

Alert

Ukraine, Russia

Humanitarian Assistance to IDPs and Refugees in Ukraine and Russia – *follow on response to ACT Appeal UKR 152*

Geneva, 7th July 2016

1. Brief description of the emergency and impact

As a result of the armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine thousands of people were forced to leave their homes in Ukraine. The number of displaced people continues to increase. By 04 July, 2016, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine (MoSP) had registered 1,790,267 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine and 3.1 million people are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. As of 20th June 2016, the UNHCR reported 1,389,452 Ukrainians are seeking - or already received - asylum or refuge in other countries. Out of these - 1,092,212 are in Russia and 139,143 in Belarus. Others are in Moldova, Romania, Hungary and Slovakia. As a consequence people who reside along contact line have difficulty accessing basic necessities like food, clean water, medicines, medical services and other basic services. Since the beginning of the conflict in 2014 at least 9,449 people have been killed and another 21,843 have been wounded.

2. Why is an ACT response needed?

Although the affected populations are receiving some support from the governments of Ukraine and Russia, different UN bodies, international aid organizations and local NGOs are also active in the affected regions. Humanitarian needs continue to grow, however the funding for humanitarian operations still remains low. According to UN OCHA Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) only 19% of HRP 2016 is funded. Vulnerable people in remote and non-government controlled areas are the most disadvantaged groups, as they receive the least assistance. According to several surveys most IDPs and refugees from the Eastern region have reported leaving with limited belongings, and are in need of food and non-food items.

3. National and international response

According to HRP 2016 the level of funding allocated to the different sectors is the following: Education 23%, Shelter/NFI 20%, Food Security 26%, Health and Nutrition 3%, Livelihoods and Early Recovery 8%, Protection 11% and WASH 13%.

4. ACT Alliance response

Responding to the emergency situation in Ukraine, Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) was among the first agencies that provided medical and psychosocial assistance to the affected population and later provided food and NFI assistance to IDPs. Since January, 2015 HIA is one of the implementing agency of ACT Appeal UKR151 and UKR152 and has been providing assistance in 10 regions of Ukraine supporting a total of 47,420 people.

Russian Orthodox Church/ Department for External Church Relations (ROC/DECR) is the largest national canonical Church in Ukraine and Russia. From the very beginning of the armed conflict in the east of Ukraine, ROC/DECR has been helping civilians both in the conflict zone and in the neighboring areas in Ukraine and Russia, which received more than two million refugees and IDPs. For this ROC/DECR used its own funds and assistance of inter-Christian Church partners. ROC / DECR operated within ACT Appeals UKR151 and UKR152 to assist the most affected refugees and IDPs in Ukraine and Russia, providing hygiene-kits and psychosocial support.

5. Planned activities

HIA

1. Food Security

- To meet the immediate emergency food needs of affected people

2. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)

- To support the basic hygienic and sanitation needs of IDPs living in Government Controlled Area (GCA) and Non-Government Controlled Area (NGCA).

3. Shelter and non-food items (NFI)

- To provide temporary community housing solutions, household items and heating materials for IDPs and people living in the conflict zones
- To reconstruct damaged private houses along the contact line.

4. Health

- To provide psychosocial services for IDPs

ROC/DECR

1. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

- To support access to the basic hygiene and sanitation services for refugees living in places where there is the highest concentration of refugees in the neighbouring areas in Ukraine and Russia.

2. Psychosocial Assistance

- To provide psychosocial services for IDPs and refugees

Appeal period: 1st August 2016 - 31st May 2017 (10 months)

6. Constraints

Instable security situation; cooperation difficulties with state authorities and changing rules transporting aid items to NGCA; obstructed movement of humanitarian shipments within the country; outages in water, electricity and gas supply.

Member contact information

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