

Though fragile, the ceasefire that came into force on 27 July largely held throughout August, has contributed to the longest period of relative calm since beginning of the conflict. Despite the overall improvement of the security situation, the humanitarian needs among the conflict-affected people in Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts continued to be aggravated by the multi-faceted effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. By the end of August, the Humanitarian Response Plan was funded at 29 per cent (\$60 million received). Of this, \$24 million was for supporting the COVID-19 response. Urgent additional funding is required, particularly for the upcoming winter, and to mitigate any potential longer-term impact of COVID-19 in eastern Ukraine.

### OPERATIONAL UPDATES



The reduction in hostilities during the ceasefire contributed to a 53 per cent drop in security incidents and a reduction in civilian casualties. According to the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission, the number of civilian casualties was five during August, compared to 13 in July. The number of security incidents dropped from 533 in July to 251, however, occasional exchange of small arm fires has been reported.



Increased socio-economic vulnerabilities among urban families in non-Government controlled area (NGCA), as their reliance on social benefits and pensions provided by the entities in NGCA has soared by almost threefold, according to the recent preliminary assessment findings. The findings reflect the economic implications of the restrictions on crossing the 'contact line' introduced at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March. Meanwhile, their coping capacities are fast eroding, with 3 out of ten people reporting not having savings to get by and 80 per cent of urban families expressing lack of confidence in their ability to cover unexpected expenses in the next three months.



Humanitarian operations are further impacted by recent legislative changes. The 'simplified' procedures to expedite customs clearance of COVID-19-related humanitarian cargos introduced at the onset of the pandemic in March 2020 was terminated in August. Humanitarian organisations are now required to comply with the regular customs clearance procedures, including for COVID-19-related response items, that could take up to 60 days to process, compared to less than a week under the 'simplified' procedures in place. At the end of August, the Government introduced a 30-day restriction on the entry of all foreigners into the country, affecting the entry of new staff members of international NGOs.

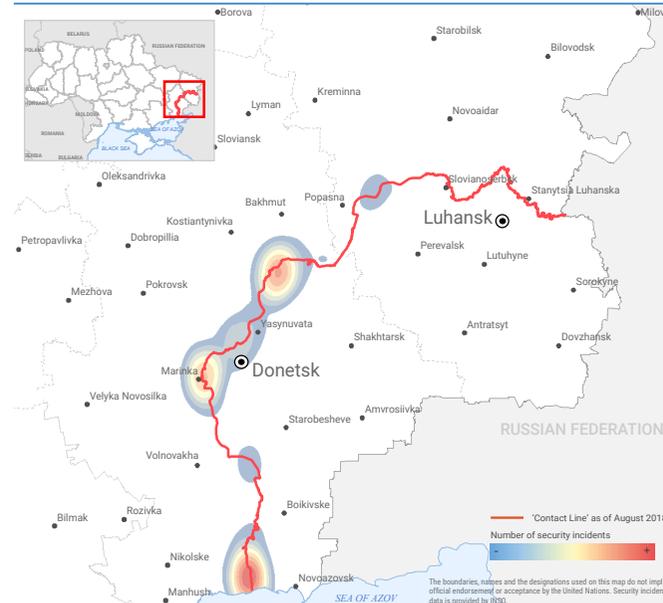
### CIVILIAN CASUALTIES



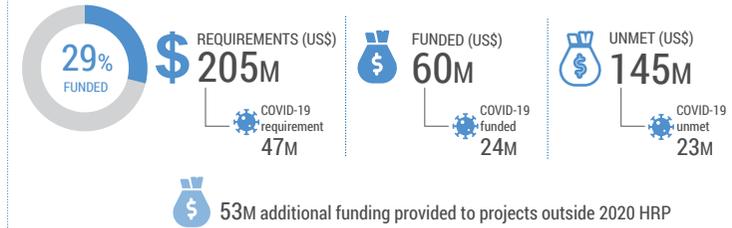
### INCIDENTS AGAINST INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES



### NUMBER AND LOCATION OF SECURITY INCIDENTS (AUGUST 2020)



### 2020 HRP: REQUIREMENTS AND FUNDING\*



Funding by Cluster (% and million US\$)	Funding requirements (million US\$)	Funding status (million US\$)
Education 23%	8.3	1.9
Food Security and Livelihoods 3%	27.1	0.9
Health 21%	38.9	8.0
Protection 5%	55.9	2.8
Shelter/NFI 15%	26.6	4.0
WASH 8%	32.5	2.6
Common Services and Support 48%	6.3	3.0
Multipurpose Cash 1%	9.0	0.1
Cluster not specified		33.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>56.3</b>

### 2020 ALLOCATIONS

The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) has allocated \$3.75 million for COVID-19 response in eastern Ukraine to provide livelihood support to elderly and other vulnerable people, to support pilot contact-tracing in GCA, and increase COVID-19-related medical response capacity in NGCA.

UHF has launched the \$1 million allocation to improve humanitarian access and strengthen partners' response capacity in NGCA.

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) have provided some \$925,000 to COVID-19 response in eastern Ukraine under the global Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) COVID-19 allocation.

\* According to FTS as of 31 August 2020. Some donations are yet to be recorded, and donors and partners are invited to register donations.