

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

3.4
million

People Requiring
Humanitarian Assistance
UN – January 2020

1.4
million

IDPs in Ukraine
GoU Ministry of Social Policy –
January 2020

1
million

Food-Insecure People in
Eastern Ukraine
UN – January 2020

480,156

Ukrainians Seeking
Asylum in Nearby
Countries
UNHCR – December 2018

3,344

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- December Normandy Four meeting leads to progress towards peace deal and agreements to improve humanitarian conditions
- 2020 HRP requests \$158 million to assist 2 million conflict-affected individuals in eastern Ukraine
- GoU passes legislation enabling children in NGCAs to more easily cross contact line

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

- Leaders of the Normandy Four countries—comprising the Government of the Republic of France, Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, Government of the Russian Federation, and Government of Ukraine (GoU)—met in France in December to make progress towards a comprehensive peace deal and improved humanitarian conditions in conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine. Parties to the conflict agreed to release additional detainees, open a new civilian crossing point along the contact line separating government-controlled areas (GCAs) and non-government controlled-areas (NGCAs) in eastern Ukraine, and withdraw additional military forces from areas near the contact line.
- Humanitarian actors reported relatively improved security conditions in conflict-affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts* in 2019 compared to 2018. A security-focused international non-governmental organization (INGO) recorded a 22 percent decrease in security incidents and a 44 percent decrease in conflict-related civilian casualties in 2019. However, conflict continues to adversely affect civilian infrastructure, freedom of movement, and access to essential services, including education, health care, and safe drinking water.
- The UN released the 2020 Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) on January 29, requesting \$158 million to support 2 million conflict-affected individuals with emergency assistance. The scope of the 2020 HRP represents a slight decrease from the 2019 HRP, which requested \$162 million to support 2.3 million conflict-affected individuals.
- Access to legal assistance remains an ongoing concern for internally displaced individuals (IDPs) in Ukraine. In response, USAID/OFDA staff traveled to Chernihiv *Oblast* to monitor a partner providing legal assistance to IDPs, as well as meet GoU officials to discuss administrative and legal challenges IDPs face in accessing social benefits. The U.S. Government (USG) and other humanitarian actors also continue to advocate for the GoU to streamline legal assistance programs for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

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

- The December Normandy Four meeting resulted in parties making progress towards a comprehensive peace deal in eastern Ukraine, including measures to improve humanitarian conditions. The parties to the conflict agreed to release additional conflict-related detainees, open an additional civilian crossing point along the contact line, and withdraw additional military forces from the contact line before the next Normandy Four meeting in April. The parties completed the release of 200 conflict-related detainees on December 29 and continue to negotiate the location of the new civilian crossing point in Luhansk, which currently has one operational crossing point, according to the UN.
- A renewed ceasefire in July and withdrawal of military forces from three areas along the contact line between July and December—a pre-condition for the December Normandy Four meeting—coincided with relatively improved security conditions in conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe reported a nearly 30 percent decrease in monthly ceasefire violations from 33,200 violations in October to 23,400 violations in November. Additionally, relief actors reported a decrease in the number of civilian casualties in 2019. The UN recorded 52 civilian casualties from August to November, a nearly 40 percent decrease from the 68 casualties reported from May to August. Overall, conflict-related casualties have decreased by 44 percent, from 360 casualties in 2018 to 200 casualties in 2019, according to a security-focused INGO.
- During October and November 2019, humanitarian monitors recorded a monthly average of approximately 1.2 million contact line crossings at checkpoints, representing a slight increase from the approximately 1.1 million crossings during the same period in 2018, according to the UN. Individuals primarily crossed the contact line from NGCAs to access pensions and other social programs and to withdraw money, and from GCAs to visit relatives and monitor property, the UN reports. While hostilities continue to affect freedom of movement for individuals living in GCAs and NGCAs, relief actors have expressed optimism that the recent reopening of the Stanytsia Luhanska pedestrian bridge in Luhansk in November, coupled with the planned opening of a new civilian crossing point in the *oblast*, will improve freedom of movement on both sides of the contact line.
- The GoU continues to upgrade checkpoint infrastructure for individuals crossing the contact line, including completing the rehabilitation of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure at Donetsk’s Marinka checkpoint in mid-November. Additionally, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in partnership with a local NGO, scaled up free daily bus services between the footbridge crossing and passport control stations at Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint in October, enabling the NGO to provide transportation services to more than 18,200 vulnerable individuals during the month; 94 percent were people with impaired mobility. Despite upgrades to checkpoint infrastructure, electricity outages interrupted operations at Donetsk’s Maiorske and Marinka checkpoints in November, leading to overcrowding at Marinka checkpoint that resulted in increased illness among older populations waiting in line at the facility.
- UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Osnat Lubrani visited NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk on October 22 and 23 to advocate for increased humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations. Specifically, RC/HC Lubrani requested that NGCA authorities in Donetsk allow international NGOs and UN agencies to directly implement programming rather than operate through local NGO partners. However, with the exception of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), NGCA authorities have restricted direct implementation to local relief organizations. In recent months, NGCA authorities in Donetsk have also denied the accreditation of two NGOs operating in the area, prompting those organizations to cease relief operations.

PROTECTION

- The GoU passed legislation on November 20 that aims to improve the ability of children living in NGCAs to more easily cross the contact line. Prior to the legislation, UNHCR estimated that 57 percent of children born in NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk—40,000 individuals—did not possess birth certificates issued by the GoU, which placed those individuals at risk of statelessness since the GoU does not recognize birth certificates issued by NGCAs. Following humanitarian actor advocacy efforts, the GoU adopted legislation to accept additional forms of identification and streamline administrative procedures for children born in NGCA areas. While the new legislation is enabling an

increased number of children younger than 14 years of age to cross the contact line, humanitarian actors have expressed concern that GoU officials are currently denying children older than 14 years of age access to GCAs due to more restrictive policies, according to humanitarian actors.

- Relief actors remain concerned that hostilities continue to affect educational infrastructure in eastern Ukraine. Between August and November, the UN recorded four separate incidents damaging education facilities, including an incident on November 4 that resulted in the evacuation of approximately 40 children from a school in Luhansk's Novotoshkiivske town due to shelling in the area. In 2019, the UN reported nearly 40 conflict incidents that damaged school infrastructure.
- In October, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) conducted a needs assessment for children younger than 17 years of age that had survived explosive remnants of war and landmine incidents since the start of the conflict in eastern Ukraine in April 2014. Children are particularly vulnerable to explosive remnant of war and landmine incidents due to time spent outdoors for household or recreational activities. While survivors reported receiving adequate emergency assistance from local hospitals and medical staff, the assessment found that nearly 90 percent of the survivors require ongoing medical care, nearly 50 percent require additional physical rehabilitation, and nearly 30 percent require additional surgery. The assessment also noted that survivors face challenges accessing rehabilitation, psychological and psychosocial support (PSS) services, adequate medical care and equipment, and opportunities for social reintegration. Explosive remnants of war and landmines have resulted in more than 1,000 civilian casualties since April 2014, including nearly 60 casualties from January to November 2019, according to the UN.
- USAID/OFDA staff visited conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine from December 2 to 4 to assess humanitarian conditions, monitor partners providing protection assistance, and develop recommendations for future programming. The USAID/OFDA staff monitored PSS programs for older populations in Donetsk's Svitlodarsk town, Luhansk's Komyshevakha and Zolote towns; mine risk education programs in Luhansk's Severodonetsk town; and legal assistance interventions at the Maiorske checkpoint. In addition, the USAID/OFDA staff met with partner staff and individuals receiving assistance to understand current humanitarian conditions and needs. The USAID/OFDA staff reported a need to scale up child protection and gender-based violence prevention programming, as well as counseling and case management assistance to populations in the area.
- USAID/OFDA staff traveled to Chernihiv and Kulykivka towns, Chernihiv *Oblast*, on October 17 to monitor a partner providing legal assistance for IDPs in the area. In Chernihiv, the partner assists nearly 50 IDPs a month to understand and navigate the country's administrative and legal systems to access medical care and pensions, as well as obtain civil documentation. In Kulykivka, the USAID/OFDA staff met with GoU officials to discuss administrative and legal challenges IDPs face in accessing social programs. Overall, the USG and other humanitarian actors continue to advocate for the GoU to streamline the legal assistance programs for IDPs.

HEALTH AND WASH

- The WASH Cluster reported two shelling incidents on December 19 and 20 near the Donetsk Water Filter Station, which supplies safe drinking water to nearly 380,000 people in GCAs and NGCAs.⁴ The December incidents did not result in any injuries or damage to infrastructure at the site and represent the only reported incident impacting water networks in conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine since a shelling incident near the Donetsk Water Filter Station in early November, according to the WASH Cluster. While security incidents continue to affect water networks, relief actors have reported fewer incidents affecting WASH infrastructure in recent months. The WASH Cluster reported that fewer than 30 of the 90 incidents affecting WASH infrastructure in 2019 occurred from July to December.
- Conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine continue to experience difficulty accessing basic health services due to insecurity, limited access to public transportation, and a shortage of health care workers, according to the Health Cluster. However, Health Cluster partners have expressed optimism that the withdrawal of military forces from parts of Donetsk and Luhansk in recent months, as well as the planned withdrawal of additional military forces, may lead to improved security conditions and the ability of relief actors to scale up health interventions in the area. In mid-

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

December, Health Cluster staff visited four sites near the contact line in Donetsk, noting a need to increase access to basic health services and provide additional PSS services.

- USAID/OFDA staff traveled to Donetsk's Sloviansk town on December 10 to monitor USAID/OFDA partner UNICEF's emergency WASH programming in the area. The USAID/OFDA staff toured warehouses storing 900 hygiene kits, hygiene promotion material, and safe drinking water for hospitals and schools in the event of potential water shortages; water pumping stations providing safe drinking water to more than 3.2 million people living in both GCAs and NGCAs; and a GoU Ministry of Health-operated laboratory, where lab technicians collect and analyze water samples from health facilities and other public institutions.

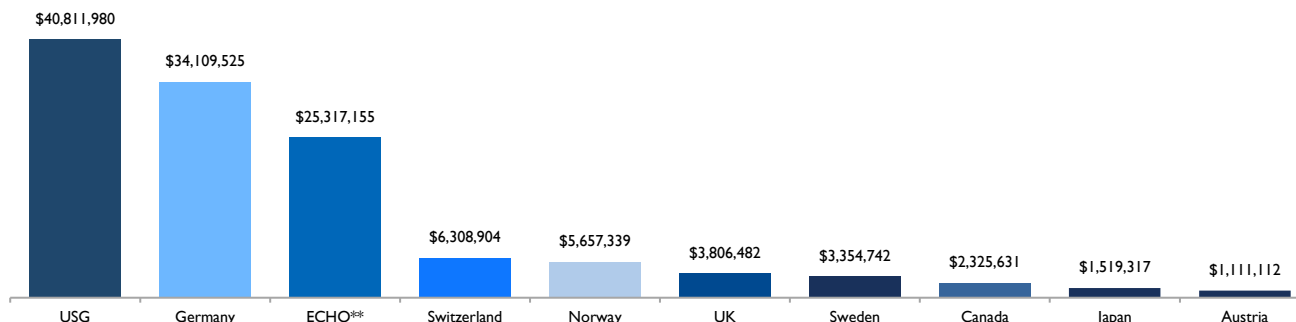
SHELTER AND EDUCATION

- State/PRM partner UNHCR organized a conference in Kharkiv *Oblast's* Kharkiv city in October for IDPs and local authorities to discuss long-term housing solutions for IDPs; GoU officials acknowledged the need to develop an updated strategy in late November. Separately, UNHCR repaired approximately 800 houses for conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine from January to November, as well as facilitated the delivery of education equipment, shelter repair supplies, and other relief assistance to conflict-affected populations in Donetsk. More than 50,000 civilian houses on both sides of the contact line have been damaged or destroyed due to hostilities since April 2014, according to the UN.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2020 Ukraine HRP, released on January 29, requests \$158 million to support 2 million conflict-affected individuals in Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs and NGCAs with emergency education, food, health, livelihoods, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance. The 2020 HRP request represents a slight decrease from the 2019 HRP that requested \$162 million to support 2.3 million conflict-affected individuals. Additionally, the 2020 HRP seeks to integrate sectoral needs with overarching objectives, which include providing life-saving assistance, enhancing protection programming, improving humanitarian access for relief actors, and strengthening the GoU's humanitarian response capacity.
- In September, the GoU merged the Ministry of Veterans' Affairs and the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs into the newly established Ministry of Veterans' Affairs, Temporarily Occupied Territories, and IDPs. The USG and other international donors met with representatives from the new ministry in Ukraine's capital city of Kyiv on October 3 to discuss planned activities and objectives. Humanitarian donors have expressed concern with how the new ministry will prioritize humanitarian assistance within the ministry's portfolio. Humanitarian actors, including USG and UN representatives, continue to engage with the ministry to emphasize support for IDPs and other conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine.
- The USG and other international donors met with representatives from the recently established GoU Ministry of Veterans' Affairs, Temporarily Occupied Territories, and IDPs in Ukraine's capital city of Kyiv on October 3 to discuss planned activities and objectives. Humanitarian donors have expressed concern with how the new ministry—which resulted from the merging of the former GoU Ministry of Veterans' Affairs and the former GoU Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs in September—will prioritize humanitarian assistance within the ministry's portfolio. Humanitarian actors, including USG and UN representatives, continue to engage with the ministry to emphasize support for IDPs and other conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine.
- From December 8 to 13, State/PRM staff met with implementing partners in Kyiv and Donetsk's Kramatorsk and Sloviansk towns to monitor State/PRM-funded activities and discuss programming for FY 2020. USAID/OFDA staff joined State/PRM staff for several partner meetings to develop a shared understanding of humanitarian conditions and needs for the response.

2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of February 5, 2020. 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 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 and ended on September 30, 2019.

**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 1.4 million people as of January 2020. In addition, the UN estimates that 3.4 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine require humanitarian assistance in 2020.
- On November 15, 2019, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires William Taylor 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 2019¹

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, Chernihiv, Donetsk, 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			
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>.