46.8 million, as of mid-April.

2017–2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of April 26, 2018. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2017 and 2018 calendar years, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2016, and October 1, 2017, respectively.

CONTEXT

- Since March 2014, the conflict in eastern Ukraine has caused large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost *oblasts* bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs has negatively affected neighboring *oblasts*.
- The GoU estimated that the conflict had internally displaced approximately 1.5 million people, as of April 2018. In addition, the UN estimates that 3.4 million of the 4.4 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine require humanitarian assistance in 2018.
- On October 12, 2017, U.S. Ambassador Marie L. Yovanovitch renewed the disaster declaration for Ukraine due to the continued humanitarian needs of IDPs and vulnerable populations affected by conflict between GoU forces and opposition forces in eastern Ukraine.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE PROVIDED IN FY 2018

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
OCHA	HCIM	Donetsk, Kyiv, and Luhansk <i>oblasts</i>	\$300,000
	Program Support		\$1,056
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$301,056
STATE/PRM			
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$2,200,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$2,501,056

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2017¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
IPs	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Luhansk, Poltava, Sumy, Vinnytsya, Zhytomyr <i>oblasts</i>	\$7,584,038
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$300,000
UNICEF	HCIM, WASH	Countrywide	\$550,000
WFP	HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	Program Support		\$129,473
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$9,063,511
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Locally and Regionally Procured Food Assistance, Food Vouchers, Cash Transfers for Food	Eastern Ukraine	\$3,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$3,000,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partner	Capacity Building, Protection	Countrywide	\$300,000
ICRC	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$8,100,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,600,000
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Protection	Countrywide	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$15,400,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2017			\$27,463,511
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2017-2018			\$29,964,567

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USG funding totals represent actual committed amounts as of April 26, 2018.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>