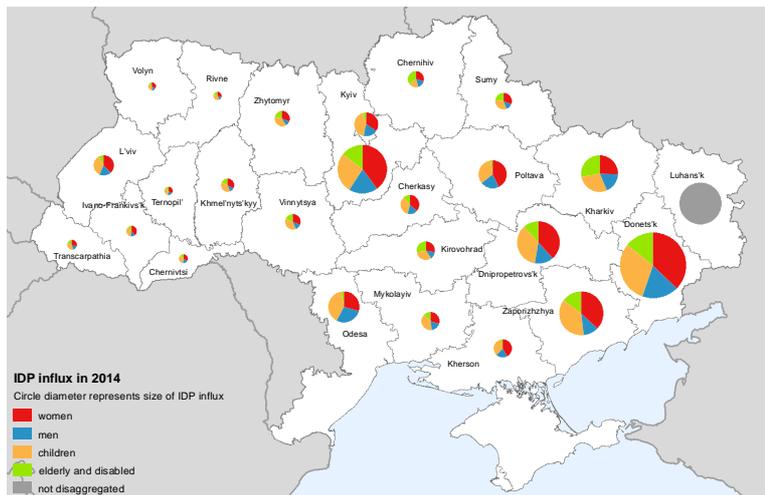




This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 13 – 19 September 2014, unless otherwise noted. The next report will be published on or around 26 September.

Highlights

- The long outstanding IDP legislation was not adopted by Parliament on 16 September. The next parliamentary session to review the draft law is scheduled for 14 October. This is a major setback in terms of initiating standardized registration procedures and facilitating IDP access to Government services and humanitarian assistance.
- The UN Resident Coordinator led a high-level donor mission to Kharkiv, Sloviansk and Sviatohirsk from 17 – 19 September to highlight priority needs and response.
- A multi-sector assessment mission to Zaporizhzhia established that assistance from local volunteer groups is decreasing for IDPs as communities save limited resources in preparation for uncertainty over the winter. A complete report will be available shortly.
- At least 3,219 killed (including at least 33 children) and 8,198 wounded (including at least 82 children) in eastern Ukraine as of 16 September (source: OHCHR/WHO).¹



5.1m

Estimated number of people living in conflict-affected areas as of 18 September

275,489

Internally displaced people as of 18 September (source: SES)

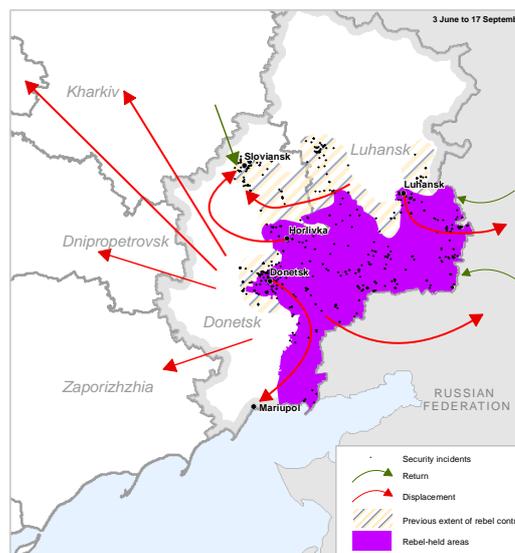
341,000 (est.)

Fled to neighboring countries as of 18 September

Situation Overview

Two weeks have passed since the 5 September ceasefire agreement. However, ceasefire violations are reported daily and ongoing shelling in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions continue to impede access, increase displacement, and endanger civilians in need of assistance and support. OSCE observers continue to receive numerous reports from civilians concerning severe destruction caused by artillery and mortar fire, resulting in the interruption of water, gas and electricity supplies. Military and civilian casualties are on the rise again. The international community has called for a comprehensive ceasefire regime and monitoring mechanism.

On 16 September, the Ukrainian Parliament ratified a series of regulations and legislation further aligning the country with European Union standards and removing trade barriers, as well as a much-vaunted law on lustration, and legislation providing for special status of the conflict-affected regions over a three year period,



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.

including elections and amnesty concessions. The adapted laws are aimed at the establishment of a just peace. Unfortunately, the Parliament did not adopt the IDP legislation greatly advocated for by the international community. This is a major setback in terms of facilitating IDP access to Government services and humanitarian assistance. In the meantime, not awaiting final adoption of the IDP law, Deputy Prime Minister Groysman has tasked the Ministry of Social Policy to take immediate steps towards the establishment of a centralized IDP registration system and ensure its early implementation.

Fall has arrived and the weather is much colder at night. Winterized shelter and access to basic needs and services are of urgent concern for IDPs in eastern Ukraine. The presence of humanitarian actors is increasing in-country, but bureaucratic, security and financial restrictions are impeding response at the scale required. More funds are necessary to facilitate rapid scale-up and response prior to the onset of winter.

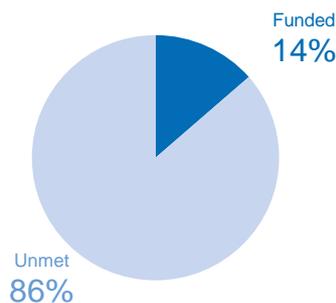
As of 18 September, the number of internally displaced is 275,489 while approximately 341,000 people have fled eastern Ukraine to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Of these, over 300,000 have sought refuge in Russia.

Funding

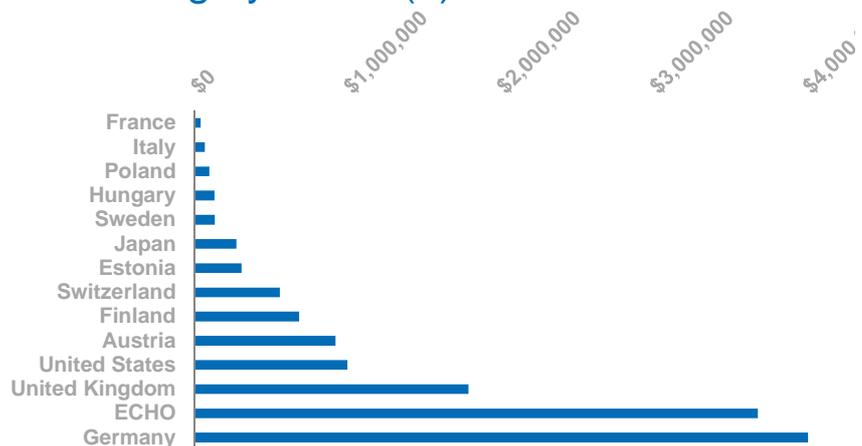
The Preliminary Response Plan (PRP) was launched on 14 August, against which UN agencies requested an initial US\$33.3 million for immediate life-saving needs. Since the launch of the PRP, the situation has significantly deteriorated and needs have risen further. As of 19 September, donors have contributed US\$4.5 million (UN only).

Ukraine Civil Unrest 2014

\$33.3 million requested



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

As of 19 September, the total amount provided by donors to international aid organizations for relief activities in Ukraine comes to \$13.7 million.

Humanitarian Response



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

Preparedness:

- The government has established the Donbas Recovery Agency, responsible for the state recovery program and coordination of government initiatives in the affected areas. The recovery strategy is key to ensure a comprehensive approach and a greater alignment of international assistance to the recovery process.

Needs:

- The second phase of the infrastructure damage assessment in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts was finalized, demonstrating that at least 1,968 facilities were damaged during the conflict, including 659 public buildings, 1230 private houses, and 178 businesses. The damages are estimated at US \$440 million.
- The prioritization of recovery and livelihoods activities is key to achieve quick results before the winter.

Response:

- UNDP recruited a recovery expert to support the Government with development of the recovery strategy.

- Calls for proposals have been closed, and NGO partners and civil initiatives have been selected for recovery programming initiatives.

Gaps & Constraints:

- More than 70% of Donbas businesses are closed. The lack of maintenance may lead to later challenges when resuming operations. For example, some mines are currently flooded and in need of repair.
- Salaries and social benefits are not being paid in conflict-affected areas. Banks are not operating in their full capacity in the affected areas.



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

Preparedness:

- As of 8 September, approximately 49,195 IDP children from Luhansk, Donetsk and Crimea began to attend classes at school and preschool facilities (source: Ministry of Education and Science (MoES)). However, UNICEF monitors report that some groups of children do not attend educational facilities due to difficulties with integration. MoES developed and issued instructions to teachers and psychologists on how to work with children in the context of the current conflict. The instructions are aimed at strengthening the capacity and role of the school psychologists during the period of the crisis.
- To date, 50 facilities (33 schools and 12 kindergartens) have been repaired and resumed activities. These include: 3 schools and 5 kindergartens in Kramatorsk; 23 schools and 10 preschools in Sloviansk; 2 schools in Krasniy Liman; 2 schools and 1 kindergarten in Dzerzhinsk; and 3 schools and 1 kindergarten in Artemyivsk.

Needs:

- As of 10 September, MoES reports that out of 168 damaged educational facilities, 118 facilities (74 schools and 44 preschools) still require repair.

Response:

- In follow up to the joint letter by UNICEF and the Parliamentary Commissioner on Human Rights to the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the MoES has been assigned by the Cabinet of Ministers to draft an Action Plan to protect children's rights to education in the conflict and displacement areas. The development of the Action Plan will require assistance from all concerned agencies and organizations.
- As part of Mine Risk Education (MRE) activities, UNICEF has delivered 220,000 mine risk awareness posters and 600,000 leaflets through its partners MoES and State Emergency Service (SES) to the schools in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts.
- UNICEF delivered 5044 educational items to Severodonetsk for at least 1000 children.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The status of educational facilities in Luhansk oblast remains unknown in areas where access remains restricted due to insecurity.



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

Preparedness:

- UNHCR Kharkiv organized two shelter coordination meetings in Slaviansk and Kharkiv cities. Current situation of the damaged houses and the needs of returnees, plans of international organizations for their rehabilitation, availability of winterized shelters of the relocation of IDPs and their winterization needs were discussed. It was decided to decentralize the Shelter/NFI coordination mechanism with regional meetings to be set up in Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Mariupol in addition in Kharkiv and Sloviansk.
- A Strategic Advisory Group consisting of donors, UN agencies, international and local organizations, has drafted a comprehensive Shelter/NFI strategy for endorsement at the sector meeting next week.
- Inter-Agency Collective Center Assessment Form drafted and submitted to the Technical Advisory Group for endorsement.
- List of accommodation facilities provided by the Ministry of Regional Development was cleared and shared with sector partners to make it more comprehensive.

Needs:

- IDPs accommodated in the collective centers continue to report increasing needs for warm blankets and winter clothes for children. Local authorities in Donetsk region requested assistance with blankets, mattresses, pillows, bed linens and heaters.
- The hotline managed by Akhmetov Foundation is receiving more calls from IDPs requesting relocation to winterized shelters.
- IDPs accommodated in rural areas are requesting assistance with purchase of coal.

Response:

- UNHCR will provide 1.3 million UAH to Kyiv State Regional Administration to support some 800 most vulnerable IDPs with targeted cash assistance, and delivered 1,400 wool blankets to collective centers near Mariupol, in Novoazovskiy and Pershotravneviy districts.
- IOM NGO partners will support more than 200 new arrivals in Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsia and Khmelnytskyi with warm clothes, blankets, kitchenware, hygiene items and medicine.
- People in Need (PIN) has provided NFI, hygienic items, blankets, school supplies to some 1,000 displaced people in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- UNHCR partner NGO Crimea SOS delivered warm cloths and hygienic items to three shelters in Kyiv region and two shelters in Kherson region. NGO Crimean Wave provided food and clothes to 200 persons in Lviv.
- The Akhmetov Foundation evacuated 855 persons including 266 children from the conflict-affected areas and assisted 210 persons with accommodation in winterized facilities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The lack of comprehensive government registration is a serious challenge to Shelter/NFI response.
- Inflation and rising prices will produce further strain on already financially constrained IDPs.
- The provision of construction material to returnee populations in formerly conflict-affected areas is a top priority.



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:

- Prior to the release of the WFP Cash and Voucher Feasibility Assessment report, an overview of cash-based assistance modalities and of the upcoming project was presented by WFP and implementing partner People in Need (PIN) at the Food and Nutrition Security sector meeting.

Needs:

- With winter quickly approaching—amidst rising concerns of a looming fuel crisis, an unresolved housing situation of IDPs, and the deterioration of the food security situation—support from the international community remains essential.

Response:

- This week, WFP has distributed an additional 25,000 daily rations in Luhansk in partnership with the Ukrainian Red Cross. To date more than 35,000 daily rations have been provided through WFP's partner NGOs in Donetsk and Luhansk.
- WFP is coordinating with the Government of Ukraine's State Emergency Services (SES), the Ministry of Social Policy, UN agencies and NGOs with operational presences in the eastern regions of Ukraine. Humanitarian access to areas under siege will be negotiated (whenever possible) through local NGOs.
- Thousands of food parcels have been delivered by Akhmetov Foundation, and the Food and Nutrition Security Sector is working to incorporate the Foundation's activities into its ongoing 3W mapping exercise.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Despite recent ceasefire talks, clashes continue; the food supply chain, and thus food availability, remains fragile in these areas.
- Access to food remains a priority concern. Families on the move left quickly and with limited and dwindling income or other resources at their disposal. For those with savings, violence in and around conflict areas reduces access to functioning markets and the ability to buy food. Serious and growing unemployment further threatens the issue of access; these vulnerable displaced families require immediate support during this period.



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

Preparedness:

- 17 Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) and 2 Trauma Kits (200 trauma interventions) received full pre-clearance and are to be delivered shortly. Pre-clearance procedures for 300,000 doses of tetanus toxoid are ongoing.
- A technical working group on the needs of HIV positive people was set up by the All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS.

Needs:

- As of 16 September, 60,707 IDPs from Donbas area including 27,704 children requested health care. Among them, 11,999 people were hospitalized, including 4,717 children (source: Ministry of Health).
- The need for pharmaceuticals and consumables (vaccines, diabetes, renal dialysis, HIV/AIDS, TB, including Multi Drug Resistant) as well as special needs of disabled and other vulnerable population remain critical.

Response:

- Set up of the Mobile Emergency Primary Health Care Units in process in collaboration with Red Cross and national partners.
- State Emergency Services (SES) and Ukrainian Red Cross distributed UNFPA hygiene kits to 19,000 IDPs at transit points bordering the conflict zone. Another 16,000 were distributed to IDPs located in all regions of Ukraine.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access to specialized care, including chronic Non Communicable Diseases, maternal and newborn care and safe blood transfusion in conflict areas of Donbas region is not guaranteed as most health facilities are not operational. Approximately 32 hospitals in Donbas are totally or partially not functioning and at least 45 hospitals were destroyed or damaged, according to the preliminary assessment of the Governmental Working Group on Reconstruction of Infrastructure in cities and districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The MoH estimates up to 80% health care workers are absent in the Donbas conflict areas. At the same time, returnees who are health care workers are facing re-employing issues.
- Disease surveillance and health status monitoring in conflict areas and IDPs collective centers is jeopardized due to gaps in legislation and operational capacities.
- IDPs continue to face lack of funds to procure their medicines and health services. Roma IDPs and returnees do not have access to any health and social services.



Protection (sector leads: Mr. Ilija Todorovic, todorovi@unhcr.org/ Ms. Fiona Frazer, ffrazer@ohchr.org)

Preparedness:

- On 15 September UNHCR issued a press release urging swift adoption of the IDP law ([link](#)), while UNHCR Partner NGOs “Right to Protection” and Crimea SOS together with MPs organized a press conference to present the draft law to the media. However, the IDP law which was expected to be passed on 16 September has now been delayed for consideration at the next Parliamentary session on 14 October.
- The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) continues to monitor the impact of the conflict (casualties, detentions, enforced disappearances, torture, ill-treatment, reprisals and access to basic social services) in areas controlled by armed groups and areas back under the control of the Ukrainian Government. Special attention was paid to exchanges of detainees.
- At least 3,219 killed (including at least 33 children) and 8,198 wounded (including at least 82 children) in eastern Ukraine as of 16 September (source: OHCHR/WHO).²

Needs:

- Ongoing protection concerns include: the continued absence of a formal registration system for IDPs nation-wide; cases of arbitrary detention at some checkpoints; mistreatment of some of IDPs by the national guard forces noted; lack of transparent judicial procedures for persons charged in support of terrorism; and delay of payment of social benefits.
- More is needed to address the protection needs of women affected by the conflict, including psychological assistance to victims of violence; an informational campaign to prevent violence and improve tolerance towards IDPs; greater support to hotlines; the distribution of the topical booklets; and provision of greater security for women in collective centers.

² These are very conservative estimates by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and World Health Organization based on the best data available. These totals include: casualties of the Ukrainian armed forces as reported by the Ukrainian authorities and casualties reported by civil medical establishments and local administrations of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The casualties reported by medical establishments include civilians and some members of the armed groups (without distinguishing them). The totals do not include: 298 people killed in the crash of the Malaysian Airlines flight MH-17 on 17 July; under reported casualties of the Ukrainian armed forces; under reported civilian casualties; a considerable share of casualties of the armed groups (including foreign servicemen, mercenaries and volunteer fighters) since only a fraction of them have been reported by medical establishments. OHCHR and WHO believe that the actual numbers of fatalities are considerably higher.

- IDPs continue to report lack of employment opportunities and humanitarian assistance especially in rural areas.
- Armed groups continued to terrorise the population in areas under their control, pursuing killings, abductions, torture, ill-treatment, robbery and other serious human rights violations. They abduct people for ransom, for forced labour and in order to use them for exchange for their fighters held by the Ukrainian authorities. They also continued to practice forced mobilisation of civilians and threaten the local population with executions.
- Disturbing allegations of human rights violations committed by battalions under government control continued to be reported.
- In some cases, lack of informed consent of captives to be exchanged within implementation of the Minsk Protocol was observed.

Response:

- The renewal of social benefits payments for IDPs has improved this week after the Ministry of Social Policy adopted a new policy for regional departments.
- The Ministry of Social Policy is working to obtain documents and simplify procedures for children arriving from child care institutions under the control of anti-government forces, as in some cases the documents have been destroyed. A national database of orphans has become available and records are being issued for adoption purposes as required.
- The HRMMU shared a list with the Ukrainian authorities of more than 400 people (mainly civilians) alleged to be held by armed groups in order to help facilitate exchange.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Women face a series of specific protection challenges, including: prohibition to leave conflict zones by their partners because of difference in political views; incidents of rape; women, especially pro-Ukrainian, are forced by separatists to live with them and do unpaid housework; post-traumatic syndrome and possibility of violence against women in collective centers.
- IDPs face challenges and stigma when attempting to find employment and housing in areas of displacement.
- The lack of a comprehensive registration system means that many IDPs remain unregistered and reported figures can be assumed to be much higher. IDPs are unwilling to register for a number of reasons, including men's fear of conscription to military service; lack of information on the importance of registration, especially for IDPs in private accommodation; fear for property in regions of concern; and intolerance among the local population. The number of IDPs currently living with relatives or in private sector is unknown.
- More elderly and physically disabled people are arriving from the conflict-affected areas, placing more strain on local authorities in terms of re-registration of social welfare payments and the provision of medical assistance.
- People detained by all parties to the conflict often face risk of ill-treatment, including lack of access to sufficient nutrition and medical aid.
- As the Government regains control of territory, the question of accountability of persons who have collaborated with armed groups has emerged. In cases where investigation has started, progress remains limited for various reasons, including the lack of witness protection and fear of reprisal. Many people who were in power when the armed groups were in control remain in positions of power and influence.
- Although reports of violations of human rights and humanitarian law committed by the Ukrainian military and volunteer battalions having been referred to the military prosecutor for follow-up, progress to investigate and punish perpetrators has been slow.



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

Preparedness:

- Water supply in Donetsk remains stable but insufficient, with some areas still without access to water.
- Water supply in Luhansk city has been disconnected for 46 days. Luhansk city council reports that electricity has been restored in some districts and efforts are underway to power the water pumping stations and sewerage system.

Needs:

- Access to safe drinking water and personal hygiene items are a key priority for people in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. As IDP's personal funds are depleted, more people are registering with the local government for support and there is a steady increase in the number of requests for baby and adult hygiene kits and drinking water.

Response:

- The WASH sector is developing a plan for a rapid needs assessment in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Lugansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.
- UNICEF has distributed 16,320 six-litre bottles of drinking water to Luhansk oblast through local NGO partner ADRA. UNICEF will deliver a total of 41,693 bottles of drinking water covering approximately 80,000 persons by the end of September.
- From March - September 2014, UNICEF distributed 2,219 hygiene kits benefiting over 5,000 children and their families.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The state water utility company has been unable to repair many damaged water facilities due to regular ceasefire violations (ongoing conflict). Restoring power supply to some pumping and filtering stations is dangerous or not possible.
- Delivery of hygiene kits and bottled water is an issue in Luhansk oblast because of ongoing fighting in some areas.

General Coordination

- OCHA has reached an agreement with the Government of Ukraine to facilitate the registration of incoming INGOs in support of their rapid deployment of humanitarian personnel and activities. Please contact OCHA Kiev should your organization require information or support with registration.
- Regular sector meetings are being held at Kyiv level. 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.

The displaced population has significantly increased since early June 2014. To date, some 275,489 people have reportedly been displaced and approximately 341,000 people have reportedly fled to neighbouring countries. Of these, over 300,000 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.

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