

# Ukraine

01-30 August 2017

**Situational overview:** Security situation remained volatile, though ceasefire violations decreased.

**Protection concerns:** There were nearly 1.2 million crossings of the five checkpoints in eastern Ukraine; UNHCR continued providing support to improve their capacity and conditions.

**Assistance provided:** In August, UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter assistance to more than 1,900 people.

## KEY INDICATORS

**42,400**

people reached through **NFI assistance** from UNHCR and partners in 2017.

**24,400**

IDPs and people at risk of displacement received **legal assistance** from UNHCR partners since January 2017.

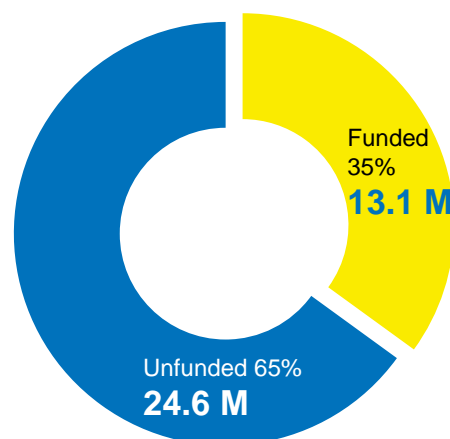
**1,920**

households in eastern Ukraine received UNHCR **shelter assistance** in 2017.

## FUNDING (AS OF 5 SEPTEMBER)

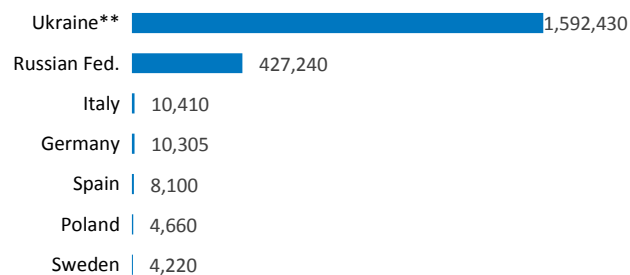
**USD 37.7 M**

requested for the Ukraine situation



## INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

### Host countries\*



\* Main host countries.

\*\* Registered IDPs according to the Min. of Social Policy (September 2017).

Source (external displacement): respective government authorities.

External displacement data refers to the total number of asylum applications by Ukrainians (first time applications) since the beginning of the Ukraine situation in January 2014.



# Update On Achievements

## Operational Context

The situation in eastern Ukraine remained tense, though the number of ceasefire violations decreased following implementation of a ceasefire on 25 August, coinciding with the start of the school year. A three-day ceasefire in the area of Horlivka and Toretsk, northern Donetsk, enabled repairs to water infrastructure in the area restoring water supplies to some 70,000 persons in the area. At least five conflict-related civilian fatalities occurred during August, bringing the total to 66 confirmed civilian fatalities so far in 2017, according to OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) [reports](#). The presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) or landmines in areas near the line of contact continues to cause civilian casualties. In August, the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) recorded some 1,187,800 crossings of the line of contact. UNOCHA's [Humanitarian Bulletin](#) provides an overview of the humanitarian situation.



*Displaced children from Donetsk region are learning how to sail a boat at Mezhygiryia, the private residency of a former president of Ukraine that recently became a national park. Following the initiative of NGO Kraplynka, a former yacht harbour in the park now hosts a sailing club for children. Children from displaced families attend free sailing classes. "I do not just teach kids how to sail, I teach them how to solve problems and be more independent in their lives", says Marianna, a manager of the NGO and a sailing instructor. Photo UNHCR Ukraine/Tania Bulakh*

## Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster led by UNHCR, issued a guidance note on [Mainstreaming Protection for Development Actors \[pdf\]](#). Protection is at the centre of the humanitarian response in Ukraine and it is important that a rights-based approach is integrated into the early recovery and development response as well. Many protection issues inform the development response and are integral to durable solutions. The need for sustainable livelihoods, employment opportunities, affordable housing and security of tenure, non-discriminatory access to social services, public transport, access to education and health care, are all areas where the development community can play an active role.
- The Cluster contributed to the 2017 [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) Mid-Year Review \[pdf\]](#), which showed that the first six months of 2017 have seen a deterioration of the protection environment, both in government-controlled and non-government controlled areas.
- Damage to critical health and educational facilities have left thousands of people without access to these services. Widespread protection concerns prevail, as legislative and bureaucratic impediments deprive many people of access to pensions and social assistance, which for many, are the only source of income to cover basic needs. Access to basic needs, such as food, water, healthcare, and education is also becoming more challenging. An estimated 3 million people have been affected by cuts to water supplies. In addition, the conflict has had a significant impact on the economy, with the level of poverty by actual cost of living increasing from 20 to 74 per cent in Luhansk and from 22 to 66 per cent in Donetsk, further heightened the vulnerability of conflict-affected and displaced people.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the [August factsheet \[pdf\]](#).

#### Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- The Ministry of Social Policy issued a report on the implementation of the National Action Plan on Adaptation and Integration of IDPs for the second quarter of 2017. The report generally presents developments in positive light; however, key areas such as housing and employment are not covered due to lack of funds to address these areas.
- In August, SBGS recorded 1,187,800 at the five government-controlled checkpoints on the line of contact continuing the trend of an increased number of crossings seen since the beginning of the year. In order to facilitate checkpoint crossings, UNHCR provided

computer equipment to the State Border Guard Service at the Stanitsa Luhanska checkpoint. The authorities have created new working spaces to speed up processing times of the large numbers of persons crossing the checkpoint between the government-controlled and non-government controlled areas. The checkpoint handles some 10,000 crossings per day.

- Following the signature of a contract with the Ukrainian postal service, Ukrposhta, UNHCR has begun delivering 'individual protection assistance,' a one-time cash grant to households facing serious protection problems. Beneficiaries receive an SMS telling them to approach the post office to receive cash assistance; they can also opt to receive the cash from the mail carrier. UNHCR met with several beneficiaries of the first group of recipients, and they reported that the system worked smoothly.
- In August, UNHCR and its partners provided over 7,500 consultations to IDPs and people at risk of displacement. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR partner Chirikli provided five legal consultations. CrimeaSOS provided 646 legal consultations and 215 protection consultations. Desyate Kvitnya provided 108 legal consultations. Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided protection counselling to 297 persons, and legal assistance to 54 persons. Proliska provided protection consultations to 690 persons. The Right to Protection (R2P) provided 2,094 primary legal assistance consultations, 160 secondary legal aid consultations, and legal assistance in 460 court cases. The NGO also provided 1,795 protection consultations. Slavic Heart provided protection consultations to 98 persons. The Main concerns included civil documentation, targeted financial assistance, administrative services, housing, education, freedom of movement, social, humanitarian and medical assistance.
- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk, UNHCR partners provided 782 protection consultations, and 112 psychosocial consultations. Main concerns included humanitarian assistance, civil documentation, pensions, social assistance, crossing the line of contact, housing, land and property (HLP) issues, as well as stress and anxiety caused by the conflict. 929 people received capacity development training on subjects including personal development, interpersonal communication, personal safety and career advice.

In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR provided 21 protection consultations. Main concerns included freedom of movement, individual protection assistance, winterization, housing repairs, humanitarian assistance, and medical assistance.

**SHELTER AND NFIS****Shelter and NFIs Cluster**

- The Shelter and NFI Cluster led by UNHCR and co-chaired by People in Need, began consultations for the upcoming Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), as well as the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2018. The consultations are based on triangulation analysis of damage in government-controlled areas. In June, the Shelter Cluster requested the REACH Initiatives to collect data near the line of contact from local authorities on damage sustained and the number of people residing in damaged homes. The Cluster team analyzed the information together with the data provided by partners in the 5W and the Damage Database. By calculating the average of these databases, the resulting maps indicate which villages should be prioritized for follow up assessment and for primary shelter needs.
- In preparation for winter, the first draft of the partner work plan shows that the assistance network in government-controlled areas is well developed, while the foreseen assistance level is low, around 35 per cent in government-controlled Donetsk, and 17 per cent Luhansk. The situation is much worse in non-government controlled areas, with no confirmed work plans reported. Following reduction of targeting criteria to cover only the most vulnerable, there is a shortfall of between 15,000 and 20,000 households. Compared to previous years, it is foreseen that even with additional support, emergency referrals will not be addressed. In response, the Cluster has begun a sensitization campaign aimed at donors to unify efforts with the WASH and Food Security clusters.
- More information on Cluster activities is available in the [August factsheet \[pdf\]](#).

**Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs**

- In August, UNHCR provided NFI and shelter assistance to over 1,900 people. In government-controlled areas, UNHCR partner People in Need (PiN) provided shelter assistance to 46 households in northern Donetsk region. PiN assisted a further 14 households in southern Donetsk.
- In the non-government controlled area of Donetsk, UNHCR partners distributed NFIs to 50 households. In the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region, UNHCR provided shelter assistance to 88 households. A local construction company contracted by UNHCR completed repairs to nine schools. UNHCR also provided emergency shelter and NFI assistance to a further five households recently targeted by shelling. In addition, UNHCR distributed 1,513 UNICEF-provided educational kits to vulnerable pupils in the area, as well as eight UNICEF-provided carpets for games rooms at a school in Velyka Verhunka and a kindergarten at Krasnyi Yar.

**Working in partnership**

- The humanitarian response to the internal displacement situation in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by international organizations, the Government, local and international NGOs.
- UNHCR signed a Letter of Understanding with the Ministry for [Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons](#) establishing a framework for collaboration and coordination aimed at maximizing the capacity of UNHCR and the Ministry to assist IDPs.
- UNHCR works together with [11 partners](#) as well as other operational partners providing support to IDPs through protection and legal assistance, policy development and capacity building and the distribution of emergency shelter materials and non-food items. UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and co-chairs the Shelter and Non-food Item Cluster together with [People in Need](#).

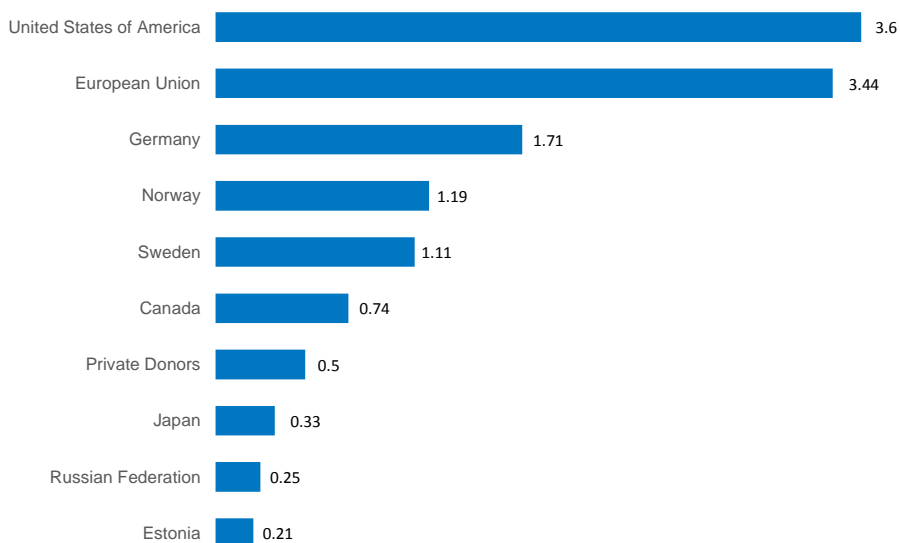


## Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 13.1 million**, including **US\$ 8.7** million for the situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Funding received (in million USD)



## External / Donors Relations

### **Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017**

[United States of America \(95 M\)](#) | [Sweden \(76 M\)](#) | [Netherlands \(52 M\)](#) | Private Donors Spain (41 M) | [Norway \(41 M\)](#) | [Japan \(25 M\)](#) | [Denmark \(23 M\)](#) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (20 M) | [Australia \(19 M\)](#) | [Canada \(16 M\)](#) | [Switzerland \(15 M\)](#) | [France \(14 M\)](#) | [Private Donors USA \(13 M\)](#) | [Germany \(12 M\)](#) | [Private Donors Italy \(12 M\)](#) | Private Donors Japan (10 M) | [Italy \(10 M\)](#)

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### **LINKS**

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# Annexes

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