Ukraine
Humanitarian Situation Report # 46

1 – 31 May 2016

**228,049** # of registered IDP children

**1,783,696** # of registered IDPs

(Ministry of Social Policy, 19 May 2016)

**3.7 million** approx. # of affected people

(Humanitarian Action for Children 2016)

**580,000** approx. # of affected children

(Humanitarian Action for Children 2016)

**36** civilian casualties in May 2016

**9** child casualties in May 2016

**3** civilian deaths in May 2016

(OHCHR, 31 May 2016)

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### Highlights

- UNICEF assessment of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) needs and humanitarian situation at six entry and exit checkpoints along the contact line highlighted the severe difficulties and potential danger people are facing when trying to cross between government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas.

- Successful deployment of rapid response mechanism ensured continued provision of water to the inhabitants of three localities in Donetsk region or oblast, following a disruption in the water supply.

- UNICEF and its partners have completed the renovation of 27 schools in government-controlled areas in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, benefiting around 10,000 children.

- On 16 May, UNICEF and the European Union launched the #EmergencyLessons campaign, aimed at highlighting the importance of education for children affected by emergencies.

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**Funding gap level, 6 June 2016**

![Funding gap chart]
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The humanitarian situation for civilians in eastern Ukraine remained difficult during May. Ceasefire violations continued and there has still been no resolution to the issue of access for humanitarian organizations, including UN agencies, to non-government controlled areas (NGCAs). In Donetsk oblast, UN agencies, including UNICEF, continued to provide limited assistance through their partners, far below what the operational capacities would be if allowed to operate openly. In Luhansk NGCA, humanitarian assistance is restricted, and a response from the de-facto authorities to the recent submission of documents by UN agencies, including UNICEF, is still pending.

The majority of civilian casualties during May were related to incidents involving explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices. Overall, 36 civilians received conflict-related injuries (nine of them children) and three men were killed.

UNICEF conducted a follow-up visit to assess the situation at entry & exit checkpoints on the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Whilst the main objective was to assess the existing WASH needs, a broader assessment of the overall humanitarian situation and freedom of movement was carried out. It was apparent that the security of those wishing to cross could not be guaranteed, despite the checkpoints having been mutually agreed to by the conflicting parties. People wishing to cross from one side to the other face high risks due to security, inappropriate behaviour by military personnel, and inadequate or non-existent sanitation, water and medical facilities. According to the UN OCHA, an average of 25,000 people cross the contact line every day.

Humanitarian needs in the area of health remain high, especially along the contact line and in the NGCAs. Limitations in access to treatment for tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS as well as immunization continues to be of concern. Given the increased risk of a TB and HIV/AIDS epidemic, access to prevention, diagnostics and treatment for TB and HIV/AIDS is essential. In the absence of anti-retroviral drugs, approximately 8,000 HIV-positive patients in the NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts are at risk of interruption in their anti-retroviral drugs treatment by the end of the year.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

All Clusters continued their cluster performance monitoring activities. This exercise is scheduled for completion by the end of June and should provide specific recommendations towards the transition plan. The Education Cluster held its first Strategic Advisory Group meeting on 31 May to discuss its draft transition plan. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) at national and oblast levels, Save the Children, and local NGOs. They agreed to move coordination of education in emergencies-related activities to regional level, and indicated that the responsibility for coordination could be shared between local departments of education and NGOs.

On 17 May, UNICEF chaired a round table on access to safe drinking water in the conflict-affected area of Donetsk oblast, in which the chairpersons of the humanitarian and economic working groups of the Trilateral Contact Group in Minsk, as well as several representatives of key donor countries, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) participated. UNICEF presented a suggested 5-step plan, which aims to establish a roadmap for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the water-provision system in government and non-government controlled parts of Donetsk oblast. Participants acknowledged the positive effect
this initiative could have towards stabilizing the social, political and security environment in eastern Ukraine. It was agreed to table a suggested way forward at the next meeting of the Trilateral Contact group in Minsk.

The Clusters are contributing on behalf of partners to the multi-sectoral Inter-Agency/Inter-Cluster vulnerability assessment. This assessment aims to gather evidence on, and better understand the vulnerabilities and needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and conflict-affected communities in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. This information will help improve the prioritization of humanitarian aid and development of early recovery programmes.

The Child Protection Sub-cluster organized a conference on ‘lessons learned’ with speakers invited from Georgia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, to discuss their experience in relation to issues of sexual violence, exploitation and abuse of women and children in the conflict zone in Ukraine. The conference was organized in cooperation with the Swedish Embassy and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, and attended by approximately 130 participants, including government ministers. discussions during the conference focused on violence by armed groups, exploitation of young girls for goods and services as well as the impact of demobilised soldiers on their families and communities.

Summary of Programme Response

2016 PROGRAMME TARGETS AND RESULTS
Results as of 6 June 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cluster 2016 Target</th>
<th>Cluster Total Results</th>
<th>UNICEF 2016 Target</th>
<th>UNICEF Total Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUTRITION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pregnant or lactating women reached with infant and young child feeding counselling</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of children who received regular immunization through the enhancement of cold chain and vaccine distribution systems</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of health professionals who gained increased knowledge and capacity for the implementation of public health campaigns</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,165</td>
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<tr>
<td>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of conflict-affected people who gained access to safe drinking water</td>
<td>1,700,000</td>
<td>1,740,932</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,520,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people with access to hygiene supplies</td>
<td>412,500</td>
<td>257,365</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>253,421</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHILD PROTECTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of affected children, youth and caregivers provided with psychosocial support</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>103,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>70,212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of children and their families who received MRE</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>237,916</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children who benefitted from rehabilitated education infrastructure, life skills training and educational supplies</td>
<td>187,200</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>19,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV AND AIDS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pregnant women and children provided with tests for early diagnostic of HIV to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*TBC = to be confirmed.
Health and Nutrition

The state-agency Ukravakcina has successfully collected all unused doses of oral polio vaccines from each of the 24,000 immunization points in the country for safe and controlled disposal by incineration in Kiev. This was done under the Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan 2013-2018, which recommends all countries to switch the type of oral vaccine used in routine polio immunization from trivalent OPV (tOPV) to bivalent OPV (bOPV). Routine polio vaccination will continue with inactivated, injectable polio vaccines that are already available in the field and UNICEF will bring bivalent oral vaccines into the country as soon as its registration is completed by the national regulatory authority. The European Regional Polio Certification Committee continued to classify Ukraine as a high-risk country in its May 2016 meeting, with recommendations to rapidly increase routine immunization coverage with polio vaccines.

The first shipment of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine has also arrived and will be followed by other vaccines in the routine immunization schedule as requested by the MoH. UNICEF and the World Health Organization have reviewed the plans for routine immunization in Ukraine and are continuing to train oblast-level health managers on accelerated routine immunization and polio surveillance. The routine immunization plans include instructions on catch-up vaccination of previously unimmunized populations and introduce changes into the immunization calendar to replace vaccines that are short in supply at global market with alternatives.

Following a joint inter-agency exploratory mission which took place in April, UNICEF and its procurement partners developed detailed recommendations for the reform of the health procurement system in Ukraine. These recommendations cover a number of areas, ranging from providing stronger political support to the reform of procurement, a new role for the business sector and international community, decentralisation of the procurement and logistics system, as well as communication, monitoring and reporting. The joint mission also recommended that the national agency for drugs registration should urgently revise procedures for the importation of drugs in order to align them with international standards, as this would enable the national pharmaceutical industry to enter into global markets. Implementation of the above recommendations should result in an uninterrupted supply of quality products and more effective and more affordable immunization and treatment services.

UNICEF, together with its Nutrition Cluster partners and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the US, continued to promote safe breastfeeding, by holding a two-day training of trainers during May on breastfeeding and infant feeding practices in Sloviansk (Donetsk oblast). Nine doctors (from district hospitals and heads of polyclinics), 11 nurses and two medical assistants attended the training, which included lactation management and breastfeeding, as well as infant feeding counselling. Capacity building of primary health care professionals in mother and child health also continued, with promotional activities (including eight seminars) together with the NGO Promir in Sloviansk and Dobropillya district or raions, Donetsk oblast. Medical institutions in these raions received literature related to breastfeeding in emergencies, as did UNICEF’s partner organizations Rinat Akhmetov Foundation, People in Need, Premiere Urgence and Polish Centre for International Aid for distribution to breastfeeding mothers.

The forth shipment of anti-retroviral drugs and diagnostics for monitoring and treatment of HIV infection was delivered to Donetsk. In the same month the monitoring visit of international consultant took place to Donetsk. The visit confirmed good utilization of HIV commodities that were delivered to Donetsk, with high satisfaction rates by healthcare workers and patients.
WASH
The distribution of hygiene kits, procured with funds provided by the Government of Germany as well as in the form of an ‘in-kind’ donation from Procter and Gamble, continued throughout the month. Approximately 5,000 kits were delivered throughout Donetsk oblast by UNICEF’s partners ADRA and the Foundation for Community Development. This distribution reached more than 10,000 people with critical hygiene materials such as soap, nappies and sanitary pads, and was complemented by ongoing hygiene education activities with colouring book, copybooks, handwashing posters and calendars to children in 330 families.

A special effort was made to deliver hygiene materials to hospitals, schools, kindergartens, recreation centres and foster homes in conflict-affected areas. Institutional hygiene kits and an in-kind donation of 15 tons of washing powder were distributed, reaching more than 20,000 children.

The rapid response mechanism set up as a part of the German-assisted project was tested this month, as there were temporary disruptions of water supply in three small towns in Donetsk Oblast. With UNICEF’s support, ADRA was able to rapidly deliver 1,100 six-litre bottles of drinking water to these villages, enabling at least 500 people to have continued access to safe drinking water.

An assessment of the water and sanitation situation at checkpoints on the contact line gave UNICEF a very solid understanding of the WASH situation and this information will be used to design an improved programme at the checkpoints in the future.

The provision of life saving chemicals to water treatment plants continued in May, ensuring that 1.4 million people on both sides of the contact line had access to safe water.

Child Protection
Responding to the impact of the conflict on children’s psychosocial well-being, UNICEF Ukraine’s activities are focused both on rebuilding the protective environment around children and strengthening children’s resilience. This is achieved by providing psychosocial support to children and their caregivers in child-friendly spaces offered by Community Protection Centres (CPCs) and mobile teams linked to these centres.

During the reporting period, a total of 10,162 children and caregivers received psychosocial support at 13 CPCs, two branches in Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts, and mobile teams conducting their activities mostly in government-controlled areas of Donetsk oblast, in close proximity to the contact line. An additional 283 youth and 35 caregivers benefited from psychosocial support through the network of youth centres in Donetsk, Horlivka and Snizhne, as well as two mobile outreach teams in Horlivka.

UNICEF continued its support for the Centre for Specialized Psychological and Psychotherapeutic Assistance in Sloviansk, Donetsk oblast, which is run by the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (KMA). In May 2016, the centre provided five family counselling meetings and 34 individual counselling sessions to six parents and 17 severely affected children. The academy also conducted 32 training sessions for teachers and school psychologists, with 654 participants (614 teachers, and 40 psychologists), in five oblasts in eastern Ukraine. UNICEF supplied the KMA with 4,500 copies each of two books on subjects relating to helping children deal with stress.

The NGO ‘Terre des Hommes’ completed a series of two-day trainings on Child Protection Minimal Standards (CPMS) for 22 child protection specialists in government-controlled areas of Donetsk oblast. The trainings had 65 participants from local schools, CPCs and mobile teams.

Education
In government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, the renovation of 27 schools was completed. In addition, some 200 furniture kits were delivered to 44 education facilities. These kits contain all necessary furniture for a class of up to 30 learners (chairs, desks, blackboards and cupboards). UNICEF initiated the costing assessment of some 238 kindergartens and associated facilities, which it had previously selected, together with the education departments of Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, and Donetsk and Luhansk government-controlled areas. UNICEF will support the creation of some 7,500 new kindergarten places, addressing the shortage of kindergarten spaces and strengthening the social infrastructure in areas where there are significant numbers of IDPs.
Together with the Open Policy Foundation, UNICEF initiated a project, which includes an information campaign for students and families in non-government-controlled areas about the modalities for passing the exams for 9th and 11th grades in government-controlled areas. Access to further educational opportunities following these classes is restricted if graduating from non-government controlled areas as the certificates issued by the de facto authorities are not recognized by the Ukrainian educational authorities or by other countries. The project will also provide opportunities for distance learning under the Ukrainian educational system for children in non-government controlled areas.

There was significant progress towards Ukraine signing the Safe School Declaration, following agreement between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on an intra-governmental consultation process regarding the issue. The Safe School Declaration is an inter-governmental political commitment pledging political commitment to support the protection of schools, students and teachers during armed conflict through the implementation of guidelines for protecting education facilities from military use during conflicts.

At the end of May 2016, UNICEF supported the printing and delivery to the Donetsk and Luhansk education departments of 200,000 comic books containing mine risk education messages for delivery through schools. Every schoolchild in Donetsk and Luhansk oblast will get a comic book to increase his/her knowledge about safe behaviour living in mine-contaminated area by the end of September 2016.

UNICEF delivered 720 individual educational kits for vulnerable IDP families in rural areas of Kharkiv oblast. This is intended to prevent school dropout rates among families lacking economic resources.

**External Communication**

On 4 May, UNICEF released a global media package on education in emergencies with the lead story about Goodwill Ambassador Orlando Bloom’s visit at the end of April to conflict-affected children in eastern Ukraine. The visit raised the profile of the need for education in conflict-affected areas, and was reported in over 200 media stories in national media. Information about the visit can be seen at: [http://www.unicef.org/media/media_91052.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_91052.html).

The issue of education in Emergencies gained attention again on 24 May, when international media website Buzzfeed.com, which has a monthly viewership of 137 million people, published a photo story about children (especially school children) affected by the conflict in Ukraine. The photo story developed by UNICEF was covered in social media and traditional media as well. The story can be viewed at: [https://www.buzzfeed.com/hayesbrown/these-pictures-show-the-toll-a-war-can-take-on-a-group-of-st?utm_term=.vrLbGJZrgR#.cbdG9VRYnN](https://www.buzzfeed.com/hayesbrown/these-pictures-show-the-toll-a-war-can-take-on-a-group-of-st?utm_term=.vrLbGJZrgR#.cbdG9VRYnN).
On 16 May, UNICEF and the European Union launched the #EmergencyLessons campaign, aimed at highlighting the importance of education for children affected by emergencies. The campaign started with a video developed by UNICEF entitled ‘My favourite school photo’, which was filmed in Krasnoarmiisk, Donetsk oblast, developed by UNICEF Ukraine. The video was shared on global UNICEF Facebook and Twitter accounts and has received more than 1.1 million views. Tom Hiddleston, UNICEF UK Ambassador, supported the campaign, and shared a video about his favourite school photo (the video received 767,000 views). UNICEF Ukraine engaged the services of Ukrainian celebrity Dmitry Shurov (from the band ‘PianoBoy’) and made a video with him for the campaign about the importance of education for internally displaced children in Ukraine. Overall, the campaign has received more than 50 mentions in national media, including some of the most widely read internet sites such as TSN.ua, 112.ua, Kp.ua as well as Radio Freedom (Voice of America). The video can be seen at: https://www.facebook.com/unicef/videos/10154057889544002/.

Funding and Planning

As part of the 2016 inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan, UNICEF is requesting US$54.3 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children in Ukraine in 2016. This includes an additional US$3.5 million to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV for 30,000 pregnant women and children in non-government controlled areas as well as ensuring continuity and scaling up of anti-retroviral treatment for people living with HIV. The total requirements will cover both immediate life-saving interventions, as well as more comprehensive rehabilitation of WASH and educational infrastructure, provision of supplies and sustained basic social services for all conflict-affected children in Ukraine. As of 31 March 2016, UNICEF has received US$8,427,596 against the total requirement. UNICEF is urgently appealing for additional funds to sustain the provision of critical humanitarian support to conflict-affected women and children. This includes critical interventions in the WASH, protection and education sectors, as well as supplies for the HIV and AIDS response, mine-risk awareness and education. Supplies of all vaccines are needed to scale up the routine immunization of children and to address the remaining polio risk in Ukraine.
### Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal 2016 for a period of 12 months)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>4,450,000</td>
<td>211,000</td>
<td>4,239,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>30,400,000</td>
<td>2,169,000</td>
<td>28,231,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>8,500,000</td>
<td>1,901,000</td>
<td>6,599,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>5,850,000</td>
<td>1,309,000</td>
<td>4,541,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster/sector coordination</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>534,000</td>
<td>66,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>54,300,000</td>
<td>6,124,000</td>
<td>48,176,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carry-forward to 2016</td>
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<td>18,806,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total funding available*</td>
<td></td>
<td>24,930,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>54,300,000</td>
<td>24,930,000</td>
<td>29,370,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total funding available includes total funds received against current appeal plus carry-forward

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For further information please contact:

**UNICEF Ukraine:** [http://www.unicef.org.ua](http://www.unicef.org.ua) **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine](http://www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine) **Twitter:** [@unicef_ua](http://twitter.com/unicef_ua)

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