



IOM-MOM

Migration
for the Benefit of All

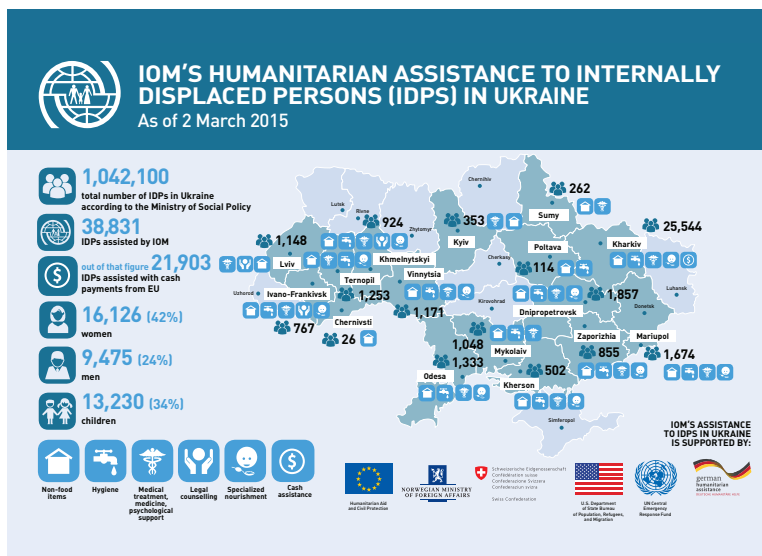
IOM'S ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Donbas (Eastern Ukraine) exceeded **1,042,000** as of 17 February, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted almost **39,000** vulnerable IDPs in 16 regions of Ukraine as of late February.
- Out of that figure, almost **22,000** IDPs or over **6,500** households received one-time cash assistance within an ECHO-funded project in Kharkiv Region, making IOM the biggest cash-assistance provider amongst all aid agencies.
- Aid agencies tripled the number of people targeted for assistance in 2015 from 900,000 to **3.2 million**.
- Over **6,000** killed and **14,740** wounded in Eastern Ukraine as of 2 March according to OHCHR and WHO.



Enlarged version of the map on [page 6](#)

IOM'S RESPONSE TO DATE

As the overall number of internally displaced persons in Ukraine has exceeded one million people according to the Ministry of Social Policy, IOM, supported by its donors, continues to provide urgently needed assistance to vulnerable IDPs, focusing on families with two and more children, single mothers and pregnant women, elderly people and persons with disabilities.

As of February 2015, IOM's humanitarian intervention has reached out to almost 39,000 people in 16 regions of Ukraine, hosting about 70% of the overall IDP population. 22,000 of them were receiving cash assistance in Kharkiv Region. Through this ECHO-funded initiative, implemented by IOM between December 2014 and February 2015, IDPs received one-time unconditional cash assistance of EUR 235 in the national cur-



IOM purchased construction materials to refurbish a former summer camp in the Eastern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhia currently hosting over 30 IDPs



An IDP picking up his envelope containing the cash assistance at a bank counter in Kharkiv

rency per household for basic winter needs – warm clothing, utilities, heating, etc. The project focused on the most vulnerable households, i.e. disabled or elderly and families with many children.

According to the post-distribution monitoring, conducted by the IOM team via telephone and face-to-face interviews with 1,322 households, all respondents reported that the cash assistance was provided in a convenient way and helped them to cover their most substantial needs. However, only 65% were satisfied with the amount, and one-third stated it was not sufficient to cover the needs of all members of the household.

Forty-six per cent of the surveyed beneficiaries said that their families spent the money on winterization purposes exclusively: 7% for utilities' expenses and 39% for warm clothes. Twenty-one per cent used it for medication, health care services and medical equipment, and 16% for food. Ninety-four per cent of the households split the cash assistance over several options.



IOM provided coal to keep nearly 140 IDPs staying in a recreation centre in Odesa warm for the next three months

According to the survey, the main income sources for the IDPs are pension (29%), Government assistance (34%), and salary (13%). The income level per displaced person remains very low. The majority of the respondents reported a monthly income between UAH 500 and UAH 1,500 (as the Ukrainian hryvnia has suffered severe devaluation, now these sums are only EUR 15 – EUR 45).

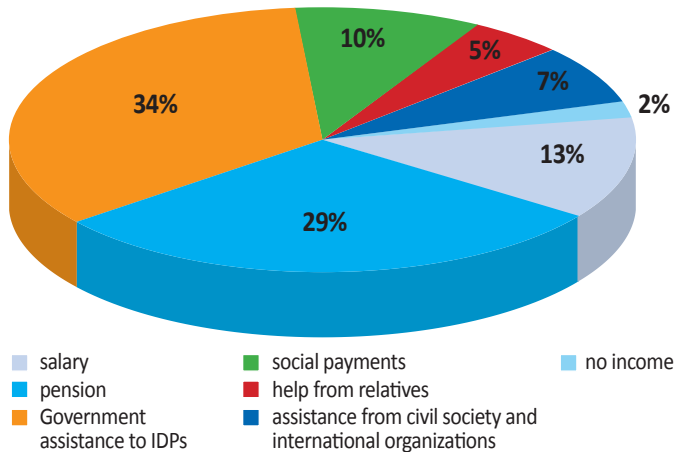
Two-thirds of the surveyed IDPs expressed the intention to remain in the area of their displacement in Kharkiv Region, around 10% expressed the wish to return home, and 20% are currently unable to decide one way or the other.

IOM has expanded its assistance to also focus on long-term solutions in order to provide integration opportunities and livelihood support for IDPs, and to assist host communities. EU and Norwegian-funded micro-enterprise and self-employment training schemes for IDPs are currently targeting over 1,200 people.

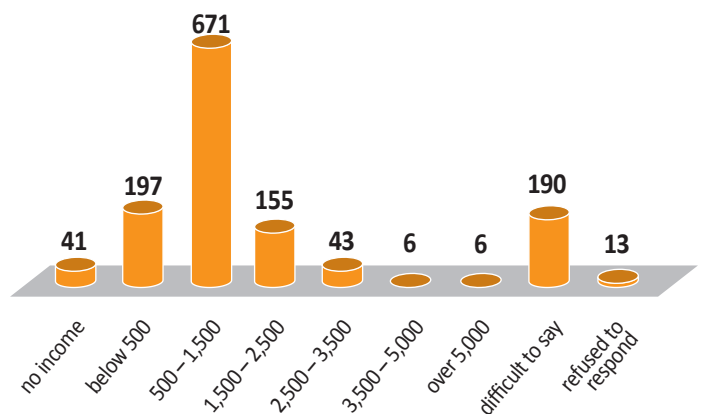
In addition, a recently confirmed USD 1.4 million contribution from Japan will aim to ensure that people living in selected communities in the Donbas region will have access to social and public infrastructure, and better livelihood opportunities.

The project will help to renovate and upgrade infrastructure including social, educational and medical facilities, as well as providing livelihood opportunities for some 300 people, that will benefit the whole community.

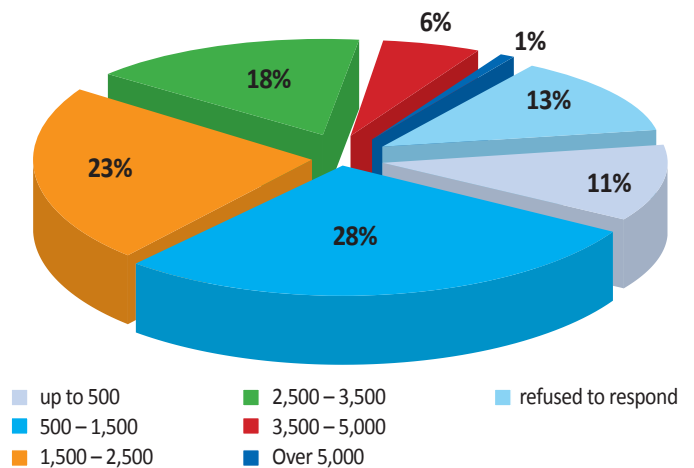
KEY SOURCES OF IDPS' INCOME*



IDPS' INCOME LEVEL (PER PERSON PER MONTH IN UAH)*



AMOUNT IDPS SPEND FOR RENT (PER MONTH, UAH)*



* Based on IOM's telephone and face-to-face interviews with 1,322 IDP households in Kharkiv Region, conducted in February 2015

LIFE STORIES

PAVING THE WAY FOR A NEW LIFE



Borys shows his future garden to IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission Profazi (right) and the team

Borys* returned to his native village in Vinnytsia Region last year. Alas, this was not an ordinary return to his roots, as he had to flee from conflict in Luhansk Region where he had lived for almost 40 years. He used to chair a public utility company and also had his own business producing fencing and tombstones. When the conflict in Eastern Ukraine started, Borys had to quit his job and shut down his small business. "My car was the only thing I was able to take with me," he says.

He is currently staying with his sister's family and renovating a village house he has bought next door. "This place was abandoned for 15 years," he explains as we walk through the construction site to see his future sauna and a garden which still needs some tree cutting and cultivation. The renovation is ongoing, and a new front yard fence shines as a beacon for the whole village street. IOM supported Borys with building tools for his home renovation. Later, he attended a micro-enterprise training for IDPs, conducted by IOM partner NGO "Spring of Hope" within a Norway-funded IDP integration



New home of Borys needs to be completely renovated

project, and successfully defended his business plan of producing tiles and paving stones. With an upcoming grant, Borys plans to start production when spring comes. "Tiles do not dry out properly in the cold," he explains.

Borys immediately became a popular person in the village, since he started training local children in martial arts. He used to have 22 students, but as training is not easy, only 13 children remain in the group. Their parents pay Borys a symbolic fee of UAH 50 per month, and this also keeps children motivated to attend training.

"I did my army service in East Germany at the beginning of the 1970s," Borys tells us. "Then I started dreaming of 'building Europe' in Ukraine, in Luhansk Region. Now, in my 60s, I am finally able to live my dream by refining this plot here near Vinnytsia. A man always needs to have a dream. It helps you to keep pushing forward," he says.

A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Tetiana* moved from Khartsyzk in Donetsk Region to the Western Ukrainian city of Ivano-Frankivsk in August last year with her mother and two children. First, they stayed at the Banderstadt hotel, where IDPs coming to the city are temporarily hosted, and later started renting a one-room flat. IOM provided the family with a folding bed, blankets, pillows, bed linen, kitchenware and a heater.



IDP children in their new tiny home in Ivano-Frankivsk



Tetiana's mother receiving medicine for her grandchildren through IOM's partner NGO Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk

Tetiana got a job as a primary school teacher. Her son, whom IOM bought a uniform and schoolbag, is a second grader at a local school. After Tetiana's daughter enrolled into a kindergarten, the family's grandmother was able to find a job as well. She works as a cashier at a supermarket. When the kids got sick, IOM helped with medicine. Autumn and winter clothes for the children were also purchased by IOM.

Like many other IDPs, Tetiana thinks that her move to Western Ukraine will be definite. "We cannot consider returning home," says Tetiana. "We will stay in Ivano-Frankivsk."

* The names have been changed

IOM'S RESPONSE MAP



IOM'S HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN UKRAINE As of 2 March 2015



1,042,100
total number of IDPs in Ukraine according to the Ministry of Social Policy



38,831
IDPs assisted by IOM



out of that figure **21,903**
IDPs assisted with cash payments from EU



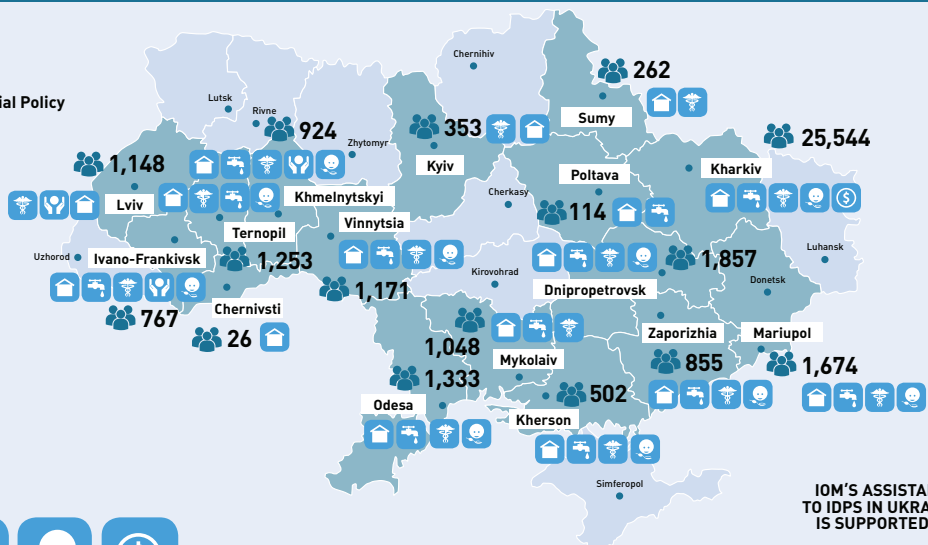
16,126 (42%)
women



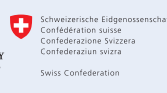
9,475 (24%)
men



13,230 (34%)
children



IOM'S ASSISTANCE TO IDPS IN UKRAINE IS SUPPORTED BY:



BACKGROUND ON THE CRISIS

In April 2014, armed groups in the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk) began to seize buildings and arms. As a result of ongoing fighting between armed groups and government forces, as well as the events which occurred in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC) in March 2014, people have been forced to flee their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable. Most have left with few belongings and are in need of shelter, food and non-food assistance, as their savings are often meager, social benefits take time to re-register, and livelihoods options may be restricted. Concurrently, while grassroots volunteer organizations, civil society and host communities have provided a robust response to the immediate needs of IDPs, the economic crisis in Ukraine has hampered their capacity to provide humanitarian assistance and more durable solutions, in part through employment and community stabilization. Those staying in Donbas region, particularly in areas affected by fighting, face imminent security threats. The provision of basic services has been disrupted, supplies are increasingly limited, and economic activity has been crippled. Ongoing daily ceasefire violations continue to be reported.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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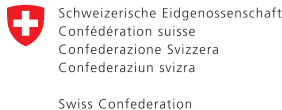
IOM'S ASSISTANCE TO IDPS IN UKRAINE IS SUPPORTED BY:



European Union



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Swiss Confederation



U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration



UN Central Emergency Response Fund



german humanitarian assistance
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE



From the People of Japan

In line with IOM's global strategy, the IOM Mission in Ukraine aims at advancing the understanding of the opportunities and challenges of migration in the Ukrainian context. Maximizing those opportunities and minimizing the challenges presented by migratory movements are the guiding principles of all activities and programmes the Mission engages in.

IOM Ukraine fights trafficking in human beings, assists the Government in addressing the needs of internally displaced persons and dealing with irregular migration, improving its migration management system, and creating migrant-inclusive health practices and policies. At the same time, IOM Ukraine engages in exploring and promoting regular channels for Ukrainian labour migrants, harnessing the development potential of migration, disseminating migration information and managing migration movements and integration of ethnic minorities, promoting the benefits of cultural diversity, and counteracting xenophobia and intolerance.

During the 18 years of its presence in Ukraine, IOM has assisted close to 400,000 migrants (Ukrainians and other nationalities), potential migrants, victims of trafficking and other vulnerable groups, directly or through its project partners.