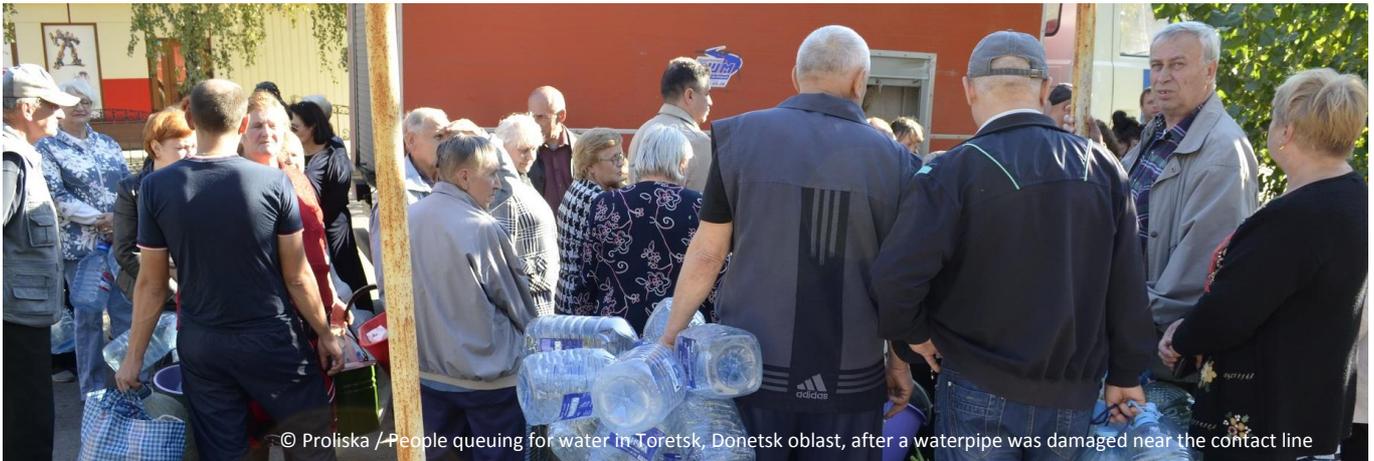


THE PROTECTION CLUSTER INCLUDES SUB-CLUSTERS ON CHILD PROTECTION, GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND MINE ACTION



## PROTECTION CONCERNS

- Civilian casualties:** In October, OHCHR recorded 18 conflict-related civilian casualties (5 killed and 13 injured). Overall, mine and ERW-related incidents accounted for 61% of casualties.
- Mine contamination:** On October 17, a man was injured due to a grenade explosion near a kindergarten in Donetsk (Luhansk NGCA). On October 18, a man and a woman residing in Zolote -5 (Luhansk NGCA) stepped on a mine in the area between the military positions of parties in Zolote-4. The man was killed immediately, while the woman was wounded and called out for help. However, no one could reach her due to mine contamination in the area where she was lying, and she eventually died. Their bodies could only be removed 6 days after the tragedy, when a path to the bodies could be cleared. On October 23, two men returning from repairing water pipelines were injured near Zalizne (Donetsk GCA) when their truck hit a mine.
- Freedom of movement:** On October 18, 'Marinka' checkpoint (Donetsk GCA) came under small arms fire attack, with one car damaged.
- Settlements along the contact line:** 14 families (32 people) in Zolote-4 (Luhansk region) requested Popasna district authorities to relocate them from an apartment building which often comes under shelling as part of it is used by the Ukrainian military. 15 families were displaced to GCA from the two streets of Hutir Vilniy area of Zolote-4, which are controlled by armed groups of the self-proclaimed 'LPR'.
- Housing, land and property rights:** Owners of land plots report that they continue to be charged taxes on land even when it is used by the military and therefore no longer produces income. As civilians cannot document property use by the military, owners have to continue to pay land tax for plots they cannot harvest and which do not produce income anymore.
- Access to basic services:** From October 15, about 50,000 people residing in Toretsk and nearby villages remained without water for 9 days, when the Horlivka-Toretsk pipeline was damaged near the contact line. Central heating was not turned on in apartment buildings as people had to use water from the heating system for other purposes. From October 10, over 30,000 people in Marinka and Krasnohorivka and settlements of Volnovaskiy rayon were left without water for 7 days due to repairs at South Donbas water line.
- Access to documentation:** Protection Cluster partners report problems with temporary accommodation faced by NGCA residents coming to Stanytsia Luhanska to obtain identity documents, who have to wait until their documents are ready. People who cannot afford the daily cost of rent are sometimes requested by landlords to do cleaning, construction, or agricultural works in exchange for accommodation.

### PROTECTION CLUSTER CONTACTS

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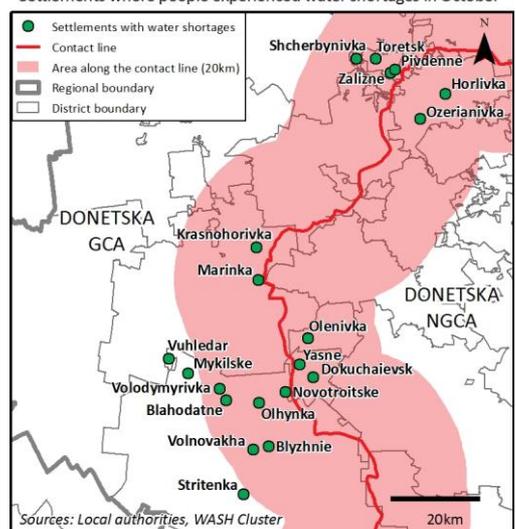
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Settlements where people experienced water shortages in October



From October 10, over 30,000 people in Marinka and Krasnohorivka and settlements of Volnovaskiy rayon were left without water for 7 days due to repairs at South Donbas water line.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PROTECTION RESPONSE

- HelpAge International provided home based care to 3,364 people with disabilities and older people with limited mobility, and assistance to **2,386 older people** through 12 Community Safe Spaces in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- Proliska provided **individual protection assistance to 155 people** who needed personal documentation, passing checkpoints, transportation to access state services and resume payments of social payments and pensions and **delivered 2 tonnes of drinking water to 72 people with disabilities and older people without family support** in Toretsk and Pivnichne settlements, where water was not available for over a week.
- Dorcas provided **group psycho-social support for 205 people in settlements near the contact line in Donetsk** GCA: in Dachne, Kurakhivka, Zoryane, Girnyak, Solntsivka, Novoselydivka, Kurakhove.
- DRC-DDG conducted **225 MRE sessions** for 1,014 people at Stanytsia-Luhanska and 2,701 people at Mayorske checkpoints.
- NRC provided **legal assistance and counseling to 1,348 people**, out of whom **27% were from NGCA**. The most frequently raised issues were suspension of pensions, acquiring death certificates and electronic passes and pension arrears.
- Protection Cluster partners in NGCA provided **individual protection counseling to 603 persons**, including 91 returnees, and group counselling to 205 persons in Boikivske, Donetsk, Horlivka, Shakhtarsk, Snizhne, Starobesheve and Yenakieve.
- UNFPA/UNICEF psychosocial support mobile teams provided **assistance to 643 GBV survivors**, including 108 IDPs. 44 GBV survivors received safe space accommodation and complex psychosocial support at 7 UNFPA-supported shelters.
- La Strada received **1,586 calls to the national 24/7 hotline for GBV survivors**. Survivors calling for psychological, legal and information support reported 892 cases, of which 35% are attributed to sexual and physical violence.

### ADVOCACY

- On International Day of Older People, NRC and HAI presented a statement [Older persons in conflict-torn eastern Ukraine: immeasurable asset to societies](#), highlighting the main protection concerns faced by older people in the conflict zone.
- UNHCR and the Ukrainian Institute for Human Rights organized a Forum 'Razom do mety' (Together for the Result) bringing together MPs, representatives of international organizations and NGOs and IDPs from various communities, allowing IDPs to share their vision and experiences on legislative solutions for IDPs and the conflict-affected population.
- Stabilization Support Service and the coalition of protection NGOs Group of Influence, Donbas-SOS, Right to Protection, Vostok-SOS, and the Information Centre on Human Rights presented the draft **alternative system for payment of social benefits and pensions for IDPs** envisaging cancellation of verification of IDPs residence. The NGOs submitted a letter to the Prime Minister requesting a resolution of the pension payment problem for IDPs.
- [Petition to the President of Ukraine calling to take urgent action to ensure that access to water is available](#) to people in Donbas was launched by a group of seven international and national organizations (Mama 86, ADRA Ukraine, People in Need, Polish Humanitarian Action, Première Urgence Internationale, Terre des Hommes and Proliska).

### TRAININGS/EVENTS

- HelpAge International conducted a **training on Minimum Standards for Age and Disability Inclusion** into humanitarian action for 21 participants in Mariupol.
- IOM provided trainings for **80 local PSS specialists** working in Donbas, who conducted **52 group PSS sessions in 24 communities**, attended by **717 people** (including 56 IDPs, 57 persons with disabilities, 62 persons from large families).
- DRC conducted **training on ensuring children's rights in situations of armed conflict for 30 CIMIC officers**, including those who will work within the 15km area along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.
- SOS Children's Villages Ukraine conducted a **training on 'Do No Harm' principle in service provision for families with children** for 15 social workers, psychologists and representatives of state public services.
- NGO Volunteer in partnership with UNICEF conducted **two trainings on positive parenting, management of stress and burnout** for 50 community professionals working with children and their caregivers in Mariupol and Popasna.

#### KEY FIGURES ON THE PROTECTION RESPONSE IN 2018

	<b>3.3M</b> People in need
	<b>1.3M</b> People targeted
	<b>0.9M</b> People reached
	<b>92</b> Partners

#### USEFUL LINKS

- [Humanitarian Response](#)
- [2018 Protection Cluster Dashboard](#)
- [Legal Aid Directory Map](#)

#### PROGRESS ON INDICATORS (Reached HRP)

# of protection monitoring missions conducted and recorded



# of persons receiving Mine Risk Education through MRE awareness sessions



# of persons receiving information



# women, men, boys and girls with access to essential services



# of women, men, boys and girls supported through peace-building or social cohesion projects, community-based activities

