

# CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN IOM UKRAINE

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2018



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Nearly four years of ongoing conflict in Eastern Ukraine has had a significant impact on all aspects of life for the communities residing in the Donbas region. The protracted nature of the crisis has paralyzed economic activity and severely reduced household coping capacities on both sides of the 457 km contact line. At the household level, few employment opportunities have also led to a lack of income and the inability to meet basic needs.

According to Ukraine's Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP), nearly **1.5 million persons are registered as displaced**, with the vast majority residing in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and other conflict-affected populations continue to cross the contact line regularly, between the non-government controlled area (NGCA) and government controlled area (GCA) at five checkpoints. Throughout 2017, figures of individuals crossing the contact line reached an all-time high in August, when a recorded 1.2 million people crossed the contact line during the month. The large numbers of people crossing between the GCA and NGCA and limited capacity of the checkpoints to process the increase in crossings has led to long queues, lack of adequate sanitation facilities and exposure to bad weather conditions, or other health and protection concerns, such as those related to psychosocial needs, trafficking in persons and exploitation.

1,492,125

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE REGISTERED (MINISTRY OF SOCIAL POLICY, 18 DECEMBER 2017)

3.4 million

PEOPLE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

FUNDING NEEDS
FOR IOM UKRAINE (USD)
2018 APPEAL

EMERGENCY 16,198,603

RECOVERY 21,600,000

TOTAL 37,798,603



IOM UKRAINE / CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN

The **overall humanitarian situation in Eastern Ukraine remains dire**. Assistance continues to be provided in the NGCA despite various challenges, including limitation on transport of humanitarian cargo and limited access to the affected populations. The deterioration of the situation in the NGCA is evidenced by the increase in poor food consumption, application of negative coping mechanisms and reduction of food expenditure. Moreover, the damage to or destruction of gas and water pipelines as well as homes and social institutions further increases the vulnerability of entire social segments of conflict-affected communities by limiting their access to adequate heating, hygiene facilities and clean drinking water. The peak in unemployment rates and the scarce public services increase overall dependency on humanitarian aid and public support.

In the GCA, the economic depression and limited resources of the displaced population have placed further strain on already overstretched social services. According to **IOM's National Monitoring System** Round 8 report, 33% of surveyed IDP households in the GCA have 'only enough funds to cover food' and 11% have to 'limit expenses even for food'. Despite the continuously increasing percentage of employed IDPs (from 35% in March 2016 to 50% in December 2017), the average IDP household monthly income per person (UAH 2,446 in December 2017) remains below the actual subsistence level established by the Ministry of Social Policy (UAH 3,091 in December 2017).

Due to the protracted nature of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine, slow economic growth and increased social tensions, 2018 will be a critical year for the transition from humanitarian assistance to longer-term recovery efforts. Bridging the gap between humanitarian and development interventions is critical to simultaneously address the urgent and longer-term needs of conflict-affected communities in the Donbas. The situation of protracted displacement requires concerted efforts from the Government of Ukraine, humanitarian and development actors as well as conflict affected communities to jointly identify actions in support of durable solutions to end displacement.

## **IOM's RESPONSE**

Since April 2014, IOM, in coordination with the Government of Ukraine, has supported **over 215,000 IDPs**, **returnees and members of the host communities** to address their most urgent needs and support socio-economic recovery. From the onset of the conflict, IOM has implemented various activities in Eastern Ukraine through its 'Emergency and Stabilization' programme established in response to the increase in humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations in GCA and NGCA of Luhansk and Donetsk regions.

Implemented activities aimed to contribute towards supporting vulnerable households to meet their urgent and basic needs, build cohesion within conflict-affected communities and areas experiencing high levels of IDPs and/or returnees, support socio-economic recovery, increase capacities of civil society, as well as monitor migration flows including the challenges and needs of IDP and returnee households.

Implementation of the Emergency and Stabilization programme is carried out through the three IOM sub-offices located in Kramatorsk, Severodonetsk and Donetsk city and managed by the Country office, based in Kyiv. Throughout these activities, IOM has built strong and effective relationships with government in the GCA and de-facto authorities in the NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

The IOM response is effectively integrating the humanitarian response with recovery efforts, as well as wider migration issues under the framework of IOM's Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) and the Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations (PRDS). IOM is strongly committed to continue complementing the Government of Ukraine's efforts through a countrywide needs based response that applies a flexible, adjustable and cost-effective approach to all the interventions.

# The IOM Ukraine 2018 Crisis Response Plan includes:

- 1. **Emergency humanitarian assistance** under the Ukraine 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan that IOM, as an active member of the Shelter/NFI, Food Security and Livelihoods, Protection and WASH Clusters, proposes to continue delivering within GCA and NGCA of Ukraine.
- 2. **Recovery support** to crisis-affected communities, integration assistance for IDPs in host communities, rehabilitation of critical and social infrastructure, reintegration assistance, health and psychosocial assistance, livelihoods support and social cohesion activities.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Food Security & Livelihoods Cluster Update, October 2017

## IOM CRISIS RESPONSE ACHIEVEMENTS

### **APRIL 2014 TO JANUARY 2018**

Over 215,000 IDPs and other conflict-affected individuals assisted

#### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Over 80,000 persons assisted with improved access to WASH services

**8,418** IDPs and local community members assisted within collective centres and social institutions with NFIs and minor refurbishment

**46,000** IDPs and conflict-affected people assisted with **NFIs** (winterization items, shoes, blankets, bed linen, etc.)

#### **RECOVERY**

**Nearly 12,000** IDPs and local community members have been supported with **micro-business** and self-employment trainings

6,223 beneficiaries supported with grants for micro-business or self-employment

2,659 IDPs and local community members trained on community development

110 communities participating in the community development programme

106 infrastructure objects refurbished

Over 60,000 calls received since the launch of the Donbas SOS hotline on 6 March 2015

### **IOM PARTNERSHIPS**

IOM's Emergency and Stabilization programme includes an extensive in-country network of over 55 NGO partners and works in close cooperation with government, local, regional authorities and civil society. IOM has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with migration-related ministries and services in Ukraine, as well as concluded local partnership arrangements with 73 conflict-affected communities. Strong relationships have been developed between IOM and the Government of Ukraine through close collaboration with relevant ministries, including the MSP and the Ministry of IDPs and Occupied Territories.

IOM is a member of the United Nations Country team (UNCT), Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and United Nations Eastern Team (UNET) and actively participates in meetings of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, Shelter/NFI, Food Security and Livelihoods, Protection and WASH clusters, and Cash Working Group, among other coordinating bodies. In addition, IOM is cochairing, jointly with UNHCR, the coordination platform for the UNDAF 2018-2022 Pillar four on Human security, social cohesion and recovery with a particular focus on Eastern Ukraine, which focuses on joint UN efforts in strengthening social cohesion and building resilience of communities, IDPs and the most vulnerable populations affected by the conflict in the East. IOM is also chairing the UNCT Communication and Advocacy Group and co-chairing the HCT Humanitarian Communication Sub-Group.

### **EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**



Kostiantyn, a resident of Peredilske, Luhansk Region, received hygiene items with funding from the European Union.

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The conflict in Eastern Ukraine has an impact on **4.4 million people**, among whom **3.4 million require humanitarian assistance and protection**. Since 2016, food insecurity has doubled, with **1.2 million people food insecure**, and there are escalating cases of multidrug resistant TB and HIV. These impacts are further heightened by Ukraine's extremely harsh winter, severe restrictions on humanitarian access and limited livelihood opportunities. Among the most vulnerable are the **elderly** who **make up almost 30 per cent** of people in need.

The protracted nature of the crisis has an impact on all aspects of life for civilians in Eastern Ukraine. At the household level, few employment opportunities have led to lack of income and inability of families to meet their basic needs. Moreover, as individuals continue to return to the NGCA, humanitarian access is crucial to support vulnerable households to meet their basic needs.

IOM will continue to target its assistance in a responsive and timely manner to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs present in Eastern Ukraine, while simultaneously contributing to increasing the resilience of households in conflict-affected communities. In particular, IOM plans to continue emergency assistance through the distribution of winterization and hygiene non-food items, multi-purpose cash, livelihood support, provision of psychosocial assistance, prevention of trafficking in persons and rehabilitation of critical social infrastructure. IOM's emergency response will target vulnerable households and communities in the NGCA as well as those in close proximity to the contact line.

Activities planned within IOM's emergency humanitarian assistance have been coordinated, reviewed and approved within the relevant clusters and contribute towards the achievement of the strategic objectives of Ukraine's Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2018, namely responding to protection and assistance needs and improving the resilience of IDPs and conflict-affected populations.







#### **SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)**

The Shelter Cluster reported in November 2017 that 10,000 displaced households are considered to be critically vulnerable and unable to cope with the harsh effects of the winter. Due to the protracted stagnation of the economy in the NGCA and the overall impoverishment of the local communities, the number of vulnerable families which are no longer able to afford basic winterization items and other essential commodities has increased drastically. Without adequate access to winterization items to meet their heating needs, the affected population on both sides of the contact line remain at risk of exposure to extremely cold temperatures and associated consequences, including hypothermia.

\$3,937,600

Target no. of individuals 49,190

Moreover, in addition to individual households, many social institutions in the NGCA are unable to function due to damage to the facilities and lack of essential equipment required to provide the necessary services. The current state of many of the social institutions in the NGCA limits their operational capacity, severely reducing their ability to provide the necessary care to the most vulnerable.

To contribute to the efforts in addressing immediate humanitarian needs of vulnerable IDPs, returnees and conflict-affected populations, IOM will facilitate access to essential winterization NFIs covering areas of Donetsk and Luhansk GCA along the contact line, and NGCA. Specific locations for NFI distribution will be selected based on IOM assessments in coordination with relevant authorities and humanitarian actors. NFI distributions will target persons with disabilities, elderly persons, families with many children, single-headed households and the lowest income households.



#### **FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS**

The economy in the Donbas region continues to deteriorate due to the instability, resulting in limited investment in the region's industries and few employment opportunities. The unemployment rate in Eastern Ukraine has increased since the onset of hostilities and the continued flow of IDPs and returnees further increases competition over limited employment opportunities. The ongoing conflict has had a devastating impact on the economy in Eastern Ukraine. The Food Security and Livelihood Cluster 'Update on Sectoral Needs' published in October 2017 highlights the increased consumer and food prices, and doubling of food insecurity in the NGCA.

Funding required \$3,858,003

Target no. of individuals 13,680

As referenced in IOM's National Monitoring System Report Round 8,68% of surveyed returnees in the NGCA reported having either 'only enough funds for food' or 'had to limit expenses even for food'. The local economy is further affected by the closure of the majority of business enterprises in the region between 2013 and 2015, with a decrease of 70% in Luhansk and 60% in Donetsk.

IOM will support economic empowerment of returnees and conflict-affected populations by providing livelihood support through training and in-kind grants for self-employment in the NGCA and GCA. Livelihood support in the NGCA will focus primarily on supporting vulnerable households to meet their basic needs and reduce overall dependency on aid. Activities implemented are based on a market assessment to ensure businesses supported are responding to the demand for such services and products within the local economy. Ensuring further sustainability of IOM's livelihood intervention, IDPs, returnees and host community members will be supported with grants for business expansion through co-funding for job creation.



#### WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

In the conflict-affected areas on both sides of the line of contact in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, 4.8 million people are served by massive centralized water systems. Of those, water supply to 4.2 million is directly affected by the conflict, and greatly at risk, and 3.4 million require WASH assistance. In addition to damage to critical water infrastructure caused by the ongoing hostilities, a general systemic inadequacy of the water supply, waste water collection and sewage systems in the areas close to the contact line and most of the NGCA, results in insufficient quality and quantity of water and enhanced likelihood of morbidity connected to water and fecal-borne

Funding required \$4,815,000

Target no. of individuals 37,000

diseases. The lack of access to safe water is likely to affect household's capacity to stay or induce individuals and families unable to move elsewhere (elderly, families with disabled or other bedridden, very low income families, etc.) to resort to unhealthy coping mechanisms. Prolonged exposure to insufficient and/or unsafe water, along with the lack of hygiene materials, increases the likelihood of the spreading of diseases. All communities in the NGCA face the additional social and economic pressure of hosting an increasing number of returnees.

The ongoing return process has resulted in many previously displaced households returning to both urban and rural centres that had been nearly completely uninhabited since the early stages of the conflict. This influx further strains the limited resources of social institutions and weakens their ability to provide services. Based on IOM's field monitoring visits in areas close to the contact line in NGCA, numerous social infrastructure institutions are currently unable to respond to the needs of their respective caseload, due to original poor infrastructure conditions, further exacerbated by the hostilities and protracted lack of ordinary maintenance.

Capitalizing on previous experience in 2016 and 2017, **IOM** will support WASH and infrastructure rehabilitation in social institutions and key community sites located in Donetsk NGCA. Further rehabilitation to be undertaken will increase public service capacities of social institutions where the most vulnerable reside – including geriatric centres, hospitals and clinics, orphanages and centres for persons with disabilities – and allow the resumption of basic service provision in selected communities. In addition, **IOM** aims to provide tailored hygiene kits for specific target groups (elderly, childcare/nursery, women hygienic kits, family kits, standardized family kits, child/women/elderly kits for relevant household members). Hygiene kits will be procured, stockpiled and distributed to vulnerable households in the event of localized conflict escalation (GCA and NGCA) resulting in acute needs.



#### **MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE**

The current socio-economic environment in Eastern Ukraine is forcing households to make impossible choices on how to spend their limited resources. IOM's National Monitoring System Round 8, reported that according to surveyed households, limited funds to cover the high cost of rent in the GCA is the primary factor in their decision-making to return to the NGCA. Moreover, the payment of rent (23%) and utilities (16%) is reported to be the most problematic issue as identified by surveyed IDP households.

Funding required \$1,088,000

Target no. of individuals
4,000

In line with recommendations of the Cash Working Group, IOM, as one of the largest cash assistance

providers in Ukraine, will support the most vulnerable categories of IDPs with multi-purpose cash transfers to cover their basic needs, maintain their living standards in displacement areas and improve access to public services and adequate shelter in Luhansk and Donetsk GCA. Capitalizing on IOM's extensive experience implementing cash-based interventions and strong partnership with Ukrpost, the multi-purpose cash transfers will provide beneficiaries with the flexibility to prioritize their most pressing and urgent needs. According to statistics from IOM's Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) reports from April and June 2017, 100% of the cash assistance provided to vulnerable conflict-affected populations was utilized to cover the most critical household needs including food, healthcare, winterization assets and child care. To the extent possible, and in coordination with other humanitarian actors active in the area, as well as with relevant local counterparts, locations will be selected prioritizing areas that are hosting the most vulnerable IDPs and conflict affected populations.



#### **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND SOCIAL COHESION**

The conflict in eastern Ukraine continues to severely disrupt community relations and social bonds. Trust and tolerance within conflict-affected communities remain low, increasing the potential for community tensions to escalate into conflict. Moreover, the lack of services provided to support psychological wellbeing reduces individuals abilities to cope and recover from the tragic events experienced.

The World Bank Report, 'Conflict in Ukraine: Socio-Economic Impacts of Internal Displacement and Veteran Return' published in May 2017, states that 16% of internally displaced persons identify the lack of psychological support as their main concern.

Funding required \$1,500,000

Target no. of individuals

30,000

Moreover, IOM monitoring conducted recently in host communities across Ukraine revealed the negative impact of the conflict and in particular a high level of stress amongst IDPs. Along with economic and financial difficulties, tackling psychosocial problems, while simultaneously sustaining social activities is crucial. IDPs and the local population in conflict-affected areas are facing profound divisions that the conflict has created within their communities that often cause distrust and discrimination. According to IOM's NMS Round 8, corresponding to data collected in the last quarter of 2017, only 59% of surveyed IDPs reported that they feel integrated into their host communities. In response, IOM aims to contribute to the revitalization of conflict-affected communities through integrated psychosocial support for IDPs, returnees and other community members and community-driven social cohesion activities to promote integration and further reconciliation, with particular attention to the needs of the most vulnerable groups.



# AWARENESS RAISING, REHABILITATION AND THE REINTEGRATION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING (VOTs)

IDPs and the conflict-affected population, especially women and children, are particularly vulnerable to the risks of human trafficking and exploitation. However, the problem remains largely invisible and under-addressed due to the limited resources to assess their situation, identify victims, and assist and refer them. With external migration traditionally being a coping mechanism of Ukrainians, conflict and economic crisis prompted additional risks and rendered the population more susceptible to unsafe (irregular) migration and trafficking.

Out of 1,256 victims of trafficking assisted by IOM in 2017, nearly all were trafficked and exploited in the years of conflict. In 2017, IOM has identified and assisted 56 victims of trafficking among IDPs and the conflict-affected population. However, the number of identified victims might not be indicative of the real scope of the problem considering that measures to identify and protect victims of trafficking, exploitation and abuse specifically among conflict-affected population remain insufficient.

**Funding required** 

\$1,000,000

Target no. of individuals

10,300

(A total of 312,000 individuals to be reached through awareness-raising campaign)

IDPs are trafficked abroad and exploited internally for forced labour and in commercial sex. Situation monitoring and counterparts working in Eastern Ukraine indicate increased prevalence of labour exploitation, sexual abuse, survival sex and sexual violence, including among children, in the regions bordering the contact line. However, these cases are under-identified and not referred for assistance, thus widening protection gaps in the overall humanitarian response to the crisis. The aggravated situation calls for increased and proactive prevention measures to inform IDPs and conflict-affected population about human trafficking risks, ways to minimize these risks, as well as to enable access to rescue, alternative safe opportunities and resources available for assisting trafficking survivors.

To mitigate growing risks of human trafficking IOM aims to ensure identification and referral of the victims of trafficking among the conflict-affected population, with a particular attention to the population living in proximity to the contact line, with subsequent access to comprehensive reintegration and rehabilitation assistance for identified victims of trafficking tailored to their individual needs. Concurrently, IOM will carry out preventive measures raising awareness about risks of trafficking and exploitation and providing contacts of the currently operating helplines to the vulnerable population.

# TO RECOVERY EFFORTS



Olena worked in construction in Donetsk most of her life, but was always interested in hairdressing. After relocating to Zaporizhia due to the conflict, she opened a beauty salon. She received equipment thanks to the EU-funded IOM project.

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IOM remains committed to the 'New Way of Working' by building greater connectivity between humanitarian and development efforts through implementing a comprehensive set of activities aimed at supporting transition and recovery in Ukraine. Bridging the gap between humanitarian and development interventions is critical to simultaneously address the urgent and longer-term needs of conflict-affected communities in the Donbas in line with the Humanitarian Development Nexus approach.

Continuous assistance to bolster economic activity and enhance social cohesion within conflict affected communities is essential to reduce vulnerability and support self-sufficiency among the affected population. Moreover, addressing drivers of displacement and promoting solutions for displaced populations through longer-term, development-oriented programming is paramount to create conducive environments for durable solutions. IOM continues to implement comprehensive programmes that aim to foster social cohesion, bolster socio-economic recovery and strengthen the resilience within communities to cope with the effects of the conflict.



#### REHABILITATION OF CRITICAL AND SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The availability and quality of critical infrastructure is essential to provide adequate services to the public and enable communities to cope with the challenges faced by the conflict.

As the conflict wages on, critical infrastructure in Eastern Ukraine continues to deteriorate, severely impacting on its ability to serve the public. The increase of the population in the communities as a result of hosting IDPs also created an additional burden on local public services and increased use of critical infrastructure. In addition to reducing the social institutions' ability to effectively provide services to the public, the damaged buildings are a daily reminder of the ongoing conflict and the impact it has had on communities. Moreover, due to the establishment of the contact line many

**Funding required** 

\$6,400,000

Target no. of individuals

65,000



specialized social institutions are located in the non-government controlled areas, preventing persons requiring specialized services from accessing the institutions, for example elderly persons, persons with disabilities, orphaned children and victims of gender-based violence.

In line with the Government of Ukraine's 'Luhansk Region Development Strategy (2020)' and 'Donetsk Region Development Strategy (2020)' Strategic Goal 1: Rehabilitation of critical infrastructure and restoration of service provision, IOM plans to rehabilitate regional social services infrastructure in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The intervention will contribute towards the Sustainable Development Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation and Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

IOM aims to carry out rehabilitation of critical and social infrastructure, including but not limited to healthcare facilities, geriatric centres, schools, community centres, etc. The rehabilitation will generate employment among vulnerable population through their engagement in different employment generation schemes, in coordination with the State Employment Services.



#### SUPPORT TO IMPROVE SERVICES AT THE CHECKPOINTS ALONG THE CONTACT LINE

The 457-kilometre contact line has witnessed an increase of individuals crossing between GCA and NGCA. Throughout 2017, approximately a million persons crossed the contact line on a monthly basis. Civilians queuing at the line crossing points are exposed to various and very serious protection, health and security concerns including mines, shelling, and exposure to extreme temperatures.

Furthermore, conflict dynamics, lack of rule of law and increased socio-economic vulnerabilities of people residing in conflict-affected areas present a favorable environment for impunity and conducive ground for criminal acts, increasing the potential for civilians to fall victim to various human rights violations, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Human rights organizations have documented several cases of violence, labor exploitation as well as exposure to protection concerns due to inadequate facilities at the checkpoints that have occurred in the conflict zone. During the period 2014-2016, IOM recorded thirty-six cases of trafficking (or attempted trafficking) of IDPs, some of them involving several victims. IDPs are trafficked abroad and also exploited internally for forced labour and in commercial sex.

**Funding required** 

\$1,500,000

Target no. of individuals

**500** 

(In addition to one million individuals crossing the checkpoints monthly)

Additionally, instances of corruption and attempts of smuggling were also unofficially reported.

In response, IOM will continue to contribute to the Government of Ukraine's efforts to improve conditions for and safety of civilians at the line crossing points on the GCA side. IOM will support the State Border Guard Services (SBGS) to improve their operational capacity through the provision of necessary equipment and enhance knowledge on counter-trafficking in human beings, anti-corruption, (humanitarian) border management and dialogue.



# ENGAGING DEMOBILIZED PARTICIPANTS OF THE EASTERN CONFLICT IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION INITIATIVES

Demobilized participants of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine, hereafter referred to as 'veterans', encounter various challenges attempting to integrate back into civilian life. The presence of negative perceptions of veterans among employers, including challenges with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, disabilities and mistrust, have an impact on their ability to obtain civilian employment. Gaps in the provision of psychological care, specifically trained psychiatrists able to provide specialized counselling, prevents veterans from adequately dealing with the psychological trauma experienced during and/or as a result of the conflict.

In response, IOM aims to support socio-economic reintegration of veterans through a phased approach engaging various stakeholders at the community level. The proposed intervention will address the security challenges associated with veterans being left without livelihood opportunities or support networks. Through a comprehensive set of activities, including profiling, data management and provision of economic and psychological support, IOM will provide tailored socio-economic support to former participants of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine and their families to support transition to civilian life. The assistance provided will complement the ongoing support provided by the Government of Ukraine and local authorities.

Funding required

\$3,600,000

Target no. of individuals

11,000

IOM has extensive global experience engaging with demobilized soldiers, veterans and individuals previously involved in armed conflicts, through providing targeted and tailored reintegration assistance to contribute towards stabilization of conflict-affected communities and supporting the process towards peace.



# IMPROVING ACCESS TO BASIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR IDPS AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATIONS

Access to lifesaving health care for vulnerable conflict-affected populations remains a challenge. Women and children make up roughly 62% and 42%, respectively of the nearly 300,000 people targeted by health partners. The health status of these vulnerable populations is further exacerbated by conditions that increase the risk of communicable disease outbreak, such as frequent interruption of access to clean and safe drinking water, exposure to the cold due to damaged heating systems, reduced calorie intake leading to malnutrition and overall low immunization rates. Some 66% of the health care facilities within 5 km of the contact line have experienced significant damage rendering them partially or fully non-functional.

Funding required

\$3,000,000

Target no. of individuals

50,000

Of particular concern, are the historically, higher prevalence rates of tuberculosis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus and the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Although the new cases in these oblasts remain at a rate generally in line with national averages, displacement, migration, as well as widespread multidrug-resistant (MDR) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR) tuberculosis compound systematic gaps, and contribute to the higher rate of spread of HIV and tuberculosis in the conflict-affected area.

Limited access to voluntary testing for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis and long-distance travel to receive the necessary care further increases the vulnerability of individuals living in Eastern Ukraine. The health care facilities in Donetsk and Luhansk face significant challenges including a lack of medical staff, ambulances, and (in the areas closer to the 'contact line') face shortages of medications, electric outages without generator back-up and disruption to water supplies.

IOM aims to increase access to basic health care for IDPs and conflict-affected communities close to the contact line through mobile health clinics, provide specialized medical equipment in primary healthcare facilities and strengthen community awareness on prevention of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis including stronger health seeking behaviors.

Awareness raising sessions will be conducted in spaces of vulnerability and communities with high levels of risk for transmission of HIV/AIDs and tuberculosis, to include how to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS, the recognition of symptoms and voluntary screening, counseling and treatment facilities available. IOM has extensive experience in Ukraine conducting voluntary, primary screening for HIV and tuberculosis, as well as referrals, under its Refugee and Immigrant Resettlement programme.



#### **ENHANCING ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INVESTMENT IN LOCAL BUSINESSES**

IDPs are residing in hosting communities throughout the country and prolonged stays have depleted their resources. While hosting communities have been generally welcoming to displaced populations residing in their communities, the prolonged burden of supporting large-scale population influxes is leading to dissatisfaction which risks boiling over into tensions as competition over jobs, affordable housing and quality social services intensifies.

In addition, the socio-economic situation of affected people is aggravated by a weak national economy, which is reflected in increasing layoffs, declining wages and steep increases in basic commodity prices. Taken together, these factors are undermining efforts of affected populations to cope with the effects of long-term displacement and constitute significant barriers to resolving the current conditions of displacement.

Funding required \$5,600,000

Target no. of individuals

70,000

IOM aims to continue providing IDPs and host community members with opportunities to initiate new or expand existing livelihoods activities by linking technical training and business counseling support with grants for self-employment startups, micro-business initiatives and scaling-up of existing businesses. IOM also aims to expand its livelihood programming to support IDPs and conflict affected individuals through piloting micro-credit schemes. IOM will work in close coordination with the Government of Ukraine more specifically the Ministry of Social Policy and State Employment Services.

In addition to supporting the local population, the Ukrainian diaspora is one of the largest in the world, ranging from 12 to 20 million individuals, and has been actively supporting Ukrainians through sending in-kind, as well as financial support, to address the unprecedented humanitarian challenges arising as a result of the conflict. Building on this achievement, **IOM aims to foster economic and social development by attracting and facilitating investments from members of the Ukrainian diaspora into local businesses and development project,** in particular those run by IDPs.



#### **NATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEM OF UKRAINE**

The lack of support in finding durable solutions for IDPs and returnees hinders their integration, reintegration in their communities and makes them dependent on Government and aid organizations' support. IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (a methodology which regularly captures, processes and disseminates multi-layered information on the changing locations, vulnerabilities and needs of IDPs throughout the course of a crisis) will be used to support the

Funding required \$1,500,000

Government in improving multi-sector data collection through an extended network of monitors and phone surveys in each oblast of Ukraine. The data collected is analyzed to better understand displacement dynamics and the challenges and needs of IDPs and returnees. The NMS tools include indicators related to access and availability of services for women, girls and other at-risk groups which allows for a deeper analysis of the impact of displacement and specific challenges experienced by vulnerable groups within the displaced population. **IOM will continue assessing the situation of IDP and returnee households through surveys in all regions of Ukraine and specifically within Eastern Ukraine and along the contact line**. This will contribute to coordination of the humanitarian and recovery efforts made by the state authorities and humanitarian actors and inform government actions on IDPs through dissemination of updated quarterly reports. Data protection principles and respect for confidentiality will continue to be ensured throughout all stages of the NMS from data collection to the dissemination of the findings. IOM will further strengthen data collection on the challenges and needs of IDP and returnee households to provide valuable information to inform the search for durable solutions to displacement.

IOM CRISIS RESPONSE PROJECT SUMMARY			
PROJECT	LOCATION	BENEFI- CIARIES	FUNDS REQUIRED (USD)
Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)	GCA and NGCA	49,190	3,937,600
Food Security and Livelihoods	GCA and NGCA	13,680	3,858,003
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	GCA and NGCA	37,000	4,815,000
Multipurpose Cash Assistance	GCA	4,000	1,088,000
Psychosocial Support and Social Cohesion	GCA	30,000	1,500,000
Awareness raising, rehabilitation and reintegration of Victims of Trafficking (VoTs)	GCA	10,300	1,000,000
Rehabilitation of critical infrastructure	GCA	65,000	6,400,000
Support to improve services at the checkpoints along the contact line	GCA	500	1,500,000
Engaging demobilized participants of the Eastern conflict in socio-economic reintegration initiatives	GCA	11,000	3,600,000
Improving access to basic health care services for IDPs and conflict-affected populations	GCA and NGCA	50,000	3,000,000
Enhancing economic recovery and investment in local businesses	GCA	70,000	5,600,000
National Monitoring System of Ukraine	GCA		1,500,000
TOTAL		340,670	37,798,603

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