

UKRAINE

JUNE 2020

THE PROTECTION CLUSTER INCLUDES SUB-CLUSTERS ON CHILD PROTECTION, GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND MINE ACTION



PROTECTION CONCERNS

- Civilian casualties: The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine recorded 16 conflict-related casualties (4 persons killed and 12 injured), which is half that of May.
- **Security:** Despite a slight decrease in the number of security incidents, the situation along the contact line remains tense.
- Mine/ERW Contamination: OSCE SMM reported over 870 anti-tank mines near Vodiane (Donetsk GCA) and Shyroka Balka (Donetsk NGCA).
 On 8 June, a 19 year old man triggered an ERW in Slovianoserbsk (Luhansk NGCA) and was hospitalized with multiple shrapnel injuries.
- **COVID-19:** 564 COVID-19 cases were registered in Donetsk and Luhansk GCA (2.6 times more than in May); 1,670 cases were registered by de-facto authorities in NGCA (1.7 times more than in May).
- Freedom of movement: entry-exit checkpoints Stanytsia Luhanska and Novotroitske resumed limited operation, while EECP Marinka was reopened only on the GCA side. To enter GCA from NGCA, people have to install a mobile application to monitor self-isolation, 'Diy vdoma'. Those who cannot install the app, either because they do not have a mobile phone or have an old phone, or due to lack of internet at the checkpoints face difficulty accessing GCA. At EECP Novotroitske, around 150 persons were stranded at the zero-checkpoint for several days, surrounded by mine fields, without access to food, water or medical aid. Those who left NGCA are not allowed to return until quarantine measures in NGCA are lifted. On 28 June, the de-facto authorities in Donetsk NGCA closed the checkpoints, although some limited movement has since been allowed through EECP Novotroitske.

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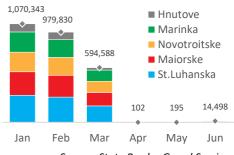
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EECPs crossings in 2020



Source: State Border Guard Service

- Older people: According to an <u>assessment</u> conducted by HelpAge International, the humanitarian needs of older people living within 0-5km zone along the contact line increased compared to <u>January 2020</u>; 89% of older people have limited or no mobility; 97% are in need of food assistance; 85% have limited or no access to safe drinking water; and 99% require basic hygiene items.
- Mine Action: On 16 June, Parliament adopted <u>amendments</u> to Mine Action Law 2618 at the first reading. The <u>amendments facilitate the establishment</u> of the National Mine Action Authority and extend eligibility for mine victim compensation from children to adult mine victims.



PROTECTION RESPONSE

- UNHCR, jointly with its partner NGO provided PPEs, including sampling systems and protective suits, to an infectious medical facility and territorial social service centers in four settlements in Donetsk NGCA.
- NGO Right to Protection **provided 195 IDP students from NGCA**, who accommodated in dormitories in Donetsk and Luhansk regions and unable to return home, with food and hygiene kits for two months.
- NGO Proliska delivered food and water to people stranded at the zero-checkpoint at EECP Novotroitske and assisted with the installation and use of the application 'Diy vdoma'.
- NRC delivered 131kg of food and drinking water to the observation facility in Selidove for people traveling from NGCA and relocated from EECP Novotroitske.
- NGO Donbas SOS **provided 2,419 protection and legal consultations**, which is 38% more than in May; 56% of requests related to crossing the contact line and installation of the application 'Diy Vdoma'.
- HelpAge jointly with UNFPA, <u>delivered hygiene kits and PPEs</u> to ten nursing homes for 756 persons.
- Polish Humanitarian Action **provided psychosocial support 1,313 older people** living in 33 isolated settlements along the contact line.
- Ukrainian Deminers Association marked 200,000 m² of hazardous areas near Talakivka (Donetsk GCA).
- UNICEF, in partnership with Polish Humanitarian Action and Triangle Generation Humanitaire, **launched two projects on child mine victim assistance**, including case-management, psychosocial support and capacity building for 4,000 children, their families, service providers and community members.
- People in Need **supported a school in Popasna with four street gym complexes** and the complex with desks and benches for outdoor classes and a school in Nyzhnie was provided an interactive board and 3D printer.
- UNFPA supported the **first safe accommodation space for GBV survivors in Luhansk GCA**, located in Rubizhne. The center accommodates 16 women and children and provides psychosocial, legal and referral services.

ADVOCACY

- The Ukraine Humanitarian Country Team provided recommendations to the government of Ukraine on <u>'Considerations for the safe re-opening of entry-exit crossing points in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts following the easing of COVID-19 quarantine measures'</u>, calling for the safe and progressive easing of restrictions and proposing risk mitigation measures, while emphasizing the importance of communication with the public about the transition period.
- OHCHR published a briefing note on the <u>'Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Human Rights of Roma Communities'</u>. The findings show a deterioration of the human rights situation of Roma following the introduction of anti-pandemic measures and there are concerns that this may lead to further marginalisation of the Roma.

TRAININGS/EVENTS

- DRC **conducted training on access to healthcare during COVID-19** for 13 healthcare practitioners, social workers and representatives of local authorities from Chermalyk, focusing on COVID-19 prevention measures.
- SOS Children's Villages conducted 29 webinars on psycho-social support for parents during quarantine.
- The Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health conducted 6 webinars on prevention and combatting GBV and domestic violence for 151 representatives of police, service providers, local authorities and NGO workers.

