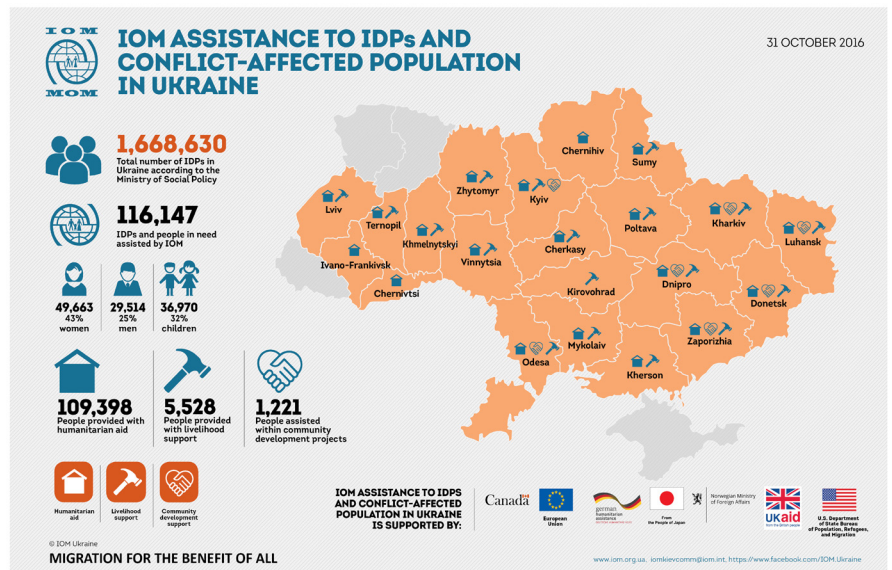


HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine is **1,668,630** as of 31 October 2016, according to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.
- IOM assisted over **116,000** vulnerable IDPs and conflict-affected people in 21 regions of Ukraine.
- The general level of well-being of most IDPs in Ukraine is still low, reveals the **September round of IOM National Monitoring System of the Situation with IDPs**. **29%** of surveyed IDPs have to cut down expenses even for food, **42%** of IDPs are able to buy only food, **27%** satisfy only essential needs, and only **1%** of the surveyed IDPs have savings.
- **27%** of IDPs surveyed by IOM reveal that they have had their social payments suspended.



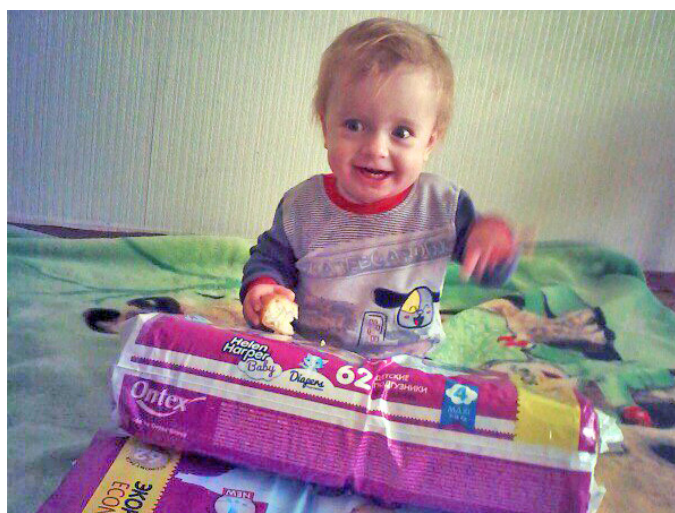
Enlarged version of the map on [page 6](#)

IOM's RESPONSE TO DATE

MORE CONFLICT-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN NGCA RECEIVED HYGIENE ASSISTANCE FROM IOM

During the period of 24-28 October 2016, IOM distributed 1,260 hygiene kits and 111,000 diapers to a total of 1,555 IDPs, returnees and other vulnerable conflict-affected people in Yasynuvata and surrounding areas, in Donetsk Region non-government-controlled area (NGCA), which is located in close proximity of the contact line where shelling is still common.

This intervention falls within a wider IOM effort to support conflict-affected communities on both sides of the



A young beneficiary living close to the contact line in the NGCA, where shelling is still common, receiving diapers from IOM



A truck belonging to one of IOM's recent humanitarian convoys en route to the NGCAs

contact line with WASH and winterization assistance. The project, providing humanitarian aid to the most affected population in the government and non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM).

Visiting conflict-affected people in the non-government controlled areas, Manfred Profazi, IOM Ukraine Chief of Mission, had the opportunity to see a number of Yasynuvata social institutions damaged by the conflict and meet some IDPs accommodated in a student dormitory partially converted into a collective center. "I found shel-

ter here approximately four months ago together with my four-year-old daughter Dasha, after our house was completely destroyed by a mortar shell," said Elena, a single mother living in the center. "My Dasha is very scared of the sound of the shells that still keep falling close."

With the support of multiple donors, including PRM, the EU Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IOM has been providing hygiene and winterization supplies to the conflict-affected communities in both sides of the contact line. Up to

date, IOM's programme has reached over 28,000 vulnerable individuals in single households or social institutions, including primarily IDPs and returnees.

IOM will continue assisting IDPs, returnees and other conflict-affected people in Donetsk and Luhansk regions GCA and NGCA by distributing hygiene and winterization kits, as well as will continue supporting the most vulnerable individuals in social institutions by providing hygiene supplies and rehabilitating WASH facilities to ensure decent living conditions. Through the present programme, IOM aims to assist an estimated additional 52,000 individuals by June 2017.

TWELVE MORE COMMUNITIES IN THE DONBAS RECEIVING SOCIAL COHESION SUPPORT FROM JAPAN AND IOM



IDPs and Slovyansk local residents brainstorming on their community's needs at the IOM social cohesion training

Twelve additional communities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions are benefitting from the Donbas community stabilization project, funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by IOM.

During the period of August-September 2016, more than 450 members of initiative groups in Lyman, Pokrovsk, Velyka Novosilka, Rodynske, Svatove, Starobilsk, Bilovodsk, Novopskov, Bilokurakhyne, Troitske, Selydove, and Slovyansk attended three-day training sessions on community development, social cohesion, integration and inclusion of IDPs, ethnic minorities as well as persons with disabilities into an active social life.



A boy at a stress-counselling session in Kostyantynivka. Psychological support rooms in eight communities of Donetsk and Luhansk regions were established with IOM's support

The initiative groups analyzed the respective communities' needs, existing relations with local authorities, and discussed social integration project ideas to be implemented. The sessions were greatly appreciated by the participants particularly for the interactive methods and informal learning approach used by IOM experts during the training.

As a result of the training, the initiative groups started to prepare community social cohesion action plans and the best ideas will receive grant support through the project of up to USD 10,000. Particularly, twelve institutions, namely municipal and district libraries, cultural centres, as well as children and youth's creativity centres were selected for renovation. The refurbishment of the above mentioned social infrastructures will improve the lives of approximately 24,000 people, who annually will visit and benefit from the services of each institution. Furthermore, eight previously selected social initiatives received continuous support through the present project; the social initiatives consisted in the renovation of social infrastructure objects as well as the provision of equipment and materials for social cohesion events in the communities of Bahmut, Svyatohirsk, Kramatorsk, Borivske, Lysychansk, Severodonetsk, Druzhkivka, Kostyantynivka. Currently, these communities continue their social integration activities through the organization of various workshops, art exhibitions, concerts as well as thematic meetings. Lastly, in September 2016, psychosocial support rooms were opened in those communities in order to enable professional psychologists to provide individual and group counselling to



IDPs and community members get to know each other at a cohesion training in Slovyansk



Art therapy for children at an IOM-supported psychosocial assistance room in Kostyantynivka

overcome stress, anxiety, to facilitate skills development for effective communication and motivation for personal growth.

The project will continue until March 2017 and will cover about 30,000 beneficiaries who will attend renovated social infrastructure objects and will take part in social cohesion activities.

Feedback from some social cohesion training participants:

"I have understood that for real progress we need to listen to each other."

(Training participant from Bilovodsk)

"After the training, I plan to help organize public hearings for decision-making on important issues."

(Training participant from Bilokurakynye)

"Only a cohesive community can efficiently solve problems."

(Training participant from Starobilsk)

LIFE STORY

“ONE SEWING MACHINE PROVIDED JOBS FOR FIVE PEOPLE”

IOM-SUPPORTED IDP QUICKLY EXPANDS HIS BUSINESS

Oleksandr arrived in Vinnytsia in January 2015 with only two bags and after travelling across Ukraine for a year in search of a better place to live after having been forced to leave his native Luhansk. “It was a spontaneous choice, as I really did not know where to go. On the New Year’s Eve, I wrote the names of all Ukraine’s regions on a piece of paper, closed my eyes and chose Vinnytsia,” recalls Oleksandr.

Less than two years later, Oleksandr is telling the story of his journey sitting in a small furniture factory established jointly with his brother. Several employees are busy fixing chairs in the next room. “Tomorrow our eighth employee will start his probation term,” says Oleksandr. “In addition to my brother and me, two more persons working with us are IDPs.”

Oleksandr grew up in a family of five children, where the mother was the only one to care about them. Furniture reupholster was Oleksandr’s first job when he was 19 years old. Then he used to work in real estate and tried some other businesses, but ending up in Vinnytsia with almost nothing in 2015, he decided to start from the very beginning and joined a local factory fixing old furniture. In few months he approached the factory director with ideas on business expansion, but met with little enthusiasm and quit his job.

With money borrowed from his family, Oleksandr has bought a compressor and



Oleksandr at his small furniture factory in Vinnytsia

two staple guns, a manual and a pneumatic one. “Jointly with my brother, we rented a garage and started repairing furniture there,” tells Oleksandr. Some time later, the two brothers learned about the IOM livelihood support programme, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and supporting self-employment of IDPs and conflict-affected people – and enrolled for business training. “It makes such a big difference when you are trained to calculate the cost and profitability of your business,” says Oleksandr.

After successfully defending his business plan, Oleksandr was awarded by IOM with an in-kind grant, providing relevant equipment. “Just

with one sewing machine you have purchased for us, it allowed us to create jobs for five people,” he explained confidently and added that with the IOM-provided equipment they could have up to a dozen additional work places.

Oleksandr is planning to move his business to bigger premises and to focus more on furniture production, which is twice more profitable than reupholstering. “We have recently created a website and it already helped us to sell four sofas! We also want to open a show-room and to build a store chain. Our furniture is of better quality and so far we are keeping the prices relatively low. So it is possible to open up to ten

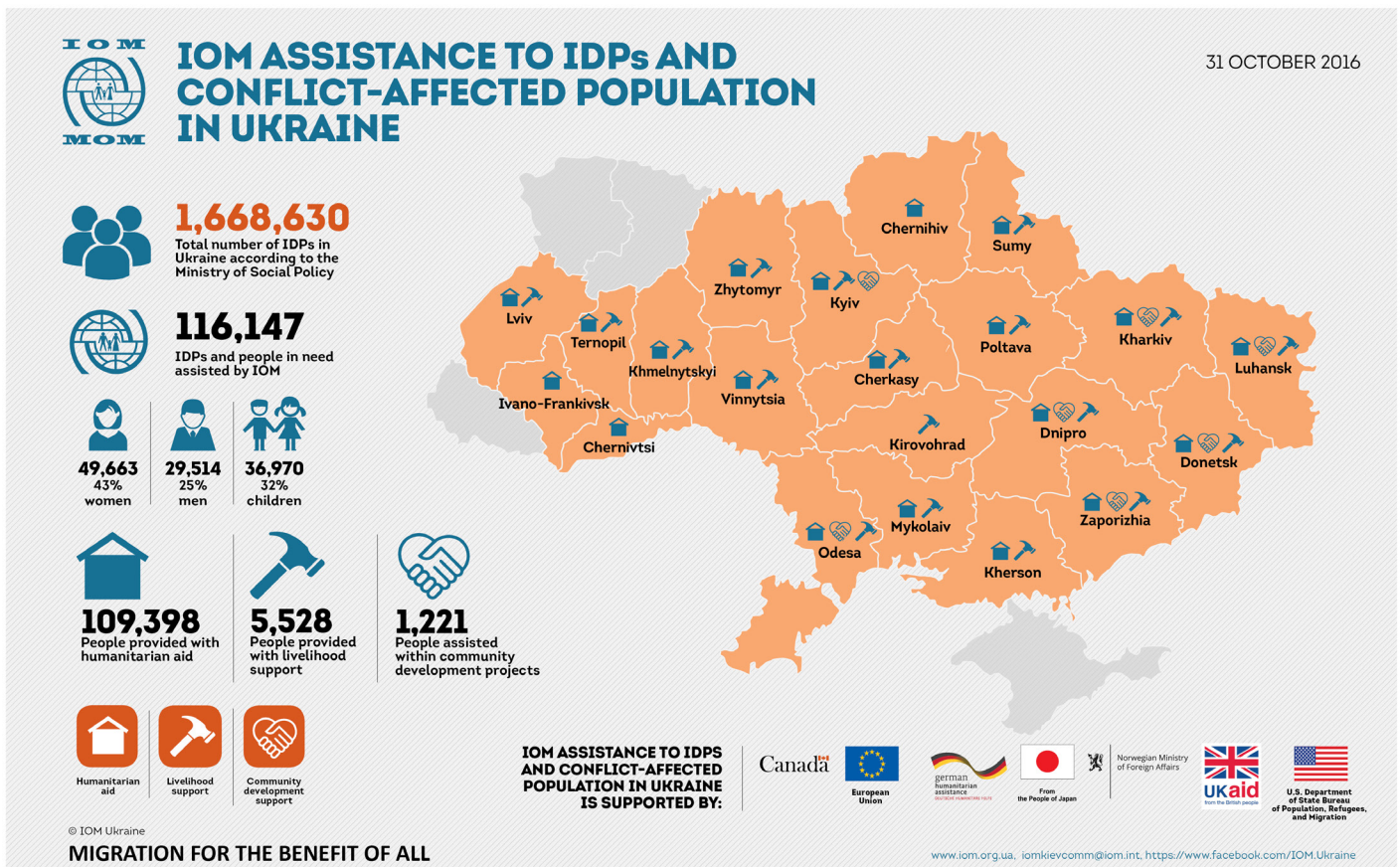


Oleksandr's IOM-supported furniture factory provides jobs for both IDPs and locals

furniture stores in Vinnytsia only." Oleksandr's active stand in life also made him a volunteer with the IOM partner NGO in Vinnytsia. He is always glad to join their public initiatives, such as counter-trafficking awareness campaigns or any other event organized. "I work so much at my factory, that I like to take every opportunity to go out, meet new people, and expand my horizons," he says.

From 2014 to 2016, with the support of different donors, IOM provided business training for over 5,500 IDPs and local community members throughout the country, with in-kind equipment grants and vocational training for more than 3,300 beneficiaries.

IOM's RESPONSE MAP



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