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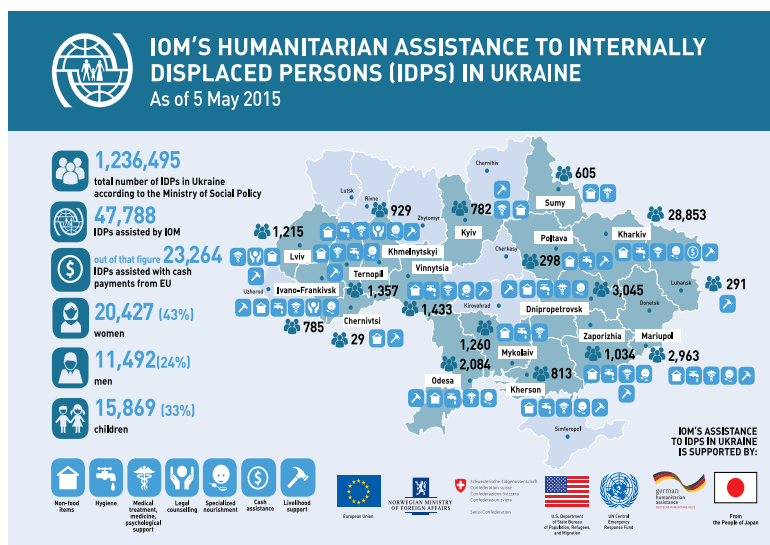
# IOM'S ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

MONTHLY REPORT

**APRIL 2015**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine reached over **1,200,000** as of late April, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted over **47,500** vulnerable IDPs in 17 regions of Ukraine as of late April.
- Funding for humanitarian operations remains low: only **24 per cent** of the **USD 316 million** required for the UN Humanitarian Response Plan 2015 is funded or pledged, according to OCHA.
- Between mid-April 2014 and 29 April 2015, at least **6,238** people had been documented as killed and **15,594** as wounded in the conflict zone of Eastern Ukraine, OCHA reports.



Enlarged version of the map on [page 5](#)

## IOM'S RESPONSE TO DATE

By the end of April 2015, IOM has provided assistance to 47,788 vulnerable displaced persons in Ukraine.

Over 23,000 individuals, or 6,855 households, displaced to Kharkiv Region, in particular disabled, elderly and families with many children, received cash assistance in equivalent to EUR 235 per household through an ECHO-funded and IOM-implemented initiative.

In addition to that, almost 23,000 IDPs received clothes, footwear, bed linen, medicine and other non-food items with funding provided by the U.S., UN, Norway, Switzerland and Germany.

As IOM and its donors are also looking for mid-term and long-term solutions for IDPs and host communities, about 1,300 displaced persons have been receiving training in self-employment within a project funded by the European Union.



**A displaced girl checks her new shoes, provided by IOM, during aid distribution in Odesa**



Another 285 IDPs have participated in micro-enterprise trainings conducted by IOM partner NGOs with the support of Norway.

The IDP Advice Hotline 0 800 30 911 0, operated by the NGO Donbas SOS and supported by IOM in the framework of an EU-funded project, has been receiving over 100 calls per day on average since mid-March. In April, most of the calls to the Hotline were from the Donetsk Region, Luhansk Region, Kyiv Region and the city of Kyiv. The majority, or 39 per cent of the calls, concerned possibilities of return, as well as available housing, access to services, and employment opportunities in the non-government controlled areas.

IOM also started to implement a Japan-funded project, focusing on reconciliation, improving social and public infrastructure, as well as opportunities for people to support their livelihoods in conflict-affected areas of the Donbas. The IOM team has conducted monitoring visits to the return areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. In Sviatohirsk, Sloviansk, Kramatorsk, Druzhkivka, Artemivsk, Rubizhne and Borivske, IOM staff met with the representatives of the local authorities, NGOs and communities, and checked the social infrastructure that requires renovation and at the same time are widely used by all representatives of local society – IDPs, community members and returnees.

IOM's humanitarian intervention has been further strengthened through a contribution by the Government of Canada.

**This goat farm (pictures above and below) was recently established in Vinnytsia Region by a displaced family from Donbas. With the support of IOM and Norway, and on-the-ground assistance from local NGO *Spring of Hope*, the farmers-to-be were trained in micro-entrepreneurship and after defending their business plan received a grant to start the business**



With the CAD 1 million, IOM will be providing IDPs with essential relief items such as blankets, clothes, household and hygiene items, improving shelter and living conditions in collective centres hosting IDPs, and providing equipment to IDPs who are looking for opportunities to be more self-reliant and earn their living. On 27 April, Canada's Citizenship and Immigration Minister Chris Alexander, visiting Ukraine, met with IOM-assisted IDPs in Dnipropetrovsk and had an opportunity to ascertain their needs firsthand.

### LIFE STORY

## BEACON OF CHANGE



**An improvised kindergarten group for IDP children, organized by the displaced women themselves**

Elena, a chef from Luhansk, cooks 50 liters of borshch and 300 pancakes for lunch for 150 displaced persons currently staying at a collective centre in a village called Mayaki, or the Beacons, near Odesa. People from Luhansk and Donetsk regions started arriving here in June 2014. Since then, two babies have been born in the collective centre, and one couple celebrated their wedding here. The centre, which previously used to be a holiday resort for people affected by the Chernobyl disaster, now looks like a rural dormitory with a small kitchen garden and even a barnyard with pigs, goats, hens and a rabbit. A few cows spend their days at a pasture nearby.

“All of us are city-dwellers, miners or businessmen. But here all these skills are not really practical, and we have to adjust to the new circumstances,” says Ihor, a leader of this IDP group.



**Bunk beds were provided by IOM to serve the needs of the IDPs with many children**



Elena, a chef from Luhansk, supervises all cooking



Washing and drying machines (above), provided by IOM, are frequently used



Inhabitants of the community's barnyard

Facing new realities was a painful experience for these people, many of whom have lost everything at home. With many children, medicine is always an issue for the group, which has a nurse from Horlivka, Donetsk Region, but is running out of funds to buy medicines and hygiene items as finding jobs is not easy for IDPs.

"In Donetsk I used to pay 150 hryvnias a day to temporary workers, and here in Odesa Region this is a very good salary for a qualified worker," says Ihor. There are jobs available at a canning factory in the same district, but travelling there would be 50 hryvnias per day, leaving not more than 500 hryvnias, or 20 dollars, from a 1,300 hryvnia salary.

IOM, with funding from its donors and in cooperation with the local NGO *Faith, Hope, Love* supported this IDP community with furniture, mattresses, blankets, pillows, washing and drying machines, construction materials, and coal to get through the winter. Now Ihor and other IDPs are thinking how to be more self-reliant, earn their living and build a better future for themselves. They decided to try and develop business ideas in order to receive grants to implement their business plans within an IOM project. The results of the community's business plan defense session should be available by the end of May.

One of their project ideas centers on building heated greenhouses for growing vegetables for consumption and for sale. "There is a greenhouse in every yard here, and we have to buy vegetables. It is quite obvious that we would be better off growing them ourselves," says Ihor.



Renovation works ongoing. IOM supported the IDP community with construction materials

Another project of this community is to establish slag stone production, also for their own needs and for sale. The IDPs are also looking for opportunities to buy a tractor to cultivate the land near the dormitory. A broiler chicken farm and an auto service station are two more plans developed by Ihor and his colleagues. "We have to start from something, and then, hopefully, we will have funds to launch more business projects. For example, we could establish a hairdresser's salon, but it will not be profitable here, so we would need to rent premises closer to the city of Odesa."

The most ambitious plan is to build a cottage community near the current dormitory that would be able to host 50 families. IDPs from Donbas realize that they are here for the long run.

## IOM'S RESPONSE MAP



### IOM'S HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN UKRAINE

As of 5 May 2015



**1,236,495**

total number of IDPs in Ukraine according to the Ministry of Social Policy



**47,788**

IDPs assisted by IOM



out of that figure **23,264**

IDPs assisted with cash payments from EU



**20,427 (43%)**

women



**11,492 (24%)**

men



**15,869 (33%)**

children



Non-food items



Hygiene



Medical treatment, medicine, psychological support



Legal counselling



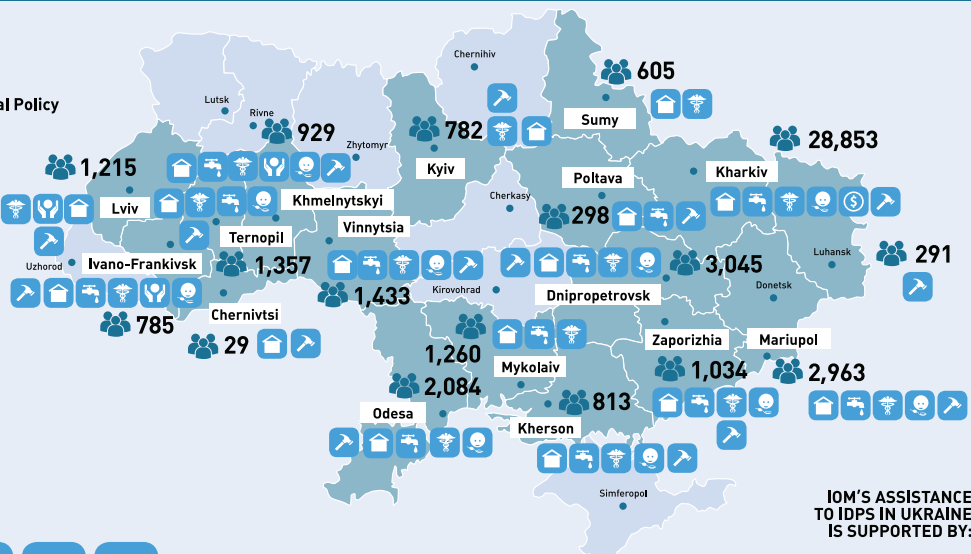
Specialized nourishment



Cash assistance



Livelihood support



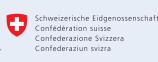
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European Union



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
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Swiss Confederation



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



UN Central Emergency Response Fund



german humanitarian assistance  
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



From the People of Japan

### 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 the Donbas, 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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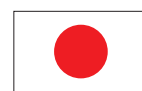
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 DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE



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 19 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.*

**Views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the view of IOM or its member states**