

# INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION ASSISTANCE

November 2018



*Valentyna, 68, and her grand-daughter Angelina, 9, were forced to flee their hometown across the ‘contact line’ as a result of regular shelling and moved further away from the zone impacted by the conflict. However, the only house they were able to rent was also partially damaged by shelling. Since they fled, the family has been living off gardening and selling vegetables. With the approaching winter, the grand-daughter needed warm clothes to be able to travel to school. Thanks to UNHCR’s Individual Protection Assistance (IPA) in cash, Valentyna’s grand-daughter was able to purchase both new winter clothes and stationery for her to access education.*

As part of its **wider protection response**, UNHCR provides **Individual Protection Assistance (IPA)** to the most vulnerable among the displaced and other conflict affected persons in east Ukraine. The IPA programme provides a one-time cash or non-cash assistance to persons **with specific protection needs** to prevent their exposure to further risks. Potential beneficiaries are identified either by UNHCR or NGO partners during case management or protection monitoring missions to the field. IPA are also used to complement other UNHCR protection activities such as shelter, peaceful co-existence projects, community support initiatives, protection counselling, legal assistance and or advocacy on individual cases/issues at the local level. UNHCR and its partners verify the vulnerabilities, identify the needs through home visits and decide on a case-by-case basis through a multifunctional team. Beneficiaries are identified through an **age, gender and diversity lens** and empowers recipients to decide how they will address their protection needs. In Ukraine, cash and in-kind assistance has been considered by aid recipients as being a more dignified method of providing humanitarian assistance. It also supports displaced and conflict affected persons in finding longer-term solutions.

## UNHCR’S IPA PROGRAMME SEEKS TO

Prevent arbitrary displacement or re-displacement

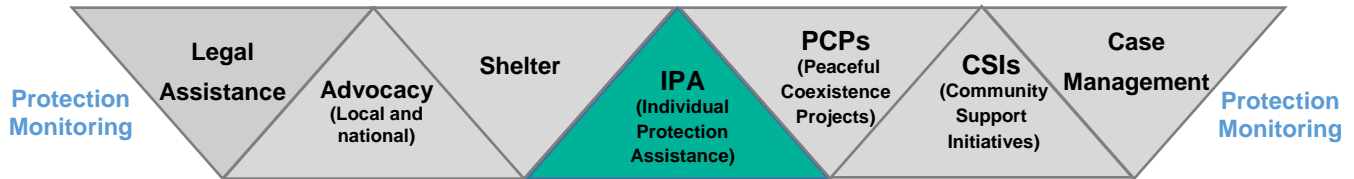
Improve the physical safety and dignity of displaced persons

Support newly displaced persons

Complement established government and partner programming

**PART OF A BROADER PROTECTION APPROACH**

The IPA cash and in-kind programmes are part of UNHCR's integrated and multi-disciplinary protection approach in eastern Ukraine. Through a wide range of protection interventions and activities, UNHCR's integrated response improves protection outcomes for internally displaced and conflict affected persons.


**AGE, GENDER AND DIVERSITY BENEFICIARY SELECTION**

Categories of persons identified for this assistance includes internally displaced persons and other conflict-affected persons living near the 'contact line' in government-controlled and non-government controlled areas. UNHCR provides IPA according to four broad categories of vulnerability criteria below.


**IPA Cash**
**3,000**

Targeted Cash beneficiaries in 2018

**2,500**

Planned Cash beneficiaries in 2019

Since 2014, UNHCR has offered cash solutions for the protection needs of internally and other conflict affected persons residing in the east and other regions of Ukraine. Until 2017, UNHCR implemented a multi-purpose stabilisation grant (MPSG). In 2017 and onwards, UNHCR launched its Individual Protection Assistance programme in the form of cash to support UNHCR and partner's protection case management and social accompaniment as well as to complement other protection activities by UNHCR and other protection actors. The programme provided **4,425 persons** living near the 'contact line' in government-controlled areas with one-time cash assistance of **UAH 4,000 (USD 153) per person** to address their protection needs. This amount has been recommended by the aid agencies that are members of **Ukraine Cash Working Group**, and represents UAH 660/person/month for up to six months. The cash grants are delivered through the **Ukrainian postal service Ukrposhta**, allowing those residing in remote locations and with limited mobility to receive payments at home. Provision of IPA through cash is currently limited to the GCA due to the lack of a banking system in non-government controlled areas.


**IPA In-Kind**
**1,000**

Targeted In-kind beneficiaries in 2018

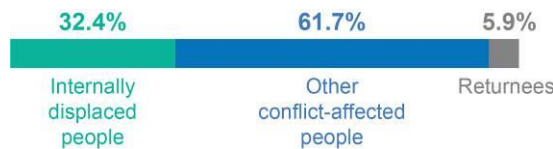
**1,000**

Planned in-kind beneficiaries in 2019

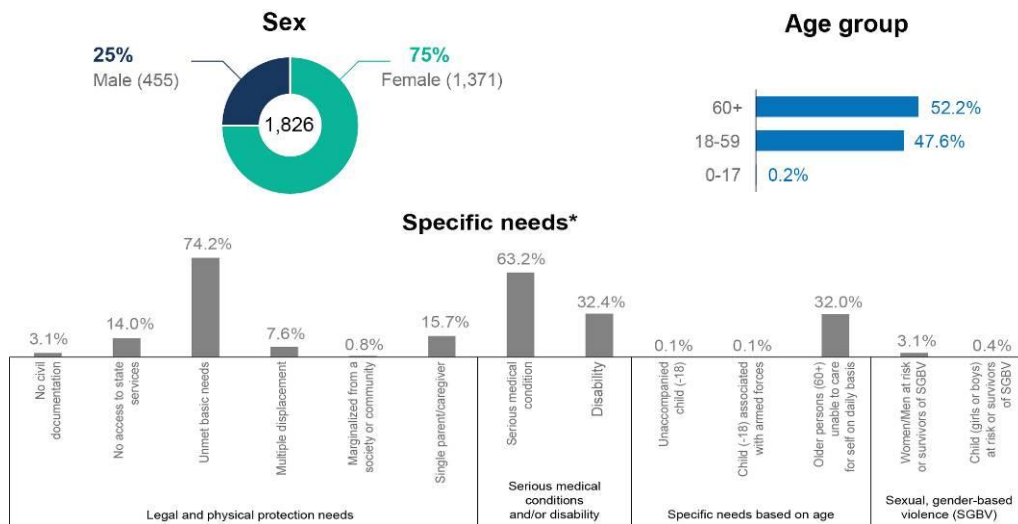
In-kind assistance provided through UNHCR's IPA programme is in the form of household items, clothing and medical and other equipment to meet protection needs and ensure an adequate standard of living of their recipients. The type of IPA in-kind is decided by the beneficiary themselves. Such assistance is distributed directly by UNHCR and its partners in locations where there is no functioning banking system. Like cash, this is also a one-time assistance, rather than continuous support, in order to reduce the risk of dependency. Examples of IPA in-kind assistance have included: special equipment for persons with disability, cushions for wheelchairs, blood glucose monitoring equipment, various furniture (such as fridges), winter clothes, school equipment for kids and radiators. In 2017, **791 people benefitted from UNHCR's IPA in-kind assistance**.

## IPA Programme Implementation Progress *(January-October 2018)*

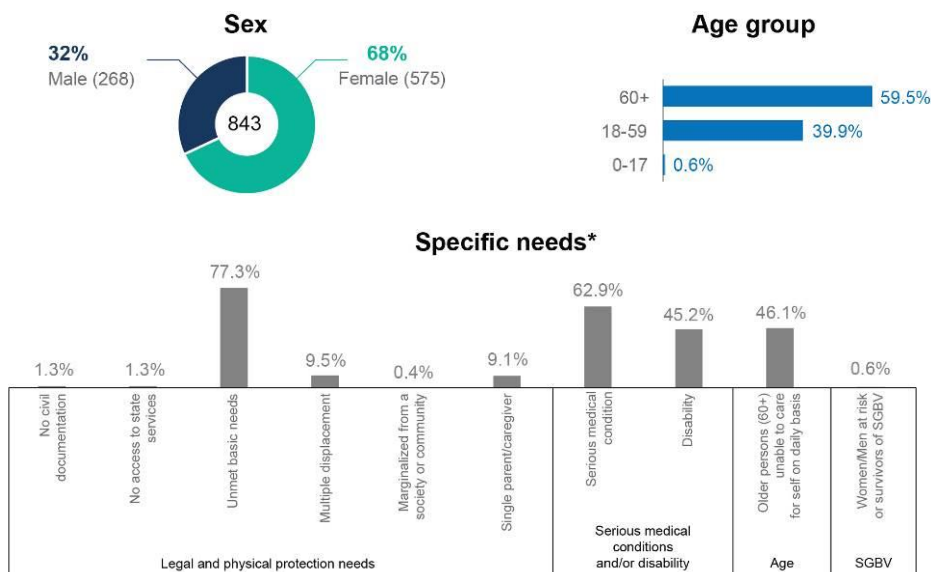
**2,669** Beneficiaries selected for assistance out of the **3,000 targeted** (90%)  
**82.7%** Residing in the **area near the line of contact** (20km)



### IPA Cash beneficiaries



### IPA In-kind beneficiaries



## Individual Protection Assistance (IPA) Impacts

Tatiana, 55, lives near the 'contact line' in eastern Ukraine and was forced to flee her home in 2015 because of the conflict. She returned in 2017 to find her house vandalized and her pensions blocked. Thanks to UNHCR NGO Partner Proliska, she received food and support to resume her pension payments. However, through case management, UNHCR noticed that access to health care and access to food negatively impacted Tatiana's ability to live a dignified life. Therefore, UNHCR provided her with protection cash support for *healthcare* and for *a refrigerator* to store her food as her previous one had been stolen while she was away.



Ivan, 15, has cerebral palsy and lives with his family near the 'contact line'. Ivan's father is unemployed and barely manages to make ends meet with a low income from a part time job. Ivan outgrew his old wheelchair and his family could not afford a new one. Ivan receives state assistance, which mostly covers food expenses and his mother cannot work as she provides full-time care for Ivan. As a result, Ivan's lack of mobility not only affected his ability to live with dignity, but also negatively impacted his family. Therefore, UNHCR provided Ivan with *a new wheel-chair*, greatly improving Ivan's comfort and well-being.



Oleksandra, 31, a single mother of two children, lives with her parents in the village of Kurdiumivka near the 'contact line'. Damaged by shelling, their apartment has a leaking roof and the only available appliance for cooking food is an old fire hazardous electric cooker. Oleksandra's younger son does not have a place to sleep. Seeing how the family struggled to make ends meet and provide a dignified life to her children, UNHCR provided Oleksandra with a cash support to buy *a new electrical cooker*, *a bed for her son* and some *clothes for her daughter*.



UNHCR Ukraine is grateful to the following donors



UNHCR Ukraine: [www.unhcr.org.ua](http://www.unhcr.org.ua) - Twitter: [www.twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine](https://twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv) - Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr\\_ukraine](https://www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr_ukraine)  
 E-mail: [ukrkom@unhcr.org](mailto:ukrkom@unhcr.org), Tel: +38 044 288-9710