

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The security situation in eastern Ukraine has improved after a renewed ceasefire between the parties to the conflict, which started on 1 September, but remains fragile with reports of sporadic hostilities and exchanges of fire resulting in civilian casualties and infrastructure damages, albeit to a lesser degree compared to that of the previous months. The use of heavy weapons has also reportedly been restrained. On 13 September, another unilateral ceasefire – for one-week duration - was declared by de facto authorities in Donetsk and Luhansk, just ahead of the German and French Foreign Ministers' visit to Ukraine and the Russian Federation parliamentary elections on the following days. It entered into effect on 15 September and seems to be largely holding.

The waiting periods at the five operating checkpoints on the 'Contact Line' have increased, following a reduction of the daily opening hours (7:00 – 18:30 hrs) starting from 1 September, resulting in 20% less number of people reportedly managed to cross the line during the first several days after the new operating hours were introduced. Strict and time-consuming controls and luggage checks also contribute to slowing down the traffic. While the humanitarian situation at the checkpoints has improved thanks to partners' response efforts, access to shade, water and sanitary facilities remains limited. In addition, winterization of the checkpoints is urgently needed to prepare for the rapid drop in temperature to be expected in October.

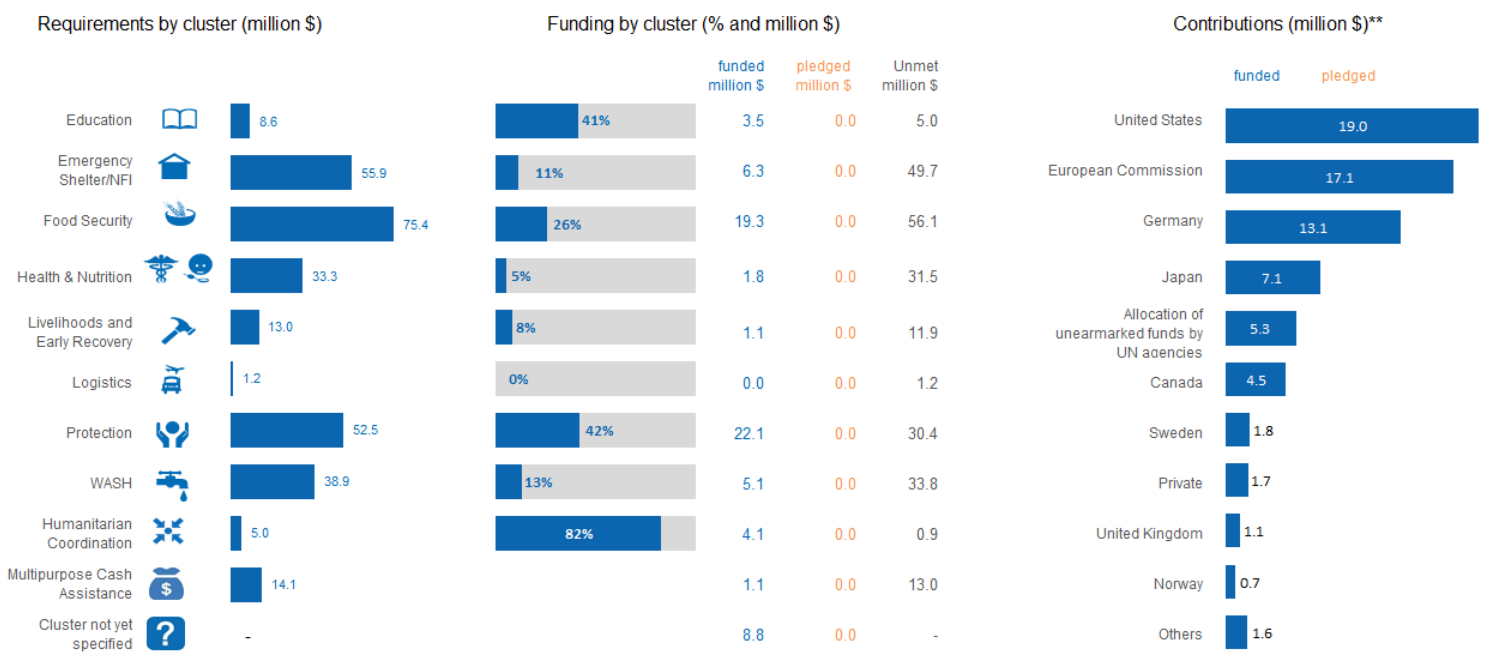
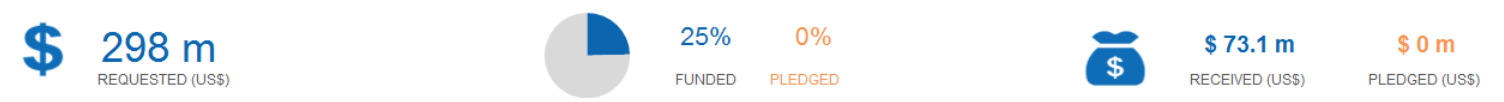
The Government has started winterization activities for people in Government-Controlled Area (GCA). For households using gas for heating, the Government would provide utilities subsidies based on vulnerability criteria. Reportedly, the number of families requesting subsidies is anticipated to double this year as more and more people have exhausted their own resources to cope with the situation and may seek external assistance. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in remote areas are particularly vulnerable due to their inability to pay increased winter utility bills as a result of losses of livelihoods and sources of income. While there is a concern that the administrative procedures to receive subsidies may take too long in light of the looming cold season, some measures have been put in place by local authorities to address these shortfalls. For example, the Department of Social Protection in Mariupol has hired additional 80 employees, with one mobile team to visit people with mobility impairments.

The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs urged the Government to intensify efforts to protect the rights of IDPs from eastern Ukraine and Crimea during his second mission to Ukraine in early September, calling as a matter of urgency for the payment of pensions and social benefits to be de-linked from IDP registration. Problems in the verification of IDP residence resulting in the suspension of such payments affect some 500,000 to 600,000 IDPs in eastern Ukraine—half of them have not had their entitlements reinstated. In the Non-Government-Controlled Area (NGCA) of Donetsk, de facto authorities have reportedly excluded IDPs from the list of people entitled to receive humanitarian aid, further exacerbating their vulnerability. Meanwhile, psychosocial assistance remains much-needed, yet unavailable for a majority of people in remote locations along the contact line, including IDPs in temporary shelter facilities.

## KEY FIGURES



## FUNDING: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN 2016\*



## EDUCATION

1 million people in need

The Education Cluster aims to improve access to quality of education for crisis-affected children.

Children who benefit from improved access

29,200 Children reached	32,000 Children targeted
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Schools repaired

45 Schools repaired	45 Schools planned to repair
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Kindergartens repaired

14 Kindergartens repaired	26 Kindergartens planned to repair
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Girls and boys who attend kindergartens

1,800 Children reached	1,250 Children targeted
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Learners who benefit from renovated schools

16,800 Children reached	32,000 Children targeted
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Capacity building of teachers on identified priority topics

3,200 People reached	8,000 People targeted
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Provision of Education and Early Childhood Development (ECD) Kits

45,200 People reached	56,000 People targeted
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Life skills education

9,500 Children reached	50,000 Children targeted
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### Needs

- Due to continuous hostilities along the contact line, conflict-affected children's access to quality education has been curtailed. Schools and kindergartens need basic school materials while damaged facilities need WASH-inclusive emergency repairs and furniture.
- Teachers need capacity building on psychosocial support.
- Children need relevant life-skills education to improve their resilience to conflict-induced issues, including Mine Risk Education and school safety.

### Response

- 59 education facilities (both kindergartens and schools) have so far been repaired this year.
- 3,200 teachers and education personnel have received training and essential tools. Training topics included how to support children in emergencies, resilience building and managing effects of exposure to violence.

- Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) has organised examination for school children from NGCA. More than 900 students registered and were able to take their exams in the GCA.
- A total of 74,300 conflict affected students and teachers have access to Education in Emergencies programs in 2016.
- 45,200 children in the Eastern regions have so far received education and early childhood development (EECD) support this year.

### Gaps/Challenges

- Cluster partners are unable to work in NGCA due to lack of access.
- Further information on damages to educational infrastructure and needs assessments of learners and teachers in NGCA are required.
- More capacity of kindergarten facilities is needed to absorb the high number of children currently not attending any school services.

For more information, contact:  
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## EMERGENCY SHELTER & NFI (as of June 2016)

0.9 million people in need

After two winters, conflict-damaged houses require light, medium and heavy repairs. In the GCA/contact line (CL), 93 per cent of damages affected private houses. Shelter/NFI needs are also high in NGCA/CL. IDPs need innovative responses as they struggle to afford rents/housing.

Address essential NFI/shelter needs of the most vulnerable (cash/in-kind assistance)

73,000 People reached	81,000 People targeted
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Contribute to adequate transitional shelter and NFI solutions (cash/in-kind)

8,000 Households reached	37,000 Households targeted
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### Needs

- Vulnerable households are preparing to winterize buildings which are partially or structurally damaged.
- Managers of collective centers have reported lack of resources for heating and utilities, with 13% of collective centers facing risk of eviction and some risking to being closed before the winter. Limited funding for humanitarian partners to cover both grey zone areas and the needs of IDPs residing in those centres is a concern.

### Response

- In cooperation with Donetska and Luhanska oblasts administration, Shelter Cluster partners are managing a database with nearly 21,000 identified shelter needs—more than half of the needs were in Donetska GCA.
- In this reporting period, 672 households benefitted from acute emergency shelter repairs and 1,773 benefitted from light and medium repairs. Meanwhile, almost 6,100 households benefitted from shelter monetized solutions.

- Shelter Cluster monitored emergency referrals on winterization and shelter repairs in the conflict-affected area. An interactive map is available on <https://www.sheltercluster.org/library/ukraine-referral-system>.

### Gaps/Challenges

- IDPs' ability to resettle in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Odessa, Zaporizhzhia, and other areas in Donetsk, and Luhansk provinces not close to the contact line is hampered by the challenging economic situation. Not only are they prone to dangerous coping mechanisms, they are vulnerable to evictions. This could force return to their area of origin where safety remains a concern. Shelter monetized solutions could support this vulnerable segment of the crisis-affected population.

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Website: <http://sheltercluster.org/response/ukraine>



# Ukraine: Humanitarian Dashboard January to August 2016

Facilitate transportation of humanitarian goods to NGCAs via joint humanitarian convoys

4,900 m<sup>3</sup>

facilitated humanitarian cargos via joint humanitarian convoys to Luhansk and Donetsk NGCA to support Health and Shelter activities.

- The Logistics Cluster successfully facilitates about 3-4 convoys per month.

## PROTECTION

3.1 million people in need

Monitoring visits conducted

4,000  
Visits conducted

6,000  
Visits planned

Changes/improvements to policies /institutional frameworks related to protection and rights where advocacy has been conducted

8  
Changes conducted

20  
Changes planned

Women, men, boys, girls having access to quality essential services (including PSS, GBV, legal aid, CFS, rehabilitation, etc.)

75,000  
People reached

100,000  
People targeted

Response mechanisms strengthened

13  
Mechanisms strengthened

20  
Mechanisms planned

Communities or people supported through peace-building or social cohesion projects

34,000  
People reached

80,000  
People targeted

Protection Cluster and sub-clusters aim to protect, support and strengthen resilience, well-being and family unity of conflict-affected people within the frame of International Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

### Needs

- The Government's suspension of social payments and pensions to IDPs remains a major concern. Some 300,000 people, including pensioners residing in NGCA, have not been able to have their payments reinstated since February.
- Many minefields are not properly marked, resulting in civilian casualties. Authorities in Donetsk Region requested mine risk education (MRE) materials for distribution to people in affected areas.
- A GBV assessment commissioned by UNFPA identified the following needs in communities along the contact line: access to life-saving information and shelters for GBV survivors, correctional programs for perpetrators, as well as the empowerment of community-based organisations working with women.

### Response

- During the summer months, mine action partners focused on MRE activities, particularly in summer camps, kindergartens and villages in the areas along the contact line. State Emergency Service worked with UNICEF and the Ministry of Education to incorporate MRE into school curriculum in Donetsk and Luhansk Regions.

- Protection Cluster partners continued their advocacy efforts with the government to amend legislation regulating the procedures for reinstatement and receipt of social benefits and payments so as to make it easier for IDPs to access these benefits.
- UNFPA commissioned an assessment among women residing along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk GCA to look into changes in public attitudes and GBV prevalence.

### Gaps/Challenges

- In August 2016, escalation of the conflict led to the highest number of civilian casualties since August last year.
- De-facto authorities in Donetsk NGCA excluded IDPs from the list of people entitled to receive humanitarian aid, further exacerbating their vulnerability.
- Psychosocial assistance remains much-needed, yet unavailable for the majority of people residing in remote locations along the contact line, including local people and IDPs in temporary shelter facilities.

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Website: <http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/en/field-support/field-protection-clusters/countries/ukraine.html>

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

2.9 million people in need

Access to safe water

1.8 million  
People reached

1.7 million  
People targeted

Access to hygiene items

345,000  
People reached

413,000  
People targeted

WASH partners continue to provide hygiene items and other assistance to vulnerable people. Water infrastructure continues to be affected by ongoing conflict, with water shortages regularly experienced across the Donbas Region.

### Needs

- The provision of WASH services at checkpoints remains a concern. Both water supply and sanitation facilities are inadequate at all GCA checkpoints, while limited access to those on the NGCA prevents assessment. Ongoing maintenance of the facilities that are installed is also a concern.
- Voda Donbasa requested humanitarian assistance in terms of water treatment chemicals, pipes, valves and spare parts to cover the need of company to ensure supply safe drinking water for 3.2 million people in affected areas in 2017.

### Response

- At checkpoints the WASH Cluster has received commitments from partners to improve water supply, storage and sanitation facilities. However, this depends on continued funding and access.
- WASH Cluster partners continue to support water supply utilities in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts through the provision of water treatment chemicals, emergency water supply, maintenance and repairs.

### Gaps/Challenges

- Continued shelling in the vicinity of the contact line is risking a catastrophic failure of water infrastructure. For example, in late August 2016, Donetsk and Verkne-Kalmiiska water treatment plants (WTPs) and two Voda Donbasa WTPs, which altogether supply treated water to over 1 million people, were just missed by shelling. Donetsk WTP staff put out fires near the reagent building. Fortunately, no injuries were reported while equipment is still operating, allowing normal water supplies to people.
  - Interruptions of electricity supply affect water supply while access to damaged infrastructure for repairs has been hampered by lack of access due to insecurity. As a result of damages to powerlines in the grey zone by shelling, Luhansk oblast GCA's Stanychno-Luhanskyi raion experienced almost a week of water shortages at the end of August, affecting some 12,000 people. Similarly in Stanytsa Luhanska, the local water distribution company used generators to pump water to multi-storey buildings, allowing temporary access to water for people. Six schools, six kindergartens, the central raion hospital and nursing home were also assisted by the authorities. People with private houses resorted to water collected from wells although water quality was an issue. NRC and PIN offered support to address continuous water shortages.
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