Highlights

- From January to June 2017, increased violence on both sides of the contact line resulted in civilian infrastructure repeatedly damaged in the line of fire. At least 78 water related incidents were reported, 27 more than from January to June in 2016, which threatened access to water for over 1.8 m people including 400,000 children. At least 67 conflict-related civilian deaths and 308 injuries were also reported.

- Over 120,000 children living within 5km of both sides of the ‘contact line,’ are continuously exposed to shelling and live in fear of their lives, hiding at least twice a week in bomb shelters.  

- UNICEF has reached more than 160,000 children with safe drinking water, 56,000 children with psychosocial support and 120,000 with access to safe education. UNICEF has also provided uninterrupted life-saving Anti Retro viral Therapy (ART) drugs to more than 11,000 HIV positive people in Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCAs).

UNICEF’s Response with Partners

| UNICEF | Sector/Cluster
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNICEF Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH: Access to safe water &amp; hygiene</td>
<td>2,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: ECD &amp; basic education is available</td>
<td>120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health: Pregnant women &amp; children access emergency health services</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition: Intake &amp; Young Child Feeding practices promoted</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection: Psychosocial Support &amp; Mine Risk Education provided to children</td>
<td>602,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV &amp; AIDS: Untreated ART therapy to HIV+ people</td>
<td>46,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funds available includes funding received from the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year

1 January – 30 June 2017

1,000,000
# of children in need, out of
3,800,000
# of people in need
(HAC January 2017)

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

219,978
# of children, out of
1,584,859
# of people registered as IDPs

UNICEF Appeal 2017
US$ 31.2 million
**Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs**

The conflict in Eastern Ukraine continues to threaten the physical safety and emotional well-being of children throughout the eastern region especially the 120,000 living along the ‘contact line.’ In the first half of 2017, the shelling of critical civilian infrastructure resulted in 67 conflict-related civilian deaths and 308 injuries – a 74% increase compared to the same period in 2016.²

Access to the NGCAs for humanitarian partners continues to be a challenge, further aggravating the suffering of the people residing there. Access to the NGCAs for humanitarian partners continues to be a challenge hence limiting the needed scope and impact of programs for children. Due to the increased violence, the recurring interruption of water services for continuous periods in both Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts put 1.8 million people at risk of water shortage. There were 78 recorded water shelling incidents, 27 more than the same period last year.

In addition, at least 27 educational facilities in GCAs and NCGAs were affected, interrupting schooling for approximately 5,000 children. Other than educating children, schools and kindergartens tend to be the only relatively safe places many children have outside of their homes and the only places that have safe drinking water and heating in the winter.

The conflict continues to endanger the physical and psychological wellbeing of children. Major issues regarding child protection along the contact line include children living in frequently shelled areas, families forced to spend considerable time in makeshift bomb shelters, children making dangerous crossings of the ‘contact line’ to get to school, mines and explosive remnants of war, psychological distress and neglect.

Although the health infrastructure in the GCAs remain largely intact, the quality of medical care has deteriorated due to the conflict. Limited access to preventive medicine and shortages of vaccines for routine immunization pose a significant risk for outbreaks that can have a dire impact on health of children throughout the region. Ukraine currently has the lowest routine immunization rates in the world and from May to June 2017, 800 cases of measles were confirmed.

Map 1: The Eastern Conflict Area

Source: The Assessment of Children of the ‘contact line’ report.
Humanitarian Leadership & Coordination

- The Government of Ukraine through the Regional Military Civil Administration (RMCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts leads in the programme implementation of humanitarian partners in the GCAs.

- UNICEF continues to work with the Ukraine Humanitarian Country Team (UHCT), coordinating the Education and WASH Clusters, the Child Protection Sub-cluster and the Nutrition Working Group. UNICEF is also an active member of the Health Cluster as well as the HIV/Tuberculosis/Opioid Substitution Treatment and Mine Action Sub-clusters.

- Cooperation continues with Government and de facto authorities, international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) and local partners to advocate for the de-escalation of the armed conflict and specifically on the protection of vital infrastructure and civilians - especially children and access to the conflict affected population in NGCAs.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF, in close coordination with other UN agencies as well as the government and de facto representatives on the ground, implements its humanitarian response programme on both sides of the ‘contact line’ through its zonal offices and field presence in Dnipro, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kramatorsk, Luhansk and Mariupol. UNICEF continues to address the needs of the most vulnerable children by ensuring their access to water and sanitation, education, safe learning spaces, child protection community-based services, and immediate psychosocial support services (PSS). UNICEF also improves access to immunization and lifesaving maternal and child health services, including the promotion of adequate infant and young child feeding practices.

Actively promoting the adoption of the Safe School Declaration by the Government of Ukraine, UNICEF continues to monitor and report on children in conflict-affected areas, focusing on preventing the separation of children from their families during evacuations.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

HEALTH & NUTRITION

The quality of medical care continues to deteriorate due to the conflict and access to vaccines is limited in the conflict affected areas on both sides of the ‘contact line’. Compounded by reduced calorie intake and lack of nutritious food due to increased monetary poverty, families are at greater risk of health problems.

During the reporting period 800 confirmed cases of measles were reported. To address the poor levels of vaccine coverage in the whole of Ukraine, UNICEF in cooperation with the Ministry of Health (MoH) has ensured availability of 900,000 doses of MMR vaccines (for routine immunization), and 583,000 doses are to be distributed later this year. To address the supply gaps of vaccines for routine immunization, UNICEF is currently procuring all vaccines in the country on behalf of the MoH and continues advocacy with all parties to allow access for humanitarian programme implementation in the eastern conflict areas that will enable procurement and delivery of immunization supplies.

UNICEF is also implementing a series of capacity building activities for primary health care staff working in Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs to enhance their skills in effective counselling, aimed at contributing to trust building between health workers and the public. So far 210 family doctors and nurses throughout the country, including 69 in conflict-affected areas, have been trained. However, additional funds are needed to support and further expand this work.
To ensure new born survival, UNICEF continues to implement anemia surveillance systems and has finalized a rapid assessment of health facilities along the ‘contact line’ to effectively target the distribution of life saving health supplies. To address the severe supply gaps identified, drugs, consumables and equipment in obstetric care will be provided to 27 maternity ward hospitals and primary health care centers along the ‘contact line” later in the year.

**WASH**

In the first half of 2017, UNICEF ensured access to safe drinking water and sanitation to more than 755,000 people affected by the conflict through the provision of essential equipment to repair infrastructure of eight water utility companies; two major water pump stations and 15 sewerage pump-stations. Approximately 291 tonnes of liquid chlorine for water purification was delivered to the public utility company in Donetsk region. To allow for quick and efficient response during emergencies, UNICEF procured 9 excavators, 2 service trucks, 24 km of pipes, pumps, motors, electrical equipment & valves to the water utility companies in the GCAs. To enhance the capacity of water institutions to respond to water related emergencies and to replace aged equipment, UNICEF provided at least 450 water storage facilities, sewer cleaning equipment, water tankers, a service truck for mobile repairs and protective gear to water utility companies in the Donetsk region. From January to June 2017, at least 136,000 people benefitted from hygiene supplies and were sensitized on best hygiene practices.

In the southern part of Donetsk Oblast, 180,000 people in 78 villages along the ‘contact line’ - not connected to the Oblast’s centralised water system - benefitted from the rehabilitation of pipelines and provision of boreholes, pumps and water storage tanks.

During the first half of 2017, the WASH Cluster reported 78 incidents of shelling of water infrastructure. The most significant was on the South Donbass Water Pipeline which ceased operations three times, for 10 days in total. The Donetsk Filter Station also stopped for four days in June, affecting 1.1 million people including 400,000 children. The Cluster issues incident reports to embassies and donors, proactively advocating for resolutions to specific issues. The Cluster also continues its advocacy with utility companies over the settlement of long standing bills that threaten access to water and electricity for the conflict affected populations.

To ensure that UNICEF is effectively responding to the people’s needs, a water risk assessment in the conflict affected area covering both the GCAs and NGCAs was done, which involved assessing risks to service delivery, the potential impact and recommended prevention and mitigation interventions. The assessment provides detailed information on the complexity of the water infrastructure, key to the development of an effective response. Meanwhile, consultations with key stakeholders on the findings of the report are underway.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

The conflict continues to endanger the physical and psychological wellbeing of children, especially those living within 15km of the ‘contact line’. UNICEF continues to strengthen the resilience of conflict-affected children by providing safe spaces for young children and adolescents, community-based protection services and immediate psychosocial support for the most vulnerable. By working closely with partner organizations, schools, community centres and through mobile teams, UNICEF delivers life – saving interventions to children affected by the conflict. Due to the conflict, there is a growing need to address the psychological distress of a vast number of children.

During the reporting period, a total of 56,498 people including 37,284 children benefitted from psychosocial support in the NGCAs and GCAs. Working through 16 community protection centres and ten mobile teams
within the GCAs of Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts, UNICEF provided psychosocial support to conflict affected children and their caregivers using play/art therapy, life skills training, social and professional interventions. Where necessary, individual therapy sessions were provided although the majority benefited from group sessions. A total of 377 psychologists, social and community workers were trained to provide psychosocial support within their locations in both NGCAs and GCAs. In the NGCAs, UNICEF is providing psychosocial support to conflict affected children and their families living within 15km of the ‘contact line’ through three newly established youth centres and a Community Protection Centre. Conflict affected children and their families located in the remote areas in the Donetsk Oblast are serviced by mobile teams.

Though partners, UNICEF has provided 284,188 school aged children (37,000 in NGCAs) and their caregivers with mine risk education (MRE).

**EDUCATION**

In the eastern conflict areas, schools are the only relatively safe places many children have outside of their homes. Exposed to frequent shelling and having to spend a significant amount of time in bomb shelters, the need for a safe learning environment, adequate educational supplies and psychosocial support for these conflict affected children and their families continues to be a high priority. In order to ensure access to a safe learning environment for children in the eastern conflict areas especially those living near the ‘contact line’, UNICEF reached more than 118,000 children including 24,822 from NGCA with access to Early Childhood Development (ECD) and basic education services.

UNICEF though it’s partners partially rehabilitated 40 facilities, ensuring a safe learning environment for more than 11,229 children in the NGCAs. In addition, a total of 50,090 children (13,505 in the NGCAs) benefitted from the education supplies including furniture and playground material and 57,334 (11,317 from the NGCAs) received ECD and education kits to support their learning needs.

To support the psychological needs of children in school, UNICEF provided life skills education to 2,862 teachers and community members in the GCAs, building their capacity of identification and provision of PSS for children within the 5m of the ‘contact line.’

The Education Cluster launched and regularly maintains the monitoring mechanism for Attacks on Education in Ukraine. The database, developed in consultation with local and global partners supports response measures and facilitates advocacy for education in emergencies, including the signing and implementation of the Safe School Declaration.

**HIV & AIDS**

In the reporting period, an optimized treatment regimen for HIV was introduced, reaching 11,000 people living with HIV per month with uninterrupted provision of life saving ART and diagnostics reagents for HIV in the NGCAs. To prevent mother to child transmission of HIV, UNICEF is providing test kits for pregnant women. A total of 12,500 pregnant women have so far been tested for HIV in the NGCAs against a planned 30,000. By the end of 2017, UNICEF plans to reach 16,000 people living with HIV in the NGCAs with ART.

In the GCAs, ART is available for people living with HIV provided by the Ministry of Health.

**Communication for Development (C4D)**

UNICEF implemented the “Let’s get together” campaign to promote social inclusion and raise awareness on the assistance available to internally displaced persons (IDPs). The campaign aimed at reaching the majority of subscribers to six national TV channels and a local websites.
UNICEF also facilitated a joint media briefing with MOH and WHO on the measles outbreak in Ukraine. Over 100 articles were published/aired from the briefing by national media including all top national TV channels reaching an estimated 15 million people.

**Media & External Communication**

A number of media activities were used to increase visibility on issues of children affected by conflict in eastern Ukraine and to advocate for their wellbeing. UNICEF provided regular updates about the condition of children and UNICEF’s response reaching over 100,000 impressions on Twitter and over 78,000 followers on Facebook.

In addition, on 7th April, UNICEF briefed the media at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, highlighting that 200,000 children living in the 15km zone on each side of the ‘contact line’ in eastern Ukraine need urgent psychosocial support to overcome the trauma of living in proximity to the fighting. [http://vectornews.eu/newshead/43432-more-than-200000-children-in-war-torn-donbas-need-psychosocial-aid-un.html](http://vectornews.eu/newshead/43432-more-than-200000-children-in-war-torn-donbas-need-psychosocial-aid-un.html)


**Security**

Parties to the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine have repeatedly failed to implement ceasefire agreements, allowing hostilities to escalate and claim more lives as the conflict moved into its fourth year. There were daily ceasefire violations and routine use of small arms and light and heavy weapons in the conflict zone. Such attacks and the resulting damage to critical infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and water facilities, raised serious concerns for the protection of civilians. During the reporting period, OHCHR recorded 67 conflict-related civilian deaths and 308 injuries – a 74% increase compared to the same period in 2016.

Restrictions in access to the NGCAs continues to be a major challenge in the delivery of humanitarian assistance to children in the conflict affected areas. UNICEF continues to advocate for an end to the conflict and full humanitarian access to all children in the eastern conflict areas.

**Funding**

UNICEF Ukraine’s emergency response would not have been possible without support from the Governments of Germany, Japan, Canada, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA). Through this support, UNICEF Ukraine has been able to support the most vulnerable conflict-affected children and their families.

UNICEF also received funds through the Governments of Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Estonia and The Holy Father Initiative who have made it possible to provide life - saving interventions in areas along the ‘contact line’ in GCAs and NGCAs.
UNICEF is urgently appealing for additional funds to address the critical humanitarian needs of women and children affected by the conflict and to provide life-saving interventions and critical services, including WASH, health, education, child protection, supplies for HIV/AIDS response and Mine Risk Education (MRE).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>4,500,000</td>
<td>645,136</td>
<td>3,854,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>1,054,723</td>
<td>8,945,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>5,500,000</td>
<td>743,510</td>
<td>4,756,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>5,200,000</td>
<td>1,165,662</td>
<td>4,034,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>4,302,701</td>
<td>697,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster/sector coordination</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>64,370</td>
<td>435,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>31,200,000</td>
<td>7,976,102</td>
<td>23,223,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carry-forward to 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,745,955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31,200,000</td>
<td>11,722,057</td>
<td>19,477,943</td>
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</table>

*Total funding available includes total funds received against current appeal plus carry-forward

Next SitRep: 01/08/2017
UNICEF Ukraine Crisis: www.unicef.org.ua
UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine

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## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

### Annex A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster Response</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017 Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people with access to safe water (for drinking, cooking and hygiene) through effective treatment mechanisms and emergency repair of WASH infrastructure</td>
<td>3,020,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people benefitting from the provision of hygiene items and knowledge of basic hygiene practices</td>
<td>210,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children aged 3-16 in conflict-affected areas have access to ECD and basic education</td>
<td>136,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of youths, parents and teachers trained in life-skills education including EiE, coordination and psychosocial support activities</td>
<td>11,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH AND NUTRITION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant or lactating women reached with Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and immunization messages</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pregnant women have access to emergency reproductive health services</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per cent of children under 12 months received all required vaccines through routine immunization in conflict-affected areas</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^4 All total results are cumulative.

^5 UNICEF WASH reach figures were adjusted down at midyear, by 1,713,955 following the agreement in the WASH Cluster to introduce more accurate targeting and reporting of the results. Numbers of beneficiaries from the provision of water treatment chemicals by UNICEF and other WASH Cluster partners will now be measured cumulatively as the calendar year progresses, and will build up over time, assuming continued delivery.
### CHILD PROTECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>500,000</th>
<th>284,188</th>
<th>+264,157</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and their families/caregivers who received Mine Risk Education (MRE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children and their caregivers benefiting from PSS activities</td>
<td>121,075</td>
<td>94,187</td>
<td>+9,623&lt;sup&gt;6&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>56,498</td>
<td>+7,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of service providers/community professionals trained in identifying and responding to key child protection issues</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>+20</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HIV and AIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>16,000</th>
<th>11,000</th>
<th>+100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of HIV-positive patients with access to the uninterrupted ARV treatment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pregnant women tested for HIV</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>+2,761</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>6</sup> The figure also includes beneficiaries reached during previous months of 2017 as no reports had come from the Child Protection Sub-Cluster prior to April (i.e. the Clusters switched to a quarterly reporting format starting January 2017).