Situational overview: The security situation in eastern Ukraine deteriorated in the latter half of November, with more than 14,000 ceasefire violations recorded.

Protection concerns: Winter conditions are exacerbating the protection situation; UNHCR launched its winter assistance plan to meet the needs of the most vulnerable IDPs.

Assistance provided: In November, UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter assistance to more than 3,100 people.

KEY INDICATORS

51,840
people reached through NFI assistance from UNHCR and partners in 2017.

31,080
IDPs and people at risk of displacement received legal assistance from UNHCR partners since January 2017.

2,650
households in eastern Ukraine received UNHCR shelter assistance in 2017.

FUNDING (AS OF 12 DECEMBER)

USD 37.6 M
requested for the Ukraine situation

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDP)* AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED PERSONS**

1.8 million

ASYLUM SEEKERS FROM UKRAINE***

- Russian Fed.: 427,240
- Italy: 11,230
- Germany: 10,495
- Spain: 8,380
- Poland: 4,595

* Residing more permanently in government-controlled areas (GCA).
** Estimated number of conflict-affected persons living along the line of contact in GCA and non-government controlled areas (NGCA).
*** Source (external displacement): respective government authorities. External displacement data refers to the total number of asylum applications by Ukrainians (first time applications) in the top five receiving countries since the beginning of the Ukraine situation in January 2014.
Update On Achievements

Operational Context
The security situation in the Eastern Conflict Area (ECA) has been marked by increased ceasefire violations in the latter half of November. On 3 and 4 November, Donetsk Filter Station was again targeted by shelling. The filter station processes water for some 345,000 people on both sides of the line of contact. Following the shelling, the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator issued a statement on the humanitarian impact of hostilities in eastern Ukraine noting that damage to critical infrastructure could lead to further displacement. OHCHR reports 544 conflict-related civilian casualties: 98 killed and 446 injured in 2017 as of mid-November, a 3.6 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2016. The presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) or landmines in areas near the line of contact continues to cause civilian casualties. In November, the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) recorded some 1,069,500 crossings of the line of contact. UNOCHA’s Humanitarian Snapshot provides an overview of the humanitarian situation.

As a part of global #IBelong campaign aiming to end statelessness, the UN Refugee Agency in Ukraine supported the Roma Pride event in Kyiv. The celebration was co-organized with UNHCR partner International Roma Women Charitable Fund Chiricli, the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, and OSCE. The event brought together representatives of Roma communities, NGO partners, as well as state and international agencies. Photo: UNHCR/Volodymyr Shuvayev.
Achievements

Protection Cluster
- The Protection Cluster led by UNHCR, held a Protection Working Group meeting in Sloviansk, where partners underlined acute humanitarian and protection needs in rural areas, where humanitarian access is restricted due to military activity and where people continue to be displaced. Cluster partners report increased mine-related incidents, conflict-damaged roads becoming impassable due to adverse weather conditions, impeded access to medical services, and delayed repairs to damaged electricity supplies due to lack of security for repair teams. Winter conditions are exacerbating the protection situation as people are forced to make impossible choices between paying for heating, food, or medicine.
- The recently launched Ukraine Humanitarian Needs Overview [pdf] and Humanitarian Response Plan 2018 [pdf] show that there are over 4.4 million conflict-affected people, including over 3.4 million people in need. A recent assessment of areas near the line of contact found that the main protection concerns are mines and shelling, community tension, destruction of property, military presence, and lack of psychosocial support. Recent REACH assessments by found that that there is increased involuntary return by displaced people to non-government controlled areas, as well as areas near the line of contact. This is mostly because people have exhausted their coping mechanisms and financial resources. Those returning to areas with little employment or livelihoods are turning to negative coping mechanisms to survive.
- Protection Cluster delivered training on protection mainstreaming for non-protection actors in Kramatorsk. Participants included persons working in humanitarian sectors such as shelter and WASH.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the November fact sheet [pdf].

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs
- UNHCR launched its winter assistance plan for 2017/2018. The plan will target 15,300 of the most vulnerable IDPs living in eastern Ukraine, as well as other vulnerable conflict-affected persons living in areas near the line of contact, both in government and non-government controlled areas. UNHCR and its partners will provide NFIs such as warm clothes as well as coal, and cash assistance to help meet winter needs. UNHCR will also reinforce existing weather shelters and build new ones at checkpoints on the line of
contact to protect persons from the elements as they wait to cross. More information on UNHCR’s winter assistance is available in the Winterization Update.

- UNHCR met its target of selecting 4,000 persons in government-controlled areas of eastern Ukraine for individual protection assistance (IPA) cash. The cash assistance is provided via post offices following an agreement between UNHCR and UkrPoshta (the Ukrainian postal service). So far, 3,049 persons have already received the assistance, with distribution expected to be complete by the end of the year.

- During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners provided over 11,100 consultations to IDPs and people at risk of displacement. In central and western Ukraine, UNHCR partner Chirikli provided five legal consultations, CrimeaSOS provided 560 legal consultations and 269 protection consultations, and Desyate Kvityna provided 145 legal consultations. In government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, Proliska provided 1,432 protection consultations. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided protection counselling to 328 persons, information assistance to 562 persons, and legal assistance to 15 persons. The Right to Protection (R2P) provided legal assistance to 1,777 persons and protection assistance to 1,600 persons. The UNHCR hotline managed by R2P received 289 calls.

- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk region, UNHCR partners provided 3,236 protection consultations, including home visits and hotline consultations, and 946 legal consultations. UNHCR’s partners also conducted community development training for over 2,100 persons on subjects including personal development, interpersonal communication, personal safety and career advice. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR provided 9 protection consultations and 13 hotline consultations. Main concerns of persons assisted were the upcoming winter (the need for winter clothes, coal etc.), access to social assistance and pensions, housing, freedom of movement, civil documentation, access to humanitarian and medical assistance, stress and anxiety caused by the conflict.

**SHELTER AND NFIS**

**Shelter and NFI Cluster**

- The Shelter and NFI Cluster led by UNHCR and co-chaired by the NGO People in Need (PiN), participated in a special technical working group to discuss the revision of the Guidelines on Structural Repairs and Reconstruction [pdf]. Agencies discussed some of the key lessons learned and programming outcomes. In January 2018, the Cluster will produce the revised version. This revision will include a one pager on how to conduct a technical shelter assessment, a review of relevant legislation, indicators for post distribution monitoring, and humanitarian versus development structural repair and reconstruction interventions.
Cluster partners drafted 16 project proposals forming part of the Humanitarian Response Plan 2018. Consistent with the protracted nature of the situation and remaining realistic regarding implementation capacity, 11 projects were only slightly modified, presenting a 6 per cent decrease in funding request for the Shelter and NFI Cluster as compared to the overall Humanitarian Response Plan request, reduced by 13 per cent compared to 2017. In 2018, Cluster partners are targeting 172,000 people in need.

Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- During November, UNHCR distributed NFI and shelter assistance to some 3,100 people. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR provided partner NGO Proliska with NFIs, including bedding and winter jackets for distribution to some 1,760 persons in northern Donetsk and Kharkiv region. UNHCR provided bedding sets to 80 students from the displaced Luhansk National Agricultural University in Kharkiv. UNHCR provided bedding sets to NGO the Right to Protection (R2P) for distribution to 360 IDPs in Kharkiv. UNHCR partner People in Need (PiN) assisted 47 households in northern Donetsk with shelter repairs.
- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk, UNHCR’s partners distributed NFIs to eight households in areas near the line of contact. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR distributed winter clothing, as well as IOM and UNICEF-provided family hygiene kits to some 861 persons. A construction company contracted by UNHCR completed repairs to 16 conflict-damaged schools in the area.
- Further details of UNHCR’s assistance can be found on the shelter and NFI dashboard.

Working in partnership

- The humanitarian response to the internal displacement situation in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by the Government, international organizations, national and international NGOs.
- UNHCR signed a Letter of Understanding with the Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons establishing a framework for collaboration and coordination aimed at maximizing the capacity of UNHCR and the Ministry to assist IDPs.
- UNHCR works together with 11 partners as well as other operational partners providing support to IDPs through protection and legal assistance, policy development and capacity building and the distribution of emergency shelter materials and non-food items. UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and co-chairs the Shelter and Non-food Item Cluster together with NGO People in Need (PiN).
Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some US$ 13.3 million, including US$ 9 million for the situation.

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

Funding received (in million USD)

- United States of America: 3.6 million
- European Union: 3.44 million
- Germany: 1.71 million
- Norway: 1.19 million
- Sweden: 1.11 million
- Canada: 0.74 million
- Private Donors: 0.5 million
- Estonia: 0.45 million
- Japan: 0.33 million
- Russian Federation: 0.25 million
External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017
United States of America (266 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Private Donors Spain (60 M)
Netherlands (52 M) | United Kingdom (45 M) | Norway (41 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Private Donors Italy (19 M) | Australia (19 M) | Private Donors USA (16 M) | Canada (16 M) | Private Donors Japan (15 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Private Donors Sweden (12 M) | Germany (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017
Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Spain | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors

CONTACTS
E-mail: ukrki@unhcr.org, Tel: +38 044 288-9710

LINKS
Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv - Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr_ukraine
Annexes

132 Staff in 8 Offices / Hubs / Unit
15 Partner Organizations

Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers
- Desyatyn Kvitnya
- Faith, Hope, Love
- NEEKA
- Right to Protection (R2P)
- Boksha
- World

Assistance to stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness
- Desyatyn Kvitnya
- NEEKA
- Right to Protection (R2P)

Assistance to internally displaced persons
- UNHCR
- Crimean SOS
- Desyatyn Kvitnya
- Donetsk Development Centre
- Maximil
- Móst
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- People in Need (PIN)
- Polissia
- Right to Protection (R2P)
- Savić Heart

Date: 14 Dec 2017  Sources: UNHCR  Author: UNHCR - Kyiv  Feedback: InformationManagement@unhcr.org  Filename: UNHCR_persistence_EN