UNICEF’s Response with Partners

Number of people in need: 3,000,000\(^1\) (2019 UNICEF HAC). Number of children in need of humanitarian assistance: 500,000\(^2\) (2019 UNICEF HAC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>UNICEF 2019</th>
<th>Sector/Cluster 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Cumulative Results (#)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>24,800</td>
<td>1,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash</td>
<td>1,125,500</td>
<td>1,603,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>170,000</td>
<td>68,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>34,500</td>
<td>23,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

During October, a new hope emerged with the full disengagement of forces and hardware in Zolote (Luhanska Oblast), a second location along the 450 km Line of Contact to see such a disengagement. This followed a decree by the President of Ukraine to agree to the so-called Steinmeier Formula, which foresees special status for the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts. However, the security situation in the region remained volatile and unstable. Due to increased security incidents, the Government announced Yellow Security Regime\(^3\) in the government-

\(^1\) Please note that the health cluster figure with * refers to “# of people benefiting from direct health services provision”, whereas UNICEF indicator reports on the # of mothers and children only.

\(^2\) 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.

\(^3\) This regime gives additional powers to the Ukraine’s Joint Forces Operation (JFO) military personnel and law enforcement officers to check individuals and cars at check points and conduct special search operations; it also allows the use of weapons and special means as necessary.
controlled areas (GCA), while the de-facto authorities have announced ‘high combat regime’ in the non-government-controlled areas (NGCA).

In October, the Education Cluster reported two incidents of an attack on education -- in which School # 4 in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (Luhanska NGCA) was twice hit by gunfire on October 3 and again on October 23, resulting in severe damage to the building. It noteworthy that the same school, in which at least 100 boys and girls are enrolled, has now been targeted 15 times since the start of this year. Elsewhere, there were reports of two incidents of education facilities being damaged in Donetska NGCA, one on October 6 which resulted in windows of kindergarten in Staromykhailivka sustaining damages, and the other on October 15, during which windows of a local school in Oleksandrivka were damaged. Fortunately, no child or teacher was injured. However, these attacks demonstrate the severity of the situation and continued attacks on education facilities. Since the beginning of the conflict in 2014 over 750 education facilities have been damaged and many more experienced disruptions to education.

The humanitarian situation on the crossing checkpoints and Line of Contact remains challenging, with elderly people forced to wait in long queues for hours on end. Local reports indicate that an elderly male civilian died at a checkpoint while crossing the Line of Contact. A security incident was reported, when a trip-wired IED explosion injured a female civilian wounded in the forestry area of Chasiv Yar (GCA) on October 31.

**Summary Analysis of Programme Response**

**HEALTH**

During the reporting period, as part of UNICEF programme for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS in Donetsk NGCA, 12 HIV positive children and 29 babies (under 18 months) born to HIV positive mothers, received medical services from multidisciplinary clinical teams. Continuous psychosocial support is being provided for 40 children with HIV and 16 children with HIV/TB to overcome stigma and anxiety, as well as to improve treatment adherence. Caregivers (40) for HIV positive children were also provided with regular psychosocial support services. Furthermore, 50 adolescents continued learning sessions and practiced peer-to-peer HIV prevention, providing HIV-related informational services for 1,292 of their peers in Donetsk schools. Trained adolescent mentors also provided psychosocial support to 30 young HIV positive children in a state facility. UNICEF has also been providing free-of-charge medicines through e-vouchers to HIV- and TB-affected children, as well as parents with HIV or TB in Donetsk NGCA. The initiative reached 73 HIV and TB affected children (38 girls and 35 boys), as well as seven parents with HIV/TB in October 2019.

The delivery of 110,000 doses of IPV vaccines to NGCA is completed and it is expected that around 40,000 children will receive IPV doses. The preparation for IPV immunization intervention intensified in October, and the delivery of cold chain equipment to support the immunization process is continuing.
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)
Within its ongoing support to ensuring access to safe drinking water, UNICEF continued to supply water treatment chemicals for six (6) filter stations and 10 production departments of Voda Donbasu – the main water supplier of the region. Also, UNICEF continued to support water trucking to two checkpoints in Mariinka and Pyshchevyk and a range of educational, health care and social institutions in Avdiivka, Mariinka, Krasnogorivka, Kalchyk and other settlements located along the Line of Contact with limited access to drinking water. Overall, 18,600 people crossing checkpoints and 5,520 people in the settlements benefitted from access to the drinking water. During the water cuts in Lysychansk, 2,448 bottles (6 litres each) were delivered to nine kindergartens to benefit 1,429 children and enable the educational institutions to stay open until the water supply was restored five days later.

UNICEF continued to promote good hygiene behavior through edutainment sessions on hygiene practices conducted for 4,268 children, aged 3-14 years, in the most remote schools and kindergartens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. UNICEF also continued the implementation of edutainment campaign on raising awareness about menstrual hygiene, which promotes respectful, comfortable behaviour among youngsters and aims to prevent possible stigma. According to a recent U-Report poll, Ukrainian youth want to get information on menstrual hygiene at school. As a result, UNICEF developed Teacher’s Guide, based on the UNICEF’s educational content from YouTube M-Channel, which targets adolescents aged 10-12 years and 13-18 years. The Guide includes a detailed plan of the lecture, questions to discuss, educational YouTube-videos featuring young influencers, recommended homework and Q&A. Moreover, a training-of-trainers session was organized on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl, to explain in detail to teachers how to conduct such lessons using edutainment approach. In total, 50 teachers from across the country attended the ToT session.

CHILD PROTECTION
In partnership with local organizations, UNICEF continued to provide protective services and psycho-social support to children and their caregivers living in the conflict-affected communities near the Line of Contact the NGCA of Luhansk oblast. Most notably, through the Community Protection Centers and via mobile outreach:

- 793 children (397F/396M) and 40 adults (37F/3M) received knowledge on healthy lifestyles, rights of children, tolerance, leadership and other child protection issues, risks and vulnerabilities;
- 185 individuals including 144 children (64F/80M) and 41 adults (40F/1M) participated in psycho-social group activities aimed to address stress and other mental health issues;
- 117 individuals including 71 children (33F/38M) and 46 adults continue to receive comprehensive case management;
- 80 parents and caregivers received knowledge on positive parenting;
- 96 community professionals gained knowledge on child protection risks and vulnerabilities.
During October, through mobile outreach, UNICEF also continued to raise awareness and support survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and children affected by violence in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (GCA). The mobile teams provided psycho-social support (PSS) first aid and referral services to 336 (302F/34M) GBV survivors and 49 children (30F/19M) affected by violence including 3 (1F/2M) with a disability and 154 individuals (74 F/80 M) who benefitted from tailored mitigation activities aimed to reduce violence.

UNICEF in partnership with Danish Refugee Council-Danish Deming Group (DRC-DDG) continued to implement a project to support mine victims, supporting a total of thirteen families and sixteen child mine/ERW survivors. Furthermore, a total of 15 teachers (14F/1M) participated in training sessions on inclusion and sensitization during the reporting period.

In October, 6,669 boys and girls in schools and kindergartens benefited from awareness-raising sessions on unexploded ordnance and safe behaviour mine-risk education (MRE) in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (GCA) with a focus on schools in 0-5 km zone of the Contact Line.

EDUCATION
UNICEF continued to work towards the creation of safe and child-friendly learning environments in Eastern Ukraine. On 8-10 October, together with the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) of Ukraine, UNICEF conducted the final national Safe School Conference and a round table to present the results of the Safe School modelling in 14 education facilities. The representatives from all 25 departments of education and science and in-service teacher training institutes discussed how the Safe School Modelling contributes to developing resilience and life-skills among children, teachers and parents, creating a protective and enabling environment in schools and developing amalgamated hromadas (local authorities). The Conference resulted in a resolution for the Ministry with recommendations on how to scale up the Safe School model and incorporate it to the teacher’s professional training.

Some of the most vulnerable boys and girls living in immediate proximity to the Contact Line and most impacted by poverty were provided with 170 sets of winter clothes. This intervention allows them to be better prepared for attending schools during harsh winter months when weather temperatures can fall below -20 degrees Celsius. 89 boys and 81 girls from cities of Toretsk and Avdiivka (Donetsk GCA), including 47 children with disabilities, benefitted from this activity.

UNICEF completed an assessment of education facilities in Luhansk GCA, which are in critical need of improvement of water supply and sanitation (WASH) infrastructure. Four schools are recommended for UNICEF’s intervention to be implemented in partnership with an NGO, selected through an open call. The selected schools are located within 0-10 km area along the Contact Line and are in severe need of renovation. These schools provide education to over 800 school-aged children.
In NGCA, rehabilitation of 15 education facilities (10 – Donetska, 5 - Luhanska) is ongoing. Schools with the most severe needs were selected for this intervention and the exact scope of works in each facility was agreed in a consultative process with the school management.

COMMUNICATION
On October 1, UNICEF together with DRC/DDG presented the first Mine Victim Assistance Needs report, calling for more support for child mine victims and offering recommendations on how to improve assistance to the families of child mine victims. To support the presentation and a local press release, the first story from the planned series of human stories on mine survivors was published on the regional website (Ukrainian boy who lost his hand in explosion powers through) with other stories scheduled for the upcoming Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) launch.

UNICEF continued to raise the visibility of children living along the Contact Line, through its social media platforms reaching over 130,000 people with daily updates.

SECURITY
Although October started with positive news of the presidential decree on endorsing the Steinmeier Formula by Ukraine’s new government and disengagement of forces in one village, the number of ceasefire violations remained high, as reported by both the UNDSS and recorded by the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM). These occurrences were reported during the OSCE SMM-facilitated ‘windows of silence’ as well, which created challenges for the maintenance, repair and operation of essential civilian infrastructure. It is however noteworthy that no ceasefire violations were recorded inside the disengagement areas.

Funding
UNICEF’s 2019 humanitarian appeal requirement for Ukraine is US$21,067,799. As of 31 October 2019, only $7,785,801 is available including the funds carried forward from the previous year and funds received in 2019. This reflects only 36% of the required resources. The underfunding situation of the HAC is putting at risk UNICEF interventions to address major humanitarian needs across all sectors, in areas along the Contact Line and NGCA. The increased number of incidents targeting civilian infrastructure, including schools, requires sustained attention for advocacy, as well as continuous funding. This upcoming winter season is putting further pressure on conflict affected populations given harsh temperatures dropping as low as -30 °C and heavy snowfall. Poorly insulated homes or institutions, including schools and health facilities, are often unable to cover utility costs and/or purchase coal or wood for heating. Movement during winter across the ‘contact line’ is impeded by reduced checkpoint operating hours, poor transportation services and a shortage of heated waiting areas, with those waiting exposed to the elements while others are unable to travel due to the extreme cold. In response to these additional challenges created by the harsh winter season, UNICEF is requesting additional funding to support the rehabilitation of heating and hot water system in institutions,
as well as the replacement of windows. Also UNICEF is also planning to distribute warm clothes to vulnerable families with children, especially those living along the contact line.

<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>Nutrition</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,830,000</td>
<td>688,742</td>
<td>1,141,258</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>13,267,799</td>
<td>1,997,005</td>
<td>10,700,005</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>2,420,000</td>
<td>798,228</td>
<td>484,689</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2,360,000</td>
<td>1,322,832</td>
<td>608,346</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and AIDS</td>
<td>440,000</td>
<td>64,925</td>
<td>375,075</td>
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<tr>
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<td>600,000</td>
<td>281,569</td>
<td>495,805</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,067,799</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,464,559</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,321,242</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,459,373</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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


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UNICEF Ukraine Crisis on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine](http://www.facebook.com/unicef.ukraine)

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