

Situation Report #2

Caritas Ukraine

Response to the Humanitarian Crisis
(as of September 1, 2016).



Highlights: situation overview

- ▶ 3.7 million people affected
- ▶ 3.1 million people in need
- ▶ 9,569 people killed
- ▶ More than 2,000 civilians killed (estimates by OHCHR)
- ▶ 22,212 people wounded
- ▶ 1 709 083 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)



301 000

people received aid
from Caritas Ukraine
since May 2014

Situation in the conflict zone:

July and August 2016 were influenced by intense shelling and shooting in populated areas resulted in the highest number of civilian casualties for a year (20 killed and 122 injured) and damaged houses and civilian infrastructure, leaving numerous people without shelter, drinking water, electricity or other basic services. A renewed ceasefire was announced on 1 September, and though incidents are still reported,



there has been a significant de-escalation in the beginning of September. The war is severely affecting the daily life of civilians, with a growing sense of despair and isolation affecting especially those living in the buffer zone. Damages of civilian infrastructure continue to limit people's access to basic services. During summer at least 950,000 people experienced limited access to drinking water. The fast approaching winter can dramatically increase the suffering of crisis-affected people particularly for those residing in front line areas and in non-government controlled areas and needs active winterization activities. These signs point to a long continuing struggle and long lasting social, medical and psychological problems in society.

Current problems affecting IDPs: As of September 4, 2016, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine has registered 1 709 083 internally displaced people (IDP).

The situation with Government suspended social payments and benefits to IDPs continues to be a problem. One of the main aspects, which play a role in the issue of social and material security of IDPs, is the connection of pension payment and social assistance with registration - a system that is based on the verification of IDPs residence. According to the Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs as of August, 1 no less than 300,000 Ukrainian citizens, who have had their IDP certificates suspended in February (as potential subject of fraud schemes) have not been able to verify their status. In the regions with huge numbers of IDPs local authorities lack sufficient technical and staffing resources to undertake IDP verification. Also according to government regulations from July, 1, only people who opened specialized bank account in the state-owned OshchadBank are able to receive pensions and other benefits. At least 500 000 people now do not have such accounts because they did not apply for them yet or because they are still in the process of being opened and still don't receive pensions and wages.

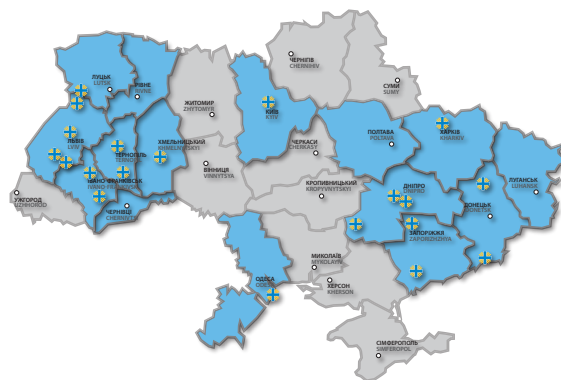
The situation at all crossing points in the conflict zone is still complicated because of increasing number of people crossing, summer heat and strict controls, following renewed political tensions between Ukraine and Russia in mid-August. Also the security situation at three out of five operating checkpoints has been deteriorated in August. Shelling occurred at the crossing points in Maryinka, Mayorsk (Donetsk region) and Stanytsia Luhanska (Luhansk region), forcing the checkpoints to close earlier in order to avoid casualties among the people waiting to cross. Two civilians were wounded at the checkpoints in August – waiting in the lines at the checkpoints is a big vulnerability risk as the crossing lines are very narrow and bomb shelters are largely unavailable.

Caritas Ukraine Response



13 154
people in need received aid

- ▶ Caritas Ukraine started to provide humanitarian assistance to war-affected people in April 2014, when the mass displacement of people in Ukraine began. Since then, for over two years, Caritas Ukraine has helped nearly **301 000** persons affected by the humanitarian crisis within new projects. During the reporting period of July – August **13 154** people in need received aid.
- ▶ Caritas Ukraine has a personalized approach to providing assistance to those in need. We conduct scrupulous assessment of needs before a project begins and render help regardless of nationality, religion, age, gender and political background but base our activities on Christian values.
- ▶ Funds received in 2016:
 - • **EUR 4 941 847**
 - • **USD 2 900 298**
 - • **UAH 2 727 985**



Geography: Caritas Ukraine operates in **15 regions** of Ukraine, mostly in the western and in the eastern regions. To be close to the people in need, Caritas established its branches in the most dense in terms of IDPs regions and cities: Dnipro, Kharkiv, Odessa, Zaporizhia, Kamyanske (former Dniprodzerzhynsk), Sviatohirsk, Mariupol and Kramatorsk. Caritas also provides assistance to those who continue to live in the buffer zone, in the worst conditions, where the shellings continue every day. Caritas employees reach out to these people by cars from Zaporizhia, Mariupol and Kramatorsk and deliver them food and non-food items, medical kits, materials for reconstruction of their houses, portable heaters, heating fuel, warm clothing in winter

Comprehensive Assistance: In April 2016, Caritas Ukraine opened the nation's first non-state Multifunctional Social Center in Dnipro. It is expected that the Center will provide assistance to more than **13,000** people yearly. The center was created in line with the best European practices and national experience. All services rendered here correspond to national standards of social services. All people in need, either IDPs or local residents, can receive quick and qualified help in various spheres under one roof. The following are the main types of assistance that the Center offers: consultation (including individual and group psychological counseling, legal advices, a counseling hotline, home care, rental of medical equipment and supplies, social rehabilitation and adaptation, creative activities (Child Friendly Space, Theater for Children and Youth, Seniors Club, workshops), sports and recreational activities, social hairdresser, laundry, soup kitchen, and distribution of humanitarian food packages. In July – August 2016, up to **1 000** people received services at the center (including 250 daily in the soup kitchen). Services that are most in demand are: barber's service, child friendly space, summer camps for children and hotline for IDPs (130-140 calls daily).

Financial support is provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Caritas Germany



- ▶ **Business grants for IDPs:** providing grants for renewal and extension of business in Kramatorsk, Mariupol, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia and Dnipro. In July-August:
 - **1393** application forms submitted;
 - **141** interviews with potential grantees;
 - **22** grants distributed.
- ▶ **Vocational grants for IDPs:** providing grants for the gaining new skills and professions in Donetsk (Kramatorsk, Sloviansk), Kharkiv, Zaporizhia (Zaporizhia, Berdyansk) oblasts. In July-August:
 - **474** application forms submitted;
 - **257** interviews with potential grantees;
 - **114** grants distributed.
- ▶ **Individual consulting on employment** (for both IDPs and vulnerable groups of local population). In July-August:
 - **531** consultations provided;
 - **31** persons placed in a job;
 - **20** persons found employment independently after Caritas consulting;
 - **98** persons assisted with resume preparation;
 - **12** found temporary employment.
- ▶ **Individual grants for requalification.** In July-August:
 - **122** application forms submitted;
 - **73** interviews with potential grantees;
 - **41** grants distributed.
- ▶ **Specialized site <http://careerfornewlife.com/>** is run by Caritas Kharkiv in the framework of the project "Employment for IDP", which contributes to job placement of IDPs through programs of training and development of cooperation with employers, and creation of workspace. As of September 1, 2016:
 - **953** IDPs registered (681 during July-August);
 - **192** (**112** during July-August) vacancies from **230** (**192** during July-August) employers published;
 - **129** registered for vocational trainings (**95** during July-August).
- ▶ **Cash for work:** temporary employment of qualified specialists from IDPs in socially responsible business projects (for example renewal of destroyed infrastructure in buffer zone) was provided for **207** persons.
- ▶ **Business centers for IDPs** in Kharkiv and Dnipro are providing consultations for on legal and accounting issues for IDPs who are starting or renewing businesses as well as coworking spaces. In July-August 44 legal and 34 accounting consultations provided and 29 used coworking spaces.
- ▶ Project "**Creation of workplaces for a new life. Grants for employers**" started in June 2016 in Kharkiv, Kramatorsk and Zaporizhzhya and is aimed on support of businesses ready to create working places for IDPs. As of September, 1, 73 applications were submitted for creation of 401 workplaces (including one from construction company for creation of 150 workplaces). The selection of grantees will be made in September.

Financial support of above activities is provided by the Catholic Relief Service and German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- ▶ Project "**Help in social integration of internally displaced people in Ukraine**" aims to establish and operate Integration Centers for Family Support to help develop stress resistance, build mature relationships in families and integrate into society through community building. The total planned number of adult beneficiaries is about 20,000, among whom are over 1 500 children. Geographical coverage of the project includes Dnipro, Kamyanske, Zaporizhia, Kharkiv, Kryvyi Rih and Melitopol. **5,077** beneficiaries have so far received assistance as of August 30, 2016.

The project is co-financed by the program "Polish collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland" and Caritas Poland

Food and Nutrition Security:



1 484 beneficiaries

- ▶ **1 484** food packages distributed.

Program of assistance is funded by the Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department of the European Commission (ECHO) via Caritas Austria

Health and Nutrition:



6 185 beneficiaries

- ▶ **Improvement of health conditions of IDPs and inhabitants of buffer zone:**

- Project "Medical and Psychosocial Support to Vulnerable Groups of Population in Controlled and Non-controlled Areas of Ukraine" which started in May 2016, targets the vulnerable population in the buffer zone of Donetsk and Luhansk regions who require medical assistance. Health check-ups and needs assessments in settlements of the region were provided in July-August. As a result, 6 medical mobile teams (including social workers, psychologists and medical staff) provided consultations and medical check-ins in 24 settlements of the region and selected to medical assistance **1164** persons. **450** persons were indicated as needing homecare support and currently are receiving this service from Caritas-trained personnel and **150** local activists trained for delivery of paramedical assistance and home care.
- **1027** persons received medical consultations from doctors, **1140** – medical assistance from nurses and paramedics and **1265** – consulting by social worker.
- **556** medical kits distributed.

- ▶ **Psychological support provided to 1,340 individuals.**

The objective of PSS activities is to reduce the level of anxiety, adaptation and integration stress of adults and children, internally displaced people and residents of the buffer zone, and to enhance their emotions' management skills through the providing systematic psychological support.

Our psychologists provide:

- Telephone counseling
- Initial consultations in cooperation with social workers
- Individual counseling for adults
- Individual counseling for children
- Group work with adults (peer groups)
- Group work with children
- Parent-child groups
- Outdoor activities: educational and cultural
- Organization of summer camps

This component is an essential part of 6 current projects of CUA. Since 2014 about 27 000 people received our PSS services all around Ukraine. In July-August **3500** persons get PSS assistance.

- ▶ **Work with children from crisis-affected families:**

- Summer camps for children from the buffer zone: **181** children buffer zone (Maryinka, Krasnohorivka, Avdiivka, Svitlodarsk, Valuiske, Komishnenske and others) attended recreation camps in the Carpathian Mountains (Chernivtsi and Ivano-Frankivsk regions) and Sviatohirsk (Donetsk region).

Financial support is provided by Caritas Austria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany and Caritas Germany, Cordaid

- ▶ **Implementation of Case Management Approach to Work with IDPs.** This is an innovative and unique approach for Ukraine where people in need are viewed through a comprehensive set of issues. Case managers ensures the simplification of procedures and faster access to available services. Most families request help in resolving legal, medical, psychological, humanitarian (clothing, footwear, food), and social issues. At the same time, a case manager prepares clients to deal with difficult situations independently and informed of the organizations and resources that are currently available in the community. During the first stage 500 IDP families were involved in the project. New stage started in June and is already in progress in Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia and Kramatorsk and it will cover 500 new families.

Financial support is provided by UNDP

About Caritas in Ukraine

International charitable foundation Caritas Ukraine is a humanitarian non-governmental organization which aims to help people in need regardless of their religion, nationality or social status. Caritas provides social development programs and humanitarian services to members of vulnerable communities in Ukraine supporting social development and fostering the traditions of charity and social work. The strategic mission of Caritas Ukraine is to develop philanthropy and to encourage community participation in charitable work according to Christian moral and ethical teachings.

International charitable foundation Caritas Ukraine

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