UNICEF has dispatched its first consignment of humanitarian aid for children to Donetsk. Donetsk oblast, Svyatohorsk, 3 July 2014. Copyright:

**Highlights**

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine addressed the international community, including UNICEF in Ukraine, informing about a threat of attempts by separatists to transfer children from state residential care institutions from Ukraine to the Russian Federation.

- Following joint efforts of the local government and civil society, 33 children from a baby home in Donetsk region have been relocated from the ATO zone to Kharkiv.

- More than 800 children are left in state residential care institutions located in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

- The temporary ceasefire ended on 30 June 2014.

- On 6 July, Ukrainian Armed forces regained control over five key cities in Donetsk oblast: Slavyansk, Kramatorsk, Druzhkivka, Artemivsk, Konstantinovka.

- Ukrainian Government reports that the renovation of the infrastructure in the reclaimed cities of Donetsk oblast has started. By joint efforts of the government and civil society organizations the citizens are urgently provided with food supplies, personal hygiene products, and primary medical care provisions.

- The damage to the Donetsk oblast water supply system and electricity continues to be a serious issue for all citizens of Donetsk oblast.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th># of children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donetsk region¹</td>
<td>662 245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kharkiv region²</td>
<td>416 442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luhansk region³</td>
<td>334 455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern regions⁴</td>
<td>1 413 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimea⁵</td>
<td>344 263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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.

**Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs**

**Overview**

Following the trilateral consultations between Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the OSCE on handling the situation in the eastern oblasts of Ukraine, ten days of unilateral cease fire did not result in reconciliation and the conflict resumed on 30 June 2014.

The Ukrainian Army regained control of five cities in Donetsk oblast: Slavyansk, Kramatorsk, Druzhkivka, Artemivsk, Konstantinovka as of 6 July. Safety concerns for the local residents and specifically children remain due to unexploded ordinance, mines, barbed wires and arms left during the armed conflict. Mine clearance is currently conducted in Slavyansk by specialized groups of the Ukrainian State Emergency Service, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior and the Security Service of Ukraine.

The infrastructure, electricity and water supply is damaged substantively in Slavyansk and to various degrees in other reclaimed cities. The local authorities are working to repair the damage and are prepared to use water tankers for civilians and power supply generators for hospitals in Slavyansk until the problems are solved. Repair works are currently carried out at the railway stations of Slavyansk and Krasny Liman. Movement of all trains in and out of these locations had been suspended since 2 May.

According to the Government report, the National Treasury transferred the state budget allocations to Slavyansk and Kramatorsk to renew the social payments to beneficiaries in these cities.

The State Emergency Service has been tasked to coordinate among ministries and agencies to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid and reconstruction activities in the reclaimed cities and residential areas on behalf of the Government as well as to implement the support programmes for the IDPs relocated to other areas. The Government has launched an electronic database for IDPs from Donetsk and Luhansk regions, in which individuals can obtain information on available temporary accommodation and services in places of refuge. The State Emergency Service launched a single hotline *101* to ensure the coordinated response and referral for the IDPs.

As of 9 July, according to the State Emergency Services the total number of citizens of Ukraine who moved from the area of "ATO" is 36,545, including 13,517 children (official Government statistics as of 9 July). However, actual numbers of displaced persons are estimated to be much higher. UNHCR estimated the total number of IDPs within Ukraine around 60,000 since beginning of violence in Eastern Ukraine.

UNICEF has received a Note Verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, providing information on the situation of three orphanages in Donetsk oblast. According to the Ministry, there have been a series of attempts to prepare for the children's forced relocation to Russia by separatists. According to UNICEF field monitors the situation has calmed down in one of the orphanages (Amvrosiyivka), while for the other two the situation is difficult to verify because of safety concerns.

**Humanitarian needs**

The water supply system of the Donetsk region "Seversky Donets - Donbas" channel was discontinued following damage inflicted to a pumping station channel and the power supply due to military actions in the proximity of the station. Currently water supply is calculated for each locality separately, based on the volume of water in the backup reservoirs. Filtration units are insufficient to cover all needs of population to assess drinking water and water has been rationed.
According to the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution #208 of 25 June 2014, starting from 1 July 2014 the birth grant equates 41,280 UAH per child, irrespective whether this is the first, second or third child. The gradual increase of the grant amount with each child has been discontinued, which will have a negative impact on families with many children and may increase child poverty. Earlier, a UNICEF-supported research ‘Child Poverty and Disparities in Ukraine’ had established that the number of children in a family is a determining factor influencing incidence of poverty by living conditions and of monetary poverty.

33 children (0-4) from Kramatorsk ‘baby home’ were transferred to Kharkiv baby home #1. One remaining child in the Kramatorsk baby home was too sick to be transported and the child remains under monitoring of the doctors. UNICEF field monitor will make a monitoring visit to baby home #1.

Since the annexation of Crimea and beginning of fighting in the eastern Ukraine 102 patients arrived to Ukraine mainland and cities not affected by the conflict. Out of 102 persons, 41 are accommodated in Kyiv, 61 persons were reallocated to Dnipropetrovsk, Kryvyi Rih, Vinnitsa and Ivano-Frankivsk. In Crimea the Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) became impossible due to the ban introduced by the RF government, patients from the East (Slavyansk, Makeeva, Mariupol and Luhansk) moved from their cities because of the effect on the health services. Health facilities where they usually receive methadone have been closed down.

**Humanitarian leadership and coordination**

The first phase of a joint assessment of five UN agencies, including UNICEF, in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts has been completed. The joint assessment’s second phase is taking place in Donetsk and Luhansk through UN field monitors, including six UNICEF monitors.

The results of the assessment were analyzed and are now available on the UNICEF Ukraine website. Some of the key findings are:

- Areas around Donetsk city, Kostiantynivskyy raion and Slavyansk have serious issues with access to drinking water, ranging from significant to severe. When water supplies are periodically interrupted, there can be a build-up of silt deposits and other contaminants. These can cause the purity of water supplies to be questionable, causing sickness to occur.
- Personal hygiene problems are expected to escalate and significantly raise the risk of sickness and possible death because of the water shortages. This is further aggravated by the movement and close confinement of IDPs fleeing the conflict.
- 23 per cent of respondents felt the education services got worse since the conflict. 25 per cent of respondents in Donetsk oblast felt education was suffering significantly, with much higher percentages in Dzerzhynsk and Kramatorsk as well as Slavyansk. In Luhansk the average was slightly lower at 21 per cent, with Krasnodon, Krasnyi Lyman and Luhansk city reporting largest perceptions of deterioration.

UNICEF in collaboration with UNHCR/OCHA/WFP/UNDP/IOM held meetings in Kharkiv with the Ministry of Emergency departments. The purpose of the meetings was to define the roles of all stakeholders to ensure comprehensive and timely support to the IDPs.

UNICEF will lead a coordination meeting with the key civil society organizations and Government representatives in order to ensure effective coordination in addressing the issues which the displaced children will face at the start of the new school year.
Summary Analysis of Programme response

Monitoring

Through the network of its field monitors UNICEF continues to monitor the impact of the crisis on children in Ukraine.

UNICEF jointly with UNHCR, OCHA and UNDSS conducted a monitoring mission to Slaviansk to assess the infrastructure and living conditions, availability of services for people who remained during the seizure by the terrorists, and the possibility of IDPs who left the city to return to their homes. The team of experts are analyzing the obtained data and the findings will be available next week.

Assessment

Three UNICEF field monitors located in Luhansk oblast and three monitors located in Donetsk oblast took part in the first phase of the joint UN Assessment. They are all at present assisting the implementation of the second phase of the joint UN inter-agency Assessment.

UNICEF WASH Specialist has arrived to Ukraine to support programmatic response in the WASH sector and review the supply logistic arrangements for WASH supplies.

Response

Psychosocial support

In June a total of 1,383 people contacted UNICEF hotline with a total of 8,144 calls received since the beginning of its operation in January 2014. 93 per cent of those seeking psychosocial support were children.

478 people, of whom 245 children, have benefited from the psychosocial outreach programme in Lviv and Vinnytsia oblasts so far. Through group therapy and individual counseling 93 individual consultations were provided to adults and children. Children demonstrated signs of reduction in level of aggression, increased level of attention, reduced level of anxiety, stabilization of emotional status, and improved sleep and appetite. The first training on cognitive behavioral therapy by 20 psychologists/social workers from state and NGOs was carried out on 8-9 July in Lviv. Children have also increasingly expressed their desire to go to school. Next stage of the programme for children will be focused on preparation to schooling and catch up sessions, on improving self-awareness and communication skills.

UNICEF chaired the first regional NGO psychosocial coordination meeting in Kharkiv on 10 July 2014. This is the first step in establishing coherent provision of psychosocial services to IDP children in Kharkiv as this is where the majority of IDPs have moved.

Education

A number of key meetings were held with Ukrainian civil society representatives and UNICEF partners regarding the concrete solutions for the children who have been displaced and cannot return to their homes and schools.

With many schools left damaged or abandoned by the conflict, children will suffer most from damaged buildings, lack of teachers, little or no teaching aids once schools start on 1 September, but also from disrupted water and hygiene facilities. Children have lost valuable learning time and will inevitably suffer academically, in addition to trauma and psychological harm inflicted on them. The areas most affected by the conflict are reporting significant disruption whilst other areas report no change.

On 9 July an additional round of EPF funding for Ukraine to the amount of $300,000 was approved and released to CO for utilization.

Supply and Logistics
UNICEF distributed a total of 50 Hygiene Kits for Children, 20 Hygiene Kits for Adults and 10 ECD Kits to vulnerable families of displaced within Donetsk Oblast through government and non-governmental partners.

14 Hygiene Kits for Children, 12 Hygiene Kits for Adults and 4 ECD Kits were distributed to vulnerable displaced families through a non-government partner in Kirovograd.

**Next SitRep: 25 July 2014**

Who to contact for further information:

Yukie Mokuo, Representative, e-mail: ymokuo@unicef.org
Ruediger Luchmann, Deputy Representative, e-mail: rluchmann@unicef.org

UNICEF Ukraine
5 Klovsky Uzviz, 01021 Kyiv, Ukraine
Tel: (+ 380-44) 5210125, 254 2439
Web: www.unicef.org.ua. Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine, Twitter: @unicef_ua