

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 24, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

3.5 million

People Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – December 2018

1.3 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

3,330

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- OHCHR records 45 conflict-related civilian casualties in Ukraine between mid-February and mid-May
- Long wait times amid poor conditions at checkpoints result in 25 civilian deaths between January and May
- Conflict continues to damage civilian infrastructure along the contact line, including schools, shelters, and water and sanitation facilities

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$9,861,594
USAID/FFP ²	\$1,326,187
State/PRM ³	\$29,900,000
\$41,087,781	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Hostilities continued to endanger civilians near the contact line in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts* in early 2019. Approximately 2,400 security incidents were reported between January and March, representing a 60 percent increase from the number of incidents recorded during the same period in 2018, according to the UN.
- Crossing the contact line—where people often wait hours at checkpoints to travel between government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government controlled areas (NGCA)—remains a challenge for vulnerable populations. Between January and May, long wait times and poor conditions at checkpoints resulted in the deaths of 25 civilians, the majority of whom succumbed to health complications while waiting to cross, the Protection Cluster⁴ reports.
- Conflict damaged 14 schools in the first five months of 2019, compared to a total of 16 schools damaged by conflict in 2018, according to the Education Cluster. The cluster estimates that conflict in Ukraine has adversely affected approximately 700,000 school-aged children and teachers at 3,500 schools.
- In early 2019, approximately 30 percent of people living near the contact line reported diminished access to safe drinking water, the UN reports. Incidents of shelling and indirect fire continue to damage water infrastructure in close proximity to the contact line, increasing the risk of population displacement as a result of interruptions to water supplies, 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)

⁴ The coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

INSECURITY AND POPULATION MOVEMENT

- Hostilities continue to adversely affect the 2.7 million people living along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk. More than 2,400 security incidents were recorded in the first three months of 2019, compared to approximately 1,500 incidents during the same period in 2018, according to the UN.
- Conflict resulted in the deaths of two civilians and injury to 10 civilians in May, according to the UN. In addition, at least 70 buildings, one school, and a sewage station were damaged on both sides of the contact line in May, the Protection Cluster reports. Most recently, shelling near Donetsk's Marinka Checkpoint—a critical humanitarian corridor between GCA and NGCA—resulted in at least four civilian casualties and damaged nearby houses on June 14, relief actors report.
- In total, conflict in Ukraine since 2014 has resulted in 3,330 civilian deaths and more than 7,000 civilian injuries as of May 15. Between mid-February and mid-May 2019, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) documented 45 conflict-related civilian casualties, including 10 deaths and injury to 35 people. While the latest number of civilian casualties represents a more than 180 percent increase from mid-November 2018 to mid-February 2019—the previous reporting period—the figure is lower than those recorded during the February–May periods from 2015–2018.
- Between January and March, monitors recorded a monthly average of 1 million contact line crossings at checkpoints, representing a six percent increase over the number of crossings reported for the same period in 2018, according to the UN. During the reporting period, 25 people died while crossing at checkpoints, 19 of whom died as a result of health complications while waiting to cross, according to the Protection Cluster.
- The Government of Ukraine (GoU) began upgrading checkpoint infrastructure, including installing and repairing medical aid stations, sun and rain sheds, and sanitation facilities, in late 2018. However, civilians continue to face challenges—including long waiting periods, long distances to travel on foot, and poor road conditions—when crossing the contact line, according to NGO Right to Protect.

EDUCATION AND PROTECTION

- At least 14 conflict-related incidents, including shelling and small arms fire, damaged school infrastructure in Ukraine between January and May, nearing the total 16 incidents reported in all of 2018, the Education Cluster reports. Since the conflict began, violence has damaged more than 750 schools and disrupted operations at an unconfirmed number of additional education facilities. The Education Cluster estimates that hostilities 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. An estimated 400,000 children living near the contact line are directly affected by conflict and the presence of explosive remnants of war, the cluster reports.
- Mental health and psychosocial support (PSS) services, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, and protection of children against violence remain the primary protection needs among populations in eastern Ukraine, the UN reports. From January–March, protection actors provided PSS services to nearly 13,000 people across Ukraine, as well as provided legal assistance or protection information to nearly 40,000 people.
- A USAID/OFDA partner conducted PSS awareness sessions focused on GBV prevention and women's health to approximately 170 women and girls in GCA during March. Since October 2017, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$4.9 million to support humanitarian protection interventions in Ukraine, including legal support to conflict-affected populations and internally displaced persons (IDPs), mine risk education, and GBV response and PSS services.

WASH

- Access to safe drinking water remains a critical humanitarian need in areas where conflict persists. In early 2019, approximately 30 percent of people living within 20 kilometers of the contact line experienced water shortages,

compared to more than 10 percent of people living in areas more than 20 kilometers from the contact line, the UN reports. Additionally, an estimated 12 percent of households living near the contact line report that sanitary conditions within their communities have deteriorated since conflict started in 2014, compared to 4 percent of households living farther from the contact line.

- Meanwhile, incidents of shelling and small arms fire continue to negatively impact operations at Donetsk's 1st Lift Pumping Station, which supplies water to more than 1.1 million people in both GCA and NGCA. On June 13, shelling more than 650 miles from the station damaged a power line connected to the facility, resulting in the temporary suspension of operations, according to the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster. At least 30 incidents of violence had affected the pumping station this year as of June 18, more than double the total of 16 incidents that affected the station in 2018, the cluster reports. Relief actors remain concerned that a significant reduction or prolonged cessation of the water supply from the 1st Lift Pumping Station could result in large-scale displacement.
- With nearly \$1.3 million in USAID/OFDA support since October 2017, NGO partners have rehabilitated WASH infrastructure at health facilities in GCA and NGCA, as well as public water networks and water treatment facilities serving conflict-affected populations. With \$1 million in FY19 support, USAID/OFDA also continues to support WASH Cluster coordination and emergency WASH interventions through UNICEF.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Approximately 1.1 million people in Ukraine are food insecure and require livelihood support, according to the UN. Households sheltering near the contact line and in NGCA—including IDPs, older people, persons with disabilities, and unemployed people—are particularly vulnerable to fluctuating food prices and poor livelihood conditions, the UN reports.
- Reduced industrial production has limited employment opportunities and crop yields in eastern Ukraine, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). In Donetsk, 2018 cereal and legume yields decreased to 35 percent below pre-crisis levels, FAO reports. In areas where households rely on self-production to meet food needs, damaged transport connections have reduced the availability of agricultural inputs—including fertilizer, livestock fodder, tools, and vegetable seeds—and exacerbated food insecurity among rural households.
- Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC) partners distributed in-kind food assistance and cash-based transfers for food to approximately 86,800 people in GCA between January and April. However, access constraints continue to prevent humanitarian agencies from reaching food-insecure people residing in NGCA; no FSLC agencies were able to provide assistance to populations in need from January–March, the cluster reports.
- High rates of inflation in Donetsk and Luhansk GCA continue to erode the spending power of households, prolonging the need for humanitarian support among conflict-affected populations, the REACH Initiative reports. Between February and March, 46 percent of households that REACH surveyed described their employment situation as retired or pensioner. Of those respondents, 96 percent reported that the amount of money provided through pensions did not align with rates of inflation, which have consistently exceeded 10 percent since the start of the conflict. To meet basic needs, households in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine employ negative coping strategies, including spending savings, purchasing food on credit, selling household assets, and reducing expenditures for critical health care.
- From October 2018–March 2019, a USAID/OFDA partner distributed cash grants to 20 small businesses, which collectively created nearly 50 new jobs, in areas near the contact line in GCA of Donetsk. Support to local businesses in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine improves livelihood opportunities for vulnerable populations and supplements income to meet basic household needs, including food, health care, and transportation. Since October 2017, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$274,000 to support economic recovery and market systems in Ukraine.

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

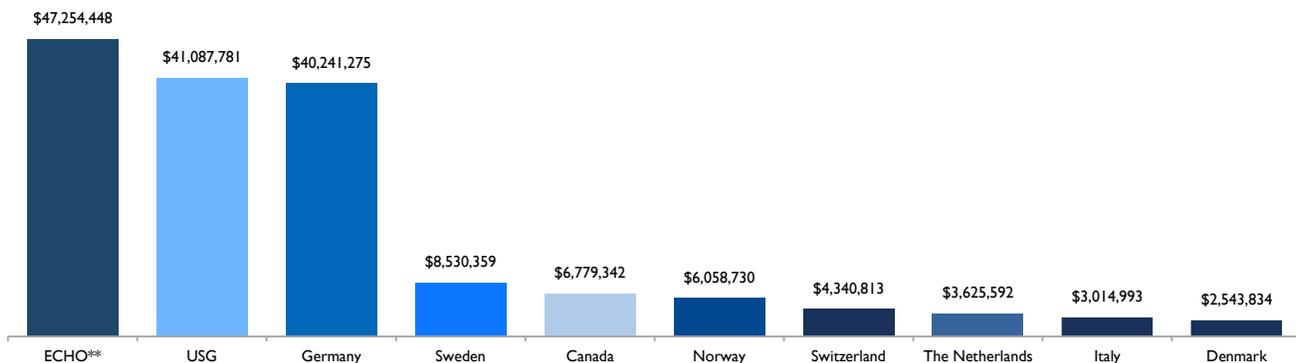
- From January–March, conflict damaged nearly 160 civilian shelters, a nearly 50 percent increase from the number of shelters damaged during the same period in 2018, the UN reports. Nearly 75 percent of incidents resulting in damage to civilian shelters in early 2019 occurred in Donetsk, in line with 2018 trends, according to the Shelter Cluster.
- With USAID/OFDA support, an NGO provided shelter assistance to conflict-affected populations in GCA, including emergency shelter repairs to 200 conflict-damaged houses. The repairs included emergency window installation during winter months to improve heat preservation and limit household use of electricity and heating fuel. USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$478,000 to support shelter assistance for vulnerable populations in conflict-affected area of Ukraine since October 2017.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On June 7, the Government of Germany announced the allocation of nearly \$5.6 million to support NGO Worker’s Samaritan Federation (ASB) to continue food and WASH assistance to conflict-affected populations in GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk from 2019–2021, international media report. The new funds bring the total amount of German funding to ASB for activities in Ukraine to more than \$12.3 million.
- In late May, the Government of Switzerland provided 2,500 metric tons of emergency relief commodities to Ukraine totaling more than \$2.7 million, international media report. The distribution included medical equipment for nine hospitals across GCA and NGCA, as well as water treatment supplies to support the Voda Donbas water treatment plant—which supplies an estimated 4 million people in GCA and NGCA with safe drinking water—for 12 months.

2018–2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of June 24, 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 2018 and 2019 calendar year, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2017, and October 1, 2018, respectively.

**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 2018-2019

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Chernihiv, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Khmel'nyts'kyy, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Luhansk, Poltava, Sumy, Vinnytsya, and Zaporizhzhya <i>oblasts</i>	\$7,554,596
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$700,000
The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	HCIM, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
	Program Support		\$106,998
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$9,861,594
USAID/FFP			
Norwegian Refugee Council	Cash Transfers, Food Assistance	Donetsk and Luhansk	\$1,326,187
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$1,326,187
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$20,000,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Cash Assistance, Health, Livelihoods, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$5,900,000
UNICEF	Protection	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$29,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2018-2019			\$41,087,781

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding figures reflect funding as of June 24, 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 or +1.202.661.7710.
- 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>