Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The winter season continues to affect the situation of communities along the contact line between government and non-government controlled areas and increase the needs, such as shelter protection and winterization items, of the most vulnerable. Difficult conditions are also observed at crossing points, with civilians standing for long hours in freezing temperatures. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) reported that 4 elderly people died of natural causes in January while crossing the contact line, bringing the total to 12 since the onset of winter conditions in November. Recurrent ceasefire violations continued to threaten the well-being of the more than 400,000 boys and girls living within 20 km of each side of the contact line and in the non-government-controlled area, many of whom continue to experience the risk of exposure to gunfire and shelling, ongoing disruptions to health, electricity and water services and related psycho-social stress.

UNICEF’s Response with Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector/Cluster 2019</th>
<th>UNICEF 2019</th>
<th>Cumulative results (#)</th>
<th>Cluster Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health²</td>
<td>24,800</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>203428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>1,125,500</td>
<td>184,579</td>
<td>1,970,000</td>
<td>203428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>170,000</td>
<td>9,099</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>34,500</td>
<td>9,136</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV &amp; AIDS³</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of people in need: 3,000,000⁴ (2019 UNICEF HAC)
Number of children in need of humanitarian assistance: 500,000⁵ (2019 UNICEF HAC)

1 It is to be noted that the cluster targets cover NGCA and GCA beyond 20km, whereas UNICEF targets cover only NGCA and GCA (0-20 km).
2 UNICEF’s health response is framed on improving access to both preventative and curative health services in affected areas.
3 UNICEF target additionally covers the estimated 95% of pregnant women tested for HIV.
4 While the 2019 HRP estimates that 3.5 million people living in conflict-affected areas are in need, only 3 million people in need live in the 20-kilometre zone on both sides of the contact line and in non-government-controlled areas.
5 While the 2019 HRP estimates that 700,000 children living in conflict-affected areas are in need, only 500,000 children in need live in the 20-kilometre zone on both sides of the contact line and in non-government-controlled areas.
In close collaboration and partnership with civil society partners, UNICEF’s response focused on meeting urgent education, health, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene needs of children living on both sides of the line of contact.

In January, 90 educational (ECD) kits were distributed to 36 kindergartens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts benefiting overall 6,144 children. UNICEF continued to supply water treatment chemicals to Voda Donbasa Water Utility Company and to Popasna Vodokanal that serve the population on both sides of the contact line. The e-voucher system usage was extended through having been launched in Popasnyanskyi rayon, providing 8,710 individuals with personal and household hygiene supplies and 37 educational/health care facilities and social institutions serving the total of 11,983 individuals. Through active partnership with international and local organizations, UNICEF in Ukraine ensured the sustainable provision of protection services and psycho-social support to children and their caregivers residing in the conflict-affected communities close to the line of contact.

The mobile outreach system continued to enable access to critical services such as knowledge sharing on healthy life styles, rights of children and child protection risks and vulnerabilities; as well as participation in psycho-social individual and group activities to address stress and other mental health issues.

UNICEF strengthened the Communication for Development intervention relating to mines and Explosive remnants for war safety, focusing on building the capacities of adult trainers and young leaders on Mine Risk Education (MRE) through direct training sessions.

**Summary Analysis of Programme Response**

**HEALTH**

UNICEF ensured support to vulnerable families, in particular women and children under five, living along both sides of the contact line, through the e-voucher system for free-of-charge essential medicines. In January, 558 beneficiaries received e-vouchers, including 407 children under five, 116 pregnant and lactating women, and 35 adult trauma cases.

**WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)**

Within its ongoing support to ensuring access to safe drinking water, UNICEF continued to supply water treatment chemicals to 6 filter stations and 10 production departments of Voda Donbasa Water Utility Company and to Popasna Vodokanal that serves the population on both sides of the contact line. In January, e-vouchers were launched in Popasnyanskyi rayon, in Government Controlled Areas (GCA), providing 3,500 households or 8,710 individuals with personal and household hygiene supplies and 37 educational/health care facilities and social institutions serving the total of 11,983 individuals. The second wave of e-vouchers was launched in Novoaidarskyi, Stanichno-Luhanskyi, Bakhmutskyi, Kostiantynivskyi, Pokrovskyi, Nikolskyi and Volnovashskyi rayons (GCA), covering the needs of 2,376 children under five in baby products and 4,054 women in menstrual hygiene supplies. Both treatment chemicals and e-vouchers are contributing to strengthening recovery interventions. Rehabilitation works took place in 3 educational institutions (two schools and two kindergartens) in Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA), focusing on toilets, heating and water networks. Over 400 children will now be able to learn in a more conducive environment.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

Through active partnership with international and local organizations, UNICEF ensured sustainable provision of protective services and psycho-social support (PSS) to children and their caregivers residing in the conflict-affected communities close to the line of contact in GCA and NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk.
oblats. The following services were delivered through Community Protection Centers and through mobile outreach: 1,016 individuals (958 children, of which 497F/461M, and 58 adults) received knowledge on healthy life styles, rights of children, child protection risks and vulnerabilities; 1,792 individuals (1,578 children, of which 771F/814M, and 214 adults) participated in psycho-social individual and group activities (1,668 group/124 individuals) aimed to address stress and other mental health issues, such as anxiety, aggressiveness and fear; 201 individuals (111 children, of which 45F/66M, and 90 adults) benefited from comprehensive case management; 50 children from extremely vulnerable families (22F/28M) received assistance in the form of winter clothes and shoes.

Further, through mobile outreach, UNICEF ensured raising awareness and providing assistance to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and to children affected by violence in Donetsk and Luhansk areas (GCA). Mobile teams provided psycho-social first aid and referral services to 353 survivors of GBV and to 25 children affected by violence (8F/17M, 2 with disabilities). 649 people (381 children, 268 adults) participated in awareness-raising and prevention events held by the mobile teams.

During the month of January, 127 trained professionals continued to receive regular face-to-face and online supervision to strengthen the gained knowledge and to obtain support in dealing with more complex issues. 245 community professionals were trained in rendering psycho-social first aid and social support to families in difficult circumstances.

UNICEF, in partnership with the Danish Refugee Council-Danish Demining Group (DRC-DDG), progressed implementing the project to support mine victims. Since December 2018, 11 families with 12 child mine/explosive remnant of war (ERW) survivors (11M/1F, 5 with disabilities) have been assisted through case management activities. During the initial household assessment, it was determined that in the majority of cases, child survivors had needs in the following areas: psychological, ongoing medical (check-ups, surgery), rehabilitation and prosthesis support, as well as in need of basic items (clothes, proper living and studying conditions). The majority of families have a low-income level leading to an inability to meet the needs of child mine survivors – especially in hard-to-reach areas due to the additional burden of travel expenses to reach the required assistance. Finally, a total of 50 teachers and 40 children were reached through the training activities on inclusion and sensitization in the communities, where child mine survivors live and attend school.

In January, UNICEF strengthened the Communication for Development (C4D) intervention on mines and UXOs safety, focusing on building capacities of adult trainers and young leaders on Mine Risk Education (MRE) through direct training sessions. Within the joint project with DDG, 2,242 children were educated on mine safety rules by 42 peer-to-peer master trainers that were trained to conduct learning sessions on MRE for children in Luhans and Donetsk oblasts (GCA). In NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, 2,295 children were trained on MRE. In total, 4,579 children were trained on the subject.

**EDUCATION**

In January, UNICEF in partnership with the NGO, Friends Hands (Kramatorsk), distributed winter clothes to most-in-need families. A total of 201 children benefited from the distribution, which was made through Centers of psychosocial rehabilitation in Toretsk, Sloviansk, Dobropillia, Lyman, Velyka Novosilka (Donestk oblast, GCA) and Lysychansk (Luhansk oblast, GCA). In addition, UNICEF supported Friends Hands to distribute 90 ECD kits to 36 kindergartens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts benefitting 6,144 children in the framework of the project “Creating inclusive quality pre-school education environment in kindergartens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.”
Together with the NGO, Step-by-Step, UNICEF continued to build the capacity of kindergarten teachers and parents on developing social and emotional competencies in children for creating a quality and inclusive learning environment; 124 kindergarten teachers and administrators from 10 kindergartens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts took part in the training, reaching over 460 children. Over 60 parents increased their knowledge on parental skills and 207 teachers (161 from Donetsk oblast and 46 from Luhansk oblast) took an online life skills course thus benefiting 3,150 children. In addition, over 150 teachers, trained under the ECHO-funded project, started teaching life skills modules, reaching at least 2,700 children.

COMMUNICATION
Since December 2018, UNICEF continued to communicate the situation of children living in conflict affected eastern Ukraine by developing two photo essays for the UNICEF global and regional online platforms: “Schools under attack in conflict-torn eastern Ukraine” and Growing up in eastern Ukraine today – anything but normal. In January 2019, UNICEF in Ukraine supported the Humanitarian Action for Children launch with a localized press release focusing on humanitarian needs of children and families in Ukraine, as well as contributed to the Humanitarian Response Plan launch in Kyiv.

UNICEF continued to raise the visibility of children living along the contact line, through its social media platforms reaching over 115,000 people with daily updates.

SECURITY
Recurrent ceasefire violations continued to threaten the well-being of the population living close to the contact line and beyond. OSCE reported an increased in ceasefire violations for the month of January as compared to January 2017, as well as hardware being placed in or around residential areas. More concerning has been the increased attacks against water workers, observed during the past two months, putting the water supply for the whole Donbas region at stake. In January, three water workers were injured while clearing snow on the small road to the First Lift Pumping Station of the South Donbass Water Way, north of Kruta Balka village.

Funding
UNICEF’s 2019 humanitarian appeal requirement for Ukraine is US$21.1M of which, as of 31 January, $2,709,076M is available, for now only including the funds carried forward from the previous year. This addresses only 13% of the required resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received in current year</th>
<th>Carry-forward</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,830,000</td>
<td>596,315</td>
<td>1,233,685</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>13,267,799</td>
<td>429,826</td>
<td>12,837,973</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>2,420,000</td>
<td>1,044,714</td>
<td>1,375,286</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2,360,000</td>
<td>346,425</td>
<td>2,013,575</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>440,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>440,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster/sector coordination</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>291,797</td>
<td>308,203</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21,067,799</td>
<td>2,709,076</td>
<td>18,358,723</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

6 OSCE report 28.01.19
UNICEF Ukraine Crisis: www.unicef.org.ua
UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine

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