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Highlights

- The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission noted a significant increase in ceasefire violations in Donetsk Oblast, including over 10,330 explosions, compared with around 2,500 in December 2016;
- Due to conflict escalation in late January, approximately 1.8 million people, including 252,000 children, on both sides of the 'contact line,' are at risk as critical civilian infrastructure (i.e. water, electricity, heating) was damaged;
- UNICEF is implementing immediate life-saving WASH support (i.e. bottled water, water trucking, hygiene kits, and water tanks) to be distributed to the most vulnerable people in Avdiivka, Donetsk Oblast.

1 January – 31 January 2017

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

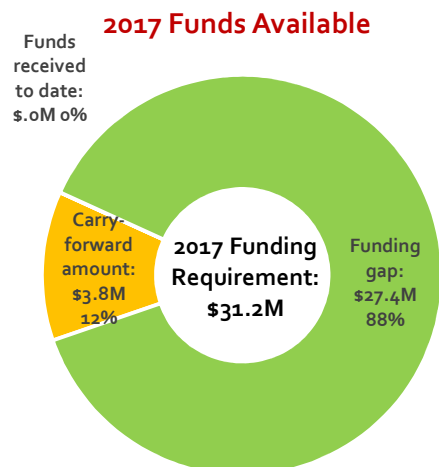
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

228,050
of children out of
1,641,895
of people registered as IDPs
(Ministry of Social Policy, 30 January 2017)

UNICEF Appeal 2017
US\$ 31.2 million

UNICEF's Response with Partners

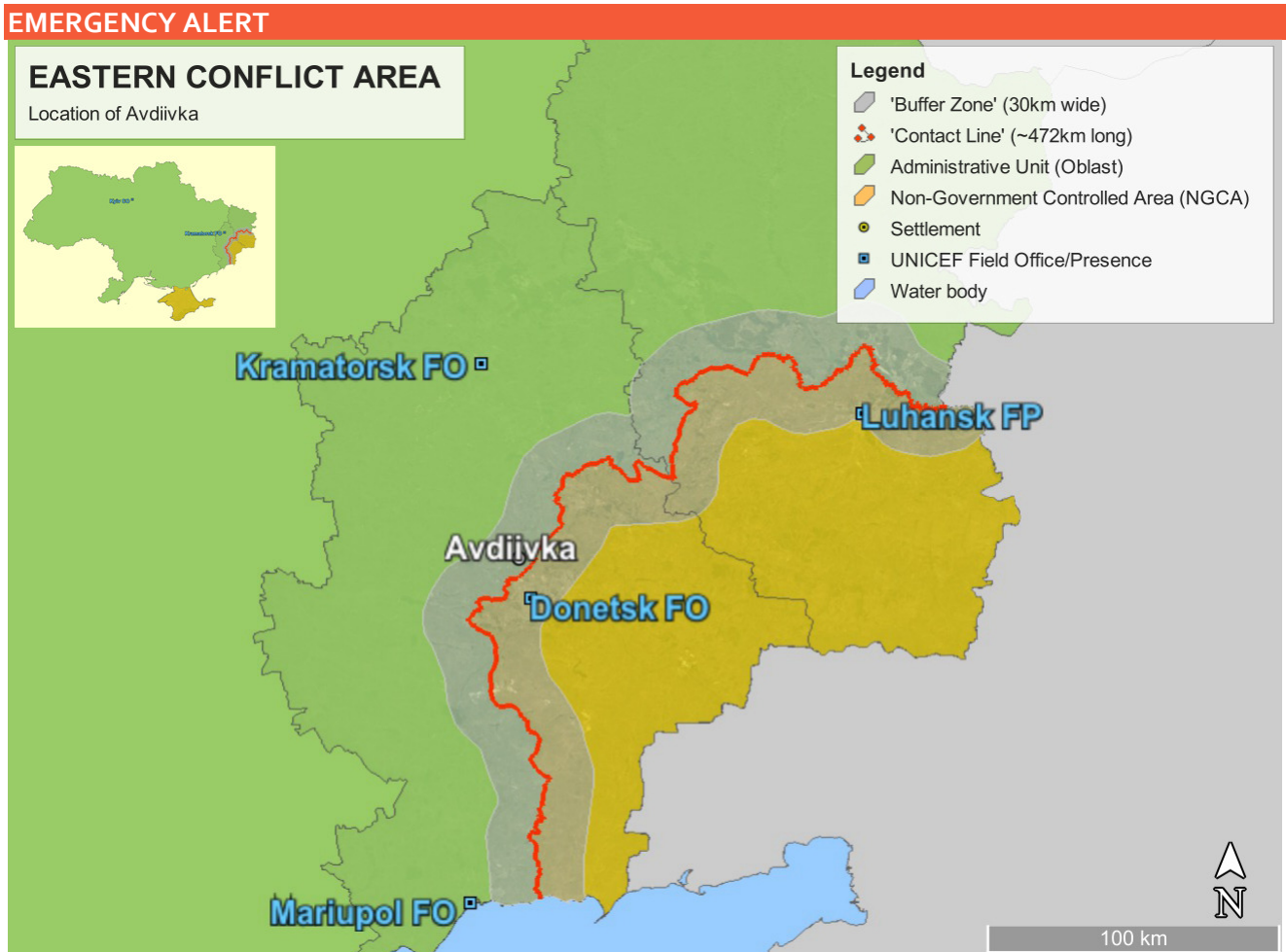
	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
Nutrition	20,000	-	NA	NA
Health	20,000	-	NA	NA
WASH	2,700,000	2,316,134	3,020,000	2,316,134
Child Protection ¹	602,000	170	123,875	19,845
Education	120,000	24,839	147,890	24,869
HIV & AIDS	50,000	-	-	-



¹ Including children and their families who received psychosocial support services (PSS) and Mine Risk Education (MRE).

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The security situation rapidly deteriorated at the end of January, with the number of affected people on both sides of the 'contact line' escalating from 17,000 to approximately 1.8 million in a matter of days.² The rapidly deteriorating security situation in the triangle around Avdiivka (GCA), Yasynuvata and Donetsk (NGCA) is of great concern as numerous damages to critical civilian infrastructure, particularly electricity and water supply systems – on which centralised heating also depends – put 17,000 people, including 2,500 children, at risk in temperature as low as -17 degrees Celsius.



Humanitarian Leadership & Coordination

The Donetsk Regional Military Civil Administration (RMCA) called for humanitarian partners to ensure a coordinated approach, under Government leadership, while the head of the administration discouraged single-agency assessments. The Ministry of Temporary Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons, along with the Donetsk RMCA, collects information and informs humanitarian actors about present humanitarian needs in Avdiivka and other hot spots along the 'contact line.' Through its Field Office/Presence in non-government controlled areas (NGCA), UNICEF collects and analyzes information on situation of children in areas outside Government's control.

The WASH Cluster, led by UNICEF, has taken a leadership role providing updates on the recent upsurge of violence along the 'contact line' and its impact on the region's water infrastructure. The Cluster produced

²

incident reports, updating donors and embassies, and briefing the EU-coordinated donor meeting and the Humanitarian Country Team. The Education Cluster is providing information updates and coordinating between the co-leads (UNICEF and Save the Children), the local Departments of Education, and other partners in response to the recent escalation in conflict. The Education Cluster, along with the Child Protection Sub-cluster, is tracking school damage, school closures, the relocation of children, and immediate education-related needs.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF, in close coordination with other UN agencies as well as the Government and *de facto* representative on the ground, continues its emergency response programme on both sides of the 'contact line.' 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. UNICEF enhances access to immunization and life-saving maternal and child health services, including adequate infant and young child feeding practices. Moreover, by working closely with partner organizations, schools, community centers and through mobile teams, the programme will extend its support to the most vulnerable communities in 'hot spots' on the 'contact line.' UNICEF Humanitarian Strategy for 2017 has been included in the Global Launch of the UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC) where chapter on Ukraine is included. UNICEF HAC chapter for Ukraine has been aligned with the Ukraine HRP for 2017.

In addition to calling for a ceasefire, UNICEF has scaled up the provision of immediate life-saving WASH services, ensuring access to safe drinking water for the affected women and children. UNICEF continues to advocate against attacks on educational facilities and together with partner organisations, promoting the Safe School Declaration (SSD) to be adopted by the Government of Ukraine. UNICEF also continues to monitor situation of children in conflict-affected areas focusing on prevention of their potential separation from their families during evacuation. UNICEF will continue to provide psychosocial support to strengthen the resilience of conflict-affected children and adolescents living near the 'contact line.'

For an effective humanitarian response, UNICEF facilitates coordination through its leadership of the Education and WASH Clusters, and its participation in the Child Protection Sub-cluster and Nutrition Working Group. Additionally, it contributes to the Health Cluster as well as the HIV/Tuberculosis/Opioid Substitution Treatment and Mine Action Sub-clusters. Collaboration continues with the Government and *de facto* authorities as well as with United Nations agencies, international NGOs and local partners advocating for de-escalation of the armed conflict.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

In January, UNICEF's ongoing humanitarian response consisted of continued support to water treatment facilities in Lugansk and Donetsk Oblasts, GCA, with the provision of reagents crucial for water treatment. The ongoing programme ensured that 2.3 million affected people in the area have access to safe water for drinking and household use. Through its partners, UNICEF provided 4,233 affected people, including 2,891 children and women, with hygiene kits, and over 16,000 people from the most vulnerable groups in the conflict area with vouchers for hygiene supplies. In NGCA of Donetsk Oblast, UNICEF has overseen the water risk assessment, which involved site visits to critical infrastructure (i.e. Horlivka, Makeyevka, Verhnikalmiuske Filter Stations) to assess risks to service delivery, likely scenarios, the potential impact of such scenarios, as well as recommended prevention and mitigation interventions. The assessment also included interactions with key stakeholders on both sides of the 'contact line.' The assessment has been conducted in critical moment as the damage to water and electricity infrastructure in the triangle around

Avdiivka (GCA), Yasynuvata and Donetsk (NGCA) requires a detailed knowledge of the complexity of critical infrastructure to produce an effective response.

CHILD PROTECTION

In January, psychosocial support services were provided to more than 7,000 children and their caregivers (including 849 IDPs) through 15 Community Protection Centres and mobile teams working along the 'contact line' on the GCA side. In NGCA, UNICEF continued to provide services to children and adolescents through a network of centres in Donetsk, Horlivka, Snizhne and Luhansk. A total of 995 children and adolescents from most affected regions, including Horlivka, Snizhne, Torez, Pervomaiskoe, Donetsk, Makeevka, Debaltsevo, Ilovaisk, Novosvetlovka, Sverdlovsk were reached with various child/youth-friendly services and activities. The centers provide counselling, life skills education, sport activities, professional orientation sessions, courses on conflict management and healthy lifestyles.

EDUCATION

In January, UNICEF continued advocacy for endorsement of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) by the Government of Ukraine. The document, which has input from ministries and governmental agencies, is a roadmap to the signing and implementation of the SSD, the date of which is still under discussion. UNICEF also supported the Education Cluster to launch the monitoring mechanism for Attacks on Education in Ukraine. The database, developed in consultation with Cluster partners and the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack incorporates verified cases of damages to schools due to conflict. The Education Cluster reports that a total of seven schools have already been damaged since the start of the recent escalation on both sides of the 'contact line.' The information and analysis produced will support the strategy for promoting response and facilitating advocacy for education in emergencies, including the signing and implementation of the SSD.

Furthermore, nearly 25,000 children from 100 educational facilities in Donetsk Oblast GCA benefited from the distribution of sports equipment. In Luhansk NGCA, UNICEF facilitated the delivery and installation of 41 furniture sets in 8 schools along with educational kits. Nearly 5,000 children benefited from the furniture sets and education kits.

HIV/AIDS

To reach the most at risk children and adolescents, UNICEF provided primary and secondary preventive and rehabilitative support services to boys and girls at risk of HIV or drug abuse, living with HIV, street children and children of parents who are incarcerated. In January, 68 children living with HIV received counselling as part of rehabilitation and reintegration. In addition, 2,000 adolescents have received information about HIV through peer-to-peer education and volunteers. Moreover, UNICEF proceeded with procurement of ARVs and Diagnostics in accordance with the needs of Donetsk and Lugansk NGCAs.

Communication for Development (C4D)

In January, the awareness campaign on social inclusion 'Let's get together' reached over 25 million people in Ukraine with social advertising [videos](#) aired on six national TV channels.

Media & External Communication

A story on how school helps children in eastern Ukraine cope with stress of armed conflict was published on the global UNICEF [website](#). On 31 January, UNICEF drew attention on social media to the situation of 17,000 people, including 2,500 children, in Avdiivka, Donetsk Oblast, which due to shelling was disconnected from electricity, water and heating in freezing cold. The story of the crisis reached over 32,000 users on Facebook.

Security

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) noted a significant increase in ceasefire violations recorded in Donetsk Oblast, including over 10,330 explosions, compared with around 2,500 in the previous reporting period. The number of explosions was the highest yet recorded by the SMM since the beginning of the conflict. Over 9,250 of them were recorded around Avdiivka (GCA) and Yasynuvata (NGCA), Donetsk Oblast.

The number of casualties among the civilian population in January was 15 people (5 deaths and 10 injuries).³ However, the number of civilian casualties doubled from 29 January to 1 February 2017, as the security situation rapidly deteriorated inside the triangle around Avdiivka (GCA), Yasynuvata and Donetsk (NGCA). In January, UNDSS reported that nearly 200 buildings, including private houses, residential buildings, kindergarten and schools were damaged because of indirect fire along the 'contact line' in Donetsk Oblast.

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal 2017 for a period of 12 months)				
Appeal Sector	2017 Requirements (US\$)	Funds received (US\$)	Funding gap	
			US\$	%
Nutrition	500,000		500,000	100%
Health	4,500,000		4,500,000	100%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	10,000,000		10,000,000	100%
Child protection	5,500,000		5,500,000	100%
Education	5,200,000		5,200,000	100%
HIV and AIDS	5,000,000		5,000,000	100%
Cluster/Sector coordination	500,000		500,000	100%
Sub-total	31,200,000	0	31,200,000	100%
Carry-forward to 2017		3,767,150		
Total	31,200,000	3,767,150	27,432,850	88%

* Total 'Funds Available' includes funding received current appeal as well as 'Carry-Forward' from the previous year.

Next SitRep: 8/3/2017

UNICEF Ukraine Crisis: www.unicef.org.ua

UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine

UNICEF Ukraine Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: www.unicef.org/appeals/

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³ Conflict-related civilian casualties in Ukraine, OHCHR, dated 01 February, 2017.

Annex A

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
	2017 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼	2017 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲▼
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE						
Number of people with access to safe water (for drinking, cooking and hygiene) through effective treatment mechanisms and emergency repair of WASH infrastructure	2,500,000	2,301,895	2,301,895	2,500,000	2,301,895 ⁴	2,301,895
Number of people benefitting from the provision of hygiene items and knowledge of basic hygiene practices	520,000	14,239	14,239	200,000	14,239	14,239
EDUCATION						
Number of children aged 3-16 in conflict-affected areas have access to Early Child Education and basic education	136,510	24,839	24,839	110,000	24,839	24,839
Number of youths, parents and teachers trained in life-skills education including EIE, coordination and psychosocial support activities	11,380	30	30	10,000	-	-
HEALTH AND NUTRITION						
Pregnant or lactating women reached with Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and immunization messages	NA	NA	NA	20,000	-	-
Number of pregnant women have access to emergency reproductive health services	NA	NA	NA	20,000	-	-
Per cent of children under 12 months received all required vaccines through routine immunization in conflict-affected areas	NA	NA	NA	90%	-	-
CHILD PROTECTION						
Number of children and their families/caregivers who received Mine Risk Education (MRE)	NA	NA	NA	500,000	-	-
Number of children and their caregivers benefitting from PSS activities	121,075	19,675	19,675	100,000	10,475	10,475
Number of service providers/community professionals trained in identifying and	2,800	170	170	2,000	170	170

⁴ UNICEF provides water treatment chemicals to water supply companies. Once water is treated, this impacts on the indicated figure of beneficiaries. This is a monthly coverage, with the same beneficiaries being reached every month.

responding to key child protection issues						
HIV and AIDS						
Number of HIV-positive patients with access to the uninterrupted treatment	NA	NA	NA	12,000	-	-
Number of pregnant women tested for HIV	NA	NA	NA	38,000	-	-