



UNICEF continues psycho-social outreach activities for IDP families with children. Nova Greblya, 2 June 2014. Copyright: UNICEF

Ukraine

Humanitarian Situation Report #11

13 June 2014



SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- *Credible reports on two children of 6 and 12 years old killed in Slavyansk, epicenter of the violent armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine.*
- *Hundreds of children in residential institutions in the conflict areas being relocated, many are children with disabilities.*
- *Up to fifty percent of children in Donetsk region witness violence and are suffering serious psychosocial problems according to a UNICEF rapid assessment.*
- *A serious decline in services in many areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts with water supplies impacted, social payments cut and health services disrupted.*
- *Reports of increasing numbers of people fleeing the conflict and the newly inaugurated President of Ukraine calls for safe corridors to allow people to leave conflict areas.*
- *UNICEF delivered additional 65 basic hygiene kits to IDP families and children in Kyiv oblast.*

# of children in Donetsk region ¹	662 245
# of children in Kharkiv region ²	416 442
# of children in Luhansk region ³	334 455
# of children in the Eastern regions ⁴	1 413 142
# of children in Crimea ⁵	344 263

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Situation Overview

At his inauguration this week, the newly elected President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko focused on ways to end the violence in Eastern Ukraine. He also reaffirmed the European choice of Ukrainians and expressed his readiness to sign a Free Trade Agreement with the European Union. In his official statement as of 10 June the President called for the establishment of safe corridors to facilitate the passage of civilians out of territories affected by violence. He instructed the government to take the lead in organizing the transport of persons and to take measures to ensure continued health care through mobile units and to provide the population with drinking water, food and medicines.

¹ The Donetsk region number of children aged 0-17. Source: Department of the Social protection of the Population, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine triangulated with UNHCR and Civic Sector data.

² The Kharkiv region number of children aged 0-17. Source: Department of the Social protection of the Population, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine triangulated with UNHCR and Civic Sector data

³ The Luhansk region number of children aged 0-17. Source: Department of the Social protection of the Population, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine triangulated with UNHCR and Civic Sector data

⁴ These are the Eastern regions covered: Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, regions bordering with Russia. Children 0-17.

⁵ Data as of 01 January 2013, State Statistics Committee of Ukraine, upon request of UNICEF Ukraine CO – attachment enclosed. In printed sources: State Statistics Committee of Ukraine publication “Protection of Children Deserving Special Attention of the Society” – p. 8.

Ministry of Health reports the temporary relocation of approximately 500 children from Lugansk oblast to the town of Sergeevka in the Odessa region. This is being confirmed by UNICEF Field Monitors. Two thirds of these children are reported to be children with disabilities from state institutions and boarding schools. Reports are also emerging from other regions about the arrival of children from other state care institutions. UNICEF is monitoring the situation in an effort to further substantiate these reports.

There are credible reports of large numbers of displaced individuals both inside Donetsk oblast, and leaving the region. However figures vary significantly and are difficult to obtain according to UNHCR. On 11th of June, Cabinet of Ministers approved a decree to establish a database of IDPs. UNICEF Field Monitors report that 167 IDPs from Donetsk region are currently accommodated in a summer camp east of Kharkiv. Local authorities are coordinating the response to their needs.

Donetsk authorities reported the death of two children, aged 6 and 12, in Slavyansk from shrapnel wounds on 8 and 10 June. The deaths of two children are officially confirmed by the forensic medical examination service in Slavyansk and Donetsk Oblast Health Care Department.

Humanitarian needs

Large parts of Donetsk and Lugansk Oblast remain inaccessible for independent monitoring of the situation. The assessment of the humanitarian situation is limited and contingent on the availability of reliable reports.

Results of the UNICEF qualitative assessment of the psychosocial wellbeing of children in Donetsk Oblast (sample size 200 children) are now available. The key findings are:

- Nearly every second child surveyed said they had experienced fear, anger, sadness, or problems with sleep over the last 2 months.
- About 40% of the surveyed children aged 7-12 and over 50% of surveyed children aged 13-18 have seen violent or aversive events in their towns and many said they experienced negative emotional reactions to witnessing such events.
- In Mariupol, where there had been violence in the weeks prior to the assessment, parents reported that children have been displaying increased anxiety, fear, sadness, loss of concentration and disturbed sleep recently.
- Caregivers are not equipped to discuss the situation with their children and to teach children to stay safe in case of military actions.

Access to drinking water in Donetsk oblast has been constrained. Piped water supply in Slavyansk has reportedly been disrupted since 4 June, due to damage to the system and the inability to repair it. Mobile water distribution is said to be available to a limited extent. Temporary limitations in water supply have also been reported from Druzhkovka, Kostyantynivka and in Donetsk oblast. On 7 June, separatist combatants took control of the strategic dam facility of the "Karlovskoye" water reserve in Donetsk oblast, upon which much of the population in the affected areas are dependent. Water constraints have meanwhile been reported from a variety of locations inside Donetsk region, which are not directly affected by the fighting.

Access to health services in Donetsk oblast is disrupted. Children's Hospital #1, the main hospital in Donetsk for inpatient care is currently closed due to security concerns. Donetsk Central City Hospital #18 is also closed until further notice. Last week, parts of the Central Donetsk Hospital "Kalinin" were taken over by separatist combatants to receive treatment for their wounded. Regular patients were reportedly evacuated.

National authorities have stopped social payments transfers to Sneahnor and Krasny Luch due to a large number of armed robberies.

Children in crisis areas in Donetsk and Lugansk regions were unable to pass the External Independent Assessments (EIA), which allows participating in university entrance examinations.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

Staff from five UN agencies including UNICEF participated in an OCHA-led one-day training for the planned joint humanitarian assessment in Donetsk and Lugansk. The assessment will examine various human security issues including safety, health, education, food security and livelihoods and access to water and sanitation.

UN agencies presented a joint funding proposal for the crisis response and preparedness measures on 11 June in a briefing to international donors in Kyiv. UNICEF's immediate funding requirement amount to 1.6 million USD for the

areas of Child Protection, Psycho-social, Education, Health and Water & Sanitation. UNICEF is a lead agency in Education and WASH cluster.

A fourth UNICEF field monitor for the Donetsk region has been recruited and joined the team of monitors already on the ground in Lviv, Kharkiv and Kherson.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

UNICEF continues to monitor the impact of the crisis on children in Ukraine.

UNICEF jointly with UNHCR conducted a monitoring trip to Vinnitsia to assess the conditions of IDPs that are currently resettled from the collective centre in Ladyzhin to new facilities in Nova Greblya. Conditions were found acceptable, although it was recommended that plans and timelines for the resettlement need to be better agreed between the IDP community and local government.

The monitoring mission also visited psycho-social outreach activities conducted by UNICEF partner “Dzerelo Nadiya”. With support from UNICEF, the NGO works with IDP children and women to reduce their stress levels. So far “Dzerelo Nadiya” have enrolled almost 100 children and approximately 40 women in their activities.

In June a new component was added, which envisages training for adolescent IDPs that have shown difficulties in individual or group sessions. The programme will consist of 6 training sessions that allow the adolescents to explore their own values and ways to support them to build their self-esteem and awareness and assist them in removing internal stresses and uncertainties.

Work will continue through end of August to provide group and individual psycho-social support to children and women. For children, the focus will shift towards catch-up education to ensure readiness for them to ensure readiness to return to school in September.

UNICEF launched a partnership with Caritas Ukraine that provides psychosocial assistance to displaced families with children, including education services and consultancy. Caritas workers in Ukraine use comprehensive and systemic approach to resolving psychosocial problems of the IDPs helping them to cope with challenges and integrate into the new communities. The cooperation with Caritas in Lviv focused on the provision of psychosocial support started on 3 June. The project is planned to serve 86 children and 62 caretakers.

Supply and Logistics

UNICEF has distributed 65 Hygiene Kits following new requests from IDP families located in Kyiv oblast on 30 May 2014 to assist 130 individuals.

Awaiting delivery next week, the following supplies are in the pipeline:

250 ECD kits – covering about 2,500 children

50 WASH Family kit – covering 50 families (300 adults and children)

500 Hygiene kits for adults – covering 1000 adults/adolescents

500 Hygiene kits for children – covering about 1000-1200 children

Next SitRep: 27 June 2014

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