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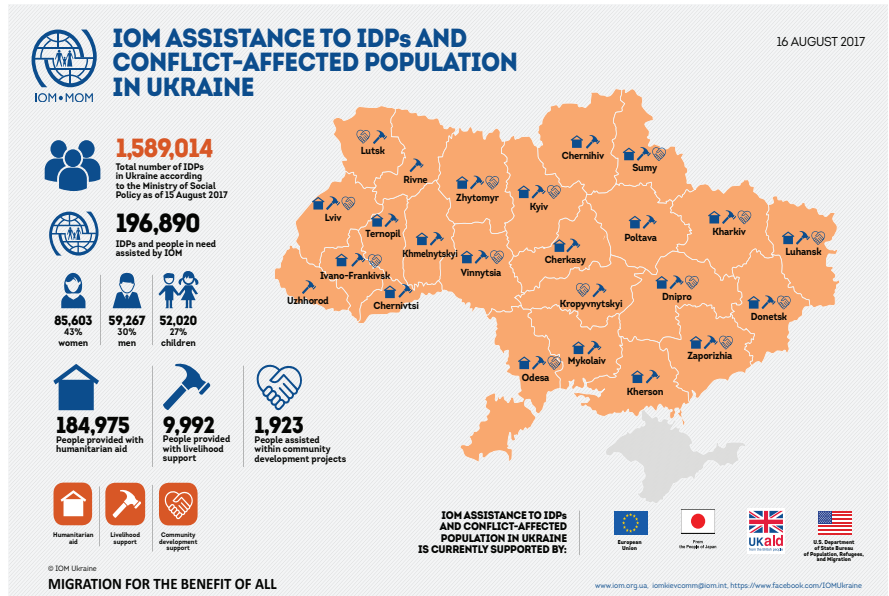
IOM's ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE

BI-MONTHLY REPORT

JULY – AUGUST 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine is **1,589,014** as of 15 August 2017, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted over **196,000** vulnerable IDPs and conflict-affected people in 24 regions of Ukraine.
- The proportion of the employed among all internally displaced persons in Ukraine increased from 35% on March 2016 to **46%** in June 2017, according to the latest [IOM National Monitoring System Report on the Situation of IDPs in Ukraine](#).
- Majority of IDPs still rely heavily on government support, with **61%** of the respondents indicating financial support received from the government among the main sources of their income.
- Average monthly income, per person, for IDPs in Ukraine was **UAH 2,017** (about USD 78) in June 2017.



IOM's RESPONSE TO DATE

IOM PROVIDES VULNERABLE PEOPLE ALONG THE CONTACT LINE WITH HYGIENE ITEMS AND HELPS THEM TO PREPARE FOR WINTER

The ongoing hostilities in eastern Ukraine continue to jeopardize the safety and lives of those living in villages along the contact line and in the so-called buffer zone. According to a recent IOM survey, up to 96% of vulnerable households in these areas cannot access essential hygiene items, either because they are not available in the market, because of limited resources to purchase them, or both. The lack of such products disproportionately affects the elderly, children and persons with disabilities. At the same time, many people face major shelter



Staff of the Starobilsk Psycho-neurological Boarding House, Luhansk Region, receiving hygiene items for their patients



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Elderly woman taking the stove provided by IOM to her basement in Opytne, Donetsk Region



IOM delivers aid to the Central City Hospital in Bakhmut, Donetsk Region

and winterization challenges due to previous and current shelling, and are thus unprepared to withstand the hardships of the coming winter. With the support of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), in July, IOM addressed these serious needs by providing hygiene and winterization support. IOM distributed diapers to social institutions in the

government-controlled area (GCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, while individual beneficiaries living along the contact line and buffer zone received cast-iron stoves. In close coordination with local administrations, IOM delivered over 46,500 packs of diapers to 65 social institutions providing services to more than 5,500 vulnerable individuals, including 1,569 children.

This aid will cover their needs for approximately six months.

One of the institutions, the Central City Hospital in Bakhmut, received 2,000 packs of diapers from IOM in July 2017. Bakhmut is a large urban centre located about 20 km from the contact line. Despite its close proximity, the area is deemed quite safe and this has drawn numerous IDPs over the past three years. According to the Ukrainian Pension Fund data, over 60,000 of those IDPs are pensioners. Many of them have a disability and therefore require constant medical attention and material support.

The increase in patients placed an additional strain on the already overburdened and poorly funded hospital. In an effort to reduce the overall expenditure on healthcare, in early July 2017 the Bakhmut Central City Hospital was merged with two other medical facilities, resulting in a drastic reduction of staff and a critically low staff/patient ratio.

IOM also assisted the Starobilsk Psycho-neurological Boarding House in Luhansk Region. The centre cares for 185 men with mental health conditions, 60 of whom require diapers. According to the facility staff, now there are only four nurses per shift taking care of almost two hundred men, so the diapers are essential for the sanitary needs of the residents.

As part of its winterization assistance, IOM distributed 200 cast-iron stoves to 193 households and three social institutions along the contact line and in the so-called buffer zone. Beneficiaries included low income elderly persons, families with many children, people with disabilities who live alone, and individuals whose houses were damaged during the hostilities. Opytne, a small village in



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Svitlana's home in Krasnohorivka, Donetsk Region, was destroyed and currently she lives at her neighbour's house



Svatove Centre for Social Services, Luhansk Region, receives diapers for further distribution among vulnerable community members

the buffer zone of Donetsk Region, was the home for over 1,000 families before the conflict and now only 47

remain. Residents have been living in their basements for the past three years, without access to heating,

running water, electricity, and gas. The cast-iron stoves, provided by IOM, are therefore an essential piece of equipment in light of the impending winter, as they burn both wood or coal and are easy to relocate if needed.

“Since my house was bombed, I have miraculously survived three winters seeking shelter in my neighbour’s room and covering myself with all the blankets I have,” said Svitlana, a woman from Krasnohorivka village located on the contact line in Donetsk Region. Her home was almost completely destroyed during the shelling and the only room that has remained intact is the summer kitchen, a space not usually heated. The cast-iron stove provided by IOM will allow her to find protection from the cold.



LIFE STORY

IOM-SUPPORTED IDP STRENGTHENS HIS NEW COMMUNITY



Dmytro in his new city of Mykolaiv

The story of Dmytro is a shining example of resilience and dedication to help others.

A miner in Luhansk Oblast for most of his life, Dmytro suffered an occupational injury and lost his job in 2011. Due to the resulting disability, he was not allowed to return to work in the mine, and therefore looked for alternative ways to earn a living. He learned how to build stoves from one of his former colleagues, a skill that proved to be very useful in three years when the conflict in eastern Ukraine started. In 2014, Dmytro and his family relocated to Mykolayiv Region where he continued working as a stove-maker. "Gas was very expensive for the ma-



Local community appreciates the ramps for people with disabilities Dmytro constructs. Photo by Mykolaiv TV channel Inshe.TV



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jority of the people in the region, so I thought that it would be a good business idea to build stoves that burn coal. At the beginning, I was posting simple flyers on the streets to find clients," he recalls.

Step by step, Dmytro expanded his services by starting to build decorative chimneys and repairing stovepipes and ventilation systems using his welding skills. Part of the money Dmytro earned was invested in purchasing additional equipment in order to continue building his business.

Some of Dmytro's orders were quite significant for his new community: in 2015 he constructed a large oven for Ochakiv City Hospital and in 2016 he helped to decorate a kids' village in

the city of Mykolayiv. This year Dmytro joined an NGO that supports veterans who have a disability. He supervises printing of the NGO's materials, while also volunteering as a consultant for internally displaced persons and veterans with a disability.

This March, Dmytro took part in the IOM project, "Integration and Stabilization Support through Livelihoods for IDPs and the Conflict-Affected Population in Ukraine", funded by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He completed a training programme, developed his business plan and successfully defended it, thereby earning a self-employment grant.

The equipment Dmytro received from the IOM grant – namely a rock-drill,

electric saw, welding machine, and two grinders – allowed him to start a new socially focused business. Now Dmytro is constructing ramps for people with disabilities at multi-story houses and drugstores. In June alone, he completed seven such projects in the city of Mykolayiv.

All Dmytro's thoughts are about moving forward. "I am going to improve the advertisement of my business, including using social media. I also plan on extending the type of services I provide, to include repairing auto parts."

As of August 2017, IOM with funding from its donors, provided grants for vocational training, self-employment or micro-business to almost 5,500 IDPs and conflict-affected people in 24 regions of Ukraine.



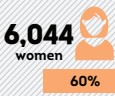
IOM LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO IDPs AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATION IN UKRAINE

8 AUGUST 2017

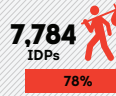


9,992

IDPs and local community members have been supported by IOM with micro-business and self-employment training



6,044 women
3,948 men

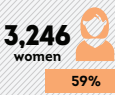


7,784 IDPs
2,208 local community members

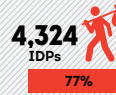


5,490

beneficiaries have been supported with grants for micro-business, self-employment or vocational training

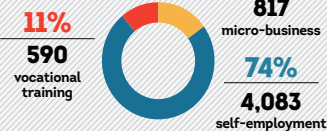


3,246 women
2,244 men

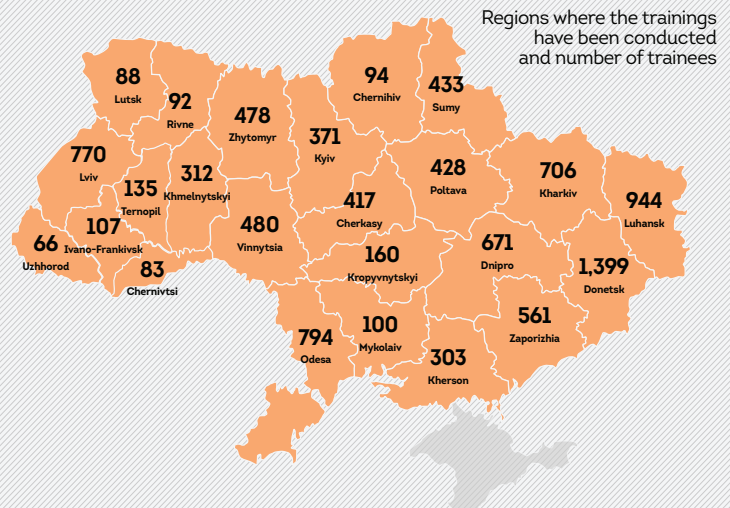
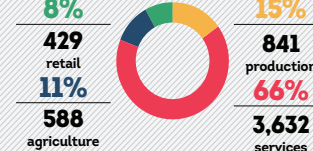


4,324 IDPs
1,166 local community members

Types of grants



Spheres of grantees' activity



Regions where the trainings have been conducted and number of trainees

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO IDPs AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATION IN UKRAINE IS CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY:



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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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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



European
Union



From
the People of Japan



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 about 500,000 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