



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

IOM's ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE

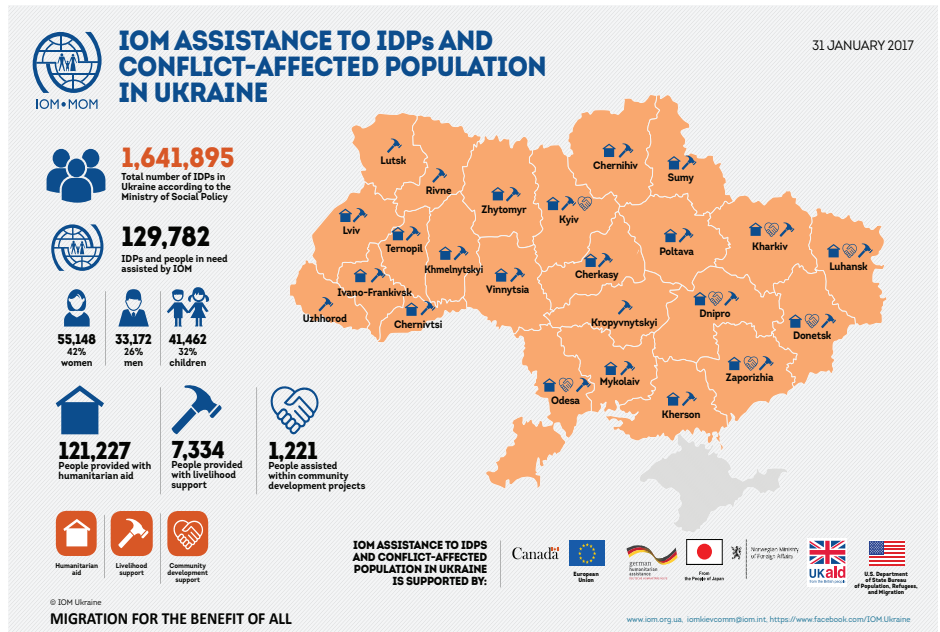
MONTHLY REPORT

Migration for the Benefit of All

JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine is **1,641,895** as of 30 January 2017, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted over **129,000** vulnerable IDPs and conflict-affected people in 21 regions of Ukraine.
- **73%** of IDPs surveyed within the **IOM National Monitoring System (NMS)** claimed that they were going to stay in their current places of residence. **10%** expressed willingness to return home.



Enlarged version of the map on page 5

IOM's RESPONSE TO DATE

ANOTHER 2,000 CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE WILL RECEIVE LIVELIHOOD GRANTS FROM IOM

IOM continues its efforts to foster income opportunities for IDPs and host communities' members. In January 2017, the training sessions on self-employment, micro-business and professional orientation for internally displaced persons and conflict-affected population have started as part of a new IOM project, funded by the UK Department for International Development. The project covers 24 regions of Ukraine and will provide training opportunities for over 2,300 people. Out of them, approximately 65% will receive grants ranging between GBP 350 – 1,700,



An IDP planning to offer hair dressing services in Vinnytsia defends her business plan



IDPs and local community members brainstorming at a business training in Zhytomyr

in accordance with their specific needs and established criteria. Similarly, within another livelihoods project funded by the EU, IOM is planning to train additional 1,850

people, and out of them, 950 participants are expected to receive grants for vocational education or equipment up to EUR 2,150 later this year.

According to the [IOM National Monitoring System of the Situation with IDPs \(NMS\)](#), the employment of IDPs at the new place of residence remained quite low in the second half of 2016; particularly, only 40% of surveyed IDPs have managed to find a job at their new location, while 38% considered themselves unemployed. Furthermore, 22% of IDPs stated that they did not need a job, as they were receiving disability or retirement pensions or were on maternity leave.

From 2014 till 2016, IOM has already provided self-employment and business training for some 5,500 IDPs and conflict affected people, of whom, over 3,300 people received grants for vocational training, self-employment or micro-business.

SVATOVE LIBRARY BECOMES A COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR IDPs AND LOCALS

The year 2017 was proclaimed as the Year of Japan in Ukraine by a presidential decree, having a special meaning for 20 communities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions that are participating in an IOM recovery project, funded by the Government of Japan. For many months, IDPs and local residents have been jointly preparing social cohesion and learning events in order to facilitate integration and inclusion of IDPs, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities into an active social life, contributing to the reduction of tensions and stress caused by the conflict and in general bringing more diversity, knowledge, and exchanges into their respective lives.



IOM delivers office equipment to the Svatove library



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The library in Svatove, Luhansk Region, is one of the 20 social institutions that are benefitting from the project. Although refurbishment works are still ongoing on one wing of the facility, the library has already a very busy schedule of free-of-charge English, computer and hand-made classes organized in the other part of the building. Additionally, the Svatove initiative group engaged a psychologist for regular stress counselling sessions, workshops on effective communications, and self-development. Furthermore, necessary computers, office equipment and new furniture for the library were also purchased by IOM through the financial support of the Government of Japan.

The psychologist Oksana Sharova, who is conducting training sessions in Svatove library once a week, stated that both IDPs and locals have already got used to their regular meetings. "I see that they are actively communicating with each other, sharing cooking recipes. I hope it will continue even after the project ends." She explains that there are mainly elderly residing in the town, as young people are either studying or working elsewhere. Even if IDPs who arrived in Svatove were predominantly middle age or elderly, IOM also addressed the needs of local and displaced children through purchasing a puppet theater, which is currently used by Oksana in her therapy sessions.

Thus, Svatove and other supported communities will take an active role in the celebrations linked to the Year of Japan in Ukraine.

By end of March, about 30,000 people will benefit from the renovated social infrastructure and will take part in social cohesion activities supported through the Japan-funded IOM community stabilization project.



Handicraft classes bring together displaced and local women



Elderly residents of Svatove and IDPs are eagerly learning computer basics



LIFE STORY

IOM-SUPPORTED IDP HELPS UPGRADING BLOOD TRANSFUSION STATIONS' WORK



Photo: <http://prorimh.cv.ua>

Blood transfusion station in Chernivtsi using Andrii's software

Andrii, a software specialist from Luhansk, moved with his family to Vinnytsia in summer 2014, when the conflict in Eastern Ukraine began. Having to look for a job at the new place, he decided to push forward a business idea that used to be one of his projects. Andrii has been working since 2011 on the development of a software for blood transfusion centres, developing solutions that would help these institutions to better keep records of the blood donors. So far, blood transfusion centres in Ukraine lack funding for

equipment, so their records have been kept in an outdated manner and in many instances making it impossible to quickly share information between local and central stations.

With the support received from the Government of Norway within IOM's livelihood programme for IDPs and conflict-affected people, Andrii was able to develop Windows- and Android-compatible version of his software. "It allowed finding new clients, as it was much cheaper for the blood transfusion centres to buy tablets and



Andrii at his new home city Vinnytsia

Mykola Snizhko, head of plasma quarantine department within the Chernivtsi Regional Centre of the Blood Service, shared his feedback on the software with IOM: "The plasma quarantine department is dealing with thousands of small packets, and only with this software we were finally able to ensure their proper accounting. We were also able to clean the lists of the blood donors, as there were many technical mistakes in the hardcopies of their donor cards. Moreover, it turned out that in some cases the donors did not present any documents, which was a serious violation. Now, the use of the software makes it impossible for a station to accept the blood from a donor who has no passport. Currently, we are working with Andrii on the software upgrade that would enable us to follow the whole process from the donor to the recipient. The work is almost done, now the task is to train all our staff to work with this new software."



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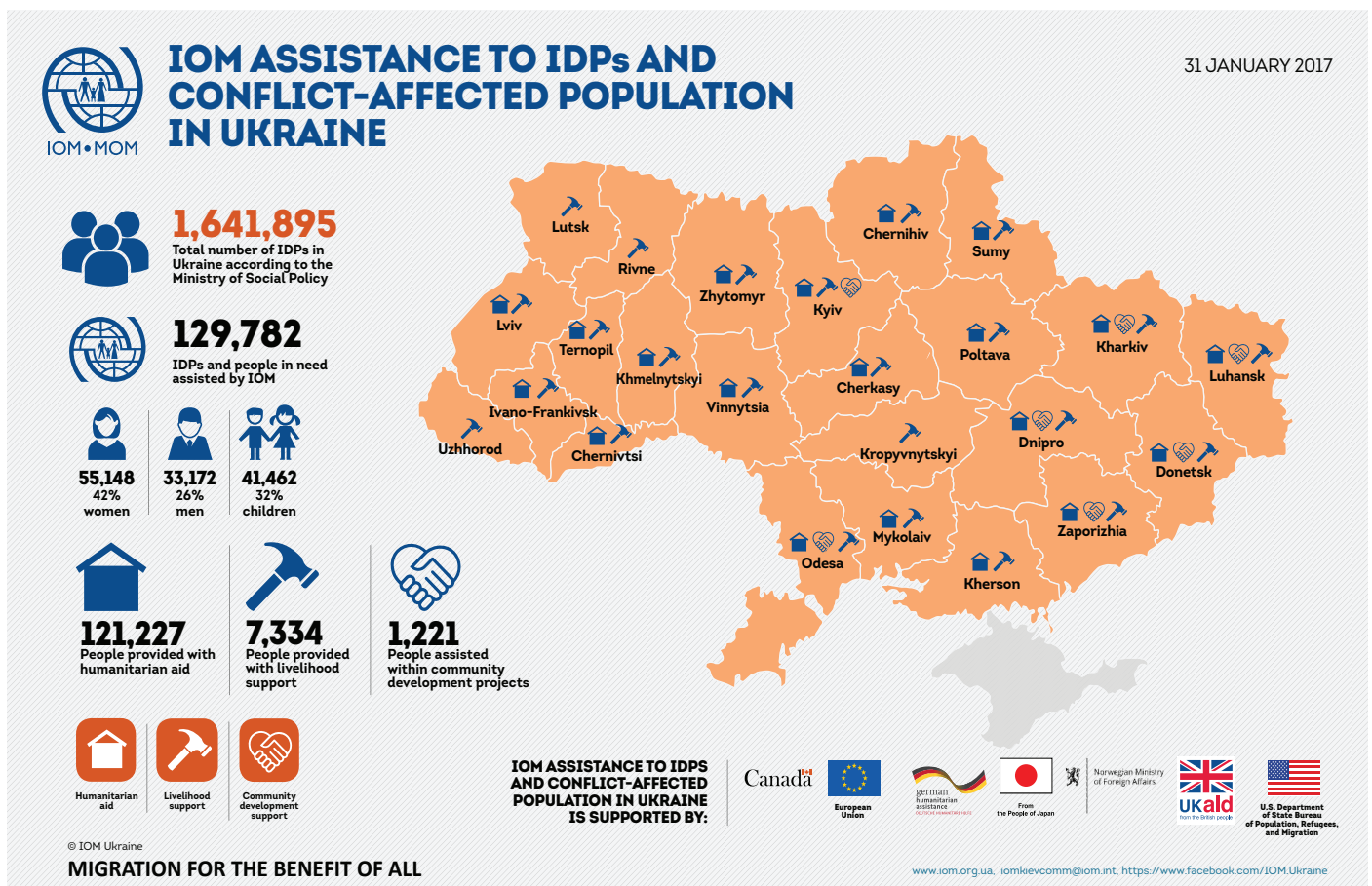
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smartphones than notebooks or personal computers,” says Andrii. Chernivtsi Region was the first one to start using Andrii’s software on the large scale. Currently the Chernivtsi oblast blood transfusion station and all district stations in the region have introduced this software into their daily work. Another blood transfusion station using Andrii’s software is the regional one in Khmelnytskyi.

“There are medical restrictions for blood donors, but sometimes they try to donate blood more frequently than is allowed in order to get extra days-off and similar bonuses,” explains Andrii. “That is why additional function has been introduced, enabling stations, which are using the software, to share information among them and quickly check the donors and their previous visits.”

Few months ago another IDP was engaged in the project as sales manager. This allowed Andrii to get full-time employed in Vinnytsia as a programmer. Andrii succeeded to have a regular income, while at the same time continues upgrading the software for blood transfusion centres, which remains a project of his life and contributes to improving life-saving blood transfusion system in Ukraine.

IOM's RESPONSE MAP





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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, many people have been forced to flee their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable. Most leave 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 opportunities for more durable solutions, in part through employment and community stabilization. Those staying in the Donbas, particularly in areas affected by fighting along the contact line, 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.

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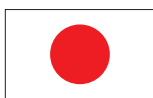
IOM's ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE IS CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY:



European Union



german humanitarian assistance
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE



From the People of Japan



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



UKaid
from the British people



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

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 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 20 years of its presence in Ukraine, IOM has assisted over 450,000 migrants (Ukrainians and other nationalities), IDPs, 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