

Ukraine situation

November 2017



A local resident helps to deliver a supply of coal provided by UNHCR to his elderly neighbour in the village of Luhanske, Donetsk region. Photo: UNHCR/Evgeny Maloletka

Background

Winters in Ukraine are harsh, with average temperatures ranging between 2 and -5 °C.¹ Low temperatures and heavy snowfall make daily life difficult, particularly for the country's internally displaced persons (IDPs) who often live in poorly insulated homes or collective centres and are unable to cover utility costs, which have risen considerably during 2017. Persons living in areas near the line of contact contend with conflict-damaged and ageing utility infrastructure, difficulty acquiring coal or wood for heating, and lack money to buy adequate winter clothing. Movement during winter across the line of contact is impeded by reduced checkpoint operating hours and a shortage of heated waiting areas with those waiting exposed to the elements, while others are unable to travel due to the extreme cold. These extensive challenges mean that additional support is essential for the well-being of the most vulnerable conflict-affected persons during winter.

¹ Source: Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Center.

Assistance

UNHCR's 2017/2018 winterization assistance plan will target 15,300 of the most vulnerable IDPs living in eastern Ukraine, as well as other vulnerable conflict-affected persons living in areas near the line of contact, both in government and non-government controlled areas. UNHCR will work with its partners to deliver assistance in the form of non-food items (NFIs) such as winter clothing, as well as coal for heating, and cash grants to meet winter expenses. UNHCR will also provide winter support at checkpoints on the line of contact.

Non-Food Items

- Winter clothing such as jackets, shoes, and other items of clothing will be provided to 1,000 persons in the non-government controlled area of Luhansk region.
- UNHCR will provide winter jackets to more than 4,700 children in nearly 100 locations throughout government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

Coal

- To meet winter heating needs of vulnerable persons living near the line of contact in the non-government controlled area of Donetsk region, UNHCR will provide 9,000 tonnes of coal to 3,000 households (3 tonnes per household).

Cash

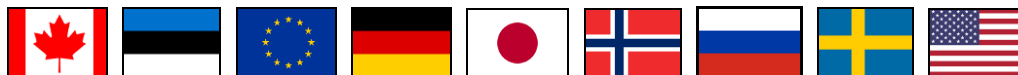
- In government-controlled areas, UNHCR will provide one-time unconditional winter cash grants of USD 250 to 1,000 households to help meet winter costs such as heating and clothing.

Support at checkpoints

- To facilitate the freedom of movement of persons across the line of contact, UNHCR will reinforce existing weather shelters at checkpoints to meet the demands of winter, and construct new shelters for emerging needs.

External / Donors Relations

In 2017, UNHCR has recorded contributions for the Ukraine operation of some **US\$ 13.1 million**, including **US\$ 8.7 million** for the IDP situation from the following donors as well as private donors:



UNHCR received in-kind donations for winterization assistance in Ukraine from:



CONTACTS

E-mail: ukrki@unhcr.org, Tel: +38 044 288-9710

LINKS

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