Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Recurrent ceasefire violations continued to threaten the well-being of the more than 200,000 boys and girls living within 15km of each side of the contact line, many of whom continue to suffer the risk of exposure to gunfire and shelling, ongoing disruption of health, electricity and water services and related psycho-social stress. While UNICEF and the Government of Ukraine provide psychosocial support, the impact of ongoing hostilities on children, their caregivers and educators, remains a serious concern. Ceasefire violations also frequently damage critical water, sanitation, electrical and heating infrastructure, threatening access to safe drinking water challenging for 3.7 million people in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts as well as educational and health institutions.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

HEALTH & NUTRITION
UNICEF continues to support the emergency health response to conflict-affected populations. In January e-vouchers enabling access to essential medicines and treatment were provided to 148 individuals including pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under five residing along the contact line of Donetsk oblast, who were identified through a Health and WASH needs assessment conducted in 2017. UNICEF

1 The UNICEF target includes children and their families who received psychosocial support services, professionals trained in identifying and responding to key child protection issues and mine risk education (MRE), whereas the Cluster target does not include beneficiaries of MRE.
2 The UNICEF target includes boys and girls in conflict-affected areas accessing basic education and early childhood education and care, and boys, girls and educators received life-skills education and information on educational options.
supported the capacity of 225 healthcare workers in Luhansk Oblast through 12 trainings activities covering breastfeeding, immunization, and neonatal resuscitation. In order to ensure safe deliveries in Eastern Ukraine, 861 midwifery kits to cover 30,000 deliveries were procured and delivered by to 8 health facilities with maternity wards in Luhansk Oblast GCA and 15 health facilities with maternity wards in Donetsk Oblast GCA.

**WASH**

In January, UNICEF provided liquefied chlorine gas, sodium hypochlorite and activated carbon to 6 filter stations and 10 production departments of Voda Donbasu that serve the total population of 1,351,100 people. UNICEF conducted works on pipes replacement in Toretsk, a city located close to the line of contact which experiences regular interruptions in water supply. Over 1,500 children, women, disabled and other vulnerable individuals benefitted from distribution of hygiene kits in the towns and villages of Luhansk oblast located along the contact line in GCA and 807 schoolchildren enhanced their knowledge of hygiene practices through participation in the hygiene promotion sessions and distribution of informational materials in Luhansk oblast GCA.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

During the month of January, UNICEF continued to provide first aid psychosocial services to children and their caregivers residing along the line of contact in both Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. A total of 35 children participated in individual and group psychosocial support activities and 24 caregivers received individual support while 54 families continued to receive ongoing psychosocial assistance. Through 15 mobile teams, UNICEF continued to provide assistance to survivors of gender-based violence and to children affected by violence in Donetsk and Luhansk areas (GCA). In January, a total of 537 survivors of gender-based violence benefitted from psycho-social first aid and referral services. During the reporting period, UNICEF continued to conduct Mine Risk Education for school aged children, reaching 7,000 children in January.

**EDUCATION**

In January, 310 teachers from 121 schools in GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were trained on life skills education reaching at least 9,300 children. A needs assessment of educational facilities in Donetsk NGCA (0-5 km contact line) was conducted and 20 schools and kindergartens which were most-in-need of emergency repairs and educational supplies were identified. UNICEF also defined implementation modalities for the rehabilitation of 12 additional education facilities situated along the GCA segment of the contact line.

**HIV & AIDS**

To ensure uninterrupted Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) for HIV-positive people living in NGCAs of Donetsk and Lugansk regions, UNICEF continued to procure and distribute life-saving anti-retroviral medicines (ARVs) and commodities. Since January, 12,805 people received HIV-related services (10,112 persons living with HIV were supplied with ARV treatment and 2,693 pregnant women received HIV counselling and testing.

**Communication for Development (C4D)**

In January, UNICEF together with partners continued outreaching children with lifesaving information on MRE. Following the direct learning sessions conducted earlier, UNICEF has distributed 20,000 education posters on Mine Risk Education among schools in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. In addition, as part of the edutainment campaign, over 600,000 people viewed three animated videos promoting safe behaviour with mines/ explosive remnants of war (ERW) (https://goo.gl/TUu7ui).
Media & External Communication

In January UNICEF Ukraine issued a local press release on HAC for Ukraine in 2018, which received substantial media coverage in the media. To support the launch of the HAC, UNICEF produced a photo essay “Water under fire”, a blogpost “Ukraine’s Water Heroes” and social media video on children under attack all of which were disseminated through UNICEF global platforms.

Security

While in most places along the contact line, shelling remained relatively consistent throughout the month, several escalations in violence occurred on both sides of the contact line. The ongoing violence continues to damage key infrastructure along the contact line. Mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to threaten the safety of children and their families living throughout Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts. While areas closest to the contact line generally have the highest concentrations of mines and ERW, they can be frequently found in most areas that experienced armed-violence earlier in the conflict and now lie over 50km from the contact line. No child casualties were reported in the month of January.

Funding Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>13,619,000</td>
<td>13,619,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>3,200,000</td>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>3,050,000</td>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>1,130,000</td>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster/sector coordination</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>23,599,000</td>
<td>23,587,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td></td>
<td>23,599,000</td>
<td>23,587,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total-forward to 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,118,841</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Implications of under-funding

Children residing in conflict affected areas will have limited access to health, education, social and other services, including access to water.

UNICEF Ukraine Crisis: www.unicef.org.ua
UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine

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The number includes the estimated/projected number of beneficiaries (30,000) covered by the delivery of 861 midwifery kits that were distributed in January 2018, as it is difficult to estimate monthly beneficiaries.