



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency

Migration for the Benefit of All

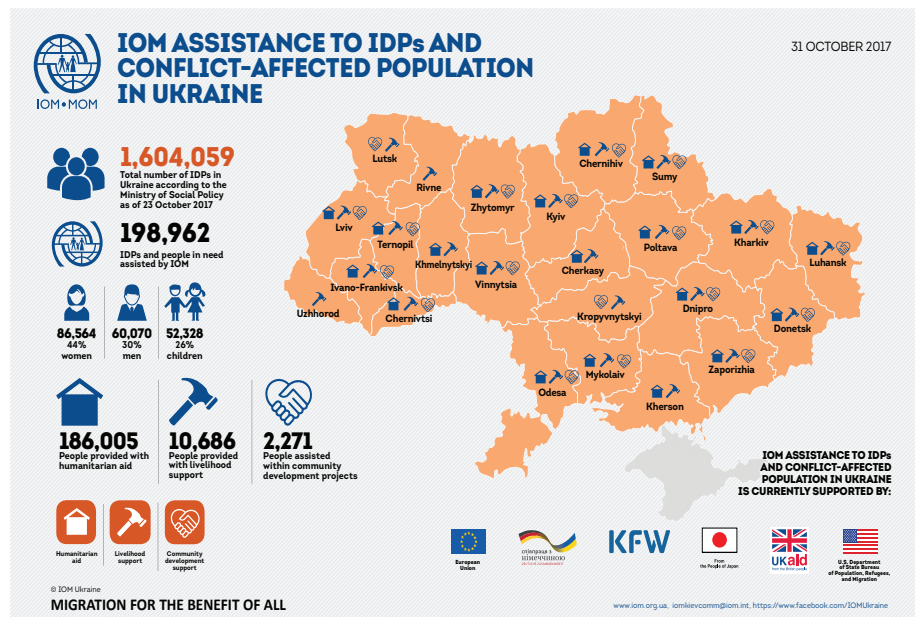
# IOM's ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine is **1,604,059** as of 23 October 2017, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted nearly **199,000** vulnerable IDPs and conflict-affected people in 24 regions of Ukraine.
- The Humanitarian Country Team is currently assessing the needs of the conflict-affected population and preparing the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2018.



## AUTUMN TEAMBUILDING FOR IDP HOST COMMUNITIES



A local volunteer serves traditional Ukrainian snacks to visitors of the fest in Boryspil

October was a busy month for IDP host communities participating in IOM's social cohesion initiatives across Ukraine, as they did their best to use the last warm days for outdoor events.

In Lysychansk, a town 20 km from the contact line in Luhansk Region, the initiative group organized a weekend festival to bring together internally displaced persons (IDPs), who officially comprise 15 per cent of the city's population, and local residents. The event was a component of the IOM social cohesion project, funded by the Government of Japan. The youngest participants enjoyed soap bubbles and puppet shows, while adolescents and



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*IDP and local children playing at the IOM-supported event in Lysychansk*



*The 'Reconciliation Bench' installed in Lysychansk*



*A master class on drawing in Boryspil*



*Citing poems is a must at any public event*

their parents familiarized themselves with the vocational opportunities available at the local college, such as hairdressing, electrical engineering, metalwork, and computer basics. The highlight of the event was the revealing of the Reconciliation Bench – a symbol of understanding between people.

Another event was organized in mid-October by the initiative group in Boryspil, Kyiv Region. The town hosts about 4,000 IDPs, or six per cent of its population. Master classes on decoupage and drawing, sports activities and tasty traditional Ukrainian dishes were keeping IDPs and local residents of Boryspil warm

at an IOM-supported event organized under the European Union-funded project. The local museum of history hosted the gathering in its yard and the museum staff volunteered their time.

“The main benefit from this event is that we made new friends,” says Tamara Vasylenko, the head of the Boryspil initiative group and an IDP herself. “This project not only allows IDPs to find friends among local residents, but brings everyone together, as we focus on family interests and joint activities, such as arts, sports and healthy lifestyles.”

**At the moment, 78 communities across Ukraine participate in IOM's social cohesion programme funded by the EU and Japan. IOM is committed to further support integration of IDPs and reconciliation among conflict-affected people.**



# TWO THOUSAND CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE WILL RECEIVE LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT FROM GERMANY AND IOM



*Ms. Judith Böhnke, Project Manager at the Financial System Development Department, Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia, KfW Development Bank (centre), and Dr. Thomas Lothar Weiss, Chief of Mission at IOM Ukraine (right), signing the agreement*

IOM and KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the German Government\*, have signed an agreement to implement a two-year project that will assist some 2,000 conflict-affected people with developing new or improving existing income opportunities.

“For more than three years, Ukraine has been suffering from the military conflict in the east, and close to 1.6 million people remain displaced across the country. Prolonged stays in host communities have put a considerable strain on resources. The project we are launching with IOM aims to contribute to the Government of Ukraine’s efforts to improve self-reliance and livelihood opportunities for displaced and conflict-affected populations, fostering socio-economic stability and well-being in host communities,” said Ambassador of Germany to Ukraine, H.E. Dr. Ernst Wolfgang Reichel.

Following a baseline socio-economic assessment and market analysis to be conducted with the aim of better understanding the supply and demand for goods and services within specific income-generating sectors, through the network of its NGO partners across Ukraine, IOM will invite IDPs and members of host communities to participate in the project. The initiative will target both people who have no prior business activity but can create a viable and economically feasible self-employment plan, and existing micro and small businesses that may have received limited prior grant funding but need additional resources to grow and scale-up.

IOM will train selected project beneficiaries on financial management, business law, accounting, marketing and business plan development. Following the approval of promising busi-

ness plans, beneficiaries will receive in-kind grants falling under three categories: self-employment grants up to EUR 650, micro-businesses grants with a value of up to EUR 2,500, and up-scaling grants up to EUR 5,000 for established businesses owned by IDPs and host community members previously awarded with grants and demonstrating growth potential.

“Thanks to the support from Germany, IOM will continue offering inclusive and community-centred livelihood assistance that stresses participation, social cohesion and equitable access to opportunities in order to equip both IDPs and host community members with the means and resources to progressively address economic challenges related to the crisis,” said the Chief of Mission at IOM Ukraine, Dr. Thomas Lothar Weiss. “Since 2014, IOM, with funding from its donors, provided grants for vocational training, self-employment or micro-business to over 5,500 IDPs and conflict-affected people in 24 regions of Ukraine. Ninety per cent of IOM livelihood projects’ beneficiaries aim to further develop their business activities,” he added.

\* *The German contribution to this project amounts to EUR 5 million and is provided by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development via KfW Development Bank. KfW Development Bank is a branch of KfW Bankengruppe, Germany’s leading promotional bank for the domestic economy as well as for developing and transition countries. KfW’s capital is held by the Federal Republic of Germany and German federal states.*



## PURSUE YOUR DREAM NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES

### IOM BENEFICIARY DEVELOPS HER BUSINESS AFTER RELOCATING TO A NEW COMMUNITY

Before 2014, Yevheniia, her husband and two children lived in Luhansk city. When the conflict sparked, they left their home, their jobs and an established way of life to flee the non government-controlled area of Ukraine to Kyinka village in Chernihiv Region.

“When we were leaving our home in Luhansk, I thought that it would be for a month or so. But soon enough, we found ourselves in a strained situation; we had to rent a house, buy household appliances, furniture and clothes. Most importantly, we needed money for food as well. So I pulled myself together and got to work!” says Yevheniia. She sewed various hats, headbands, toys and other trinkets for children and sold them at the local market. Yevheniia found this to be a difficult time because she had to sew in the evening till midnight, then get up in the morning and spend the whole day selling her products. But very soon, she attracted loyal customers and consistently received orders. Before St. Nicolas Day she had a gift waiting for her, an order of 30 small toys for the kindergarten children. Yevheniia became even more inspired, as she knew her crafts were becoming popular and appealing to local clientele.

When she lived in Luhansk, Yevheniia ran her own small café from 2001 till 2010. However, since she was a young girl, Yevheniia loved making things with her hands, such as sewing, knitting, embroidering and beading. Around 2012, she turned her hobby into a business by taking part in craft fairs and exhibitions on a



*Yevheniia appreciates her business as it provides a space for creativity*

regular basis, keeping a booth at the local farmers market, and she also had an online shop. The unfolding conflict and the need to flee a battle zone made her cease her business activities, but did not kill her dream.

After settling in the Chernihiv Region, Yevheniia received information about an IOM project for small businesses from a local NGO. She jumped at the opportunity to take part in the trainings and successfully defended her business plan. ▶



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"Thanks to the project, I received a combo sewing/embroidery machine that allowed me to immediately increase the variety and quantity of my product line. In just one month, I managed to officially register as an entrepreneur and launched my small shop. I am empowered to pursue my dreams with the experience and skills I received from the training and to take control of my life. You should not wait or beg for anything; you need to work hard, dream and act, then those dreams will come true!" concludes the beneficiary. With support from IOM and funding from the United Kingdom Department

for International Development (DFID), the IOM partner NGO organized additional trainings for micro-entrepreneurs and self-employed people, like Yevheniia, on how to develop and sustain their businesses. Yevheniia took part in these trainings regularly as she is willing to broaden her knowledge in marketing, business strategy, finance and other areas to strengthen and expand her small enterprise. Currently, Yevheniia produces and sells high-quality textile products for children using eco-friendly materials from European suppliers. She produces

many custom-made orders and manufactures thematic sets such as baptism kits, children's outfits, costumes and wedding accessories. Yevheniia is also happy to give back to the community that she joined after displacement, as people genuinely appreciate the quality, attractiveness and affordable prices of her crafts and recommend her to their friends and family. "My business provides a limitless and multi-faceted space for my creativity. Every day I get inspired by something and seek to improve and expand my skills and product line," says Yevheniia.



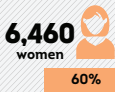
### IOM LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO IDPs AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATION IN UKRAINE

31 OCTOBER 2017

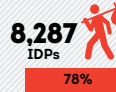


## 10,686

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



6,460 women  
4,226 men

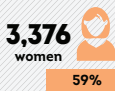


8,287 IDPs  
2,399 local community members

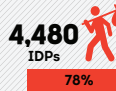


## 5,722

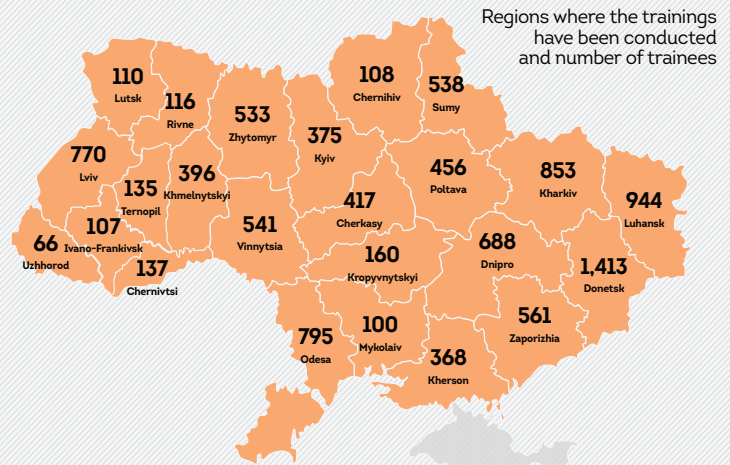
beneficiaries have been supported with grants for micro-business, self-employment or vocational training



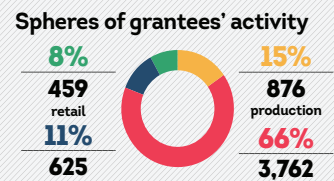
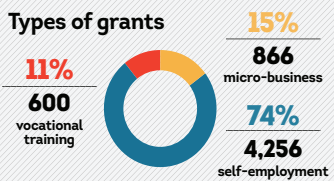
3,376 women  
2,346 men



4,480 IDPs  
1,242 local community members



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



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***