

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

APRIL 7, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

800,000

IDPs in Ukraine
UN – November 2015

**1.1
million**

People Displaced to
Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – February 2016

**3.1
million**

People in Need of
Humanitarian Assistance
UN – February 2016

9,144

Documented Deaths
Resulting from the
Conflict
UN – February 2016

20,928

Documented Injuries
Resulting from the
Conflict
UN – February 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- UN releases 2016 Ukraine HRP, appealing for \$298 million to support humanitarian response activities in conflict-affected areas
- Increased fighting near checkpoints heightens security concerns and restricts population movement
- Overall food security improves in NGCAs; however, 1.5 million people remain food insecure

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$25,606,600
USAID/FFP ²	\$10,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$35,900,000
\$71,506,600	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On February 17, the UN launched the 2016 Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which requests \$298 million to support humanitarian operations to address the needs of 2.5 million of the most vulnerable people in conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine through December. The UN estimates that 3.1 million people require some humanitarian assistance due to insecurity, movement restrictions, and access constraints, with people living along the contact line separating government-controlled areas (GCAs) from non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) among the most vulnerable.
- Insecurity along the contact line increased in February, following a period of relative calm during late December 2015 and early January. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) reports that areas near checkpoints in particular have experienced an uptick in fighting.
- Clashes and resultant checkpoint closures increase the vulnerability of civilians traveling from NGCAs to access markets, financial systems, and social services in GCAs, according to the UN. The Government of Ukraine (GoU) registered nearly 410,000 individual crossings through five checkpoints along the contact line, 41 percent fewer crossings as compared to December.
- On February 21, the GoU announced plans to suspend social payments and revoke the internally displaced person (IDP) status of an estimated 150,000 IDPs, citing verification concerns and potential fraud, according to the UN. Following the suspension of some payments, 16 national civil society organizations called for the resumption of payments, joining the humanitarian community in advocating for transparency, the centralization of the IDP registration process, improved humanitarian coordination policies, and guarantee of IDP rights.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- On February 25, the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, which monitors the conflict and conditions for conducting humanitarian assistance in eastern Ukraine, convened its 2016 Winter Meeting in Austria's capital city of Vienna. During the proceedings, Assembly President (AP) Ilkka Kanerva urged parliamentarians from participating OSCE nations to facilitate the implementation of the February 2015 Minsk II agreement to resolve the conflict in eastern Ukraine. AP Kanerva expressed concern that parties to the conflict had not yet fulfilled the Minsk II commitments—which call for a ceasefire, the withdrawal of foreign fighters and weapons, legitimate local elections in eastern Ukraine, the restoration of GoU control over Ukraine's eastern border, and constitutional changes. AP Kanerva also stated that parties to the conflict should agree to new, specific dates to meet Minsk II commitments and the deployment of an international peacekeeping mission to eastern Ukraine could benefit the peace process.
- The UN reports that security along the contact line is deteriorating as ceasefire violations become more frequent. Response organizations reported more than 400 security incidents, including artillery and small arms fire, from February 1–15, with a notable uptick in fighting near Donetsk *Oblast's* Marinka and Zaitseve checkpoints. The GoU closed the Zaitseve checkpoint from February 3–22 and temporarily closed the Marinka checkpoint for one day. OSCE monitors noted that, as of early March, the closures had not contributed to a reduction in clashes near the checkpoints and that resultant traffic congestion at other checkpoints had increased civilian exposure to land mines due to the use of alternate routes. According to the UN, opening additional crossing points for civilian passengers and cargo would alleviate some humanitarian needs, particularly for vulnerable populations who cross the contact line to access financial resources, markets, and medical services in GCAs. Citing international humanitarian law, the UN continues to call on all parties to the conflict to allow the safe and unhindered passage of civilians through designated corridors.
- The GoU opened Zolote checkpoint—a new route linking Luhansk *Oblast* GCAs and NGCAs with a projected daily capacity of 5,000 people and 1,500 vehicles—on March 31, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). However, an estimated 300 individuals, mostly older people, were unable to return to NGCAs. Self-proclaimed authorities closed the checkpoint from the NGCA side, reporting that the GoU had not coordinated the checkpoint's opening with them and proceeded with plans to open a site at Zolote despite limited infrastructure and logistical concerns. Humanitarian organizations provided food supplies and overnight accommodation for the stranded persons in temporary shelters at Zolote and nearby areas; 50 people were subsequently allowed to enter NGCAs via pedestrian checkpoints, while the GoU requested OSCE support to facilitate passage for the remaining 250 people via the nearby informal crossing point at Marievka. Zolote checkpoint remained closed as of April 1.
- The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) documented 78 conflict-related civilian casualties, including 21 deaths, between mid-November 2015 and mid-February 2016—a 56 percent decrease from 178 recorded during the preceding three months. Unexploded ordnance (UXO) and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) remained the primary threat to civilian safety, accounting for more than 50 civilian casualties during this period, while shelling accounted for 11 casualties, according to the UN. The HRMMU recorded more than 840 civilian casualties during the year since the enactment of the Minsk II ceasefire agreement. In addition, the UN reports that the conflict in Ukraine has affected an estimated 580,000 children residing in NGCAs, one-third of which require psychosocial support.
- While GoU emergency service representatives reported the clearing of more than 44,000 mines and booby traps in Donetsk and Luhansk as of April 3, UXO and IED concerns persist. State/PRM partner the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) recently began installing billboards in Berezove and other high-risk areas near checkpoints along the contact line. In addition, USAID/OFDA partners OCHA and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) recently prepared and delivered approximately 5,000 leaflets and 100 posters to improve mine-risk awareness among people crossing checkpoints along the contact line. UNICEF also delivered an estimated 20,000 booklets on mine-risk education to Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs for distribution to 200,000 students.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- A recent UN World Food Program (WFP) food security assessment revealed that overall food security in NGCAs has improved since March 2015, attributed in part to improved security and access to humanitarian assistance. Despite increased food security, approximately 1.5 million people remain food insecure, including an estimated 290,000 who are severely food insecure. WFP reports that people living in Luhansk NGCAs and near the contact line are most-affected by food insecurity, with female-headed households, older people, and people with disabilities in NGCAs of Donetsk and Luhansk also experiencing food insecurity. IDPs living in collective centers are among the most vulnerable to food insecurity in GCAs, with approximately 35 percent of IDPs meeting the criteria for poor and borderline food consumption scores (FCSs)—composite scores based on dietary diversity, food frequency, and relative nutritional importance of different food groups. Among displaced households in Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs, approximately 5 percent had a poor FCS and 15 percent had a borderline FCS, with the lowest scores among households that did not receive any humanitarian assistance. WFP reports that consumption of quality, nutritious foods is highly dependent on household financial security, location, and access to humanitarian assistance.
 - From September–December, approximately 65 percent of people living in conflict-affected GCAs and NGCAs experienced a significant reduction in, or complete loss of, income. Few employment opportunities—resulting in reduced purchasing power—and high food prices have limited household access to food. Furthermore, food price inflation in Ukraine remains among the highest in the world, according to WFP, which reports that food prices in December were more than 43 percent higher than at the beginning of 2015.
 - A January UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) socio-economic impact and needs assessment in GCAs and NGCAs of Donetsk and Luhansk revealed that the agriculture sector's most urgent needs include agricultural inputs, such as seeds and fertilizer, and animal feed, which are often unaffordable or inaccessible, according to the more than 150,000 surveyed households. FAO expects that households depending on subsistence agriculture to meet food needs are likely to experience increased food insecurity as the agriculture sector contracts due to the effects of the conflict. The need for agriculture support is significantly higher for households living in NGCAs as compared to those in GCAs, according to FAO.
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HEALTH AND WASH

- A January water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assessment conducted by UNICEF in NGCAs found that areas near the contact line have more substantial WASH infrastructure damage and consistently lower water- and power-supply reliability than in other areas. UNICEF noted that authorities inconsistently conduct water quality testing in both centralized and decentralized water systems, due in part to a lack of equipment and supplies and a shortage of personnel at some facilities.
- The UNICEF report also highlighted that among more than 310 assessed health facilities, more than 40 percent experienced water supply interruptions, compared to approximately 8 percent prior to the conflict. In addition, 13 percent of health facilities lack medical waste management systems, which the UN agency notes is of particular concern following Ukraine's September 2015 polio outbreak. Among other measures, UNICEF recommends supporting emergency power supplies to affected facilities and improved medical waste management.
- UNICEF continued to provide chlorine to the local water utility company in Donetsk in February, maintaining safe drinking water supplies for approximately 1.4 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine. Additionally, the UN agency supported sanitation facilities at Marinka checkpoint to benefit an estimated 4,600 people and reduce the risk of UXO-related accidents among civilians seeking WASH services. In February, UNICEF also provided nearly 1,770 hygiene kits targeting 14,170 people and distributed approximately 2,670 vouchers to vulnerable households for the purchase of hygiene supplies.

LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

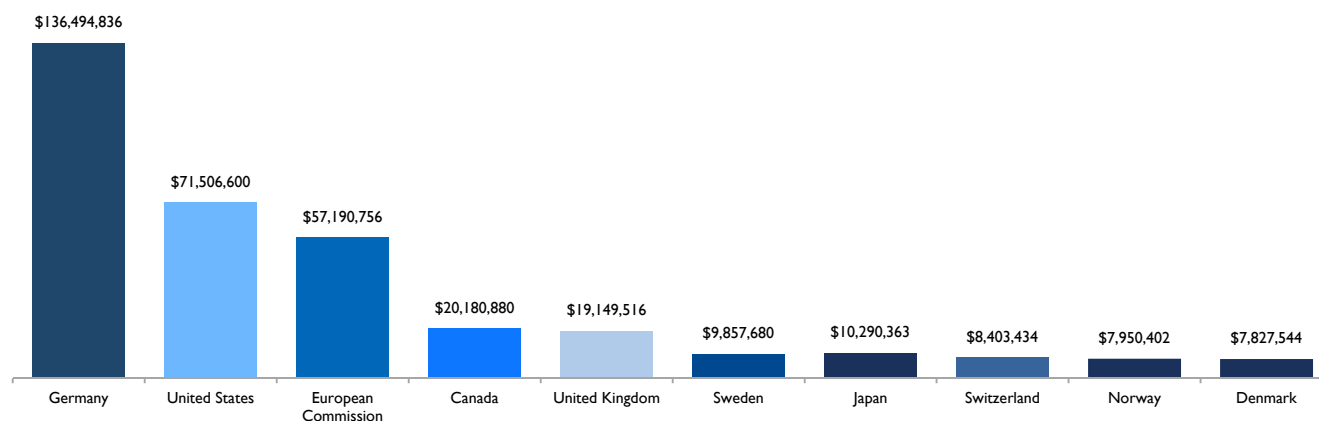
- State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) aimed to reach more than 57,000 beneficiaries in GCAs and NGCAs with seasonally appropriate assistance, including relief commodities, heating fuel, and cash-based assistance. In GCAs, UNHCR and local organizations have distributed more than 7,800 metric tons of coal and nearly 10,700 cubic meters of firewood. UNHCR began cash-based winterization assistance distributions in early February, targeting nearly 2,600 households with up to \$308 in cash assistance to support seasonal needs.
 - Between January and February, nearly 20 response organizations distributed much-needed emergency relief commodities to nearly 16,600 IDP and other vulnerable households residing in conflict-affected areas. More than 3,360 households also received fuel supplies and approximately 2,940 families received cash grants for the purchase of cold-weather relief items. Approximately 45 organizations are providing shelter and emergency relief assistance in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine, according to the Shelter/Non-Food Item (NFI) Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian shelter and NFI activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In mid-February, the UN released the 2016 Ukraine HRP, requesting \$298 million to assist conflict-affected people in Ukraine between January and December 2016. At least 3.1 million people living in GCAs and NGCAs require humanitarian assistance, including approximately 2.5 million older people, women, and children, according to the UN. Humanitarian needs remain acute among the approximately 800,000 people living along the contact line—600,000 of whom live within NGCAs. The UN notes that ongoing conflict and bureaucratic impediments directly affect civilians, particularly those living in proximity to the contact line, resulting in restricted movements, loss of livelihoods, and limited access to basic services. As of April 4, international donors had contributed \$18.9 million, approximately 6 percent, of the \$95.7 million requested to support activities outlined in the 2016 Ukraine HRP.
- On March 16, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) pledged €20 million—nearly \$23 million—to address the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations in GCAs, NGCAs, and neighboring countries. ECHO contributions will support NGOs and UN agencies to locally procure basic relief supplies and improve access to food, health care services, safe drinking water, and shelter for IDPs, refugees, and returnee populations. The European Commission has committed approximately \$71 million to support humanitarian response activities in Ukraine and neighboring countries since 2014, with approximately 55 percent of ECHO support targeting vulnerable households residing in NGCAs.
- The Government of Japan (GoJ) recently provided \$1 million to support International Organization for Migration (IOM) efforts to improve livelihoods and access to basic services for conflict-affected people in Donetsk and Luhansk, where armed conflict has damaged public buildings and civilian infrastructure. With GoJ support, IOM recently rehabilitated and reopened two child-friendly spaces and a school, benefiting up to 2,500 people, including more than 500 IDPs. Since March 2015, the GoJ and IOM have provided business training for more than 600 people, distributed approximately 400 livelihood grants, and rebuilt 21 civilian infrastructure sites for the benefit of more than 20,000 vulnerable individuals, including nearly 9,000 IDPs.

2015–2016 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of April 7, 2016. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2015 and 2016 calendar years, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2014, and October 1, 2015, respectively.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH	Countrywide	\$23,787,362
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$700,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, and WASH	Countrywide	\$1,001,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$118,238
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$25,606,600
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Locally Procured Food Assistance and Food Vouchers	Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts	\$10,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$10,000,000
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$21,500,000
IOM	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Protection	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$10,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$35,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$71,506,600

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014³

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$6,650,836
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$5,675,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014	\$12,325,836

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2015	\$83,832,436
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USG funding totals represent actual committed amounts as of September 30, 2015.

³ USG funding totals represent actual committed amounts as of September 30, 2014.

CONTEXT

- Conflict between the GoU military and separatists in eastern Ukraine that began in March 2014 has caused large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost *oblasts* bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs has negatively affected neighboring *oblasts*.
- As of November 2015, the UN estimated that the conflict had internally displaced more than 800,000 people. In addition, up to 2.7 million people remained in conflict-affected NGCAs of eastern Ukraine, where the volatile security environment and bureaucratic delays have impeded humanitarian access.
- On November 23, 2015, U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey R. Pyatt re-issued a disaster declaration for Ukraine due to the continued humanitarian needs of IDPs and vulnerable populations affected by conflict between GoU forces and pro-opposition forces in eastern Ukraine.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>