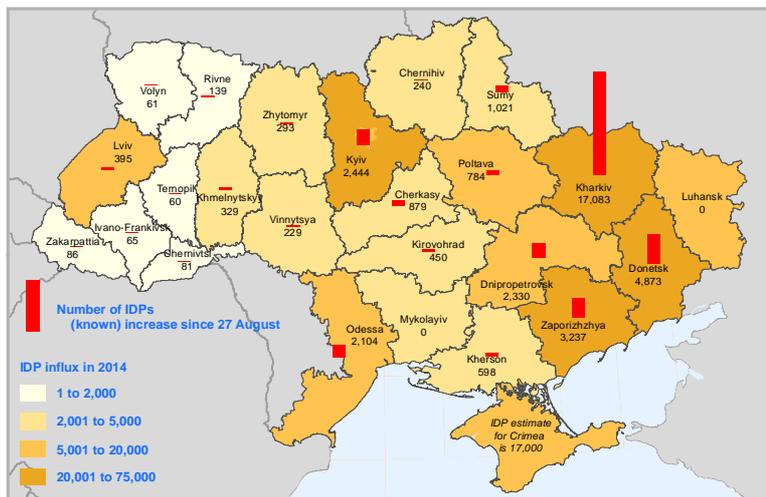




This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 30 August to 5 September 2014, unless otherwise noted. The next report will be published on or around 12 September.

Highlights

- Severe escalation of conflict and intensification of heavy fighting is resulting in the deterioration of the humanitarian situation, causing more civilian casualties and influx of people from conflict areas.
- At least 2,905 killed (including at least 28 children) and 7, 640 wounded (including at least 58 children) in eastern Ukraine as of 3 September¹ (source: OHCHR/WHO).
- Significant numbers of unregistered IDPs are expected to register over the next few weeks, triggered by the start of the school year on 1 September and the rapidly encroaching winter season. The school year has been postponed until 1 October in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. This date is tentative, dependent on the conflict.



3.9m

Estimated number of people living in areas directly affected by violence as of 15 August

259,741

Internally displaced people as of 1 September

338,275

Fled to neighboring countries as of 1 September

Situation Overview

Winterized shelter and access to basic needs and services are of urgent concern in eastern Ukraine. Ongoing shelling in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and now eastern Mariupol city, present serious humanitarian access challenges, and the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate. Displacement is accelerating, as more people leave to safe areas. As of 2 September, the number of internally displaced increased to 259,741, while more than 338,275 people have fled eastern Ukraine to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Of these, 297,000 have sought refuge in Russia.

Ukraine, Russia and pro-Russia rebels are due to begin trilateral talks on 5 September within the aegis of the Contact Group in Minsk, Belarus in an attempt to capitalize on the 'permanent ceasefire plans' announced by both presidents, Mr. Putin and Mr. Poroshenko. An agreed plan could facilitate access to currently inaccessible areas and improve humanitarian assistance efforts.

A second humanitarian convoy sent by the Russian Federation is reportedly being prepared to cross into Ukrainian territory. The



¹ These are very conservative estimates by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and World Health Organization, and the total is likely to be much higher. Figures include Ukrainian armed forces, civilians and some members of armed groups.

provision of humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected areas in eastern Ukraine must be conducted in accordance with International Humanitarian Law and the approval of the Government of Ukraine.

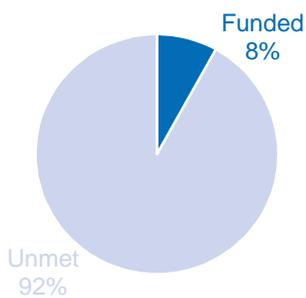
UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has cautioned against the “dangerous escalation” of the current conflict and called for political dialogue and a political solution for a sustainable peace (29 August).

Funding

The Preliminary Response Plan (PRP) was launched on 14 August, against which UN agencies requested an initial US\$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 4 September, donors have contributed US\$2.7 million (UN only).

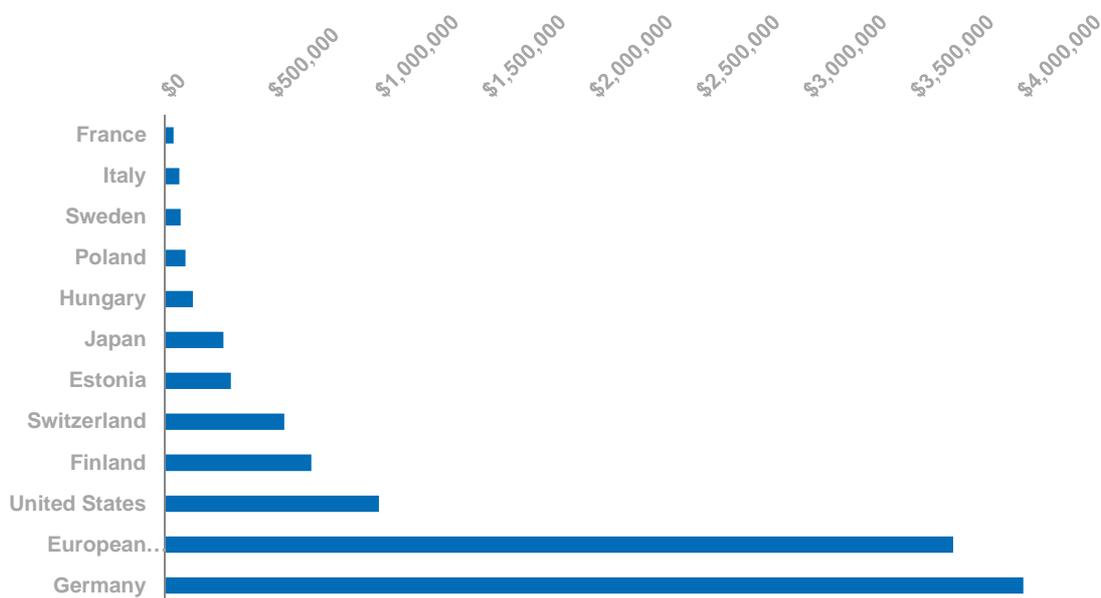
Ukraine Civil Unrest 2014

US\$33.3 million requested



As of 4 September, donors have contributed US\$10.9 million to international aid organizations for humanitarian assistance activities in Ukraine.

Funding by donor (\$)



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian Response



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

Preparedness:

- Meeting with NGOs to discuss the development of the on-line platform for IDPs was conducted.

- Meetings of the recovery sector conducted and identified a need to establish a platform to develop recommendations with regard to restoration of economic activities in the affected regions
- UNDP has finalized the Call for Proposals for NGOs to monitor human rights violation and provide legal support to residents of Luhansk and Donetsk regions. In total 20 organizations applied. Project implementation will commence soon.

Needs:

- The infrastructure damage assessment is being finalized in affected areas.
- The concept of the IT tool to monitor damages and recovery developed.
- Due to military activities and risk of robbery several banks has stopped operation in areas of controlled by anti-government forces. Pensions and salaries are not being paid in some affected areas (e.g. Debaltseve, Donetsk etc.).

Response:

- Support to the Ministry of Social Policy to collect information on internally displaced person provided.
- Government has informed about completed or on-going restoration of several facilities in Donetsk oblast (e.g. school in Semenovka).
- Preparation of procurement and distribution of humanitarian assistance for IDPs.
- Call for proposals for NGO working with IDPs is in the process (will be closed on 3 September 2014).
- The international expert to support the government in developing the State Recovery Strategy started its work with the Ministry of Regional Development.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Low capacities in affected areas – many civic activists have left the affected areas, and currently there are less partners to work with on the ground.
- Changing military dynamics (offensive of pro-Russian forces) contributes to increased insecurity in areas controlled by the government.
- Lack of comprehensive and centralized information on already carried out recovery activities by the government.
- Due to ongoing military activities, patchy information about livelihoods – salary payments, pensions etc. – in affected areas is available.



Education (sector lead: Ms. Olena Sakovych, osakovych@unicef.org)

Preparedness:

- On 1 September the new school year began in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Approximately 900 schools in the affected areas did not open, hampering access to education for approximately 270,000 children. According to the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), the school year in affected areas will tentatively start on 1 October. Distance learning courses are being offered for children in grades 5-11 who have no access to schools in the affected territories. The online education tool “Modern knowledge school” was developed by Zaporizhzhia oblast teachers on the basis of the Moodle platform three years ago and contains videos, presentations, tests, summaries and tasks in accordance with the current curriculum.
- The MoES also plans to deliver 1,073 sets of textbooks and manuals to some schools in Donetsk oblast. Current textbooks for elementary school, up to sixth grade, are available free-of-charge on the dedicated digital platform (<http://ua.lokando.com>).

Needs:

- MoES reports that 156 pre-school and secondary school facilities have been damaged in Donetsk oblast and 114 educational facilities have been damaged in Luhansk oblast. As of 29 August, 29 facilities have been restored in Sloviansk, Krasnyi Liman and Artemivsk region. Facilities in Severodonetsk, Lysychansk, Rubizhne and other towns have been restored. Therefore, 241 educational facilities in these oblasts remain damaged.
- The State Emergency Service of Ukraine continues to clear the liberated territories from mines and unexploded ordinance (UXOs) in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. During the last two months, 16,562 items of ordinance were found and removed. The lack of information about the danger of mines and UXOs puts the life of children and adults at risk.

Response:

- As an outcome of the Education Forum conducted earlier in August, UNICEF, together with MoES and the Ukrainian Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights, will submit the resolution to the Prime Minister of Ukraine with a joint request to issue a special order to protect children’s rights to education.
- On 1 September, UNICEF Ukraine, in partnership with MoES and SES, has launched an education campaign on the risk of mines and unexploded ordinance. In September 2,000 schools in Donetsk and

Luhansk oblast will receive sets of information materials, including posters, leaflets both for children and for parents, as well as an animated video. The campaign will reach around 600,000 children and 200,000 parents through schools as well as local SES offices.

- UNICEF is distributing 13,600 school supplies and equipment to IDP children located in collective centers in Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk oblasts for the new academic year.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Although MoES has declared that the school year in the affected areas will tentatively start on 1 October, there doesn't seem to be a clear plan in place if the conflict intensifies. Although distance learning courses are offered for children, the lack of electricity and internet hinder access.



Emergency Shelter and NFI (sector lead contact: Ms. Margarida Fawke, fawke@unhcr.org)

Preparedness:

- Lviv local authorities have identified 2,000 places reserved for IDPs in collective centers in case of massive influx of new arrivals; another appeal was sent to the Government for the amount of 7 million UAH to cover needs of collective centers willing to host IDPs over the winter.
- The Ministry of Regional Development shared a list of IDP accommodation locations for IDPs and winter readiness assessment with UNHCR. The list was circulated to the SWG members for monitoring and planning purposes, although it is incomplete. The list includes both houses and collective centers.
- According to SES, there were 22,241 available places for IDP accommodation as of 27 August, in a total of 1,863 locations throughout the country.
- According to SES, Kharkov, Poltava and Donetsk have no more places for accommodation of IDPs as of 4 September, while in Zaporizhzhia only 20 places were available. More information (updated daily) can be found on <http://migrants.gov.ua/>

Needs:

- Sector partners continue to report pressing needs for warm clothes, shoes and warm blankets. In extreme cases, IDPs have returned to their homes in conflict areas for warm clothes, thus putting their lives at risk.
- Newly displaced people are arriving with limited resources and are more dependent on aid. Additional assistance will be needed as the upcoming cold season approaches.

Response:

- The Sector Lead has sent an appeal to all WG members to urgently organize winter clothes collections to respond to emerging needs.
- Aleksand Vikul's Ukrainian Perspective Foundation has delivered 250 tons of humanitarian assistance (medicine, food and NFIs) during last several weeks to Mangush, Druzhkivka, Mariupol, Schastia, Donetsk, Pavlograd, Dniprodzerzhinsk and Kryviy Rih.
- Humanitarian Center "Aid + Help" at Rinat Akhmetov Foundation evacuated 1,652 persons (including 587 children) during reported period from areas of conflict in Donetsk region. In total, 25,002 persons were evacuated by the Foundation. The center also delivered 32,326 food kits last week to Sviatohorsk, Makeevks, Donetsk, Kurakhovo, Marianka, Zurges, Artemovsk and Kirovskoe, and 3,015 children received assistance with school preparations.
- IOM provided basic NFI, including bed linen, blankets, clothes, shoes, medicine, hygienic sets and kitchen utensils to 82 new arrivals (including 39 children) in Dnipropetrovsk, Khmelnytskyi and Kharkiv regions.
- UNHCR, together with partner NGO Crimean Development Fund (Crimea SOS), is starting small business grants for IDPs planning to integrate into their new communities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- More and more IDPs indicate that they expect many of their relatives to join them, as the situation is becoming much more dangerous.
- The IDPs encountered recently by IOM partner NGOs do not plan to search for employment as they either plan to go back to their homes shortly or plan to move to other regions.
- UNHCR is still waiting for an updated list of equipment required for winterization of collective centers, as the list previously shared by SES has been deemed outdated and inaccurate by Ministry of Regional Development.



Food and Nutrition Security (sector leads: Ms Lani Trenouth, lanitrenouth@wfp.org [F] / Ms. Valeriya Taran, vtaran@unicef.org + 38 50 385 4990 [N])

Preparedness:

- No new activities to report.

Needs:

- Further assessments are required to understand the full impact of recent developments in southern Donetsk. With the seizure of Novoazovsk, and the likely scenario that fighting will push further westward, food security related issues are of concern. Food supply, access to food in markets, and the use of potable cooking water remain priorities.
- Media reports this week of a potential fuel crisis have raised concerns. With food prices tied to fuel prices and the upcoming winter demand for fuel potentially further strained by a reduced availability, household food expenditures could significantly increase. This situation will be closely monitored.

Response:

- NGOs have reported food distributions ongoing in southern Donetsk, west of Mariupol near the border with Zaporizhzhia. Local organizations are working in cooperation with local municipalities, but there is reported disorganization at distributions and safety is a concern. The Protection sector has been notified.
- WFP will conduct a rapid food assessment mission in Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia regions in view of the possible increase in number of IDPs, on 4 and 5 September.

Gaps & Constraints:

- General security constraints continue to limit assessment access in areas of expected humanitarian need – including southern Donetsk, and Donetsk and Luhansk cities – delaying donor support and operational response.



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

Preparedness:

- WHO is preparing to provide medical support to 170,000 IDPs and receiving communities. The kits include primary and secondary medicines and consumables. This includes 200 trauma emergency kits. The shipment is in the final phase of approval in the country.
- The Ukraine Centre for Disease Control plans to assess the specific health needs of IDPs with HIV/AIDS, TB/MDR-TB and drug users in order to secure their care. This is one of the unique treatments provided by the State.

Needs:

- As of 2 September, at least 4,595 people including 52 children have been wounded and 1,960 people including 28 children were killed. The figures are assessed to be underestimated.
- Many health care facilities in the regions with IDPs cannot provide services for this population. As of 4 September, at least 40,745 registered IDPs (18,721 children) received primary and emergency health care. Among them, 8,151 people were hospitalized, including 3,406 children².
- Health services in Luhansk and parts of Donetsk regions are in need of medications and consumables, health workers, electricity, water, fuel, communication and security. The Health Impact Specialist in Luhansk could not be contacted over the past few days. A sewage leak was reported on the ground floor of one of the Luhansk hospitals. Patients were moved to higher floors.
- The disease outbreak surveillance system is not functioning in Luhansk and parts of Donetsk regions.
- People with HIV/AIDS, TB/MDR-TB and drug users are at risk of discontinued treatment as per the possible shortage of pharmaceuticals and consumables on the national level.
- WHO is working NGOs on responding to the needs of IDPs with disabilities.

Response:

- Health Sector Partners continue to address both emergency needs in the conflict areas and medical needs for common illnesses. However, due to lack of funds, the response is fragmented and IDP access to health services is not guaranteed. In response, WHO is currently working with the Ukrainian Red Cross and other partners to establish Mobile Emergency Primary Health Care Units. Health sector partners have been asked to fortify the work and to focus also on other populations at risk.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of security and safety restricts access to emergency and primary health services in Donbas (Shahtersk, Shahterskyi rayon, Snizhne, Yasinovataya, Yasinovatskyi rayon). Health care in Donetsk, Gorlivka, Makeyevka, Torez and Luhansk is reported to be limited.

² According to official data from the Ministry of Health .

- At least 32 hospitals in Donbas are not functioning and about 17 hospitals were shelled and damaged.
- Access to specialized care for the entire Donbas region (including chronic NCD, maternal and newborn care, blood products delivery) is restricted.
- Gaps between availability and needs for health workers in Donbas contribute to the lack of services. Workers security and adequate legislation that allows staff mobility within the country are of concern.
- Luhansk is at high risk of outbreaks due to unsafe environment and gaps in disease surveillance and monitoring.



Protection (sector leads: Ms. Noel Calhoun, calhoun@unhcr.org / Ms. Fiona Frazer, ffrazer@ohchr.org)

Preparedness:

- The Human Rights Committee endorsed the draft legislation on IDPs and recommended that it be adopted in a first reading at the next available slot in the parliamentary agenda, which is expected to be on 16 September.
- The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) continued to monitor the impact of the security operation (casualties, detentions, enforced disappearances, torture, ill-treatment, reprisals, access to basic social services) in the areas controlled by armed groups, as well as the situation of areas back under the control of the Ukrainian Government.

Needs:

- The weather has turned chilly in many parts of Ukraine. Many IDPs fled without their fall clothes, or even a pair of socks. An incomplete list provided by the authorities so far shows that more than 14,000 are living in shelters that are unsuitable for the winter months. In conversations with UNHCR over the weekend, IDPs in northern Donetsk oblast reported that they do not know where they will move to. As a result, some IDPs report that they are returning to conflict areas for short or longer visits in order to get warm clothes and other belongings. They are exposing themselves to serious danger while moving back and forth.
- There are reports of some Roma IDPs have returned to Luhansk because they were unable to access assistance.
- Many IDPs fled without giving official notice to their employers. There are reports of IDPs being formally dismissed from their previous jobs because of failure to show up at work. Having been dismissed for abandoning their post, they may face difficulties in re-employment.
- Humanitarian actors need security guarantees to gain access to conflict-affected populations in the Donbas region. While there is general information about serious protection problems in these regions, direct access is needed in order to provide the crucial independent, neutral verification of the scope and nature of these problems.
- All violations of international law, including war crimes, must be fully investigated; perpetrators must be promptly brought to justice and victims provided with remedies and reparations.

Response:

- The Parliament adopted legislation stating that persons fleeing from the conflict area in Donbas will not have to pay fines for missed loan payments. Legislation was also adopted to exempt charitable assistance provided to IDPs from personal taxation. These two pieces of legislation – once signed by the president – will ease the financial situation of IDPs by easing their tax burden and interest payments.
- IDP families are given priority in registering their children for preschool. While this is generally a positive development, in some regions with severe shortages of preschool slots (like Kiev), the host community perceives the preferential treatment as unfair since queues for pre-school slots usually last several months.
- Legal counseling is being provided by protection sector participants in western Ukraine, Vinnitsya, Kiev and Kherson. Protection monitoring of IDPs is conducted in various regions of eastern/southern Ukraine, covering various issues such as discrimination, access to employment, housing and public services.
- From 29 August – 2 September, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights Ivan Šimonović met with Government officials, including law enforcement agencies, as well as civil society and victims of human rights violations in Kiev, and held a series of discussions with interlocutors, IDPs and civil society in the east to discuss issues of accountability and responsibility for violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law both by the Ukrainian Government and the armed groups including the issue of detentions.

Gaps & Constraints:

- With the increasingly negative public image of IDPs, there is a risk that the outpouring of assistance from civil society will wane. The assistance from voluntary groups and religious organization has been absolutely crucial in meeting the basic needs of IDPs.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (sector lead: Mr. Rudi Luichmann, rluichmann@unicef.org +38 50 312 9915)

Preparedness:

- The fighting in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts severely disrupted water supply systems, causing problems for up to 250,000 people in Luhansk oblast and up to one million people in Donetsk oblast.
- Donetsk city water supply is relatively stable though supplied at a minimum level. All key water supply and sewerage facilities are functional, though some of them do not have chlorine for disinfection. State Emergency Service (SES) is asking people in the affected areas to boil water before consumption.
- Luhansk city has been disconnected from water supply for more than a month.

Needs:

- According to SES, there is a potential risk of an outbreak of Hepatitis A in the Roma community, which is situated in a settlement near Kriviy Rih city. UNICEF will continue to monitor the situation and support SES in health promotion activities.
- Water supply and access to drinking water continue to be a huge challenge in Eastern Ukraine, as people in Luhansk city have been without access to drinking water for more than a month. An urgent supply of drinking water is needed for at least 80,000 people who are currently located in the area of active fighting.

Response:

- UNICEF is delivering 41,693 six-litre bottles of drinking water covering approximately 80,000 people to the city of Luhansk through its local partner.

Gaps & Constraints:

- A UNICEF WASH assessment has revealed that the WASH situation in the areas under government control is adequate. However the difficulty to assess areas of active fighting continues to be a huge concern for the international humanitarian community.

General Coordination

- All humanitarian sectors and sub-sectors are operational and meeting on a weekly basis, or as needed, resulting in increased coordination and information sharing.
- The Ukraine Preliminary Response Plan was launched on 14 August, requesting a total of US\$33.3M to continue with preparedness and response activities.

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.

The displaced population has significantly increased since early June 2014. To date, some 259,741 people have reportedly been displaced and more than 338,275 people have reportedly fled to neighbouring countries. Of these, 297,000 have sought refuge in Russia. 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:

Marcel Vaessen, Head of Office, Kiev | vaessen@un.org | +380 965 227509

Alexis Zoe Porter, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Kiev | porter2@un.org | +380 986 731 013

Ivane Bochorishvili, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Kiev | bochorishvili@un.org | +380 936 743154

Jake Morland, Desk Officer, New York | morland@un.org | +1 212 963 2066

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United Nations Ukraine – Humanitarian Situation Monitoring, Phase 2, Round 1 report:

<http://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-humanitarian-situation-monitoring-phase-2-report-round-1-21-july-2014>

UNHCR Ukraine external updates are available at: <http://www.unhcr.org.ua/externalupdate>

UNICEF Ukraine situation reports are available at: http://www.unicef.org/ukraine/children_26254.html