

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

800,000

IDPs in Ukraine
UN – November 2015

1.1 million

People Displaced to
Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – October 2015

3.1 million

People in Need of
Humanitarian Assistance
UN – November 2015

9,144

Documented Deaths Resulting
from the Conflict
UN – February 2016

20,928

Documented Injuries Resulting
from the Conflict
UN – February 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- OSCE monitors report increased ceasefire violations in eastern Ukraine
- The GoU closes the Zaitseve checkpoint due to intensifying hostilities in the area
- UN confirms severe threat of UXO to civilians

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
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE FOR THE UKRAINE
RESPONSE IN FY 2015

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Despite a declared ceasefire and ongoing peace negotiations, as of mid-February fighting near the contact line that separates government-controlled areas (GCAs) from non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) is at its heaviest since September 2015, according to U.S. Government (USG) partners and the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe). The OSCE recently placed additional international monitors in eastern Ukraine to strengthen conflict-monitoring activities. By identifying areas near the contact line that are experiencing fewer clashes, the OSCE has also facilitated water infrastructure repairs in GCAs of Luhansk *Oblast* and NGCAs of Donetsk *Oblast*.
- The Government of Ukraine (GoU) closed the Zaitseve checkpoint in Donetsk on February 3 in response to increased clashes between GoU forces and separatists in the vicinity of the crossing, according to the UN. The UN reports that the closure exacerbates already poor humanitarian conditions, 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 has called on all parties to the conflict to allow the safe and unhindered passage of civilians through designated corridors.
- On February 10, a vehicle traveling near Donetsk's Marinka checkpoint struck a landmine, killing the driver and at least two bystanders, according to the OSCE and USG partners. In response to unexploded ordnance (UXO)- and landmine-related casualties, a UN team led by the UN Mine Action Service recently assessed the impact of UXO on civilians and the status of ongoing mine risk reduction activities in eastern Ukraine. The mission detailed the significant hazard posed by UXO and the limited reach of ongoing humanitarian mine-action activities and recommended interventions, including increased mine risk education.

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

- The OSCE—which monitors the conflict and conditions for conducting humanitarian assistance in eastern Ukraine—has reported a marked uptick in ceasefire violations, despite the ceasefire’s renewal in late December and ongoing peace negotiations in Minsk, Belarus. USG partners report that fighting near the contact line, particularly in Donetsk, is heavier than at any time since September 2015. Clashes have shifted from the vicinity of the airport in the city of Donetsk northward to the city of Horlivka, Donetsk, resulting in an undetermined number of civilian casualties, according to the OSCE. To strengthen monitoring efforts, the OSCE recently increased its monitoring capacity, placing nearly 700 international monitors in areas near the contact line where the majority of ceasefire violations have occurred. By identifying areas experiencing fewer clashes, increased OSCE monitoring has facilitated safe humanitarian access to repair damaged water and electrical infrastructure in conflict-affected areas.
- Between mid-December 2015 and January 29, the Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—facilitated six convoys transporting nearly 1,300 metric tons (MT) of humanitarian relief commodities to NGCAs of eastern Ukraine. Transported commodities included nearly 400 MT of shelter materials to NGCAs of Luhansk and more than 750 MT of food assistance, medical supplies, shelter materials, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) items to NGCAs of Donetsk and Luhansk. The cluster reported that winter weather in Ukraine has resulted in difficult road conditions, which the cluster expects to continue through March.
- On February 3, the GoU closed Donetsk’s Zaitseve checkpoint, located approximately 20 miles north of Donetsk city, citing a recent increase in clashes in the area. Since the checkpoint closure, residents of the area report that intensified shelling is now occurring both during the day and at night, according to international media. As a result of the closure, traffic congestion at other checkpoints has significantly increased, according to USG partners. For example, vehicles are often lined up for nearly two miles on either side of Donetsk’s Marinka checkpoint—which the GoU temporarily closed from February 13–14, following increased hostilities. The UN expressed concern regarding the humanitarian impact of closing the Zaitseve checkpoint, as civilians could become trapped in areas experiencing clashes, and has called for the safe and unhindered passage of civilians across the contact line. The UN noted that Ukrainians attempting to cross the contact line from NGCAs to GCAs are mostly older or otherwise vulnerable persons seeking to access medical services, markets, and financial resources in GCAs. Citing international humanitarian law, the UN has indicated that all parties to the conflict are obligated to provide alternative options for safe passage, particularly in areas experiencing increased clashes.
- A February 10 incident near the Marinka checkpoint underscored the threat that UXO pose for civilians. During the incident, a vehicle traveling near the Marinka checkpoint in Donetsk NGCA struck a landmine, killing the driver and at least two bystanders and injuring at least two other civilians, according to the OSCE. The driver was reportedly driving through a field adjacent to a main road to avoid the line of vehicles waiting to cross into Donetsk GCA. Civilian casualties resulting from UXO and landmines have continued in recent months, particularly along the contact line, according to the UN. Although the number of civilian casualties per month has declined since September 2015, UXO and landmines caused up to 80 percent of civilian casualties between September and December 2015.
- In response to the civilian impact of UXO and landmines, an interagency UN team led by the UN Mine Action Service—mandated to coordinate humanitarian mine-action activities—conducted a needs assessment in eastern Ukraine from January 23–February 5. The mission confirmed the severe threat that UXO pose for civilians and reaffirmed the need for improved coordination among relevant stakeholders to strengthen mine risk reduction activities, including the identification, demarcation, and clearance of contaminated areas. In support of mine risk reduction, USAID/OFDA partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reached nearly 280,000 children with life-saving mine-risk education activities in 2015.
- Limited access to conflict-affected areas has inhibited the implementation of mine-action activities, according to the Protection Cluster. The cluster has reported difficulties reaching agreement with the GoU and self-proclaimed authorities in NGCAs to allow humanitarian actors to conduct mine risk education and other mine-action activities. In addition, continued insecurity poses a risk for humanitarian staff implementing de-mining activities near the contact line.

- The occupation of schools by armed actors, as well as widespread damage caused by artillery has reduced attendance rates and education quality in Ukraine, according to Human Rights Watch (HRW). Between April 2014 and November 2015, fighting on both sides of the contact line damaged or destroyed nearly 1,000 schools, according to HRW. Approximately nine percent of children living along the contact line and in GCAs with high concentrations of internally displaced persons (IDPs) had not returned to school as of October 2015, raising concerns about the long-term effects of the conflict on education. HRW urged both the GoU and self-proclaimed authorities in NGCAs to cease military activity near schools and prohibit the use of schools by armed forces.
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FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- In December 2015, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided food assistance to approximately 120,000 people—80 percent of whom were located in NGCAs—the largest monthly distribution in Ukraine since November 2014. WFP plans to expand emergency food assistance operations to support more than 260,000 conflict-affected people per month in eastern Ukraine through June 2016, noting that severe winter weather has exacerbated food insecurity in eastern Ukraine, particularly among vulnerable people, including older people, people with disabilities, and those unable to leave NGCAs to access markets and financial systems in GCAs. In addition to these vulnerable groups, WFP plans to target IDPs and female-headed households with assistance. In GCAs, WFP provides cash- and voucher-based assistance in IDP-hosting communities where markets are functioning and the food supply is adequate. As of late January, however, WFP reported a \$36 million funding shortfall to extend assistance through June.
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HEALTH AND WASH

- In response to a polio outbreak in western Ukraine in September 2015, the GoU launched a vaccination campaign with support from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) to resume systematic childhood immunization, following two years of vaccine supply shortages. The GoU implemented the third round of the polio vaccination campaign between January 25 and February 5, targeting children ages 10 years and younger. The UN World Health Organization urged local authorities to ensure that children ages six years and younger who received two vaccine doses during previous rounds receive a third dose to boost immunity to the virus.
 - USAID/OFDA partner UNICEF supported the installation of seven sanitation units at the Marinka checkpoint to improve WASH conditions for people waiting in long queues to cross the contact line. As of early February, at least 7,000 people per day were traversing the Marinka checkpoint, according to UNICEF. Following the GoU's closure of the Zaitseve checkpoint, the agency expects the number of people using the Marinka checkpoint to increase significantly. People seeking to cross at Marinka and other checkpoints often have to wait overnight, forcing people to use nearby fields—which may be contaminated with UXO and landmines—as latrines. UNICEF plans to support the installation of sanitation facilities at other checkpoints, including at Pyshevyk checkpoint located approximately 20 miles north of Donetsk's Mariupol city.
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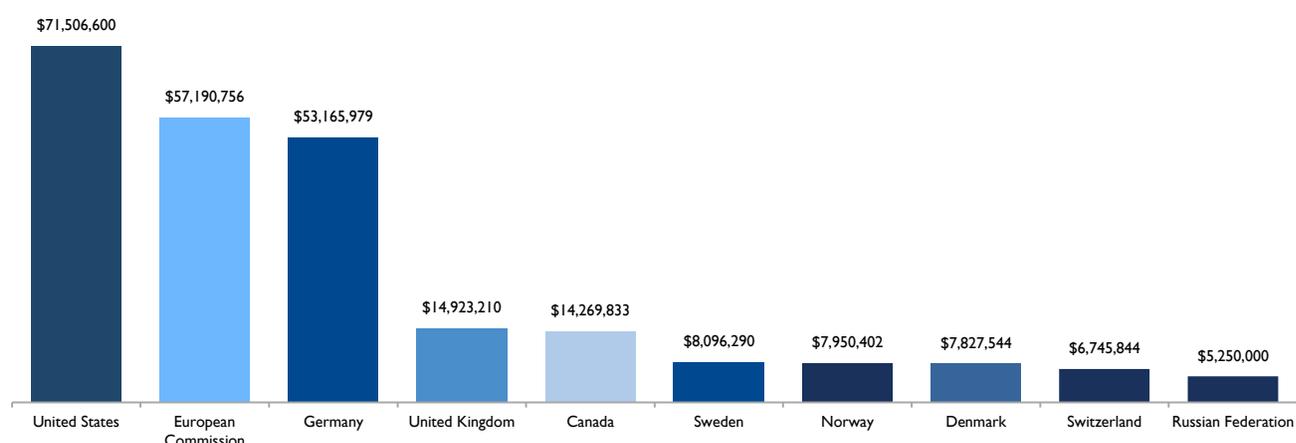
OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- To date, approximately 150,000 people from conflict-affected areas of Ukraine have fled to Belarus, according to the UN. The Belarus Red Cross (BRC) is providing humanitarian assistance to more than 4,000 refugee households—approximately 20,000 people—that meet acute vulnerability criteria. Of these 20,000 people, BRC reports that at least 5,000 severely vulnerable people, including pregnant women, older people with no source of income, and persons with disabilities who have inadequate access to health services, require continuous assistance. BRC is also operating a hotline that provides referrals for health services, psychosocial support, and vocational training for Ukrainian refugees seeking emergency assistance. With International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) support, BRC has developed an

electronic beneficiary registration database to improve the distribution of voucher-based assistance and monitoring and reporting systems. In November and December 2015, BRC distributed more than 6,200 food and household commodity vouchers to nearly 4,300 households, targeting pregnant and nursing women, people who are older or disabled, and households with three or more children younger than 18 years of age. BRC reports that access to medical services is the most acute unmet need among Ukrainian refugees.

- On February 8, the Government of Norway (GoN) announced approximately \$4.6 million in additional funding to humanitarian organizations to scale up winterization assistance to conflict-affected populations in Ukraine. The GoN has allocated approximately \$2.3 million to the Norwegian Refugee Council and plans to distribute the remaining funding among ICRC, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the de-mining NGO Halo Trust, and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

2015–2016 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



* Funding figures are as of February 17, 2016. All international figures are according to the UN 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 USG commitments from FY 2015 and FY 2016, 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 <i>oblasts</i>	\$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
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (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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¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

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

³USG 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>