

# UKRAINE

Situation update No. 5 as of 26 June 2015



# OCHA



This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period of 13 - 26 June 2015, unless otherwise noted. The next report will be published on or around 3 July.

## Highlights<sup>1</sup>

- Humanitarian convoys started again delivering supplies to areas beyond government control through the Volnovakha crossing point in Donetsk oblast after over two weeks of no-access.
- Concerns over new regulations by the Government on restricting any commercial supplies of food, medicines and other items from and to NGCAs which will could trigger serious humanitarian consequences for civilians in areas beyond Government control.
- More than 500,000 people across the contact line in are experiencing critical water shortages.

## Key figures:



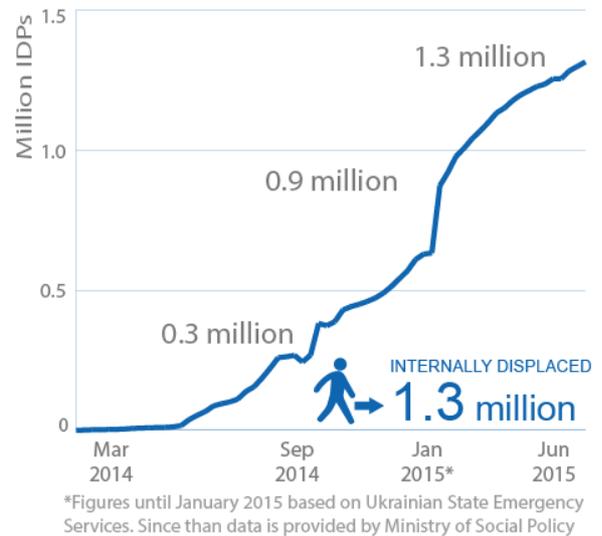
PEOPLE IN NEED

5.0 million



PEOPLE TARGETED

3.2 million



## Situation Overview

After three weeks of suspension of access for humanitarian cargo to cross the 'contact line' between Government and non-Government controlled areas (NGCAs), several consignments have managed to reach NGCAs following the opening of the Volnovakha checkpoint for humanitarian cargo. Artemivsk is also open but can be crossed only with trucks of limited capacity because of physical constraints (bridge). The previously used Khurakove route is still closed because of insecurity and reported UXO/landmine problems on the stretch crossing the no-man's land. This has been possible following high-level advocacy with the authorities. On 19 June, a joint UN-INGO humanitarian convoy of 15 trucks delivered food, shelter and other supplies from WFP, PIN, CARITAS and Save Children. On 18 June, 31 trucks loaded with 620 metric tonnes (MT) of humanitarian food aid of the Rinat Akhmetov Foundation crossed the contact line via Artemivsk and five trucks with ICRC relief supplies managed to pass via Volnovakha. On 25 June, insecurity prevented the passage of a UN-NGO convoy of 12 trucks. The same day, several aid workers trying to cross the contact line were caught in cross-fire, no injuries or damages were reported. Eventually the humanitarian cargo crossing resumed again on 26 June when the UN-NGO aid convoy managed to cross together with another 15 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) trucks loaded with water treatment chemicals as well as medicines.

Advocacy to ensure that multiple crossing points are opened at all times, simplification of bureaucratic procedures, establishment of dedicated lanes for humanitarian cargo are ongoing at the highest level, including with the President's office, the Prime Minister, the Security Services. As a result of these meetings, the Government announced that a dedicated entry point for humanitarian cargo will be made available with fast track procedures and a 24/7 focal point from SSU will be available at the Kyiv and field levels to resolve access and other related issues and challenges.

Besides access issues, humanitarian partners shared with the authorities concerns over the recent regulations by the Government preventing commercial traffic – except via railroad – and halting of public transport systems

<sup>1</sup>The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Internal Displacement data was provided by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine as of 6 April 2015.

across the frontline. Long queues of civilian cars are recorded at checkpoints, where no water, sanitary facilities or other basic services are available. Anecdotal reports of people walking to the crossing points have multiplied. Lack of commercial exchanges – especially with regards to food, medicines and basic items – is a major concern as it would have a serious and disproportionate impact over the already vulnerable civilians, and possibly trigger unnecessary additional displacement.



Joint UN-INGO convoy at Volnovakha checkpoint, Donetsk oblast © UN

A recent survey by the Rinat Akhmetov Foundation, published on 23 June, indicates that food and medicines are the main needs in NGCAs. Thousands of vulnerable people do not have access to food and medicines as they are either not available or people cannot afford them. In several locations across NGCAs medicines are in short supply or lacking altogether. If and when medicines are available, their prices are unaffordable. In NGCAs of Luhanska oblast, lack of vaccines is a major concern together with the limited stock of antibiotics, sufficient for three more weeks only. In addition, the survey found out that some 12 per cent of the interviewees were displaced (mainly for up to 3 months), but eventually returned to their homes because of the opportunity created by the lull in hostilities, but also because of lack of money to pay the rent in location of displacement, tensions with host communities and concerns over their properties in areas of origin.

Access to piped safe water remains a challenge in conflict-affected areas. As a result of the intensified clashes, more than 500,000 people, including 75,000 children, across the contact line have been experiencing a critical water crisis, especially in NGCAs of Luhanska oblast. The settlements of Lomovatka, Slaviansoserbsk, Kamiane, Komissariivka, Vonogradnaya, Shchtove, and Donetskyyi had limited or complete lack of access to safe water. According to the Luhanskvoda Water Company, water supply to Stakhanov, Kirovsk, Bryanka, Irmino, Zorinsk, Artemovsk and several districts of Luhansk city stopped from Petrovskiy water inflow and Western Filter Station on 23 June due major damage sustained by pumping equipment. This increases the risk of water-borne disease outbreaks.

A number of locations across the contact line<sup>2</sup> continue to be affected by fighting, resulting in loss of lives and exacerbating the already difficult situation of people in those areas. Since the beginning of the conflict in April 2014 and 19 June 2015, at least 6,503 people have been documented as killed and another 16,385 as wounded in the conflict zone of eastern Ukraine.<sup>3</sup> This includes at least 68 children reported to have been killed and 181 children injured, according to UNICEF. Landmines and Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs) continue to pose a threat to civilians in the conflict area. On 19 June, a civilian couple tripped a landmine in Mariinka in government-

<sup>2</sup> Fighting was reported from areas near Donetsk city and the locations of in Piski, Avdiivka, Spartak, Vesele, Opytne, Aleksandrovka, Krasnohorovka, Mariinka, Dokuchaivsk, Olenivka, Novotroitsk and Shyrokyne in Donetsk oblast. In Luhanska oblast, Shchastya, Stanytsia Luhanska, Krymske, Popasne (all GCAs), Donetsk, Sokilniki, Pryshyb, Oboznoe, Rayevka and Vesela Hora (NGCAs) have also seen insecurity and violence.

<sup>3</sup> This is a conservative estimate of the UN Human Rights Mission in Ukraine (HRMU) and the World Health Organization based on available official data: casualties of the Ukrainian armed forces as reported by the Ukrainian authorities; 298 people from flight MH-17; and casualties reported by medical establishments of Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts: civilians and some members of the armed groups. The HRMU and WHO believe that the actual numbers of fatalities are considerably higher.

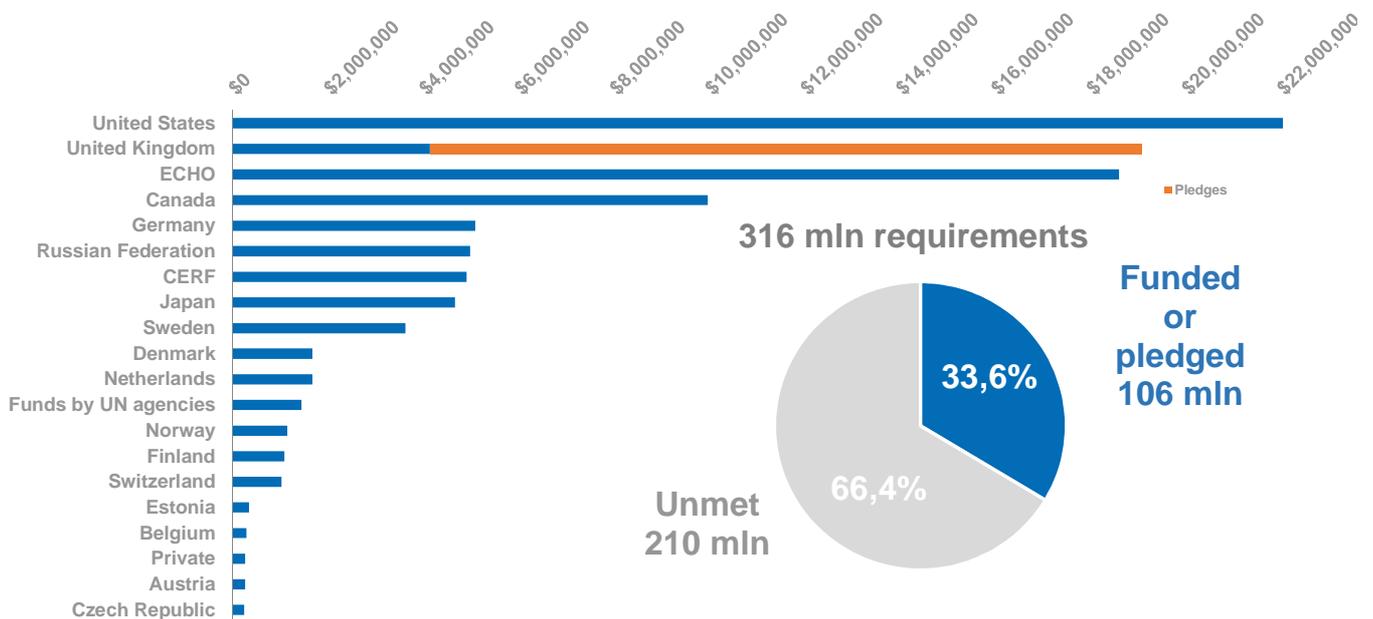
controlled area of Donetsk oblast that saw intensive fighting on 3 June. The husband died on the spot, while his wife was seriously injured.

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) registered by the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) continues to increase and as of 22 June stands at 1,357,778 people. This is an increase of more than 32,000 people compared to the past two weeks. In addition, by 25 June 900,000 Ukrainians had sought asylum, residence permits or other forms of legal stay in neighboring countries – an increase of about 10,000 people compared to the past two weeks, according to UNHCR. Overall, more than 2.2 million Ukrainians, including IDPs and those who sought refuge abroad, have been uprooted by conflict since April 2014.

## Funding

According to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2015 for Ukraine is significantly underfunded. While it is possible that some contribution is not yet recorded, as of 26 June, disbursements and pledges total US\$106 million, or 33 percent of the \$316 million required. This includes \$91 million (29 per cent) disbursed, and another \$15 million pledged (5 per cent). Donors and agencies are invited to provide information by email to [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org) or through the online contribution form at [fts.unocha.org](http://fts.unocha.org).

### Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2015 Ukraine Funding



Source: FTS, \*an additional humanitarian funding of \$55 million (not featured in this graph) is outside of HRP 2015

On 18 June, a convoy of over 100 vehicles from the Russian Federation arrived in areas beyond Government control to deliver aid. The aid includes over 1,000 MT of food, essential items and medicines, according to the Russian Federation. On 25 June, another convoy of about 100 vehicles from Russian Federation delivered more than 1,000 MT of food and medicals supplies to areas beyond Government control, according to the Russian Emergencies Ministry.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) approved this week a \$4.9 million allocation for Ukraine under the CERF rapid response window. This funding will enable the provision of life-saving assistance, health, WASH and food, for about 350,000 people living in areas along the contact, both in government-controlled areas and areas beyond government control.

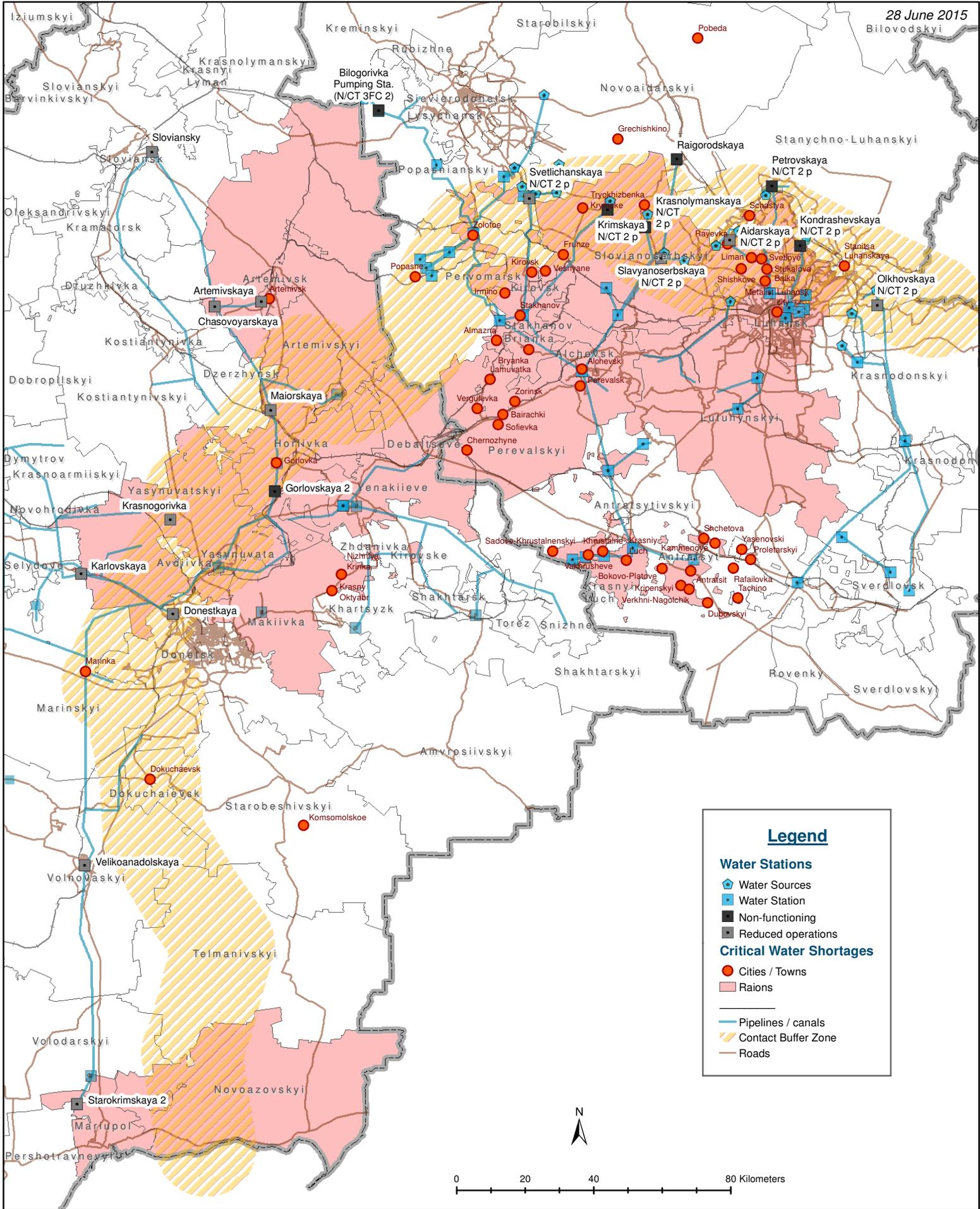
**For further information, please contact:**

Alimbek Tashtankulov, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Kyiv | [tashtankulov@un.org](mailto:tashtankulov@un.org) | +380 95 284 7322  
 Jake Morland, Desk Officer, New York | [morland@un.org](mailto:morland@un.org) | +1 212 963 2066  
 OCHA Ukraine situation updates and other reports are available at: <http://reliefweb.int/country/ukr>  
 To be added or removed from this situation update mailing list, please e-mail: [Kuttsel@un.org](mailto:Kuttsel@un.org), [kalinina@un.org](mailto:kalinina@un.org)



# Water Shortage Alerts in June Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts

28 June 2015  
Bilovodskiyi



**Legend**

**Water Stations**

- Water Sources
- Water Station
- Non-functioning
- Reduced operations

**Critical Water Shortages**

- Cities / Towns
- Raions

Pipelines / canals

Contact Buffer Zone

Roads



0 20 40 80 Kilometers