

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

3.5 million

People Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – December 2018

1.4 million

IDPs in Ukraine
GoU Ministry of Social Policy – March 2019

1.1 million

Food-Insecure People in Eastern Ukraine
UN – December 2018

480,156

Ukrainians Seeking Asylum in Nearby Countries
UNHCR – December 2018

3,339

Estimated Conflict-Related Civilian Deaths Since April 2014
UN – August 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite renewal of a ceasefire in eastern Ukraine on July 21, OSCE records 21,500 ceasefire violations between July 29 and September 29
- OHCHR reports 68 conflict-related civilian casualties between mid-May and mid-August
- USG officials visit contact line and meet implementing partners in September

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$8,365,436
USAID/FFP ²	\$4,046,544
State/PRM ³	\$28,400,000
\$40,811,980	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Hostilities continue to impact populations in Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts*, with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) recording 68 conflict-related civilian casualties between mid-May and mid-August, despite the July 21 ceasefire agreement among the Trilateral Contact Group—comprising representatives from the Government of the Russian Federation, the Government of Ukraine (GoU), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Persistent conflict has also adversely affected critical civilian infrastructure, damaging education, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities and impeding civilian access to essential services, according to the UN.
- UN monitors recorded a monthly average of nearly 1.6 million crossings of the contact line—which separates government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government controlled areas (NGCA) in eastern Ukraine—between June and September.
- People ages 60 years and older, who account for 30 percent of the 3.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in eastern Ukraine, face increased risks as a result of the conflict. Relief actors report that older people are among the most vulnerable to adverse health impacts of winter weather, experience difficulty meeting basic needs due to the inability to access pensions, and lack access to health care and psychosocial support (PSS) services.
- Humanitarian actors are preparing to scale up relief efforts during the upcoming 2019/2020 winter season, noting that households in conflict-affected areas are more vulnerable to impacts of cold temperatures and inclement weather due to damaged houses or lack of income-generating opportunities. More than 28,500 households in GCA and NGCA are in need of shelter and fuel assistance during the winter season, according to relief actors.

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 POPULATION MOVEMENT

- On July 21, the Trilateral Contact Group renewed the ceasefire agreement in eastern Ukraine. However, hostilities continue to adversely affect the 2.7 million people living along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk; from July 29 to September 29, OSCE reported approximately 21,500 ceasefire violations near the contact line.
- Between mid-May and mid-August, OHCHR documented 68 conflict-related civilian casualties, including eight deaths and injury to 60 people. While the latest number of civilian casualties represents a more than 50 percent increase compared to the 45 casualties recorded from mid-February to mid-May, the figure is the lowest recorded during the May–August period from 2014 to 2019. Additionally, two incidents of indirect fire near Donetsk’s Marinka Checkpoint—a critical humanitarian corridor between GCA and NGCA—resulted in at least four civilian injuries on September 11 and 19, relief actors report. Further, more than 60 civilian houses were destroyed or damaged in eastern Ukraine in August, the UN reports. In total, conflict in Ukraine resulted in 3,339 civilian deaths and more than 7,000 civilian injuries from August 2014 to mid-August 2019.
- Between June and September, humanitarian monitors recorded a monthly average of nearly 1.6 million contact line crossings at checkpoints, compared to an average of more than 1.5 million crossings during the same period in 2018, according to the UN. Civilians surveyed at checkpoints in August highlighted long travel distances by foot, lengthy waiting periods, and poor road conditions as concerns when crossing the contact line, the UN reports. In August, one person died due to cardiac arrest while crossing Donetsk’s Maiorske Checkpoint, while in early July, more than 80 people per day lost consciousness due to heat and exhaustion while waiting in line at Luhansk’s Stanytsia Luhanska Checkpoint, according to the UN. In response to these concerns, the GoU continues to upgrade checkpoint infrastructure—including installing and repairing medical stations, sanitation facilities, and weather shelters. In early August, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in partnership with a local non-governmental organizations (NGO) began providing free daily bus services between the footbridge crossing and passport control stations at Stanytsia Luhanska Checkpoint, which could significantly reduce the need to travel long distances on foot. The bus has the capacity to transport approximately 400 people per day; approximately 6,500 people utilized the service in August, UNHCR reports.

EDUCATION AND PROTECTION

- Conflict continues to damage school infrastructure and disrupt education for children in eastern Ukraine. An estimated 32 conflict-related incidents—including shelling and small arms fire—have damaged school infrastructure in eastern Ukraine to date in 2019, compared to the 16 incidents reported in all of 2018, according to the Education Cluster.⁴ Since the conflict began in August 2014, violence has damaged more than 750 schools. The Education Cluster estimates that hostilities continue to adversely affect more than 700,000 school-aged children and teachers at more than 3,500 education facilities in eastern Ukraine, putting populations at risk of death or injury and disrupting education and livelihoods due to school closures.
- Ukraine experienced nearly 430 casualties resulting from mines in 2017, the third most affected country in the world behind Afghanistan and Syria, according to the NGO Landmine Monitor. From mid-May to mid-August 2019, mine and explosive remnant of war incidents resulted in three civilian deaths and injury to nine people, OHCHR reports. In response, protection actors are conducting mine risk education (MRE) sessions, engaging in demining activities, and providing case management support to households affected by mine incidents. In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided an NGO partner with \$1.1 million to conduct MRE activities—including developing public service announcement videos on mine awareness, supporting the GoU to develop a national strategy for mine awareness, and training local government officials to conduct MRE activities—in 10 *oblasts* across central and eastern Ukraine.
- Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and people living in NGCA experience difficulty obtaining identification documents. The UN reports an estimated 40 percent of children born in NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk from 2016 to 2018 obtained birth certificates from the GoU; birth certificates are required for people to access education and

⁴ The coordinating body for humanitarian education activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

health services, receive Ukrainian passports, and exercise civil and legal rights as Ukrainian citizens. One NGO that operates a telephone hotline for informational and legal consultations reported that documentation inquiries represented approximately 30 percent of the 2,000 queries recorded in August. Protection actors continue to provide legal assistance on obtaining documentation, the Protection Cluster reports.

- Older people living in NGCA continue to face challenges receiving pensions from the GoU due to lack of mobility to complete the required registration, adversely affecting livelihoods. According to the UN, approximately 562,000 people in NGCA received pensions in December 2018, a nearly 60 percent decrease from the nearly 1.3 million recipients in August 2014. In order to receive pensions, people in NGCA are required to travel to GCA to register as IDPs and undergo verification, a particularly challenging process for older people with disabilities, mobility issues, and limited incomes, the UN reports. As such, approximately one-half of people crossing checkpoints were ages 60 years and older as of November 2018. While there have been some GoU legislative efforts to improve pension access for IDPs, such efforts have not yet come into effect. Protection actors continue to facilitate the receipt of pension payments for individuals in NGCA by providing counseling, information, and legal assistance.
- In response to heightened protection risks for older people in eastern Ukraine, a USAID/OFDA partner is supporting a care center in Donetsk, which has the capacity to assist 370 older people, by renovating latrines to improve disabled person access and by training facility staff in the provision of PSS services. The same partner supports a community center located approximately 1 mile from the contact line in the *oblast*, providing cash grants, PSS services, rehabilitation equipment, and vouchers to approximately 1,000 older people in FY 2019.
- Another USAID/OFDA partner conducted a temporary employment program in FY 2019 that supported 70 people with approximately \$245 each to rehabilitate a community arts center in Donetsk that was damaged by shelling in 2015. The same partner also distributes cash grants to small business owners in Donetsk and Luhansk to hire additional staff and expand businesses. The partner reports that nearly 80 percent of new jobs created by the program in 2018 were sustained for more than one year.

HEALTH AND WASH

- Conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine have limited access to basic health services, with nearly 60 percent of households in the approximately 3-mile area along the contact line reporting problems accessing health care, including purchasing medicines and traveling to health facilities, according to the Health Cluster. Further, conflict continues to damage existing health infrastructure, with the Health Cluster reporting nearly 40 percent of health facilities in eastern Ukraine sustaining damage due to hostilities since the beginning of the conflict in August 2014. Health Cluster actors continue to provide medical supplies and medicines, support health facilities, and train local health professionals in affected areas.
- Long wait times at contact line checkpoints pose a heightened health risk to older people during the summer and winter months; at least 26 people have died due to health complications while waiting at contact line checkpoints to date in 2019, according to the Protection Cluster. In response, humanitarian organizations are providing emergency health services at contact line checkpoints.
- The WASH Cluster recorded nearly 80 conflict incidents affecting WASH infrastructure to date in 2019, adversely affecting access to safe drinking water for millions of people in conflict-affected areas. In September, the WASH Cluster reported eight incidents of shelling and small arms fire at various water access points along the contact line, including multiple incidents impeding operations at Donetsk's First Lift Pumping Station, which supplies water to more than 1.1 million people in both GCA and NGCA of the *oblast*. Relief actors remain concerned that a significant reduction or prolonged cessation of the station's water supply could result prompt population displacement. To address this concern, USAID/OFDA provided the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) with \$1 million to support WASH Cluster activities, including ensuring access to safe drinking water, monitoring conflict incidents affecting WASH infrastructure, and providing hygiene kits and hygiene vouchers to households in conflict-affected areas.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- The UN reports that an estimated 1.1 million people in Ukraine are food insecure. In response, Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster partners reached more than 44,400 people with food assistance and approximately 780 people with agricultural assistance and livelihoods support from May to June.
 - USAID/OFDA provided an NGO partner with nearly \$190,000 in FY 2019 to improve food security conditions and support rural livelihoods among vulnerable households through vouchers for agricultural inputs in conflict-affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk.
 - In FY 2019, USAID/FFP contributed nearly \$2.1 million to an NGO partner to provide approximately 8,000 people along the contact line with cash transfers for food, sufficient to meet food needs for four months during the 2019/2020 winter season. USAID/FFP also provided more than \$1.9 million to three implementing partners to distribute emergency food assistance to vulnerable people in GCA and NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts*. USAID/FFP partners aim to provide food assistance to approximately 10,900 individuals, including people ages 60 years and older, during the upcoming 2019/2020 winter season.
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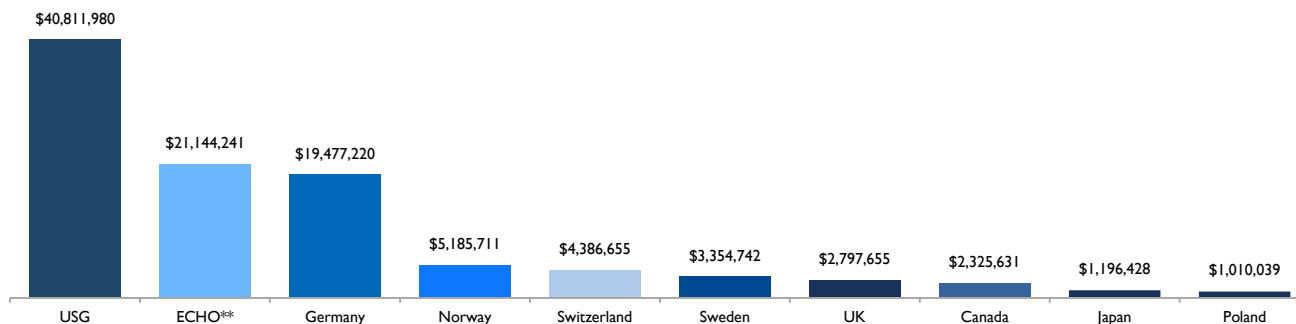
SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

- From January to June, conflict damaged more than 410 civilian shelters in eastern Ukraine, a more than 20 percent decrease from the 520 shelters damaged during the same period in 2018, the Shelter Cluster reports. Approximately 75 percent of incidents resulting in damage to civilian shelters occurred in Donetsk. Overall, the cluster reported more than 264,000 people in need of shelter and relief supplies as of June. Shelter Cluster partners provided approximately 5,500 households with relief commodities, repaired nearly 1,300 houses, and supported nearly 2,000 people with communal infrastructure repairs in Donetsk and Luhansk from April to June.
 - The 2019/2020 winter season generates additional risks for Ukrainians with damaged or inadequate shelter or individuals lacking sufficient income to acquire necessary supplies—including fuel and insulation—to protect against winter weather conditions. The Shelter Cluster has identified nearly 23,200 households in NGCA and more than 5,500 households in GCA in need of shelter assistance in the coming months.
 - In response to shelter needs, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$410,000 in FY 2019 to an NGO partner to conduct shelter activities, including emergency window installation and distribution of cash grants for households to purchase relief commodities, for vulnerable populations in Donetsk NGCA and Luhansk GCA for the upcoming winter season.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A delegation of U.S. Government (USG) officials—including State/PRM and USAID/OFDA representatives, an NGO partner, and GoU officials—visited the contact line in Donetsk on September 17, including the Maiorske Checkpoint. The delegation toured the checkpoint to learn about the contact line crossing process. The delegation noted that the checkpoint was well organized and not crowded, but expressed concern regarding lack of seating in processing areas, poor latrine access, and vulnerability to insecurity due to the site's proximity to the contact line. The NGO partner continues to advocate the GoU address these concerns. The delegation also met with USAID partners and beneficiaries and observed several USAID-supported programs, including a program that provides multi-sector assistance to more than 1,000 older people, a temporary employment program that employs 70 people to rehabilitate a different community center, and a hair salon supported by a job creation grant.
- As of September 30, international donors had contributed more than \$59 million to the 2019 Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan, representing approximately 40 percent of the requested \$164 million. The funding shortfalls—particularly concerning ahead of the winter season—are adversely affecting relief activities, resulting in the discontinuation of food assistance for 30,000 people, the suspension of water trucking services benefitting 20,000 people, and the termination of six humanitarian projects as of August 19, according to UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Osnat Lubrani.

2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 30, 2019. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2019 calendar year, 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, 2018.

**European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

CONTEXT

- Since March 2014, the conflict in eastern Ukraine 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*.
- The GoU estimated that the conflict had internally displaced approximately 1.3 million people as of March 2019. In addition, the UN estimates that 3.5 million of the 5.2 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine require humanitarian assistance in 2019.
- On December 12, 2018, U.S. Ambassador Marie L. Yovanovitch renewed the disaster declaration for Ukraine due to the widespread displacement and continued humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in eastern Ukraine.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE PROVIDED IN FY 2019

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cherkasy, Donetsk, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Luhansk, Poltava, Sumy, Vinnytsya, Zaporizhzhya <i>oblasts</i>	\$5,811,127
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,400,000
UNICEF	HCIM, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$154,309
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$8,365,436
USAID/FFP			
IPs	Cash Transfers for Food	Donetsk, Luhansk	\$3,740,490
IP	HCIM	Countrywide	\$306,054
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$4,046,544
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$16,700,000

International Organization for Migration (IOM)	MPCA, Health, Livelihoods, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$6,700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$28,400,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$40,811,980

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.
² USAID/OFDA funding figures reflect funding as of September 30, 2019.
³ Estimated values of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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, environmentally, and nutritionally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
 - 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>