

# UKRAINE – CONFLICT

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

JUNE 1, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**1.3 million**

Registered Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukraine

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – May 2015

**857,000**

Number of People Displaced to Neighboring Countries

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – May 2015

**5 million**

Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

Revised 2015 Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan – February 2015

**6,300**

Documented Number of Deaths Resulting from the Conflict

OCHA – May 2015

**15,800**

Documented Number of Injuries Resulting from the Conflict

OCHA – May 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased fighting in May displaces 64,000 additional Ukrainians
- The Parliament of the Government of Ukraine (GoU) adopts the first reading of a draft law to strengthen IDP rights
- The U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) provides \$18 million in additional humanitarian funding to support conflict-affected populations in Ukraine

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO UKRAINE IN FY 2014 & FY 2015

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$17,424,410
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$10,000,000
State/PRM	\$34,075,000

**\$61,499,410**

TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO THE UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Fighting between GoU and separatist forces intensified along the ceasefire line—the border between GoU-controlled territory and non-government controlled areas (NGCAs)—in May, according to the UN. Insecurity and bureaucratic challenges continue to limit both humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas and movement by civilians and relief personnel in and out of NGCAs.
- On May 19, the GoU Parliament adopted the first reading of a draft law to strengthen IDP rights and entitlements. If passed, the law will expand IDP status to stateless individuals—including ethnic Roma and stateless migrants—and foreign nationals with permanent residence in Ukraine. The law would also eliminate a requirement that IDPs register their current addresses with the GoU to receive benefits.
- In April, the UN activated the Logistics Cluster, the coordinating body for logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders. From April 28 to May 27, the Cluster transported 157 metric tons (MT) of emergency relief supplies—including medical supplies, clothing, hygiene kits, and construction materials—to relief actors operating in NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.
- On May 23, State/PRM announced \$18 million in additional assistance to provide emergency relief commodities—including food, hygiene and medical supplies, and construction materials—as well as critical health and protection services to conflict-affected populations in eastern Ukraine. With this new funding, U.S. humanitarian assistance since the beginning of the crisis in Ukraine totals more than \$61 million, including more than \$49 million in FY 2015.

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

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

## **INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- UN and media sources continue to report intense clashes along the ceasefire line in both Donetsk and Luhansk. From May 8–12, heavy shelling near the city of Kurakhove closed the primary cargo route to NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk, restricting civilian and humanitarian movement in the region. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe reported that on April 26, Donetsk's city of Shyrokyne experienced its most intense shelling since February, resulting in 13 deaths and injuries to 83 people. Since April 2014, the UN has documented more than 6,300 deaths and almost 15,800 individuals wounded by conflict in Ukraine.
- Landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination in the NGCAs and eastern Ukraine is increasingly severe, according to the UN. On May 14, a landmine blast killed a civilian near Marinka town, Donetsk, and explosions in April reportedly killed three children and wounded another. Since the conflict began in 2014, explosives have killed at least 42 children and injured 109 others in Donetsk and Luhansk. Although the GoU had cleared more than 34,000 explosives from eastern Ukraine as of late April, at least 30,000 mines and UXO are still present throughout Donetsk and Luhansk, primarily in GoU-controlled territory, the UN reports. To respond better to the risks posed by landmines and UXO, the Protection Cluster plans to establish a Mine Action sub-Cluster in the coming weeks.
- In early May, the Young Men's Christian Association conducted mine risk education for 8,500 people—including nearly 6,000 school-aged children—in NGCAs of Luhansk, the UN reports. Additionally, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Danish Demining Group are finalizing an assessment of mine risk awareness among households in Donetsk and Luhansk.

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## **DISPLACEMENT AND PROTECTION**

- As of May 21, the GoU had registered nearly 1.3 million IDPs in Ukraine, an increase of approximately 44,000 displaced people since early May, the UN reports. According to the GoU, the number of registered IDPs has almost doubled since the beginning of January. Nearly 893,000 IDPs—approximately 75 percent of the nearly 1.3 million IDPs in Ukraine—are located in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhya oblasts. The majority of IDPs are residing with host families or volunteers, but the UN reports increasing hosting fatigue in local communities and anticipates that IDPs may experience additional displacement as they seek longer-term housing. In addition, as of May 21, approximately 857,000 people had fled to neighboring countries, including 708,800 to Russia; this movement represents an increase of 20,000 people since early May, UNHCR reports.
- An April UNHCR participatory assessment of more than 1,200 conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine found that IDPs are often unable to make informed decisions about services due to a lack of clear information. Many IDPs do not understand their legal rights and social entitlements, eligibility criteria, and administrative procedures required for obtaining assistance, according to the assessment results. In addition, on May 1, the UN reported concerns that IDPs lack information regarding the GoU's April 24 resolution to extend state payments to IDPs by six months. Many IDPs, particularly in rural areas, are unaware of the extension and therefore may not receive payments—essential for subsidizing housing and utility fees—for which they are eligible.
- From May 20–21, USAID/OFDA advisors traveled to the city of Kharkiv and surrounding communities to observe response efforts for IDPs sheltering in the oblast. They reported that local civil society organizations are providing IDPs with significant legal and referral support, among other services. The organizations' drop-in centers offer IDPs information about employment opportunities, government benefits, housing, and registering children for school, as well as community-donated food, clothing, and toys. In addition, the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) advocacy team—a UNHCR implementing partner—educated IDPs in Kharkiv on GoU laws for compensation of lost and damaged property, registration processes, submitting pension requests, and appealing benefits termination. The R2P team also disseminated leaflets explaining bureaucratic requirements for IDPs to receive public services. Countrywide efforts to inform IDPs of available benefits and associated responsibilities remain limited, occurring intermittently at the local level.
- UNHCR continues to help the GoU Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) improve its online IDP registration database. The agency plans to collaborate with the MoSP's Data Processing and Information Center to develop a guide for IDPs

on how to use the system. UNHCR is also working to improve MoSP's disaggregation of demographic data, such as age, sex, and place of origin.

- Between April 30 and May 21, UNHCR provided emergency relief commodities to an estimated 6,600 people in both NGCAs and GoU-controlled areas of Ukraine. In recognition that the availability and detail of data is insufficient for humanitarian planning, the Shelter/Non-Food Item Cluster is supporting a REACH Initiative project to assess shelter and relief commodity needs among displaced populations throughout Ukraine. The assessment—planned for 2,800 individuals—will be the largest door-to-door survey of Ukraine's conflict-related humanitarian needs to date. In addition, a UNHCR implementing partner is conducting participatory assessments in eastern Ukraine to gauge IDPs' protection risks and gather input for proposed solutions.

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## FOOD SECURITY

- According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), violence and the presence of UXO in pasturing areas has resulted in increased livestock fodder prices in conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine, adversely affecting the livelihood opportunities of local households. In response, the UN agency plans to distribute fodder to vulnerable populations in Donetsk and Luhansk who have generally been outside the reach of humanitarian assistance. In recent weeks, FAO also distributed potato seeds, allowing approximately 1,000 vulnerable households in Donetsk's Artemovskiy, Konstantinovskiy, and Sloviansky *raions* and Luhansk's Belovodskiy, Kreminskiy, Novoaydarskiy, Novopskovskiy, and Papasnyanskiy *raions* to farm the seeds early in the planting season.
- According to the UN, food prices remain high in NGCAs, where fuel is scarce and access to markets in GoU-controlled areas is constrained. As of May 4, organizations belonging to the Food Security Cluster had distributed 7,390 food parcels to families in NGCAs, as well as 8,600 food vouchers to families in GoU-controlled areas, where IDPs sheltering both in camps and with host families remain vulnerable to food shortages.

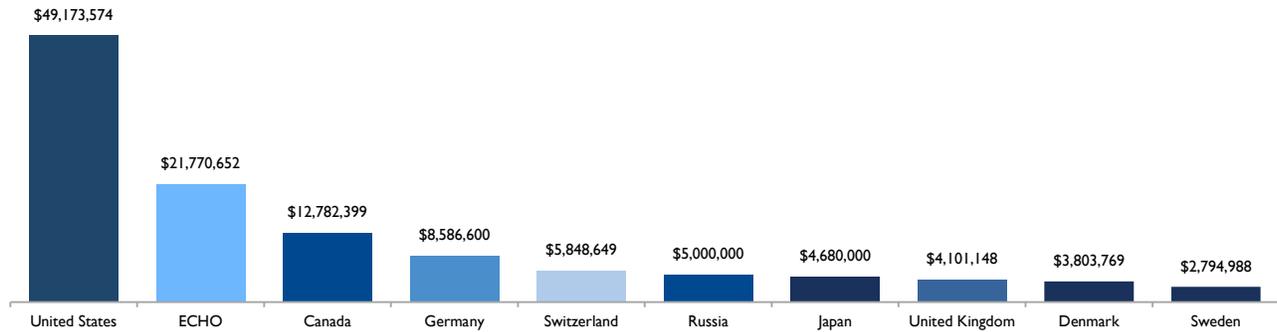
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## HEALTH AND WASH

- The UN reports that access to health care remains limited throughout conflict-affected areas in eastern Ukraine, particularly in NGCAs, which lack critical medicines and medical equipment. The recent increase in IDPs is also creating an additional burden on existing health facilities.
- Damage to water supply networks continues to affect communities in Donetsk and Luhansk. In response, the Government of Switzerland sent a convoy carrying 300 MT of water treatment supplies to eastern Ukraine on May 15 to provide safe drinking water to approximately 3.5 million people in Donetsk. In addition, two USAID/OFDA partners are collaborating to improve household access to water in Luhansk by helping to operate trucks that deliver well water to residents, ensuring continued water supply during the week. To date, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) Cluster members have also delivered hygiene kits to almost 66,000 IDPs, primarily in Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Luhansk.

## 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of June 1, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect commitments based on FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014.

### CONTEXT

- Since March 2014, conflict between the GoU military and separatists has escalated in eastern Ukraine, causing large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost oblasts bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts; however, the large influx of IDPs has negatively affected neighboring oblasts.
- As of April 2015, the UN estimated that the conflict had displaced nearly 2 million people. In total, as many as 5.1 million people remained in conflict-affected oblasts of eastern Ukraine, where the volatile security environment has impeded access by humanitarian actors.
- On October 29, 2014, 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.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE PROVIDED IN FY 2015<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$700,000
Implementing Partners	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH		\$9,999,324
	Program Support		\$74,250
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$10,773,574</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Locally Procured Food Assistance and Food Vouchers	Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts	\$10,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$10,000,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$14,000,000
International Organization for Migration (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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$28,400,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2015</b>			<b>\$49,173,574</b>

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE PROVIDED IN FY 2014**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
OCHA	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$271,536
Implementing Partners	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Eastern Ukraine, Kiev	\$6,250,000
	Program Support		\$129,300
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$6,650,836</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ICRC	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,300,000
IOM	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$405,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$120,000
UNHCR	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,850,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$5,675,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$12,325,836</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2014 AND FY 2015</b>			<b>\$61,499,410</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> Funding represents funding amounts as of June 1, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

## **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](http://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:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://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>