

Operational Update

July 2020

On 27 July, the [special measures to strengthen the ceasefire in eastern Ukraine](#) came into force following the agreement reached by the Trilateral Contact Group to the Minsk negotiations. This resulted in a [significant decrease in hostilities which reached the lowest level](#) since the start of the conflict. *More on page 2.*

In July, UNHCR jointly with OCHA delivered [two humanitarian convoys to the non-government controlled areas in Donetsk and Luhansk](#). These convoys transported COVID-19 related relief items (food and non-food) as well as materials for the UNHCR-led projects aimed at supporting [conflict-affected communities](#). *More on page 2.*

In July, UNHCR launched a [new round of applications for its self-reliance grants](#) provided to refugees, asylum-seekers and persons with complementary protection status in Ukraine. In total, over a [hundred persons applied for this assistance](#). More on UNHCR's livelihoods interventions *on page 5.*

KEY INDICATORS

8,436

Internally displaced (IDPs) and other conflict-affected persons have received [legal assistance](#) from UNHCR's NGO partners in 2020.

69

IDPs and other conflict-affected persons have been counselled [on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence \(SGBV\) related issues](#) in 2020.

1,112

IDPs and other conflict-affected persons have benefited from [psychosocial support](#) in 2020.

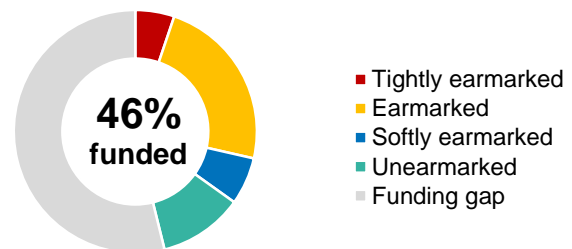


Anna, 22, is one of an estimated 35,000 stateless persons living in Ukraine. In 2019, she lost her mother Olena who was also stateless and died after fighting cancer for several years. All her life Olena lived in the impasse. Being born in the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, she was left with invalid passport after the collapse of the USSR. Neither her, nor Anna, were able to acquire a nationality in Ukraine. Without a passport, Olena was denied access to health care which would have enabled her to diagnose the illness at an earlier stage and enact an effective treatment plan. Anna hopes that after Ukraine adopted a law that formally establishes a statelessness determination procedure, she will be able to finally acquire a nationality and exercise her rights. Read Anna's story in full: ["With this law, I will finally get a sense of how it is to exist"](#).

FUNDING (AS OF 11 AUGUST 2020)

USD 29.8 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2020



INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)*

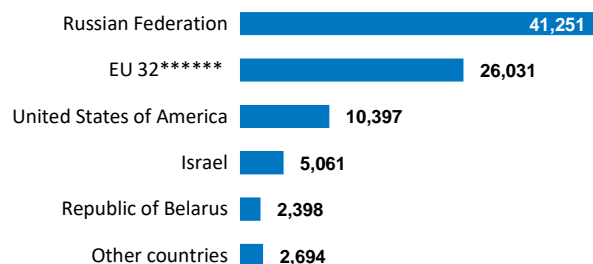
734,000**

OTHER CONFLICT-AFFECTED PERSONS***

1,68 million****

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS FROM UKRAINE

87,832*****



*Residing more permanently in government-controlled areas (GCA)

**Source: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)

***Vulnerable, conflict-affected persons living along the 'contact line' in GCA and non-government controlled areas (NGCA)

****Sources: Protection Cluster, UNHCR, 2020

*****Source: UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics, December 2019

*****27 EU countries and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Operational Highlights

During the reporting period, the [Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe \(OSCE\)](#)'s [Special Monitoring Mission \(SMM\)](#) recorded [13,745 ceasefire violations](#) in eastern Ukraine, representing a [12 per cent decrease](#) as compared to the previous month. Since 27 July, when the [special measures to strengthen the ceasefire](#) (agreed upon by the [Trilateral Contact Group to Minsk negotiations](#)) came into effect, the [number of hostilities decreased to the lower level recorded by the OSCE's SMM since the start of the conflict](#). In July, the [UNHCR-led Shelter Cluster](#) recorded [50 new civilian houses damaged or destroyed](#) by shelling on both sides of the 'contact line'. No damages were reported since 27 July.



Humanitarian convoy to NGCA: During the reporting month, UNHCR jointly with OCHA facilitated the delivery of two convoys to the non-government controlled areas (NGCA) in Donetsk and Luhansk. On 9 July, the convoy delivered over 35 metric tons of aid, including food kits, non-food items (NFIs), equipment for disabled people, disposable diapers, printed products, medical equipment and medicine from UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO and Polish Humanitarian Action. On 29 July, a second "hand-pushed" humanitarian convoy arrived in Luhansk NGCA across the Entry-Exit Checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska. It carried COVID-19 related relief items from WHO, the international NGO Association Internationale de Cooperation Medicale (AICM) and UNHCR. For UNHCR's part of the convoy, some 105 bicycles were transported. These will be distributed to local territorial centres and first aid points to increase the mobility of medical care and social services providers in the isolated localities along the 'contact line'. *Photo by UNHCR (first on the right).*



UNHCR's Response to COVID-19: In July, UNHCR jointly with its NGO partners provided [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#) to [sixteen medical facilities](#) in conflict-affected areas in Donetsk oblast. This assistance included [surgical masks, medical gowns, gloves and glasses](#) to be used by health care providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance was distributed as part of [UNHCR's Quick Impact Projects \(QIPs\)](#), aimed at increasing capacities of frontline health care centres who are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in areas where medical infrastructure has been weakened by the conflict. *Photo by UNHCR (second on the right).*



Situation at the EECPs and UNHCR's Response: During the reporting period, three out of four EECPs in Donetsk oblast remained closed while the [checkpoint Novotroitske/Olenivka](#) functioned twice a week with restrictions. In total, [seven so-called 'humanitarian corridors'](#) were authorized by the de facto authorities in Donetsk according to pre-agreed lists of persons who received permission to cross. UNHCR teams on both sides of the 'contact line' maintained a permanent presence during these 'corridors' to provide protection assistance to those crossing. In July, [2,287 crossings were reported in both directions through this EECP](#). At any given period, on average, [between 18 to 20 people also remained stranded at the checkpoint staying in tents overnight](#). They were regularly provided with food and water by UNHCR's NGO partner Proliska. *Photo on the left by Proliska.*



At the [Stanytsia Luhanska EECP](#), the only functioning in Luhanska oblast, where the established procedures for crossing are less restricted, [28,082 crossings were recorded in July](#). Of them, 12,715 individuals were transported by [two electric cars operated by UNHCR and its NGO partner Proliska](#) to help persons with specific needs to cross an 800-metres long passage between the two sides of the checkpoint. In total, the [State Border Guard Service of Ukraine \(SBGS\)](#) recorded [30,146 crossings across the 'contact line' in July](#), which represents a [98 per cent decrease](#) compared to the same period in 2019 (see [UNHCR's dashboard "Checkpoint Crossing" here](#)). An additional hardship for those who cross was related to the recurring issues with the ["Act at Home" mobile phone application](#) required to be installed by the Ukrainian authorities to track the self-isolation of those arriving in GCA.

Jointly with its NGO partner The [Right to Protection \(R2P\)](#), UNHCR assisted approximately 800 people at the EECP in installing the app and documented problems for eventual advocacy interventions. As reported by R2P, since 23 July, every day [up to 10 persons have stayed overnight](#) in the neutral area at the Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint as they had no confirmation of their residence registration in NGCA and were not allowed to return home to NGCA by de-facto authorities. To improve the conditions at the partly-functioning EECPs, [UNHCR jointly with its NGO partners installed benches near the Oschadbank office in the waiting areas at the Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint](#) and also handed-over [sanitisers to the State Border Guard Service \(SBGS\)](#).

Legal Highlights

- On 16 July, the [European Court of Human Rights \(ECtHR\)](#) issued a final decision in the case of “Nur and Others v. Ukraine” ([no. 77647/11](#)), which has been represented by UNHCR's NGO partner [the Right to Protection \(R2P\)](#). The ECtHR found a violation of Article 5 § 1 ECtHR and a violation of Article 5 § 4 ECtHR and entitled two applicants to the just satisfaction in respect of non-pecuniary damage. This decision represents an important development for UNHCR's advocacy efforts in Ukraine, particularly regarding access to international airports, which remains challenging in Ukraine.
- On 17 July, a [draft law no. 3902](#) was registered in the Parliament implying to [establish issuance of passports for residents of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, NGCA and IDPs at the place of application](#) for such documents. The draft law also proposes to enable the registration procedure of place of residence for the above-mentioned categories.
- On 18 July, the [law no. 693-IX \(draft law no.2335\) on the Statelessness Determination Procedure](#) entered into force. It is expected that the relevant by-laws should be brought into compliance with the law within three months. UNHCR and its NGO partners participate in the development of the legal framework. As part of this workstream, a draft by-law “[On Order of Consideration of Applications for Recognition as a Stateless Persons](#)” was developed and shared with the [State Migration Service \(SMS\)](#) for further discussions.
- On 19 July, Parliament resolution [No 807-IX “On the establishment of and liquidation of districts”](#) came into force. It abolishes the previously existing 490 districts and instead establishes 136 new enlarged districts (*hromadas* or amalgamated communities) in Ukraine. New district councils will be elected during [the local elections planned for 25 October](#). The resolution was adopted to facilitate reforms of the local self-government and territorial organization of power in Ukraine. The resolution notes that formation of new districts in the [Temporarily Occupied Territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as Donetska and Luhanska oblasts](#), will come into force after these territories return under the general jurisdiction of Ukraine.

Key Advocacy Messages for July

- During the reporting period, UNHCR addressed a letter to the [Ministry of Digital Transformation with regards to the functioning of the mobile phone application for tracking the self-isolation “Act at Home”](#). The issues related to the inability to install the app by some persons who cross the ‘contact line’ have been described in the letter which also presented [suggestions on how to improve the application based on UNHCR's and its NGO partners' observations](#).
- On 27 July, [UNHCR and WHO held a coordination meeting](#) to discuss joint monitoring of EECs and renewed advocacy on COVID-19 prevention measures to be carried out on both sides of the ‘contact line’. UNHCR and OHCHR remain the only agencies monitoring conditions at the EECs. On 28 July, the [UN Humanitarian Country Team \(HCT\) Protection Strategy Working Group](#) met to discuss revisions to the set of [recommendations for the safe reopening of EECs](#) issued in June and shared with the Government of Ukraine. Since the majority of recommendations have not been considered by authorities, the HCT will need to agree on renewed efforts to convince the Ukrainian authorities to implement the recommendations, particularly when all EECs open.

UNHCR'S AND UNHCR-LED CLUSTER'S RECENT REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS:

[ONE-PAGER] LATEST INFORMATION PRODUCTS: this one-page factsheet includes UNHCR Ukraine's recent products, reports, thematic factsheets, dashboards and UNHCR-led Clusters' reports.

[THEMATIC UPDATE] LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (MAY-JUNE): this update provides an overview of UNHCR's legal analysis of laws and governmental policies that affect refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless, IDPs and conflict-affected persons in Ukraine. The latest edition also covers the legal response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

[NEWS STORY] HOW DID CORONAVIRUS CHANGE DAILY ROUTINE AND HABITS OF PEOPLE IN DONBAS?: this article highlights the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on lives of displaced and conflict-affected persons in eastern Ukraine.

[SNAPSHOT] CROSSING THE CONTACT LINE (JULY 2020): this joint UNHCR/R2P thematic update presents key developments at the EECs in eastern Ukraine in July.



Humanitarian Development Nexus

- During the reporting period, UNHCR and UNDP launched a [joint project envisaging training of trainers of the programme “Local Activism and Community Mobilization near the contact line”](#). This initiative implemented in the framework of the [Humanitarian-Development Nexus \(HDN\)](#) aims at strengthening the leadership and coaching capacity of local activists and trainers from UNHCR’s NGO partners (Proliska, R2P, Slavic Heart) and further mainstreaming the HDN concept within local communities. In total, [27 persons registered for a three-day online course held from 8 to 10 July](#).
- In July, UNHCR designed a [learning module related to SGBV issues for the “Free Legal Aid Volunteers” project](#). This initiative implemented jointly by [UNHCR, UNDP, and the Council of Europe and state Free Legal Aid Centres \(FLAC\)](#) will involve opinion leaders, members of civil society organizations and volunteers willing to provide support to those in need and become [paralegals](#). The special posters announcing the launch of the project were distributed to UNHCR’s NGO partner R2P offices and will be placed in locations along the ‘contact line’. UNDP plans to contribute to the procurement of kits for future legal volunteers, including tricycles, tablets, branded bag packs, T-shirts, jackets, raincoats and banners.



Donor Relations

- On 6 July, UNHCR facilitated a [visit of the Ambassador of Latvia to Ukraine to conflict-affected Donetska oblast](#). During the mission, the Latvian delegation handed over [medical equipment worth USD 25 thousand to the central hospital in Sloviansk](#). This assistance will enable the facility to improve the provision of medical care to displaced and conflict-affected persons. *Photo on the right by UNHCR.*



- On 7 July, UNHCR facilitated a [mission of the UN Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator, Osnat Lubrani, to eastern Ukraine](#). The visit was aimed at assessing several COVID-19 related projects implemented in locations along the ‘contact line’. The UN Resident Coordinator visited a [hospital in the town of Petropavlivske in Luhanska oblast](#), which has been selected as an observation place for people arriving from NGCA. She also assessed the [preparedness of the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska for the partial reopening](#) and tested an [electric bicycle provided by UNHCR to volunteers who deliver emergency assistance and food to residents in isolated settlements along the ‘contact line’](#). *Photo on the left by UNHCR.*

food to residents in isolated settlements along the ‘contact line’. *Photo on the left by UNHCR.*



MULTI-SECTOR RESPONSE TO REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS

Protection of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

- **Supporting an Asylum-Seeking Family with undergoing COVID-19 tests:** During the reporting period, with the gradual easing of the quarantine measures, a [family of asylum-seekers from Iran \(single father with two minor children\)](#) was referred to a [Temporary Accommodation Centre \(TAC\) for refugees in Zakarpattia oblast](#). The TAC administration requested each family member to undergo COVID-19 tests which are available only on a paid basis. [UNHCR’s NGO partner NEEKA](#) negotiated a discounted price for the test and accompanied the family during their settlement at the TAC.
- **Consultations on Draft Law on Granting Protection to Foreigners and Stateless Persons:** On 18 July, UNHCR met with the [Head of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee](#) to discuss the new version of the [Draft Law on Granting Protection to Foreigners and Stateless Persons](#). During the meeting, it was agreed that UNHCR will submit its recommendations for the improvement of certain provisions suggested by the draft law separately to the Committee before the voting planned for the end of the year. In parallel, the [Office of the Parliament’s Human Rights Ombudsperson](#) offered to support UNHCR’s advocacy efforts on the draft law. It was agreed that the proposals to the draft law will be developed and submitted through the newly created Coordination Council on Migration issues created by the Ombudsperson. In its [official Observations](#), UNHCR notes that the new draft law is considered disappointing as it takes steps backwards on several issues, in particular, on the detention of asylum-seekers.

671

Persons received Legal Assistance

(including refugees and asylum-seekers) in Kyiv, Odesa, Zakarpattia and Kharkiv regions in July

97

Persons provided with language training for livelihood purposes

(including refugees and asylum-seekers) thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support in July

29

Persons received Psychosocial Assistance

(including refugees and asylum-seekers) thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support in July

228

Persons were assisted in accessing healthcare

(including refugees and asylum-seekers) thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support in July

Livelihood Interventions for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

- In July, 102 individuals applied for the 2020 round of self-reliance grants provided by UNHCR. Long-listed applicants will be advised on the development of their business ideas which will be later presented for the evaluation by the [Livelihoods Grants Committee](#). Since the launch of this project in 2018, 73 refugees have started their own businesses thanks to this one-time assistance provided by UNHCR.
- On 3 July, UNHCR approved additional financial support to eight persons who had in the past started their own businesses with UNHCR's livelihood grants. This assistance is calculated as 10 per cent of the initial grant amount and will be used to reimburse COVID-19-related losses of grantees and protect their business activities during the economic slowdown as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.
- During the reporting period, in cooperation with the [Silpo food retail chain](#), UNHCR facilitated the enrolment of four self-reliance grant beneficiaries into the business development online course provided by [Foodprosvita](#). This training is designed for small farmers and food producers and includes five learning modules covering product development, finance, logistics, marketing, communication and business development. The best graduates will be supported with further business counselling to obtain the option to sell products at flagman Silpo stores.

Assistance to Stateless Persons and Persons at Risk of Statelessness

- In July, UNHCR's NGO partner [NEEKA](#) distributed hygiene kits in Roma camps in Zakarpattia oblast to support its residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance was provided in the framework of a UNICEF-led project. During the distribution, NEEKA also conducted a survey to assess the awareness on COVID-19 prevention in Roma settlements. Key findings showed the majority of responders were well-informed about the WHO recommendations, such as wearing surgical masks, maintaining social distancing and hands hygiene.
- During the reporting month, UNHCR's NGO partner R2P distributed food and hygiene packs to four shelters for homeless and persons with the disabilities in the city of Kyiv and Kyiv oblast. This assistance was provided in the framework of the project funded by the International Renaissance Foundation.

17

Stateless persons (or at risk of) (29% female, 71% male) obtained a passport or other document certifying nationality

in July thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support

261

Stateless persons (or at risk of) (38% female, 62% male) received advice on the acquisition or confirmation of nationality

in July thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support

17

Persons obtained their birth certificates for the first time

in July thanks to UNHCR and NGO partners' support



PROTECTION FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED AND OTHER CONFLICT-AFFECTED PERSONS

Protection Cluster

- During the reporting period, the UNHCR-led Protection Cluster participated in a series of webinars focusing on the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview-Humanitarian Response Plan process and costing methodologies. These were organized by the Global Protection Cluster to discuss the differences between the project-based costing and activity-based costing. It was decided that for the 2021 HRP, the Protection Cluster in Ukraine will still apply the project-based approach.

- In July, the Protection Cluster provided its comments on the planned **REACH multi-sectoral needs assessment** to ensure that the protection-related questions are systematized and in line with those that were included in the previous assessment in 2019. This will provide a base for the comparative analysis of the needs.



UNHCR Protection Activities

- **Durable Solution Strategy:** In July, UNHCR has been extensively contributing to the work of the **Ministry for Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine** on its “IDP Integration and Durable Solutions Strategy” and annexed Action Plan. These will guide the Ministry’s work in the following three years, replacing the existing strategy which expires at the end of 2020. After consultations with international organizations, the Shelter/NFI Cluster and NGOs, both documents were finalized, including the inputs provided by UNHCR.
- **Protection of the Elderly:** On 6 July, UNHCR participated in the **round table “Protecting rights of elderly”** co-organized by the **Parliamentary Social Policy Committee and the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia**. During the event, UNHCR accentuated the necessity of **delinking the payment of pensions from IDP certificate** in line with the **UN Briefing Note on pensions** and reinforced its advocacy messages on paying pensions to IDPs and conflict-affected persons living in NGCA.
- **Emergency ‘Cash for Protection’ for COVID-19 related cases among IDPs:** During the reporting period, UNHCR decided to allocate “cash for protection” to **one hundred families that had been displaced as a result of the conflict** and live in different regions of Ukraine, excluding zones located in close proximity to the ‘contact line’. The priority will be given to the households that were the most impacted by the COVID-19 related restrictions.
- **Mental Health in the Context of COVID-19:** On 21 July, UNHCR participated in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Programmes in Emergency Settings**. During the meeting, the “IASC Guidelines on MHPSS in Emergency Settings” were introduced to participants who discussed how to apply these in the context of Ukraine. The participants agreed to share all tools and materials developed or adapted to the Ukrainian context during the COVID-19 response which will be used to elaborate the MHPSS COVID-19 toolkit focused exclusively on Ukraine.



Legal Assistance and Protection Counselling

866

Internally displaced and other conflict-affected persons (68% female, 32% male) received legal assistance from UNHCR and its partners in July

2,537

Persons (69% female, 31% male) benefited from individual protection counselling in July

10

Group consultations on protection-related issues were provided to 116 persons (72% female, 28% male) in areas along the ‘contact line’ in July



Social Accompaniment

- In July, UNHCR’s NGO partners provided social accompaniment to **584 individuals (16,2 per cent of them were persons with disabilities)** who needed support in, inter alia, obtaining personal documentation, accessing administrative and other essential services and receiving authorization to cross checkpoints.



For three years, Bohdan*, 69, could not restore documents confirming his housing property rights for an apartment in Avdiivka in Donetsk oblast. In 2017, when there was no electricity and gas in the town due to heavy shelling, a candle caused a fire which engulfed his apartment. In a few minutes, there was nothing left – all documents, personal belongings and furniture were burned. Since then, Bohdan with his son, who has an eye disability, lived in a rented apartment. UNHCR and its NGO Proliska provided social accompaniment to the family and consultations on the restoration of documents. Furthermore, Bohdan received ‘cash for protection’ which he used to pay for the notary’s services in order to have his property rights confirmed. In July, the man obtained a certificate and will now be able to apply for compensation for the damaged apartment to the civil-military administration in Avdiivka. Photo by Proliska.



Psychosocial assistance

246

68% Female | 32% Male
Persons received consultations in July

During the reporting period, UNHCR's NGO partners provided **246 vulnerable persons** with psychological consultations. These sessions help conflict-affected persons deal with symptoms of psychological trauma, domestic violence, grief, depression, anxiety, and psychological tension, including the effects caused by the quarantine restrictions. This number represents a **93 per cent increase** compared with the previous month as the key focus of this activity during the reporting month was placed on **assisting persons that were stranded at the EECPs on both sides of the 'contact line'** and those who were affected by fires in Luhanska oblast.



Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- During the reporting period, UNHCR contributed to the **United Nations Country Team's report** requested by the **Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women**. UNHCR also participated in three sessions of the Global SGBV workshop where new Inter-Agency GBV Minimum Standards and SGBV case management during the COVID-19 response were presented.
- In July, UNHCR organized **two capacity building sessions on SGBV prevention and response for the focal points of its NGO partner Proliska**. During the event, Inter-Agency GBV Minimum Standards were presented along with the national coordination and referral mechanism established within the GBV Sub-Cluster.
- On 24 July, UNHCR participated in the joint **National/Regional Donetsk and Luhansk National GBV Sub-Cluster meeting**. The authorities in both conflict-affected oblasts reported an increase of the SGBV appeals (by 54 per cent in Luhanska oblast during the first half of 2020 and by 86 per cent in Donetska oblast in the second quarter). This upward trend is considered to be related to the quarantine restrictions but also implies the success of the information campaigns.



Individual Protection Assistance (IPA)

588 230

IPA cash IPA in-kind

beneficiaries selected in 2020

In July, UNHCR continued to identify and provide the most vulnerable conflict-affected individuals in eastern Ukraine with **'cash for protection'**. This assistance is used to cover different types of needs, ranging from winterization and livelihood items to medical examinations and procedures. In the areas where state services are not accessible, UNHCR and its NGO partners provide **Individual Protection Assistance in-kind**. In July, UNHCR approved the provision of **'cash for protection'** to **97 persons**. Of them, **three individuals** were assisted to help them deal with the impact of the **COVID-19** related measures, including difficulties with crossing the 'contact line'. In addition, **74 persons with specific needs were supported with 'in-kind assistance'**.



Natalia, who will turn 90 next year, has witnessed two wars. During the Second World War, she worked at the collective farm. The ongoing conflict once again made her hide in the basement of her house seeking protection from the shelling. In 2014, a shell hit Natalia's house damaging all windows and a roof. These damages have been partly repaired, however, since then, the heating system doesn't function properly in the house. Natalia receives continuous support from social workers who visit her to assist with household issues. Due to chronic health conditions, Natalia hardly leaves her house. To support her, UNHCR and its NGO partner DDC provided Natalia with 'in-kind assistance' in the form of a walker, bedding items and clothes. She has been now able to spend more time outdoors. Also, Natalia's children are trying to save money to fully repair her house so the elderly woman would not suffer from the cold during the winter. Photo by DDC.*



Peaceful Coexistence Projects (PCPs) and Quick Impacts Projects (QIPs)

58

Projects
(48 COVID-19 related)
approved in 2020

UNHCR supports small to medium-scale infrastructure repairs proposed by communities or local authorities in eastern Ukraine. These Peaceful Coexistence Projects (PCPs) aim at creating an atmosphere of peaceful co-existence between the displaced populations and host communities and to complement the resilience of IDPs and affected communities. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, UNHCR has also launched its Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) aimed at providing rapid response to the pandemic by strengthening the capacities of the local health care system and supporting social services providers.



UNHCR initiated this Peaceful Coexistence Project (PCP) in Donetsk NGCA to support educational facilities before the start of the school year. Jointly with its NGO partner DDC, UNHCR provided desks, chairs and materials for the interior repairs to this vocational school in Novoazovsk. The rehabilitation works will be implemented by the local community to ensure that classrooms are ready to host children when they return to school. In total, UNHCR and DDC will provide similar assistance to ten educational and medical facilities in conflict-affected locations in Novoazovsk district. Photo by DDC.



Community Support Initiatives (CSIs)

51

Initiatives
(46 COVID-19 related)
approved in 2020

UNHCR in Ukraine empowers communities of internally displaced and other conflict-affected persons throughout the country. Community Support Initiatives (CSIs) implemented in the spirit of a Community-Based Protection approach include a range of activities designed to mobilize and empower communities, strengthen their ability to organize emergency responses and self-advocate with local and national authorities in order to find durable solutions for their own protection.



In July, as part of its Community Support Initiatives (CSI) programme, UNHCR jointly with its NGO partner Proliska provided these puppets and other items for organizing a theatre studio at the library in the town of Zolote in Luhanska oblast. This initiative aims at supporting the psychological recovery of children who witnessed the hardship of the armed conflict as the town is located in close proximity to the 'contact line.' Approximately 700 children, including those from the displaced families, live in Zolote and visit this library on a regular basis. It is planned that the studio will organize performances once a week and will also launch an acting school where children will be able to learn dramatic arts. Photo by Proliska.



SHELTER / NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Shelter and NFI Achievements, Impact, and Identified Needs

- During the reporting month, UNHCR took over from its NGO partner the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) the repair of houses on the GCA side. **Thirty-nine houses (38 with medium and one with heavy damage) are now completed.** The repair of 70 more houses (of which eleven heavy repairs) is currently ongoing.
- In July, UNHCR also completed the **repair of 67 houses out of 215 planned to rehabilitate in Luhansk NGCA in 2020.** In Donetsk NGCA, UNHCR presented a plan to repair 90 houses through direct distribution of materials.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR jointly with its NGO partners Proliska provided Acute Emergency Kits (AEKs) to two families whose houses were affected by shelling as well as forest fires in Luhanska oblast. Eighteen more households who had their houses burned down in the village of Smolianynove



in Luhanska oblast were supported with **Core Relief Items (CRIs)**, such as bed linens, thermal blankets, kitchen sets and jerry cans. *Photo by Proliska on the right (page 8).*



Voluntary Relocation

3

Conflict-affected families (eight persons) relocated to safer homes in 2020

In 2019, with the conflict in Ukraine stretching into its sixth year and with many families with specific needs still living under very difficult conditions in affected locations, UNHCR initiated a **pilot project of voluntarily relocating families** who live in dangerous areas along the 'contact line'. Persons who benefit from this project are carefully selected based on **protection vulnerability criteria** and a **security assessment** of the settlements where they are relocated to.

Shelter/NFI Cluster

- On 24 July, the **Shelter/NFI Cluster** (along with several NGOs) was invited to join a working session of the **Ministry for the Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories** focused on the optimization of the various information platforms managed by the Ministry. Participants discussed available data sources as well as existing gaps that need to be filled for humanitarian interventions to be more effective. It was agreed that participants will share their information products and discuss with the Ministry how these can be better utilized.

Working in Partnership

The humanitarian response to displacement in Ukraine is a coordinated effort by the Government, international organizations, national and international NGOs. In providing support to persons of concern, UNHCR works closely with the Government of Ukraine. In the case of IDPs, UNHCR has signed a Letter of Understanding with the **Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons** (now renamed Ministry for the Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories). In the case of refugees and stateless persons, UNHCR cooperates closely with the **State Migration Service of Ukraine**. UNHCR works together with **eight NGO partners**. UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI) Cluster. UNHCR together with OCHA also co-leads the logistics working group that is mainly responsible for humanitarian convoys to eastern Ukraine.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for critical financial support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programs with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds. The indicative level of funding for the operation is **US \$13,748,638**. This figure is based on contributions earmarked to Ukraine, the indicative allocation of flexible funds and adjustments.

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the Major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 76.4 million | **Private Donors Spain** 46.9 million | **Norway** 41.4 million | **Netherlands** 36.1 million | **Denmark** 34.6 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Germany** 25.9 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 23.9 million | **Switzerland** 16.4 million | **Private donors Japan** 15.2 million | **France** 14 million | **Private donors Italy** 10.8 million

SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

Germany 39.2 million | **United States of America** 34.3 million | **United Kingdom** 24.8 million | **Denmark** 14.6 million | **Canada** 8.7 million | **Private donors USA** 7.4 million | **Private donors Australia** 5.6 million | **Private donors Japan** 4.1 million | **Ireland** 3.3 million | **Spain** 3.4 million | **Sweden** 3 million | **Private donors Germany** 2.4 million | **Private donors United Kingdom** 2.2 million

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 5.6 million | **European Union** 1.3 million | **Canada** 0.436 million | **Sweden** 0.415 million | **Japan** 0.273 million | **Russian Federation** 0.25 million | **Norway** 0.241 million | **Estonia** 0.218 million | **Slovakia** 0.054 million | **United Nations Foundation** 0.2 million | **UN Programme On HIV/AIDS** 0.03 million

Contacts

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

Links

UNHCR Ukraine: www.unhcr.org/ua - Twitter: www.twitter.com/UNHCRUkraine

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNHCRKyiv - Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/unhcr_ukraine

Please note that this report attempts to highlight the main activities implemented by UNHCR and its NGO partners within the selected reporting period. Please note that it is by no means exhaustive. For additional details about our work, do not hesitate to check www.unhcr.org/ua or, contact us directly at ukrkom@unhcr.org.

**Please note that the names of persons who appear in this report have been changed for their protection.*