



INTER-AGENCY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT IN LUHANSK AND DONETSK OBLASTS

GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS OF UKRAINE

REPORT

NOVEMBER 2016

Humanitarian Country Team

With the contribution and support from:



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About REACH

REACH is a joint initiative of two international non-governmental organizations - ACTED and IMPACT Initiatives - and the UN Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT). REACH's mission is to strengthen evidence-based decision making by aid actors through efficient data collection, management and analysis before, during and after an emergency. By doing so, REACH contributes to ensuring that communities affected by emergencies receive the support they need. All REACH activities are conducted in support to and within the framework of inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. For more information please visit our website: www.reach-initiative.org.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

More than two and half years after the beginning of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine, recent reports have documented more than 9,000 civilian and military casualties,¹ 20,000 houses damaged,² and the annual gross domestic product (GDP) of country has recorded a 9% decrease in 2015³. The latest Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine report⁴ indicates that hundreds of ceasefire violations are recorded daily in the areas separating the Government Controlled Areas (GCAs) and Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCAs). As the assessment demonstrates civilians continue experiencing significant humanitarian hardship compounded by a severely deteriorating economic situation. The main findings revolve around: i) multifaceted needs that are of concern, ii) specific vulnerabilities in protection and housing iii) the significant loss of economic security that has affected ability to access basic services including health, education and utilities.

The purpose of the inter-agency vulnerability assessment (IAVA), endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team in Ukraine, was to **evaluate immediate humanitarian needs** of the conflict affected population in the Donetsk and Luhansk Government Controlled Areas. It was conducted under the overall guidance of the Technical Assessment Working Group (TAWG) composed of more than 20 members from the UN and NGO community operating in Ukraine. The target population was composed of both displaced and non-displaced households through a mixed approach using household surveys, focus group discussions and secondary data review.

The **multifaceted humanitarian needs of the crisis affected population remain of concern**. As evidenced by the report, conflict affected populations in Donetsk and Luhansk GCAs Oblasts continue to experience constraints in accessing housing, public services, thereby increasing their vulnerability to external shocks. Uncertainty around future conditions, harsh winter, variability in prices compounded by diminishing sources of income is likely to further increase the vulnerability of conflict affected populations, and in turn their need for humanitarian assistance.

Of concern are **humanitarian needs in several areas**. The assessment has found that most surveyed internally displaced persons (IDPs) come from the cities of regional significance of Donetsk, Luhansk and Horlivka. This underlines the challenge of **addressing the needs of a mostly urban population** resettling in host communities with prior social and economic difficulties. With regards to surveyed location, the displacement analysis finds that IDP households have moved in geographically scattered areas for reasons primarily revolving around safety and existing social networks. From a return point of view, while the quantitative evidence was limited, the qualitative data confirmed that rising costs of living and inability to pay rent were factors that might encourage displaced household to return to their area of origin in the NGCAs or close to the contact line.

With regards to **provision of humanitarian assistance** the survey highlighted that IDP households were much more likely to have received aid than their host communities, potentially leading to sensitive social cohesion issues highlighted in focus group discussions. Importantly, the support received was usually described as critical in helping conflict-affected households to meet their **basic needs especially in terms of food assistance**.

In terms of **protection**, the assessment confirmed needs in the following areas: i) legal assistance to IDPs, ii) improvement of access to social benefits, iii) support to families caring for unrelated children, iv) risks related to unexploded ordinances and mines, v) referral of gender based violence survivors and iv) support to address housing land and property rights violations.

Based on the findings, thousands of homes require light emergency **repairs and winterization** with more obvious needs in areas close to the contact line. An important finding was that the **unaffordability of heating** will put pressure on low incomes. As household revenue will be prioritized to cover food and rent expenses, provision of core NFIs can complement basic household needs based on discussions with focus groups.

¹ OHCHR, Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine 16 May to 15 August 2016 (Ukraine 2016)

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/Ukraine15thReport.pdf>

² Shelter Cluster, Shelter Fact Sheet July 2016 (Ukraine 2016) http://sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/factsheet_july_2016_eng.pdf

³ World Bank, Databank (accessed November 2016) <http://data.worldbank.org/country/ukraine>

⁴ OSCE, Status Report (Ukraine 2016) <http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/277396?download=true>

This protection and housing crisis is negatively affecting households' **economic security and their ability to access basic services including health, education and utilities**. From a health perspective, the need for providing psychosocial support to affected persons was identified especially in areas where the supply of such services is limited. Main issues in terms access of to healthcare revolved around the price of medicines and consultations which ranked as the most important barriers across the IDP and host populations.

Economic insecurity is a reality for most households in Donbas. **Rising prices of utilities, food and other essential basket items** are forcing affected populations to adopt negative coping strategies such as spending savings with little capacity for replenishment and reducing healthcare and education expenditures. An issue that is severely compounded by the **suspensions or delays in payments of pension and social benefits**.

Finally, the **vulnerabilities of certain households came across**: female headed households, areas close to the contact line, internally displaced persons often had high probabilities of requiring additional assistance. However, these **vulnerabilities should be carefully analysed** through sector specific analyses to avoid generalizations that could be detrimental to the response.

This assessment finds that immediate needs of conflict affected households in Donbas should be addressed through targeted household level interventions that address some of the key needs identified in this report. However, findings also highlight the need for longer term planning that should address the economic insecurity of households living in Donbas that has been compounded by the conflict. The findings of this significant data collection effort in the field will be complemented by continued support to humanitarian actors for the operationalisation of the main results of this assessment.

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
CONTENTS	3
List of Figures	5
List of Tables	5
List of Maps	6
Glossary	7
List of Acronyms	7
INTRODUCTION.....	8
METHODOLOGY.....	9
CROSS CUTTING FINDINGS	16
Demographics	16
Displacement.....	16
Humanitarian Assistance	21
PROTECTION	21
Household Vulnerabilities	21
Documentation and Legal Assistance	22
Registration	23
Gender-Based Violence.....	23
Social Cohesion.....	24
Security.....	24
ECONOMIC SECURITY	27
Markets, Livelihoods & Income.....	27
Pensions & Social Benefits.....	33
FOOD SECURITY.....	34
Agriculture	36
HOUSING	37
Shelter	37
Rent, Utilities, and Tenancy.....	39
NFIs and Winterisation	40
Housing Land and Property Rights.....	44
ACCESS TO SERVICES	45
Education.....	45
Health	46
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	50

CONCLUSION.....	54
ANNEXES.....	55
Annex 1. Population Frame Agreed by TAWG, ND	55
Annex 2. Population Frame Agreed by TAWG, IDP	55
Annex 3. Samples Size IDP.....	55
Annex 4. Sample Size ND	55
Annex 5. Presentation on Dataset Weighting	55
Annex 6. CARI.....	55
Annex 7. Excluded Settlements	55
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	56

List of Figures

Figure 1: Targeted population groups	11
Figure 2. Population pyramid for non-displaced and IDP households	16
Figure 3. Month of initial and most recent displacement of IDPs	17
Figure 4. Top five reasons for choosing current location based on # of times mentioned in HH survey	17
Figure 5. Reported receipt of humanitarian assistance by IDP and ND households.....	21
Figure 6. % of ND HH having received/not received aid by area of concern	21
Figure 7. Most frequently cited reasons for not registering as an IDP	23
Figure 8. Proportion of households reporting they must pass checkpoints in GCAs to access services	25
Figure 9. Change in perceived safety of households, by status	25
Figure 10. Change in perceived safety of household, by area proximity to contact line.....	26
Figure 11. Primary security concerns of non-displaced households.....	26
Figure 12. Perceived reasons for unemployment.....	28
Figure 13 average monthly expenditures (UAH) on common goods and services	30
Figure 14. Primary source of household income in the last 30 days.....	31
Figure 15. Average household income in the last 30 days.....	32
Figure 16. Average household income in the past 30 days, other areas vs areas along the contact line	33
Figure 17. Households reporting zero income in the last 30 days, by sex of head of household.....	33
Figure 18. Household food security levels	34
Figure 19. Reasons arable land is not being used, non-displaced households	36
Figure 20. Primary accommodation type, by displacement status	37
Figure 21. Type of accommodation, by urban and rural.....	38
Figure 22. Change in occupancy ratio (average number individuals/room), by Oblast	38
Figure 23 access to hot water, percentage of households.....	40
Figure 24. Proportion of HH requiring winterization support, area lense.....	41
Figure 25. Mean household heating expenses, winter months	41
Figure 26. Households have government recognised contract for accommodation.....	44
Figure 27. Reported confiscation of homes in NGCAs.....	45
Figure 28. Reported access to psychosocial support.....	49
Figure 29. Sanitation facility type, by displacement status	53
Figure 30. Sanitation facility type, by rural/ urban	53

List of Tables

Table 1. Final FGD matrix.....	14
Table 2. Household dependency ratio	16

Table 3. Households reporting a need for legal assistance	22
Table 4. Security concerns of non-displaced populations, by proximity to contact line.....	26
Table 5. Percentage of households reporting difficulties in finding jobs by displacement and gender.....	29
Table 6. Percent of households who believe they are unemployed due to lack of job market.....	29
Table 7. Uptake of selected household coping strategies.....	31
Table 8. Households reporting not to have received cash aid/ assistance in the last 30 days.....	33
Table 9. IDP households missing social benefit payments by number of months.....	34
Table 10. # of days when key commodities were consumed in the previous 7 days by IDP households	35
Table 11. # of days when key commodities were consumed in the previous 7 days by ND HH	35
Table 12. Combination of marginally food secure and secure households by lens.....	35
Table 13. Access to arable land.....	36
Table 14. Conflict has impacted ability to use arable land, non-displaced households.....	37
Table 15. Proportion of households having access to agricultural inputs	37
Table 16. Reported level of damage to homes in areas of origin reported by idps in 2015 and 2016	39
Table 17. Average rent, cost of utility payments and heating per room	39
Table 18 proportion of households requiring winterization.....	40
Table 19. Main source of heating by different lenses.....	42
Table 20. % of Overall ND & IDP Population Unable to Replenish fuel by accommodation type	42
Table 21. Expected availability of winter stocks.....	43
Table 22. Households lacking clothing for at least 1 member.....	43
Table 23. Household possession of critical NFIs	44
Table 24. % of IDP HH with children attending school the previous academic year	45
Table 25. Reported availability of selected school services, by oblast.....	46
Table 26. Households reporting chronic illnesses.....	47
Table 27. Proximity to health care facilities, disaggregated	47
Table 28 difficulties accessing health care.....	48
Table 29. Ranking of specific health issues based on percentage of responses by idps.....	48
Table 30. Ranking of specific health issues based on percentage of responses by non-displaced households...	49
Table 31. Household drinking water sources	50
Table 32. % of hh that do not treat water	50
Table 33. Reported water shortage frequency.....	51
Table 34. Reported conditions of household sanitation facilities.....	53
Table 35. List of excluded settlements.....	55
Table 36. Replacement settlements.....	55

List of Maps

Map 1. Displacement analysis, area of origin to current location as % of IDP HH.....	18
Map 2. % of IDP HH in GCAs reporting that at least 1 member has returned to area of origin.....	20
Map 3. Sample average reported water shortage frequency within a 7.5 square km hexagonal grid	52

Glossary

Area close to the contact line	A zone defined for this assessment which refers to areas with significant reported incidents. For the assessment, a buffer of 8km was applied from the contact line
Contact Line	The area separating the Government Controlled Areas (GCAs) of Ukraine and the Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCAs) of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic
Donbas	An area encompassing the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts
Oblast	An oblast is a type of administrative division Ukraine. It is the first level sub regional administrative region. The term is analogous to "state" or "province"
Raion	A raion is a type of administrative division of Ukraine. It is the second level sub regional administrative region. The term is analogous to "district" or "commune"

List of Acronyms

AACL	Areas Along the Contact Line
CWG	Cash Working Group
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCAs	Government Controlled Areas
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HH	Household
HoHH	Head of Household
IASC	Inter-agency Standing Committee
IAVA	Inter-agency Vulnerability Assessment
ICRC	International Committee of The Red Cross
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MoSP	Ministry of Social Policy
ND	Non-Displaced
NFI	Non-Food Items
NGCAs	Non-Government Controlled Areas
NGO	Non-Government Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODK	Open Data Kit
OHCHR	Office of The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SDR	Secondary Data Review
TAWG	Technical Assessment Working Group
UAH	Ukrainian Hryvnia
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UXO	Unexploded Ordinances
WFP	World Food Programme

INTRODUCTION

Despite repeated ceasefires, the crisis in Ukraine has deteriorated into a violent conflict that has affected over 3.1 million people according to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) latest estimates.⁵ Among these are large proportions of potentially vulnerable populations: 57% are women, 17% children and 31% elderly.⁶ As a result of ongoing fighting between Ukrainian Government forces and armed opposition groups in disputed areas and non-government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk, approximately 1 million people⁷ have been displaced from their homes to date and are becoming increasingly vulnerable as the conflict continues.

In Government Controlled Areas (GCAs) of Donetsk and Luhansk, the ongoing displacement of populations from areas in proximity to the front lines is putting increasing stress on both displaced and non-displaced populations and exhausting local coping mechanisms. In parallel, the ability of the Ukrainian Government to rehabilitate infrastructure and housing stock damaged by the conflict has been weakened, with a considerable amount of their limited resources focused on supporting war-fighting efforts. In this context, access to basic needs such as healthcare, winter clothing and income generating activities, have been disrupted throughout much of the affected area.

The influx of displaced persons, damage to infrastructure and interruption of supply chains has placed considerable pressure on already weak markets, resulting in noticeable and ongoing increases in the price of basic commodities and non-food items. Coupled with rising unemployment and the stagnation – and frequent non-payment – of social benefits and pensions to IDPs, returnees and host communities, the effects of the conflict have created a grim economic environment. Most households, displaced or not, face difficulties meeting their own immediate needs, and a weakened capacity to cope with unexpected expenses.

As conflict and displacement persist and emergency aid has reached affected communities in the GCAs of Ukraine, there is an urgent need for detailed information on remaining gaps and opportunities for humanitarian assistance in the GCAs, and to look beyond the level of rapid needs assessments to inform the planning of early recovery activities. It is vital to understand how the conflict and displacement have affected populations' resilience and their vulnerability to additional shocks, and how this in turn will affect their priorities and needs moving forward.

Across the GCAs, much of the information available on population needs and vulnerabilities has been collected through sector specific agency-led assessments. These assessments create a very detailed understanding of very specific needs in their areas of interest, but do not capture the broader trends across the multiple sectors or the entirety of the conflict affected area. Where data is available, in most cases it is not sufficiently representative to be used as the basis of rigorous planning. In this context, there was a clear need to establish a comprehensive understanding of household-level needs across the entirety of Donetsk and Luhansk, including the coping mechanisms used by displaced and non-displaced households, as well as more detailed information about how vulnerabilities develop over time. This need was particularly urgent in areas along the contact line, where direct populations are immediately impacted by ongoing conflict and service disruption is most widespread.

To address these information gaps, REACH, under the endorsement of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), in collaboration with the Technical Assessment Working Group (TAWG), and with the material support of numerous agencies in the field, led an Inter-agency Vulnerability Assessment (IAVA) across the government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts from June to August 2016. This mixed-methods assessment consisted of both a household level survey stratified by displacement status (IDP vs. non-displaced), oblast, proximity to contact line and settlement type (urban vs. rural); and a series of focus group discussions with vulnerable populations.⁸ While this assessment was not designed to be representative with regards to the gender of the head of household, it does capture this information, allowing for indicative gender-sensitive analysis of any of the variables recorded.

⁵ OCHA, Humanitarian Bulletin (Ukraine 1-31 August 2016)

⁶ United Nations, Humanitarian Response Plan p.14 (Ukraine 2016)

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Methodology is discussed in detail in a later section of this report

The result of the months of planning, two months of data collection, and probing multi-sectoral analysis is a robust body of representative quantitative data, supported by targeted qualitative data and situated in a vast collection of secondary data produced by humanitarian and development actors that will identify pockets of vulnerability across the Government Controlled Areas of Donetsk and Luhansk. This collaborative effort will provide an evidence base for more effective emergency response and early recovery activities across multiple sectors, resulting in better prioritisation and targeting of aid. It will also provide a set of comparable indicators and replicable methodologies which can be used to inform future assessment of vulnerabilities and need in the study area

METHODOLOGY

Technical Assessment Working Group

Given the essential nature of the IAVA, a Technical Assessment Working Group (TAWG) was convened to clearly define the purpose of the assessment, guide its design, planning and execution, and to provide a forum for collaborative analysis and defining of key messages during the reporting phase.

REACH was mandated as chair of the TAWG on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Ukraine, while the TAWG itself was composed of members with specialised technical and/ or contextual knowledge. Active participants included:

Organizations

ADRA, DRC, GOAL, HelpAge International, NRC, OCHA, PIN, R2P, UNHCR, UN Women

Sectors

Early Recovery and Livelihoods – UNDP, Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster

Education – Education Cluster, UNICEF

Food – Food Security Cluster, WFP, FAO

Health – Health and Nutrition Cluster, UNFPA

Protection – Protection Cluster, UNHCR, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, DRC

Shelter & NFI – Shelter Cluster (chair and co-chair with UNHCR and PIN), UNHCR, NRC

WASH – WASH Cluster, UNICEF

Between May and August 2016, the TAWG convened eight times to discuss critical elements of the assessment:

- **May 11** Finalise TAWG TORs and research objectives
- **May 20** Finalise key milestones and deadlines, preliminary discussion on methodology options, first draft indicators shared (with bilateral follow-up for feedback)
- **May 27** Finalise methodological approach agreed pending key informant enumeration validation, second draft indicators shared
- **July 15** Presentation of initial household-level findings
- **August 12** Presentation of initial FGD findings and further household-level findings
- **August 31** Presentation of final findings and review of key messaging
- **September 28** Presentation of new report structure
- **November 4** Endorsement by TAWG

During the initial meeting, the TAWG established the key priorities for the assessment and its research objectives, which would guide all phases of the IAVA, specifically:

- To identify any remaining gaps and critical needs in humanitarian response, especially along the Contact Line

- To identify people's vulnerabilities to subsequent shocks because of the impact of the conflict or displacement
- To identify individual and community resilience to cope with the impact of the conflict or displacement
- To identify challenges and opportunities for aid actors to effectively intervene through humanitarian and early recovery assistance

Methodology Overview

The study adopted a mixed-methods approach to gather data on its research questions. A household survey helped collect data that is statistically representative of the average household in each oblast, with representation to households living near the contact line and by urban and rural areas. Respondents were profiled by gender to understand if and how responses vary by gender during the analysis.

The household-level survey was supplemented with a qualitative component comprising of a set of focus group discussions (FGDs) carried out with particularly vulnerable population groups, which helped further contextualise and triangulate household survey findings. In addition, price monitoring and market assessments were continued together with the Cash Working Group (CWG) in key strategic urban and rural centres as identified by partners, to contextualise and nuance an understanding of access to markets livelihoods-based findings, as well as further identify opportunities for cash-based assistance in an increasingly early recovery setting.

The study followed IASC Policy on Gender Equality⁹ in humanitarian action describes specific actions each body or effort of the IASC should take to ensure gender equality is fully mainstreamed into humanitarian programs. To ensure gender equality programming in multi sectoral needs assessments and the identification of humanitarian priorities age, needs assessments need to be based on sex and disaggregated data and gender analysis of that data.

Population of Interest

The populations of interest for this study are defined as:

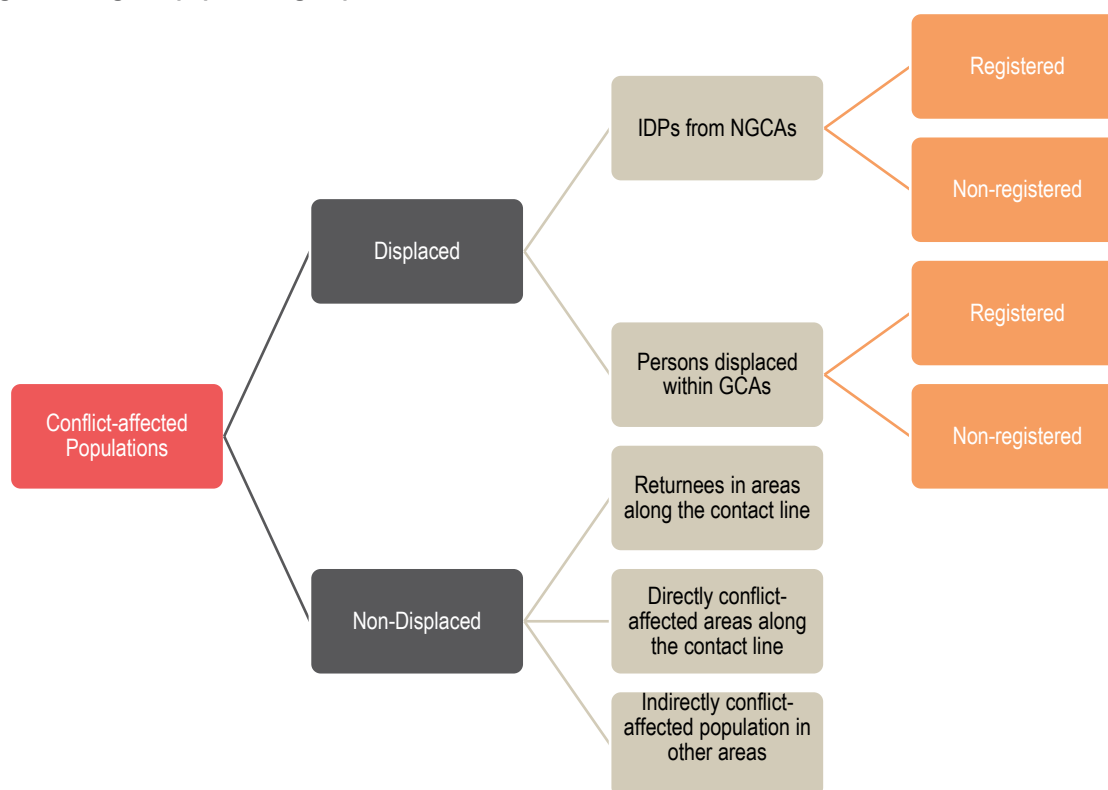
- Displaced persons in Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts include those displaced from the NGCAs (both registered and non-registered) and within the GCAs, as well as returnees to the areas close to the contact line.
- Non-displaced persons in Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts include those directly conflict-affected along the contact line and the host community indirectly conflict-affected in the areas outside the areas close to the contact line.

These Oblasts have been selected based on existing data on the severity of the conflict impact, cross-referenced against the operational priorities of Government and aid agencies currently active in Ukraine GCAs.¹⁰

⁹ IASC Gender Equality Policy Statement (2008)

https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/legacy_files/IASC%20Gender%20Policy%202020%20June%202008.pdf

¹⁰ Includes key information briefs from active clusters, OCHA, ICRC, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA and NGOs on the ground

Figure 1: Targeted population groups¹¹

Timeline

		May	June	July		August		September		October	
#	Activity			1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half
1	SDR										
2	HH-level Training (2 days) and Pilot (2 days)										
	HH-level data collection										
3	Preliminary analysis for preparation of FGDs and FGD plan										
	FGD data collection										
4	Preliminary presentation of results										
5	Validation with partners										
6	Presentation of final report										

Phase 1: Secondary data review

This phase began with an initial review of data from the Government, agencies and NGOs, resulting in a Survey of Surveys.¹² Together with bilateral scoping consultations and TAWG meetings, these data were used first to inform the objectives of the assessment and refine research questions, and later to inform the analysis of findings.

¹¹ Persons displaced within the GCAs are not formally recognised as internally displaced persons by the Ukrainian Government.

¹² This document is publicly available: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ukraine/survey-survey>

Phase 2: Quantitative data collection at household-level

Due to the different population datasets available for displaced and non-displaced persons, these two population groups were sampled separately, allowing for comparative findings. This section addresses each of these groups in turn.

Sampling Design**Non-Displaced Population**

The most recent and granular dataset available for the non-displaced population was the Kartographic 2014 data at settlement level, sourced from the State Statistic Service of Ukraine census in 2001, and updated as of 2016 per the population increment. The population frame used for this assessment is available in annex 1 and 2.

These population estimations allowed for a two-staged cluster sampling approach, chosen due to the large size of the survey area and the financial and logistical constraints required to ensure a programmatically useful sample (i.e. with a 5% margin of error) at raion or settlement level. Instead, '**cluster**' sampling allowed first for the **random selection of a number of smaller geographic areas (in this case settlements)** based on probability proportional to size, within which simple random sampling could be conducted. The final findings are based on a final sample of 2,632 households, which is **statistically representative of the non-displaced population at the oblast level with a 90% confidence and margin of error of +/- 7%.**

Since the total number of samples per type of settlement (urban or rural) and contact line match the number of samples that would be proportionally necessary to have findings representative to these groups, **findings can be compared between urban and rural areas, as well as between the area close to the contact line, and further away.**

The full sampling framework is provided in Annex 3 and 4, with the number of incumbent samples shown per settlement and categorized by rural or urban, and by areas close to the contact line and not. All calculations were based on the updated population dataset, following consultation with the TAWG to account for known changes to the population because of the conflict. It should be clarified that this is a way of organising the sampling; the assessment does not group individual settlements (especially along the contact line) to collect findings that are representative to those individual settlements. However, the sample includes a group of settlements within "areas close to the contact line", based on their proximity within 8km east of the 'contact line' (using the same line as for 3W monitoring as the starting point for categorization).

The sampling framework given in Annex 2. To cater for a scenario in which any pre-selected clusters are at last minute no longer appropriate, a 15% buffer of additional households in areas close to the contact line per oblast was used and sampling replacements were determined in case this strata was exceeded.

As these exceeded the permissible limit to exclude settlements, replacement settlements were calculated randomly using RAND() function in Excel and added to the sampling frame.

Displaced Population

There are no currently agreed upon figures for the IDP population in Ukraine as the number of IDPs registered by the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) also includes people who are not permanently residing in GCAs but need to be included to have access to social benefits, while others prefer not to register for a variety of reasons. In addition, the currently available population datasets are only available at the raion level. As for the non-displaced population, the large geographic area would have made it logistically and operationally challenging to apply a single-stage random sampling.

Due to the absence of a relevant dataset, a phase of **population enumeration estimations** was launched. Based on the results as well as feedback from TAWG partners, a sampling frame was created to be used as the basis for sampling the IDP populations across raions. IDP households were then purposively surveyed within each raion.

First, a phase of information collection was launched to through arrive at an estimated IDP caseload by raion. Information from raion-level Key Informants was triangulated with data from operational partners and humanitarian clusters in these as well as with figures from the State Emergency Service and the State Migration Service, resulting in a set of population estimates that was subsequently approved by the TAWG and served as a basis for sample design.

Due to the absence of a complete population frame as well as purposive nature of the sampling, it should be noted that the final findings cannot be fully representative of the IDP population. However, the approach outlined below helped to determine adequate sample sizes for the study and adds to the intra-comparability of the strata.

As sampling to the individual raion level would have been a massive undertaking, sampling was done primarily at oblast-level, aiming for a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error (approximately 384 samples each), and then stratified by geographic groupings as defined by previous Shelter Cluster assessment. This was largely based on the urban/rural makeup of both Oblasts, the raion population and road access. The oblast-level sample size was then weighted and allocated to each strata based on the strata's population weight. However, in order for each strata to have at least a sample size significant at 90% confidence interval and 10% margin of error to strata-level, the total sample size is a combination of oblast-level and strata-level sample sizes.¹³

With the target number of surveys per raion in mind, teams were allocated to each raion and adopted purposive sampling to successfully carry out the surveys. They first met with raion authorities and other key informants (post offices, school teachers, local Red Cross chapters etc.) in order to find out the geographical locations where IDPs are residing. They then proceeded to the identified locations to administer the questionnaires, conducting a total of 1,149 surveys with IDP households.

The final sampling list is given and further details on weights applied to the dataset can be found in the Annex 3.

To ensure that the overall findings for displaced and non-displaced populations were in line with the sampling frame defined by the TAWG, the findings presented in this report have been weighted based on the actual population size of the assessed area (total settlements for non-displaced community, raions for IDPs). The full weighting can be found in Annex 5.

Limitations of household-level data collection

Primary data collection for the household survey component was conducted between July and August 2016, using a survey form developed by REACH and agreed upon by members of the TAWG.¹⁴ Data collection was divided between three geographic areas: Northern Luhansk; Southern Luhansk and Northern Donetsk; and the rest of Donetsk oblast. Under the supervision of a Senior Assessment Officer, one team - consisting of a bilingual Field Coordinator and several enumerators - was allocated to each of the three areas.

Prior to the beginning of data collection, a joint training workshop was held in Sloviansk for enumerators. Participants included enumerators recruited by REACH, as well as staff seconded from contributing NGOs and agencies. Many had previous experience of data collection in this context. The research team was trained on approaches and interview techniques, including the need to address gender perspectives during questioning.

Two days were dedicated to the pilot stage, where the tool and field protocols were field-tested by the whole research team after two days of training, and refined where necessary prior to full roll-out of the study. All household-level data collection took place using open data kit (ODK) enabled smartphones, allowing for instant data entry and automated control of initial data cleaning.

¹³ Please note that for this assessment, unlike the 2015 Shelter Cluster assessment, two raions i.e. Avdiivskiy and Yasynuvatskiy have been included. They are grouped into the category of Dnipro / Krasnoarmiisk based on access by road.

¹⁴ The final questionnaire was translated into Russian, then back translated to English. The back-translation was reviewed for consistency and the Russian versions were revised accordingly.

Field Coordinators for each team were responsible for securing permission from township and village authorities to work in selected communities, and for sensitising village leaders regarding the aims and methodology of the survey. Once in the field, each team split into four pairs of two enumerators (balanced by gender). Field Coordinators stayed with one pair per day to monitor the performance of enumerators and ensure quality control over the data collected. As a further quality control mechanism, Field Coordinators checked 10% of forms collected each day for integrity. At the end of each day, Field Coordinators filled in a daily debriefing tool with enumerators, detailing progress per targets, and any issues encountered. The tool also allowed for Field Coordinators to record direct observations of field sites, and to further triangulate data collected and inform subsequent analysis.

Finally, the following settlements were excluded due to security constraints. The exclusion of affected conflict areas of Avdiivka, Zaitseve, Kirove, Svitlodarsk, Myronivskyi and Katerynivka settlements exclusion for security concerns has significant implications in terms of the IAVA findings as these are areas with high levels of needs according to other data sources and knowledge of local partners on the ground. The replacement settlements were identified as Dzerzhynsk, Marinka and Heorhiivka.

Phase 3: Qualitative data collection

Focus Group Discussions

Focus group discussions (FGDs) were included as a third phase to qualify the household-level findings for population groups considered to be the most vulnerable. The vulnerability criteria for the focus groups were decided based on inputs from SDR in Phase 1, key findings and gaps from household-level survey in Phase 2 and the Protection Cluster Ukraine's Vulnerability groupings from 2015.¹⁵ The final breakdown is presented below:

Vulnerability types:

1. Area type –
 - a. Contact Line
2. Non-Contact Line Population group –
 - a. Non-displaced persons
 - b. Displaced persons
3. Returnees Vulnerability types -
 - a. Unemployed head of household with 0-2 children receiving neither benefits nor humanitarian aid
 - b. Persons living in sub-standard accommodation due to the conflict which could trigger displacement and other risks (collective centres or heavy damage)
 - c. Elderly persons

Table 1. Final FGD matrix

		Unemployed HoHH	Poor shelter conditions	Elderly persons	Total
Areas close to the contact line	Non-displaced	2	2	2	6
	Displaced	3	3	2	8
	Returnees	0	0	0	0
None-Areas close to the contact line	Non-displaced	3	2	3	8
	Displaced	2	2	2	6
	Returnees	2	0	0	2
Total		12	9	9	30

¹⁵ Protection Cluster, Protection & Prioritising the Most Vulnerable Persons in the Ukrainian Humanitarian Response (Ukraine 2016)
http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/assets/files/field_protection_clusters/Ukraine/FINAL-Ukraine_PC_Vulnerability-Factsheet_August-en.pdf

Focus group participants were identified in two ways: through call-backs to respondents who answered the household level survey, and directly through partner agencies and local councils. FGD locations were purposively selected following observations by the field teams and review of satellite data, with the aim of targeting “typically” affected locations. In general, a FGD contained 6-12 members.

The FGDs were conducted by two teams, each comprising of a moderator and a note-taker. In total, there were four females and one male moderator who took turns in assuming moderation or note-taking. Barring one, all female FGDs were moderated by a female moderator and a female note-taker. Before commencing the FGDs, all moderators/note-takers underwent a half-day training on FGD best practices, the questioning route, as well as techniques for managing group discussions and dealing with sensitive issues.

Limitations of Focus Group Discussions

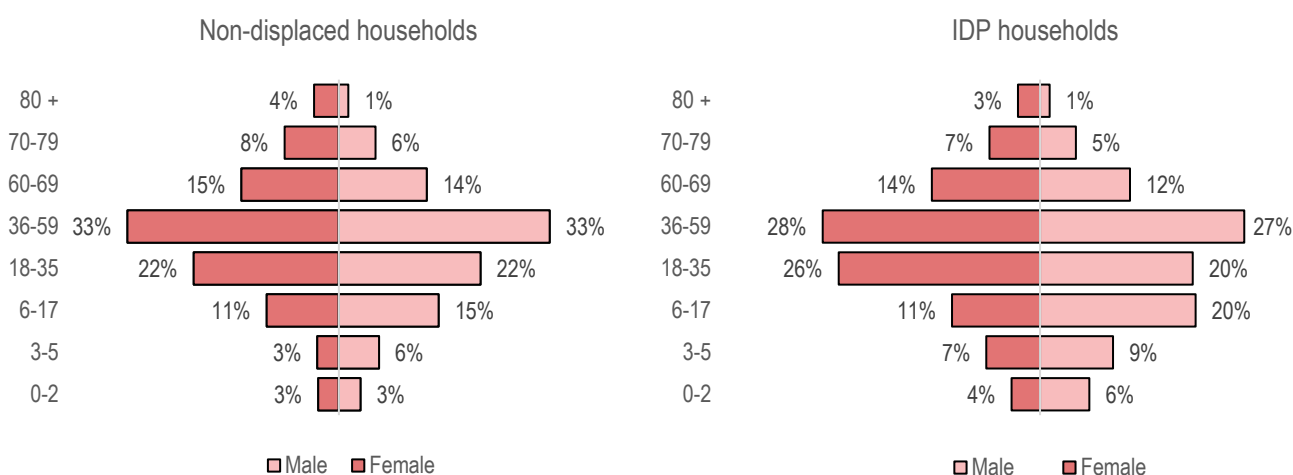
Given that the sampling methodology for the qualitative data collection component is purposive with the objective to advance theory as opposed to measure prevalence, it will not be possible to generalise the findings from the focus group discussions with any specified level of precision. Concerns on the methodology of the FGD for sensitive issue discussion were raised at both design and validation phases of the report, revolving around the following points: i) answers to sensitive issues are often limited due to the presence of others, ii) discussions were not led by experts from the different assessment fields but rather trained facilitators, leading to limitations in their ability to answer specific questions related to terminology. In cases where such concerns were raised during the validation process, the related information has been discarded from the report.

CROSS CUTTING FINDINGS

Demographics

The pyramid chart below shows the demographics of the sample disaggregated between non-displaced and IDP households. Based on the sample collected it appears that there are larger proportions of females within the age group between 18 and 35 in IDP households as opposed to a more balanced repartition in non-displaced (ND) households.

Figure 2. Population pyramid for non-displaced and IDP households



Female headed households, both displaced and non-displaced, have higher dependency ratios¹⁶ than male headed households. They are more likely to be caring for older family members and children. Combined with the understanding that they are more likely to be unemployed and typically have lower incomes than male headed households, the additional potential expenses of caring for children and elderly parents or grandparents exacerbates the economic and social vulnerability of female headed households.

Table 2. Household dependency ratio

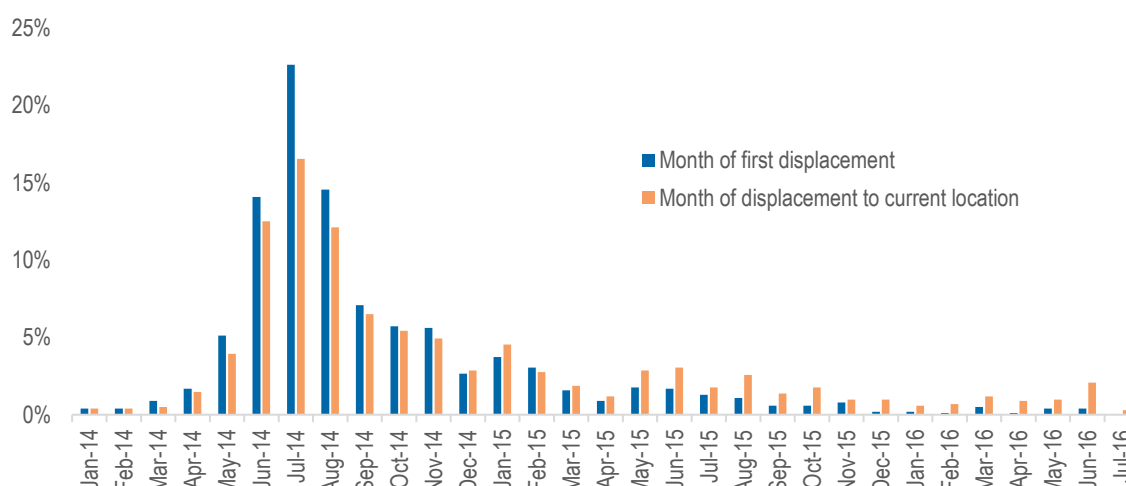
	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	0.50	0.50	0.49	0.52	0.46	0.54	0.45	-	-
ND	0.49	0.51	0.47	0.50	0.49	0.56	0.43	0.48	0.50

Displacement

Most IDP households, (75%) were displaced for the first time between May and November 2014. Of all the displaced households nearly 1 in 4 (24%) moved more than once, while the remainder stayed in their site of initial displacement. The chart below indicates the changing dynamics of displacement, with initial displacement mostly occurring in the early months of the conflict, followed by a slow but steady shift of IDPs to their current displacement locations.

¹⁶ For this assessment dependency ratio is defined as the sum of individuals in a household 17 and under, and over 60, divided by the total population of the household.

Figure 3. Month of initial and most recent displacement of IDPs



While safety was a clear factor informing people's initial decision to flee their homes according to the FGDs, the choice of displacement location was influenced by a number of factors. Most people chose to move to areas where they had pre-existing social support networks or the possibly to easily establish them, with access to friends or family and the support networks that come with this generally found to outweigh the safety of the location, proximity to home, and access to income generating activities. A frequency analysis of the most commonly mentioned reasons for choosing a location of displacement shows that while family remains the main factor to consider, the relative importance of accommodation price and proximity to previous housing differs by area of displacement. As shown in the figure below, households in areas close to the contact line more commonly reported these two factors as factors influencing their decision to relocate.

Figure 4. Top five reasons for choosing current location based on # of times mentioned in HH survey

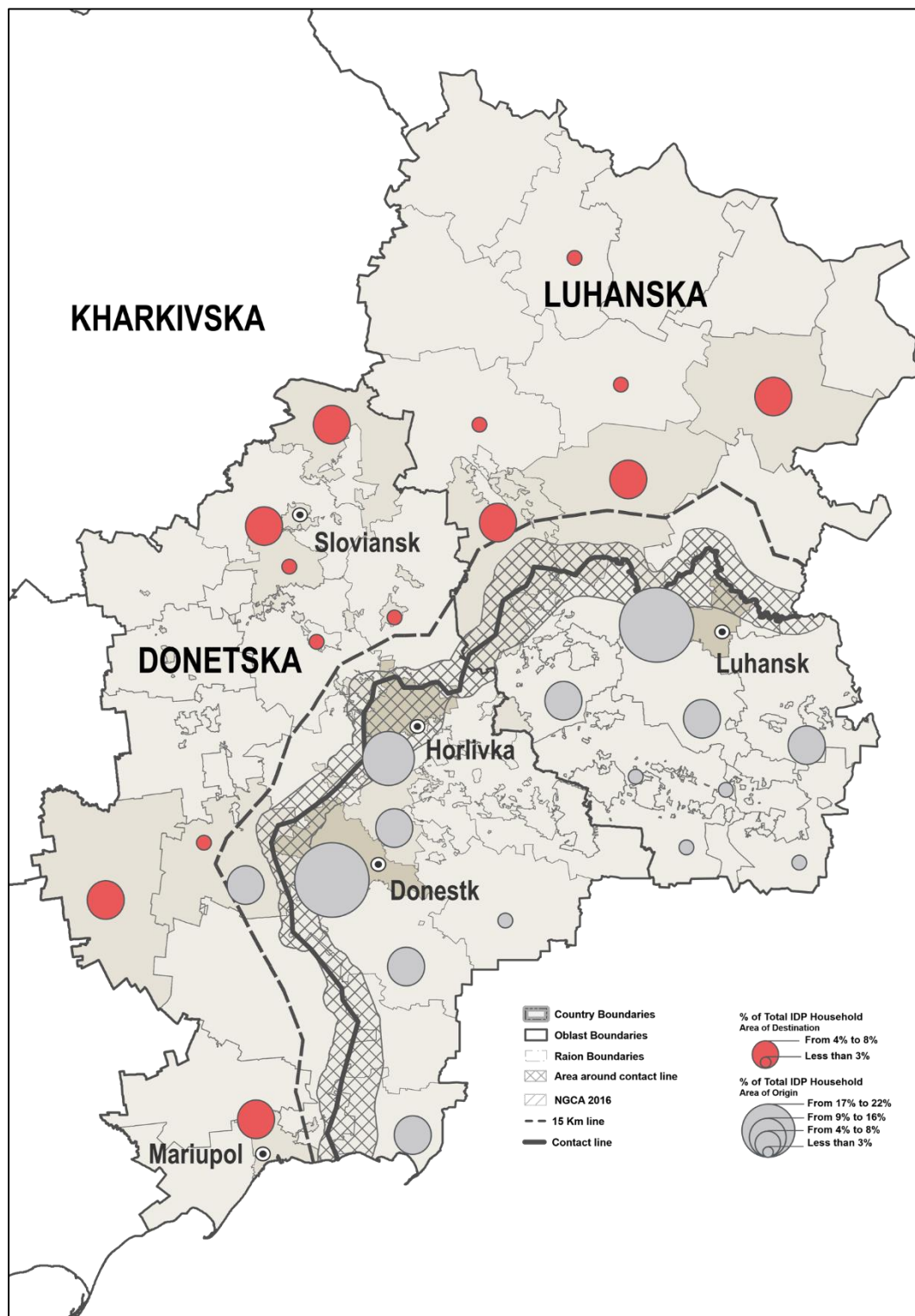
Rank	Areas along the contact line	Other areas
1	Family	Family
2	Free/Cheap Accommodation	Friends
3	Close to Original Home	Safety
4	Safety	Free/Cheap Accommodation
5	Friends	Close to Original Home

Findings from the Ukraine Shelter Cluster Shelter and NFI Needs Assessment,¹⁷ conducted during June and July 2015, show security as the primary reason behind IDPs choosing their current location, followed by having family and friends in that location. It is unclear what is driving observed changes in responses, however one might assume that as the conflict endures, security concerns become less of a priority.

¹⁷ Shelter Cluster Ukraine, Shelter and NFI Needs Assessment (Ukraine 2015)
https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/reach_ukr_report_shelter_and_nfi_assessment_august2015.pdf

While spatial data was not collected on locations of intermediary displacement, the map below illustrates the flow of IDPs between pre-displacement and current locations. Large proportions of interviewed IDPs came from major urban areas along the contact line, primarily from Donetsk, Luhansk and Horlivka.

Map 1. Displacement analysis, area of origin to current location as % of IDP HH



Returns and Future Intentions

While households that moved back to NGCAs have not been reached within the scope of this survey, data collected does provide information about IDP households in which one or more members who have returned to their area of origin.

Based on data collected from IDP households, there is limited evidence of returns to pre-displacement locations at this stage of the crisis:

90% of IDPs indicated that none of their household members had returned to their pre-displacement locations and **92%** of IDP households reported **no intent** to return home in the **next 6 months**

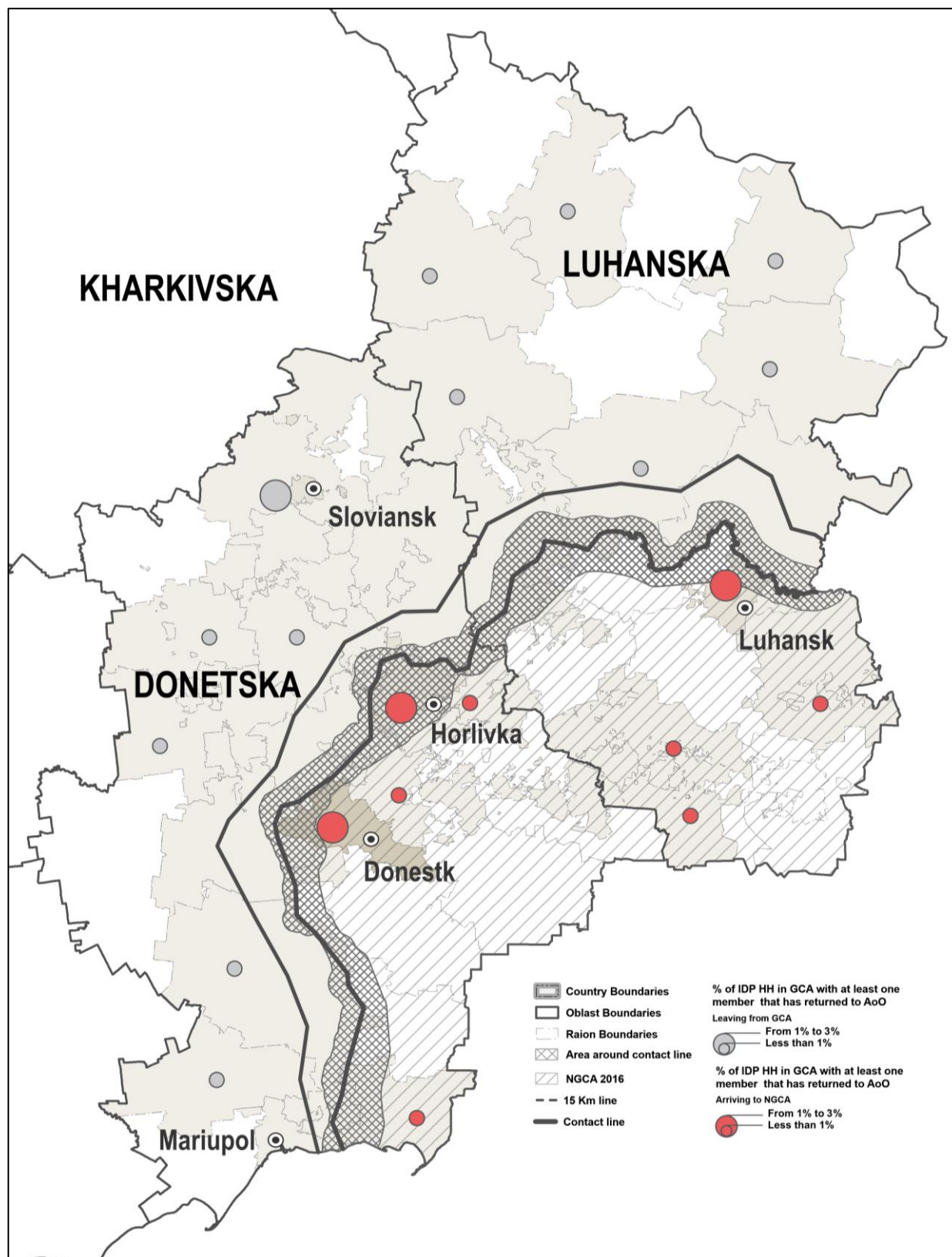
Looking at the household with members that have returned (1 in 10) these are the observed dynamics: 40% had reportedly returned permanently and 60% on a temporary basis, representing 46 and 68 households respectively. For these households, the most frequently cited reason for permanent return was to protect property (70%), followed by those returning to work (46%), or due to the unaffordability for rent (22%). Of those households reporting returns, 65% had immediate family members left in the area of origin. Map 2 shows a visualisation of return patterns based on the data collected from the assessment.

Focus group discussion participants, households reported fearing that the increase in utility costs in the coming winter would force them to return to their areas of origin in NGCAs. Since these households owned property in their areas of origin, they explained that the payment of rent – a significant financial burden – would not be an issue if they were to return, thereby freeing up limited resources to pay for heating. Such concerns related to the affordability of accommodation are supported by previous assessments conducted by UNHCR, in which many respondents stated that unless a more durable solution for housing is identified, they would have no other option but to return to the non-government controlled area even if the conflict continues.¹⁸

In the household survey, displaced respondents also cited concerns regarding free choice and informed choice. Of those surveyed, some 43% expressed willingness to return should conditions become conducive for them to do so safely. Almost a quarter, however, expressed that they did not intend to return to their place of origin under any scenario. Further investigation is therefore required into the role of increasing housing costs and lack of access to income – the two most commonly cited causes for possible return.

¹⁸ UNHCR, Summary of Participatory Assessments with internally displaced and conflict affected people in Ukraine (Ukraine June 2015) http://unhcr.org.ua/attachments/article/1526/PA%20Summ_proof.pdf

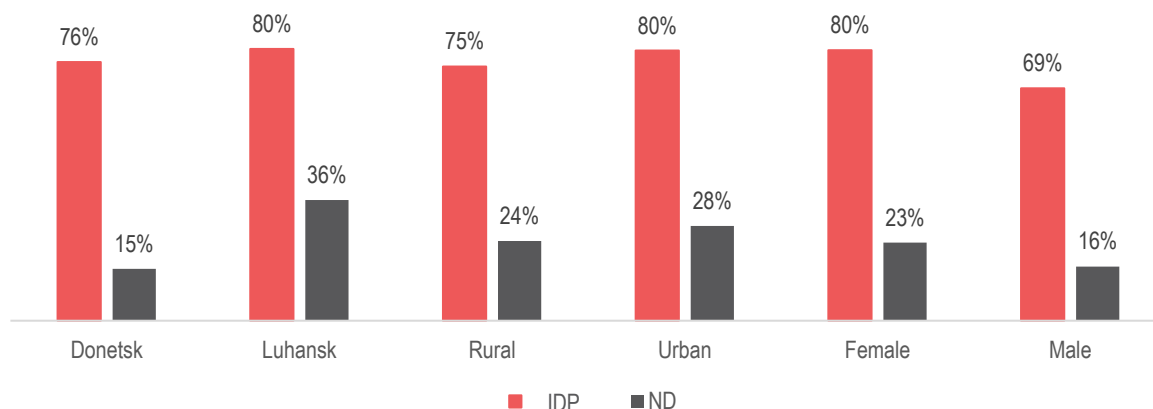
Map 2. % of IDP HH in GCAs reporting that at least 1 member has returned to area of origin



Humanitarian Assistance

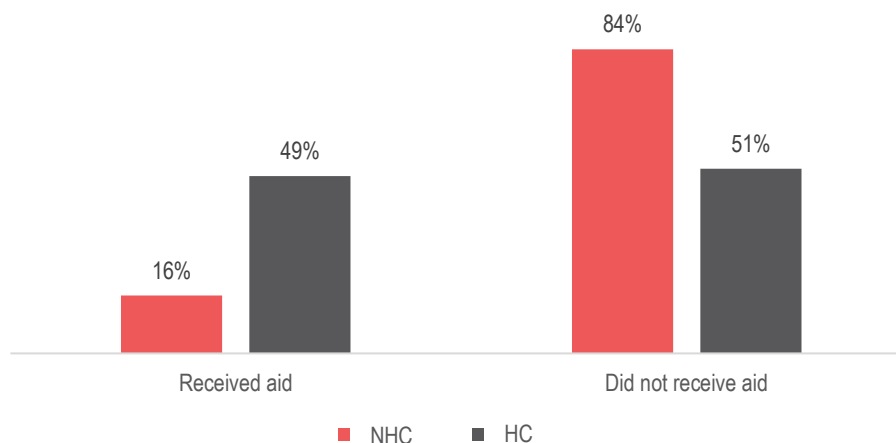
Humanitarian assistance has reached approximately 79% of displaced households, and 21% of non-displaced. There were no significant differences when applying looking specifically at IDPs, barring a slight bias toward female-headed households that, as shown throughout this analysis, are more likely to have been targeted by aid programmes because of their vulnerability.

Figure 5. Reported receipt of humanitarian assistance by IDP and ND households



When looking at households in areas close to the contact line and other areas, we see considerable differences in delivery of aid. Humanitarian aid has reached 49% of households in the areas close to the contact line. Significantly more non-displaced households in Luhansk reported receiving aid. While this shows that aid is reaching the most conflict affected communities the significant differences between these two groups (more than 3-fold), as highlighted in the report not all needs are concentrated in this area.

Figure 6. % of ND HH having received/not received aid by area of concern¹⁹



PROTECTION

Household Vulnerabilities

19% of displaced households reported caring for unrelated minors. Breaking this down further, there are noticeable differences between gender of head of household and oblast. However, these differences cannot be directly compared to non-displaced households, and cannot be generalised to the entire IDP population. Reflecting vulnerabilities identified in many other sectors, female headed households (22%) are more likely to care for

¹⁹ NHC refers to other areas as defined the methodology and HC refers to areas along the contact line.

unrelated children than male headed households (12%), as are those households in Donetsk (22%) when compared to Luhansk (12%). With regards to non-displaced households, 16% reported caring for unrelated children, although no significant differences were observed when disaggregating further.²⁰

5% of non-displaced households and 6% of IDP households reported having one or more pregnant or lactating woman in their household. No significant difference was observed through further disaggregation.

Remarkably, 20% of displaced households and 19% of non-displaced reported having one or more member with a disability, with no significant variation within these groups when disaggregated further. The reported proportions are significantly higher than those reported by the MoSP, which estimates around 4% of households to have disabilities. However, it should be noted that sampling, scope and disaggregation differ between these two assessments, making direct comparisons unreliable.²¹ Bearing in mind that this was self-reported and potentially subject to some bias, the suggestion that disability directly affects 1 in 5 households is clearly of concern.

Interestingly, focus group discussion participants did not indicate specifically that they believed female headed households to be more vulnerable than male ones. Rather, most suggested that the elderly were among the most vulnerable due to lack of mobility, very limited income and, frequently, a lack of adequate care. There were also strong feelings that young families were particularly at risk due to the limited economic opportunities that exist across the region. While some respondents mentioned proximity to the contact line and the resultant exposure to shelling as being a source of household vulnerabilities, the overwhelming theme of discussions was that the faltering economy is the single biggest threat people face on a day-to-day basis.

Documentation and Legal Assistance

98% of IDP households and 99% of non-displaced interviewed households indicated that all members had documentation such as identification, passports, birth and death certificates, and marriage and divorce certificates.²²

With regards to legal assistance IDPs reported much higher needs for support. Close to 1 in 5 respondents reported requiring this type of support against 1 in 20 for non-displaced.²³ While not statistically significant, the differences between households close to the contact line and those farther away, and between IDPs in urban areas and those in rural areas, are noticeable. Focus group discussions with IDPs did not highlight major issues with regards to documentation, rather the need to formalize documentation to systematically receive benefit payments. Given household level nature of the survey the population group reached in the assessment did not necessarily cover the displaced households in very vulnerable situations such as those in collective centres which might have different needs in terms of documentation support.

Table 3. Households reporting a need for legal assistance

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	18%	19%	15%	15%	23%	20%	15%	-	-
ND	5%	4%	7%	5%	5%	5%	4%	15%	4%

Of the 18% of displaced and 5% of non-displaced households stating they required legal assistance, 39% of IDPs and 61% of non-displaced have not yet received it. For those that could access assistance, the combination of free assistance and that provided by NGOs made up most of the responses (49% of non-displaced, 68% of IDPs). It is worth noting that these two responses were intended to be different, and enumeration staff were specifically trained

²⁰ While certain partners highlighted that these numbers are remarkable high, none of the information collected during this assessment indicates why this may be. Interviews with enumeration staff indicate that the question was asked clearly and that responses were unambiguous.

²¹ According to the NGO HelpAge International, the difference in the findings can be explained by the MoSP approach that does not include persons with disabilities who have retired and are receiving pensions.

²² This included such critical documents as internal/ external passport, birth or death certificates, and marriage or divorce certificates.

²³ Interviews with field staff indicate that need for legal assistance was defined as "any activity that would typically require the services of a lawyer".

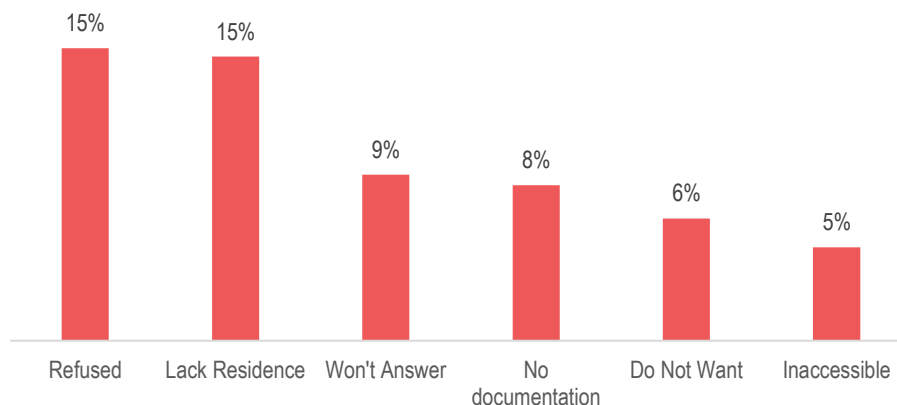
to differentiate between them. However, the possibility exists that they were somehow conflated or confused in the minds of the respondents.

Registration

For 1,151 IDP headed households, enumeration captured a total of 3,150 household members. Of these households, 284 claimed to have a total of 498 members (15.8%) not registered. Disaggregation does not allow to draw conclusions between urban/rural areas, by oblast or by gender of household head. However, the assessment did allow for the identification of the proportion of unregistered IDPs, which was previously unknown.

Of the 5% of displaced respondents who reported having difficulties in registering as IDPs, these were the most frequently cited reasons.

Figure 7. Most frequently cited reasons for not registering as an IDP



Gender-Based Violence

Due to the sensitivity of gender-based violence (GBV), the topic was only covered only in the qualitative data collection component, through inclusion of related questions into the FGDs.²⁴ Even in this context, participants were mostly either unaware of, or not comfortable speaking about GBV and appeared to know little about services to aid victims of GBV or how to access them. Out of 30 discussions only 4 provided answers on who to contact to address such cases of violence, indicating an overall lack of awareness about services available for victims of GBV. For those who were able to discuss the topic, participants reported that they were not aware of widespread GBV cases in their communities and that the conflict had not resulted in a noticeable increase in such abuses. However, several participants indicated that women in their villages are almost certainly hiding GBV cases, but nobody would speak specifically about these instances.

The issue of military presence was the most discussed topics in FGDs, particularly in association with GBV, although there were conflicting responses both between and within groups. Female respondents had a different view on this, with some indicating that they took preemptive measures by not going out in the evening and avoiding any possible encounter with military personnel. Other women, however, stated that they had a high level of trust in the military, and that military presence in their communities was a critical element in making them feel safe.

Male participants typically felt the presence of the military as a positive factor, reporting a decrease in crime and assault since the military appeared in the town and citing their presence as key to social stability and order. While falling outside the given definition of GBV, it is worth noting that groups of men claimed that they were discriminated against for failure to directly participate in the conflict, resulting in a form of psychological harassment.

The findings from the IAVA are also interesting to compare to results of a recent UNFPA led assessment²⁵ composed of 10 FGDs conducted in Luhansk and Donetsk, which identified several underlying risk factors, including asocial behaviour (alcohol and drug abuse); a lack of law enforcement; and lack of appropriate

²⁴ GBV is not normally covered in household surveys, since many participants are reluctant to openly share such personal information with enumerators.

²⁵ UNFPA, Power Point Presentation shared with REACH (Ukraine 2016).

infrastructure such as street lighting. Specific vulnerable groups were reported to experience specific types of abuse, with young women highlighting increased sexual interest from the military, displaced women reporting having experienced discrimination; families of demobilized soldiers facing increased violence because of post-traumatic stress; and elderly people reportedly feeling vulnerable to targeted violence to obtain pension money. Discussions also highlighted the prevalence of sex work and issues of increase cases of unwanted pregnancy and single parenting in the conflict area. Issues of sexual violence were also covered in the UNFPA assessment, but aside from reports of cases of war time rape, the study also concluded that issues were likely to be underreported and remained a subject of general taboo.

Social Cohesion

The conflict has been a testing time for many across the affected area. It has resulted in many fractured social relations in and outside the family due to differing political views and high-levels of stress, often compounded by the inability to cope with limited resources and increased prices. Despite this, the household survey revealed that only a very small percentage (<5%) of those living in the study area, regardless of location or displacement status, are or have recently been involved in any form of civil dispute.

FGDs indicate that displaced and non-displaced people view the consequences of the conflict in a similar manner. Non-displaced participants indicated that loss of income due to the closure of workplaces or general deterioration of economic conditions has been the greatest single consequence of the conflict, followed by the breakdown of their families, and psychological trauma. IDPs also highlighted the importance of these three consequences and stated they experienced no discriminatory or hostile behaviour from host communities. This finding was complementary to the reports of the non-displaced groups who said they felt no hostility towards IDPs. Instead, they understood and shared their troubles since both demographic groups are affected in similar ways. Some focus group participants reported helping IDPs by renting their houses for free and supporting them to gain employment. They also expressed a few positive cases related improved cultural development in host cities, attributed to the influx of highly educated people (doctors, professors, teachers etc.) who had been displaced by the conflict. FGD participants from areas close to the contact line showed the most sympathetic attitude to IDPs, as they saw their displacement as a very real issue.

Only a handful of non-displaced male participants said that they felt an increase in competition for jobs due to the arrival of IDPs and the simultaneous closure of workplaces. However, the main issue that creates tension between host community and IDPs is the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Non-displaced participants emphasized that all assistance was being provided to IDPs. While this may not actually be the case (as shown in the household survey which indicated that 28% of non-displaced respondents had received aid), this perception may lead to rising tensions between the two population groups should displacement continue.

In one focus group discussion, IDPs explained that they faced discriminatory and degrading treatment from local officials at every step. They explained that their IDP benefit payments had reportedly been cut, and that they faced rude officials during frequent residence checks, while queuing for public institutions dealing with IDPs. Many older IDPs must get new pensioner identification, for which they must visit the local bank branch in person in their current residency area. This applies even to those who are bedridden, who are often reportedly carried on a wheelchair or walker and consider it to be extremely degrading.

Some displaced males reported to be treated as criminals, forcefully detained and accused of not wanting to serve their homeland when they refused to join the military service.

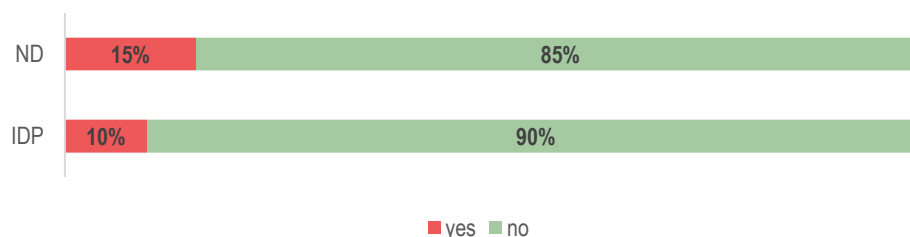
Security

Checkpoints

Most displaced and non-displaced households indicated they did not encounter checkpoints within the GCAs when accessing services in general, although the impact of checkpoints on specific services, such as access to markets

and access to health care is discussed in later sections of this report. It should also be noted that this report did not look into checkpoints issues related to access to NGCAs.²⁶

Figure 8. Proportion of households reporting they must pass checkpoints in GCAs to access services



When disaggregating further, significant differences can be seen between households in urban and rural areas, where 6% and 20%, respectively must pass checkpoints, typically when traveling between the two areas. No statistical differences between any of the other disaggregation groups.

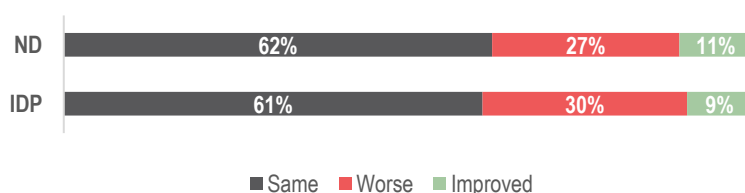
A recent report by UNHCR²⁷ however highlighted four key issues with regards to entry-exit checkpoints between GCAs and NGCAs: i) an increase in the number of persons crossing to resolve documentation issues, ii) an influx of young people for reasons connected to education, iii) an increase in average time spent for crossing and iv) cases of children being denied access to the NGCAs when they are accompanied by only one parent, even with the power of attorney of the second.

While some secondary data suggests that internal checkpoints, and those checkpoints between GCAs and NGCAs, are sites of sexual violence, household survey respondents and FGD participants did not highlight such issues, either due to unwillingness to share or social taboo.²⁸ However, participants did mention checkpoints as insecure, expensive and time-consuming to cross.

Security Concerns

When asked about the perceived the safety of their households and whether this had changed since the beginning of the conflict, roughly 30% of both displaced and non-displaced households reported that security had decreased. Somewhat surprisingly, roughly equal proportions of displaced and non-displaced respondents also indicated that their safety had improved since the beginning of the conflict (11% of non-displaced, 9% of displaced).

Figure 9. Change in perceived safety of households, by status



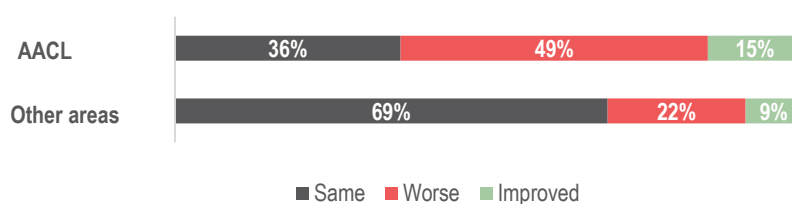
No significant difference was found between populations when disaggregating by gender of head of household, rural/ urban areas, or oblast. However, half of households (49%) that had remained in the areas close to the contact line indicate, not surprisingly, that security had become worse.

²⁶ Entry-exit operational checkpoints between GCAs and NGCAs: Pyshchevyk, Novotroitske, Marinka, Mayorsk, Stanytsia Luhanska, as of October 2016.

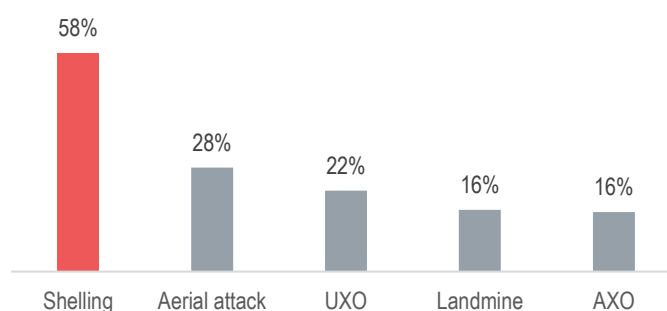
²⁷ UNHCR, Crossing the Line of Contact in Eastern Ukraine (Ukraine 2016)

²⁸ International Medical Corps, Gender-based Violence Rapid Assessment (Ukraine September 2015)

Figure 10. Change in perceived safety of household, by area proximity to contact line



When asked about security concerns, 58% of households responded that shelling was their primary concern, with more than 20% also reporting that aerial attacks, unexploded ordnance (UXO), landmines or abandoned ordnance (AXO) were also concerns. Even though aerial attacks have not occurred in the area since 2014, the memory of full-scale warfare appears to remain a concern for households in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts.

Figure 11. Primary security concerns of non-displaced households²⁹

Inhabitants of areas close to the contact line reported similar concerns to that of the population although households in areas close to the contact line reported such issues more frequently. Critical here is that fact that both areas are in range and regularly experience shelling from NGCAs. Focus group discussion participants from areas near the contact line pointed out that they continue to be very afraid of being injured due to shelling, which has become more frequent and unpredictable.

Table 4. Security concerns of non-displaced populations, by proximity to contact line

	Shelling	Aerial attacks	UXO	Landmines	Booby traps
AACL	78%	28%	31%	27%	19%
Other areas	55%	27%	19%	14%	12%

FGDs revealed that persons in areas close to the contact line and other areas alike fear the overall renewal of war. However, there was no direct mention of aerial attack being an issue during these conversations. Respondents from bigger cities like Sloviansk and Mariupol also expressed fear at the very real possibility of the city coming under attack once again.

Reporting on the presence of explosives in communities was quite low. Responses from the household survey indicated that only 4% of IDPs and 9% of non-displaced coexisted with mines or UXOs. There is a stark difference when looking at responses from households close to the contact line: 30% of these reported the presence of some form of military explosives.

FGD participants from both inside and outside areas close to the contact line reported the presence of mines and UXOs in their communities. While the household survey did not indicate that mines were a primary concern, or that there was any significant difference in rates of response between the two groups, participants in the FGDs

²⁹ Respondents could select multiple responses

suggested that they were a serious hazard for farmers and in forests, where people traditionally go mushroom picking and chop wood for fuel. The shrinking of available budgets for food and fuel may eventually force individuals into the forest to gather resources, bringing them into closer contact with existing hazards.

In areas close to the contact line, women reported to not farm any longer due to extreme danger of shelling and many land plots being destroyed. Men explained that even working in the garden was dangerous during shelling.

One group of elderly displaced men was concerned that they may be evicted from their rented shelters, their pensions maybe suspended and their grandsons will be conscripted into the army as a direct repercussion of renewed hostilities. Elderly female IDPs also pointed out the presence of military personnel in the streets as a serious security concern because possession of arms by the military allows them to intimidate civilians. Certain women raised concerns about the military due to alcohol abuse and feeling of impunity.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Markets, Livelihoods & Income

Markets

Overall, 87% of households reported being within 5km of a functioning market, while only slightly more than 2% indicated they were 20km or more away. Not surprisingly, households in rural areas tend to report being farther from markets than those in urban areas, though the differences fall within the margin of error of the sample. There are no significant differences related to proximity to markets by oblast or zone, nor between displaced and non-displaced households.

One fifth (20%) of respondents indicated they had difficulty accessing markets for basic goods and services. Of these with difficulty more than half of both displaced and non-displaced respondents mentioned price as a difficulty (61% for IDP and 53% for non-displaced). Transport was also mentioned regularly, with 55% of IDP households flagging it as an issue against 44% of non-displaced. While physical access to markets for most people did not appear to be a critical issue at the time of assessment, the prevailing economic conditions - primarily widespread unemployment - create a significant barrier for access to basic goods for large numbers of people in Donetsk and Luhansk, regardless of their proximity to the contact line.

Focus group participants have observed a twofold to fivefold increase in prices for basic goods since the conflict started. They blame this rise primarily on the presence of checkpoints, claiming that suppliers bringing goods through often have to pay bribes, or that perishable goods spoil while waiting to pass. The losses are then passed on to the consumer. This increase in price may also be due to the three-fold decrease in the value of the Hryvnia which has fallen from 10 EUR / UAH to 30 EUR / UAH. A similarly sharp fall can be observed (loss of 50% of its value) compared to the Russian Ruble.

Most FGD participants indicated they have been coping with price increases by purchasing discounted and expired food items and generally deprioritizing the purchase of personal or household NFIs until they feel there is extreme need. With information from both FGDs and the household survey indicating that the expense of goods is an issue for many, the failure of pension benefits to keep up with the rising cost of goods renders older people particularly vulnerable. Elderly men pointed out that when faced with unaffordable heating supplies, like coal, in the market, they resort to illegal cutting of trees. This severely compromises their safety as they (and others) claim forests are highly contaminated with mines. Elderly participants further experienced increased difficulty accessing markets due to their reduced mobility, and in some cases compounded by disability.

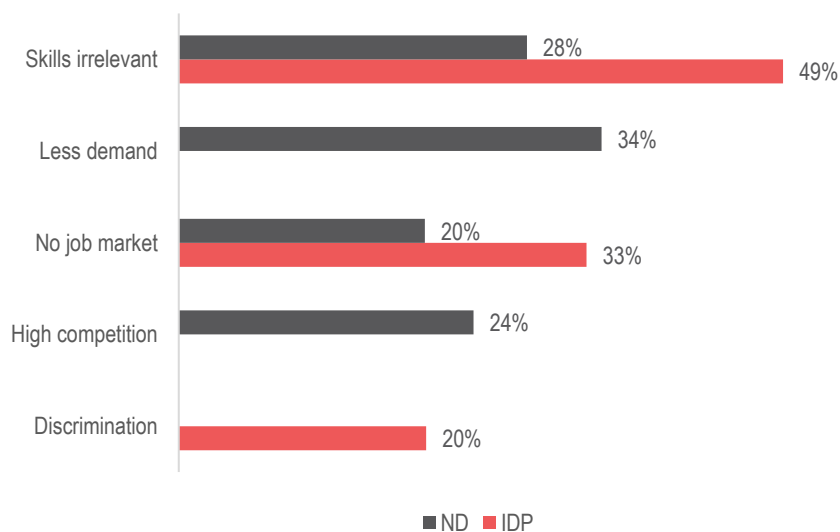
As winter conditions return, many of those that are currently able to walk to markets for goods will be forced to shift increasing portions of their already tight budgets to transportation. This will likely further compromise vulnerable groups – particularly the elderly. Provision of transportation to markets, or deliveries of goods and services to their homes, will be critical to support vulnerable groups through the winter.

Livelihoods

The harsh economic reality of Eastern Ukraine has been exacerbated by two years of conflict. Mines and factories, the region's core economic activities, have ground to halt for various reasons: war, safety concerns, flight of workers, damage to facilities from shells and mortars, damage to transportation infrastructure. Echoing these visual cues of a struggling economy, this assessment found that 45% of IDP and 28% of non-displaced households reported difficulties in finding jobs, while 38% of both populations were dependant on pensions for their primary source of income, and 28% of non-displaced and 37% of IDPs claimed they had zero income from livelihood activities or pensions over the last 30 days.³⁰

There are higher rates of unemployment among both non-displaced and IDP populations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblast. National statistics numbers for 2015 show 13.8% and 15.6% rates for these areas compared to a national average of 9.1%. When asked why they believe they were unemployed, most responses from both groups point at factors related to either the weak economy or their own lack of adaptation to a changing job market. Nearly half of all IDPs (49%) and 28% of non-displaced surveyed believed they were unemployed because their skills had become irrelevant. There is no clear indication if this is related to their skills being outdated in general, or if it is because the skills were outdated vis-à-vis needs in their areas of displacement. This issue was also discussed during through FGDs, but responses brought no further clarity. Nearly a third of non-displaced respondents indicated that one of the reasons for their unemployment was less demand for workers in their profession. A similar proportion of IDPs, and roughly one-fifth of the non-displaced households surveyed, responded that lack of a job market was a factor.

Figure 12. Perceived reasons for unemployment³¹



There are statistically significant differences in responses related to the lack of a job market from non-displaced households in rural vs. urban areas, and from those close to the contact line vs. those farther away from it. 45% of non-displaced respondents in rural areas believed there was active no job market in their areas compared to 18% of urban households, while 33% of households in the areas along the contact line are believe they are unemployed due to an inactive job market compared to 18% in other areas. IDP households in rural and urban areas demonstrated similar response rates to non-displaced ones.

When looking at the data from a gender perspective it seems that IDP women tend to have more difficulties in finding jobs. In fact, close to 1 in 2 IDP women experience such problems while this ratio is of 1 in 4 for male non-displaced. The table below shows these differences.

³⁰ There are no significant differences when disaggregating any of these indicators by gender of HoHH, oblast, urban/ rural or areas along the contact line/other areas.

³¹ Respondents could choose multiple responses; shown are the most relevant ones.

Table 5. Percentage of households reporting difficulties in finding jobs by displacement and gender

	IDP		ND	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Yes	48%	39%	29%	26%
No	53%	61%	71%	74%

The table below indicates there is a distinct divide in the perceptions – and potentially the real experiences – of individuals living in different contexts. While it does not highlight specific vulnerabilities per se, it does provide a profile of individuals, based on their locations, who are likely to be the appropriate targets for livelihood-related interventions. While it can be reasonably assumed that differences observed between households in the areas close to the contact line and those outside it are at least partially related to the conflict, there is no appropriate baseline against which to measure the rural/ urban divide in order to understand if the difference is arising from the effects of the conflict, or has deeper roots.

Table 6. Percent of households who believe they are unemployed due to lack of job market

	ND	IDP
Rural	45%	44%
Urban	18%	16%
AACL	33%	N/A
Other areas	18%	N/A

Around a quarter of non-displaced households (24%) believed that competition for jobs had grown since the beginning of the conflict, and the influx IDP populations was at the heart of the issue. When looking at pre-conflict unemployment rates in both Oblasts, between 6% and 7% and current rates described above (>13%) it appears that both an increase in supply of labour (more workers) and decrease in demand (less economic activity) are driving this perception of increased competition. On the other side, in what could be seen as an at least proximal related response, 20% of IDP households felt that they were discriminated against in the job market. Whether these understandings are real or perceived, they should continue to be monitored. Increasing competition over scarce resources – in this case employment – can engender a social space that supports inter-communal violence as a popular solution to intractable economic issues.

Household Expenditure and Coping Mechanisms

Despite having considerably lower incomes, IDPs still need to spend as much on common goods and services as non-displaced households. When factoring in rent, an expense which 61% of IDPs incur, but most non-displaced households do not, average IDP monthly expenses grow to beyond UAH 4,500. As expenditures have been analysed on an average basis the figures from the report should not be used for calculation of expense baskets due to significant variation across areas, household composition and employment situation.

Figure 13 average monthly expenditures (UAH) on common goods and services³²

The graph above shows very little difference between IDP and non-displaced averages. However, it does appear that female and rural households tend to be under the average in their respective displacement categories.

Given the high level of expenditure relative to income levels for both IDP and non-displaced households, many have either been forced to adopt, or are expecting to adopt, coping strategies to make ends meet in these difficult times. Surprisingly, there is limited variation between the reported use of coping strategies between displaced and non-displaced households. The only area where a real gap can be observed is when considering the proportion of households that have already consumed, or are planning to consume, their saving to support themselves and their families. IDP households were found to be considerably more likely to report adopting this strategy than non-displaced ones for all of the different modes of disaggregation.

Looking deeper into both population groups, considerable internal variation can be seen, although none of this is statistically significant. In most instances, female-headed households, rural households, and those in Luhansk Oblast report adopting coping strategies more regularly than their counterparts. There is also considerable variation among non-displaced households when considering those close to the contact line, and those further away.

³² This only includes universal expenditures such as heating, food, healthcare, education, transportation, hygiene, clothes, household goods, debt servicing, and pension scheme payment. Rent is not considered in this table.

Table 7. Uptake of selected household coping strategies

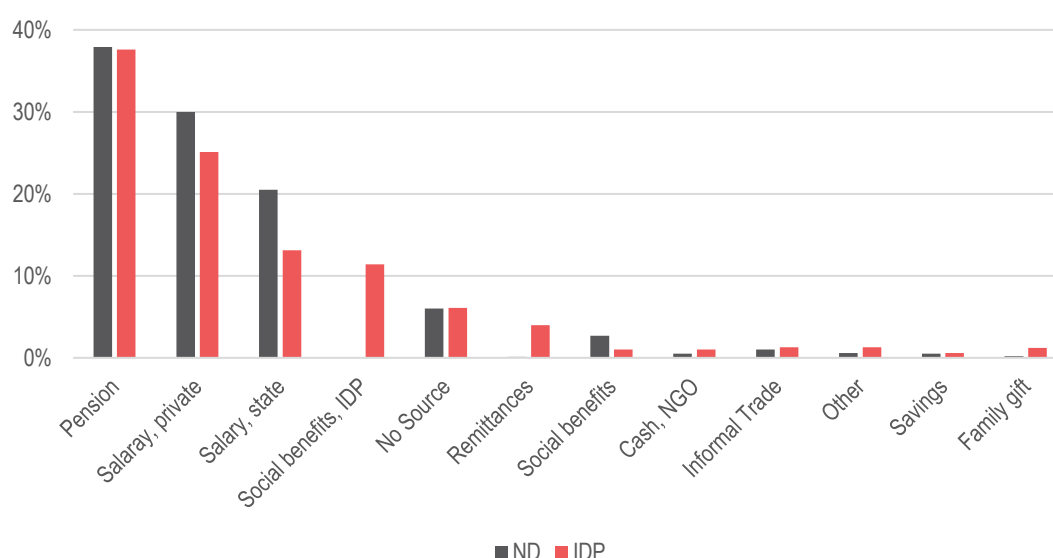
		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
Displaced	Sold assets	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	-	-
	Spent savings	39%	35%	47%	42%	35%	43%	35%	-	-
	Credit for food	9%	10%	9%	12%	6%	12%	7%	-	-
	Reduce health/ edu	38%	38%	38%	43%	31%	43%	33%	-	-
	Debt	23%	22%	23%	24%	21%	28%	18%	-	-
Non-displaced	Sold assets	3%	5%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	7%	3%
	Spent savings	27%	22%	31%	26%	28%	28%	26%	34%	25%
	Credit for food	13%	12%	12%	16%	10%	14%	12%	18%	11%
	Reduce health/ edu	35%	35%	34%	37%	34%	41%	29%	42%	33%
	Debt	27%	26%	25%	28%	26%	29%	25%	37%	23%

Focus group discussions showed that both male and female headed households have had to adopt the same coping strategies identified in the household survey. Strategies such as selling family jewellery, having to go into debt and reducing dietary diversity because of loss of income were mentioned in all focus group discussions, regardless of gender, area and displacement status.

Income, Pensions, and Social Benefits

38% of households, both non-displaced and displaced, were dependent on pensions as the primary source of household income during the 30 days prior to interview. This was followed by private and state-drawn salaries, albeit in varying proportions for both groups. IDP social benefits were the primary income source for 11% of IDP households, while 6% of both non-displaced and IDP respondents claimed to have no income in the month prior to being interviewed.

Figure 14. Primary source of household income in the last 30 days



There are no remarkable differences when further disaggregating by oblast, urban/ rural or areas, or areas along the contact line/ other areas. Overall, 52% of non-displaced households, and 39% of IDP households, reported that their primary income source was derived from recent productive labour (i.e. not pensions). It is also worth noting that many IDP households have no secondary (37%) or tertiary (63%) income sources. Non-displaced

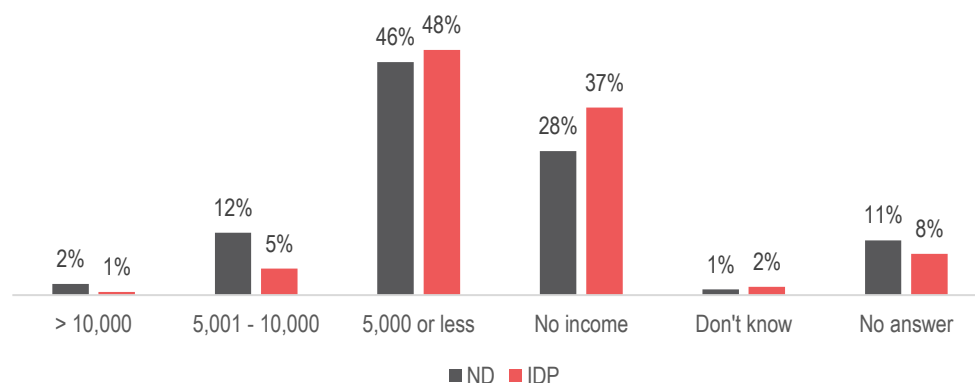
households reported similar circumstances at 53% and 77% respectively. In such a context, even relatively modest cash distribution or income generating activity programming could have a noticeable positive impact on people's lives.

Among non-displaced populations, female headed households were found to be more likely to unemployed or dependent on pensions and less likely to be engaged in the private or public sector than male headed ones. These differences, however, are within the margin of error of the sample and therefore not generalizable to the entire population. The same pattern exists, with roughly the same differences, among IDP households. Findings from FGDs conducted with unemployed women supported this, indicating that women face challenges entering the workforce due to traditional gender roles, as even female heads of household are expected to stay at home to look after their families. Participants in FGDs also claimed that women with children are discriminated against because they are believed to be less suited for employment.

FGDs with IDPs indicated that displacement brings very real challenges related to finding or maintaining legitimate work. Many primary employers like factories and mines in people's areas of origin have closed due to damage or insecurity. Even if they wanted to return to their old places of employment, there is a very real likelihood of that place being no longer operational. Where industry still exists, many of those displaced to rural areas, and those who remain close to the contact line, must pay for transportation to get to these areas.

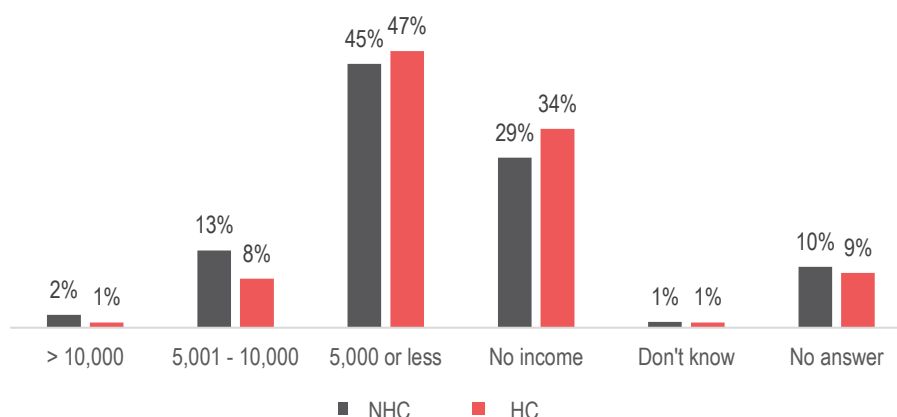
The chart below supports the understanding that IDP households appear to be in a more precarious economic position than their non-displaced counterparts. Responses indicate that they are more likely to have no income, and less likely to earn over UAH 5,000/ month than non-displaced households.

Figure 15. Average household income in the last 30 days

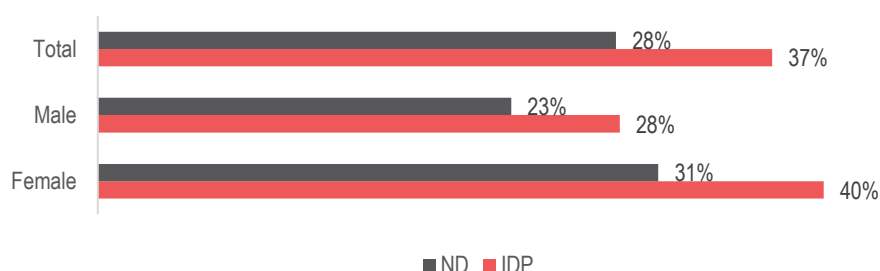


While households in urban areas typically have slightly higher reported income levels, there are no noticeable differences in rates of unemployment. Significantly, and even though differences in the physical manifestation of the conflict – damage to homes, infrastructure and loss of lives and livelihoods – between areas near the contact line and those farther away is obvious, there is no measurable gap in reported income levels for respondents live in these two areas. Likewise, analysis of responses from Donetsk and Luhansk oblast shows only marginal differences in incomes between Oblasts and between non-displaced and IDP populations living there.

Figure 16. Average household income in the past 30 days, other areas vs areas along the contact line



When viewed from a gendered perspective there is an observed, though not statistically significant, gap in the proportions of households reporting earning no income through livelihood activities in the 30 days prior to being interviewed. This gap grows when disaggregated by status of the householder, with results showing that IDPs are considerably more likely to have no income; female-headed IDP households reported no income nearly twice as frequently as male-headed non-displaced households. While clearly indicative of a general trend, it should be noted that these figures are only indicative of the sampled population, and not generalizable to the entire population of the study area.

Figure 17. Households reporting zero income in the last 30 days, by sex of head of household³³

Receipt of Cash Assistance

Given the grim economic circumstances, cash assistance provides flexibility to meet the needs of households based on their priorities. However, when asked how much cash assistance they had received in the past 30 days, large proportions of both IDP and non-displaced households indicated that they had received none at all.

Table 8. Households reporting *not* to have received cash aid/ assistance in the last 30 days

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	74%	74%	75%	73%	75%	72%	76%	-	-
ND	86%	94%	85%	86%	86%	84%	88%	64%	94%

Pensions & Social Benefits

IDP households seemed more vulnerable than non-displaced households, with a higher proportion of dependent household members. Since displacement, they were required to re-register, switch banks, insurance companies, re-subscribe to pension funds, all of which require old persons to stand in long lines and travel far distances, negatively affecting either their health or the progress of their re-registration. Compounded by the long delays in

³³ Due to differences in sampling strategies, results for ND and IDP households are not directly comparable and therefore not generalizable to the larger population; they should be taken as indicative only.

payments (even after re-registration), many IDPs, especially men, are looking for alternate sources of income while facing increasing pressure to meet basic costs. In focus group discussions there were disagreements on whether pensioners were more or less vulnerable than other population groups. Some groups identified the need to support elderly people in their communities while others highlighted their entitlement to pensions as a source of security.

Given the heightened rates of unemployment and lower reported incomes, IDPs are more commonly dependent on social benefits payments as primary (10%), secondary (33%) and tertiary (9%) income sources. 32% of interviewed households claim to have missed one or more payments since registration. There is considerable difference in rates of missed payments between IDPs living in Donetsk (37%) and Luhansk (15%), and between female (36%) and male (23%) headed households. The table below illustrates the duration of missed payments for those IDP households that reported missing them.

Table 9. IDP households missing social benefit payments by number of months

Months	Donetsk	Luhansk	Female	Male
1	8%	9%	9%	8%
2	19%	22%	19%	17%
3	21%	12%	20%	19%
4	18%	4%	18%	9%
5	6%	4%	5%	12%
6	7%	4%	7%	4%
> 6	11%	24%	11%	21%

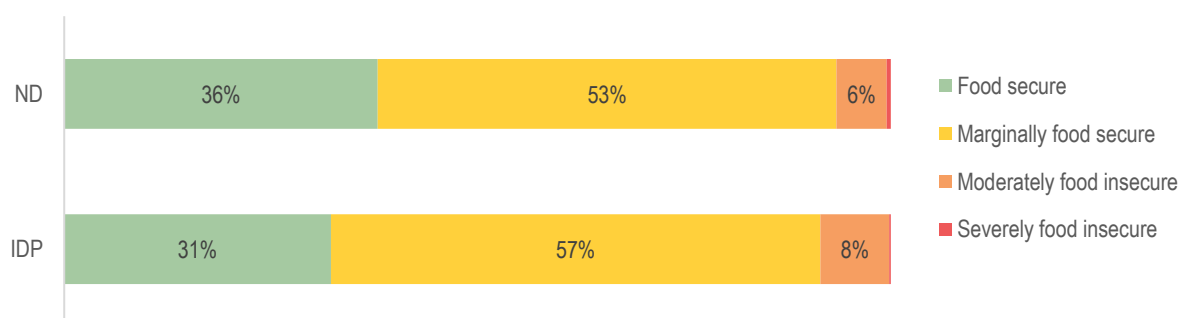
FOOD SECURITY

WFP's household level food security classification system, the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI), was used to assess levels of food consumption, household coping capacity, expenditure and overall food security. The full methodology is explained in WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Guidance Paper: Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI),³⁴ attached as Annex 6.

Food Security Analysis

There are no significant differences in levels of food security observed between or within IDPs and non-displaced households.

Figure 18. Household food security levels



Further disaggregation reveals no significant differences. The combination of food secure and marginally food secure households measures approximately 90%, regardless of the mode of disaggregation.

³⁴ WFP, VAM Guidance Paper, Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) (Rome 2014) https://resources.vam.wfp.org/sites/default/files/CARI_Final_0.pdf

Table 10. Combination of marginally food secure and secure households by lens

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	89%	89%	90%	90%	87%	85%	93%	-	-
ND	90%	91%	89%	93%	87%	87%	92%	87%	90%

The only significant difference appearing in the dataset is found when looking at gaps between male (43%) and female (29%) headed non-displaced households calculated to be food secure. This difference is split roughly between the next two categories (marginally secure, moderately insecure), indicating that female headed households are somewhat more likely to be on the verge of food insecurity than male ones. Findings from FGDs indicate that it was difficult for families to plan for food assistance as reduced activities and focus on areas close to the contact line have had an impact on their food security. Males in the area of Popasna highlighted that if no help was received it would be difficult to meet food needs.

Food Consumption

While it is evident that the consumption of some foods is favoured over others due to availability, affordability and cultural habits, while others consumed less for the opposite reasons, virtually no difference was observed between the types of food eaten or frequencies with which they are consumed between displaced and non-displaced households. Similar patterns of consumption hold true when further disaggregating data, with no significant differences observed either by geography or gender of head of household.

Table 11. # of days when key commodities were consumed in the previous 7 days by IDP households

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cereal	0.3%	1%	4%	12%	13%	14%	5%	52%
Roots	0.4%	1%	6%	17%	16%	13%	4%	42%
Vegetables	2%	4%	14%	20%	18%	9%	6%	28%
Fruits	17%	11%	19%	20%	11%	7%	3%	14%
Meat	6%	17%	23%	23%	14%	9%	1%	8%
Eggs	2%	5%	17%	25%	20%	11%	2%	19%
Pulses	41%	23%	15%	11%	4%	2%	0.3%	4%
Milk	6%	10%	16%	22%	15%	10%	4%	18%
Oil	1%	4%	14%	18%	14%	8%	4%	37%
Sugar	6%	7%	12%	17%	9%	8%	3%	37%
Condiments	3%	3%	5%	11%	9%	7%	4%	60%

Table 12. # of days when key commodities were consumed in the previous 7 days by ND HH

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cereal	0.3%	2%	4%	12%	11%	11%	5%	54%
Roots	0.3%	1%	5%	14%	15%	13%	6%	48%
Vegetables	1%	4%	9%	14%	19%	10%	6%	36%
Fruits	9%	12%	16%	19%	15%	10%	2%	18%
Meat	5%	19%	16%	22%	15%	8%	3%	13%
Eggs	2%	5%	14%	25%	17%	12%	4%	22%
Pulses	34%	29%	13%	9%	5%	2%	0.1%	7%
Milk	5%	10%	18%	19%	16%	10%	3%	18%
Oil	2%	4%	9%	15%	12%	11%	5%	43%

Sugar	6%	11%	11%	13%	10%	10%	3%	36%
Condiments	2%	4%	7%	9%	6%	7%	4%	60%

Agriculture

Access to Land

While the Donbas is primarily an industrial area, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) assessment³⁵ found that agriculture employed around 310,000 workers representing 10% of the active workforce. This highlights that 1 in 10 workers depend on agriculture for livelihood purposes.

The disruption of supply chains, inflation of commodity prices and loss of livelihoods and income for large portions of the population has created a situation in which local agriculture, whether for sale at markets or for household consumption, is becoming an increasingly critical source of food for vulnerable households. However, only 38% of IDP and 46% of non-displaced households have access to arable land. While there are generally no significant differences between, or within, the two population groups, there are considerable gaps between households in rural and urban areas, and between non-displaced and IDP households within those areas.

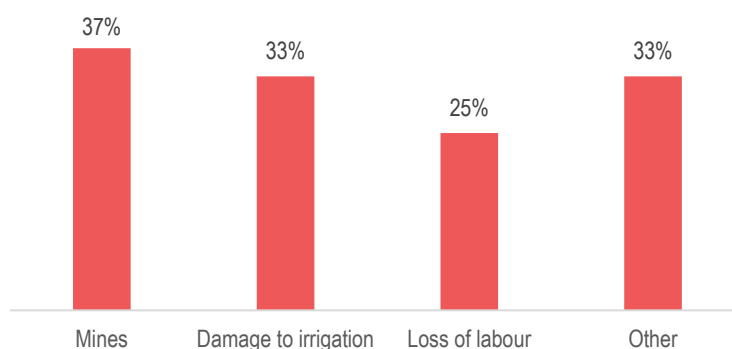
Table 13. Access to arable land

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	38%	35%	45%	53%	17%	38%	37%	-	-
ND	46%	43%	56%	91%	44%	44%	51%	55%	46%

Despite rural households experiencing lower income levels, and having greater difficulties reaching markets, they have considerably higher levels of access to arable land, and therefore greater potential capacity to mitigate food security shocks through agriculture.

As expected, most households cited the presence of mines, damage to irrigation systems and loss of labour as the primary reasons for not currently being able to use arable land. Hidden in the “other” category are a host of responses related to economic issues, such as the suggestion that inputs have become too expensive; it has become too expensive to transport goods to market; and the inability to physically access cultivation sites due to military presence or damage to infrastructure.

Figure 19. Reasons arable land is not being used, non-displaced households



Non-displaced households who indicated they had access to arable land reported that the conflict has had a significant impact on their ability to run their backyard farms/ vegetable gardens. Not surprisingly, the greatest impact has been in areas close to the contact line. This question was not asked to displaced households.

³⁵ FAO, Socio-economic impact and needs assessment Donbas (Ukraine 2016) <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5171e.pdf>

Table 14. Conflict has impacted ability to use arable land, non-displaced households

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
ND	15%	12%	21%	9%	16%	15%	16%	31%	9%

There are clear differences in levels of access to agricultural inputs between IDPs and non-displaced, and between households in rural and urban areas. These divides appear to be related to the purchasing power of the different groups, as well as their ability to access markets. Those that have the greatest ability to improve their lives through agricultural production have significantly lower levels of access to needed inputs.

Table 15. Proportion of households having access to agricultural inputs

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	65%	64%	69%	63%	79%	65%	67%	-	-
ND	86%	87%	85%	70%	88%	84%	92%	78%	88%

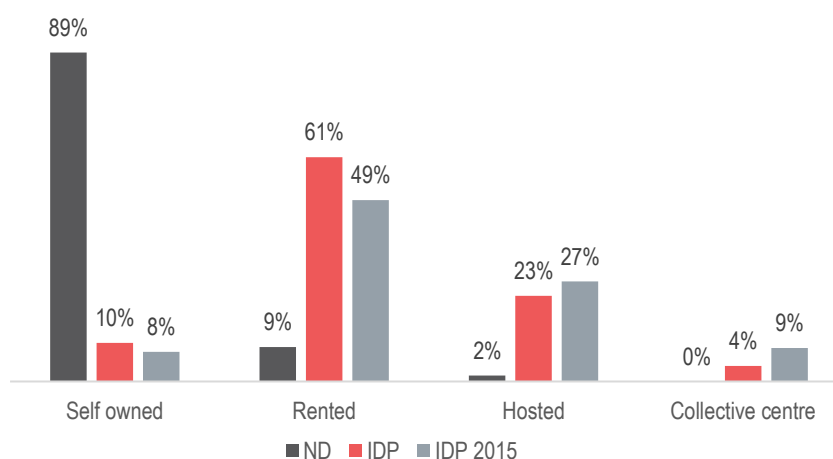
HOUSING

Shelter

Accommodation Type

Not surprisingly, IDP households are much more likely than those non-displaced to rent their accommodation (61% vs 10%) or to be hosted (23% vs 2%), and much less likely to own their current place of residence (9% vs 89%). Barring the significant increase in the proportion of IDPs renting their accommodation, responses reflect the findings of the 2015 Shelter and NFI Assessment.³⁶ The change in the proportion of displaced households renting can potentially be explained by the observed small declines in the proportion being hosted, living in collective centres, hotels and “other” types of accommodation (not show on chart). IOM’s June 2016 NMS assessment³⁷ found similar rates (no significant variation) of accommodation by type for IDPs as have been found in the IAVA.

Figure 20. Primary accommodation type, by displacement status



When looking deeper into the accommodation types of both populations, the only striking difference observed is that 70% of IDP households in urban areas rent accommodation, compared to 53% in rural areas. Most of this

³⁶ Shelter Cluster Ukraine, Shelter and NFI Needs Assessment (Ukraine 2015)

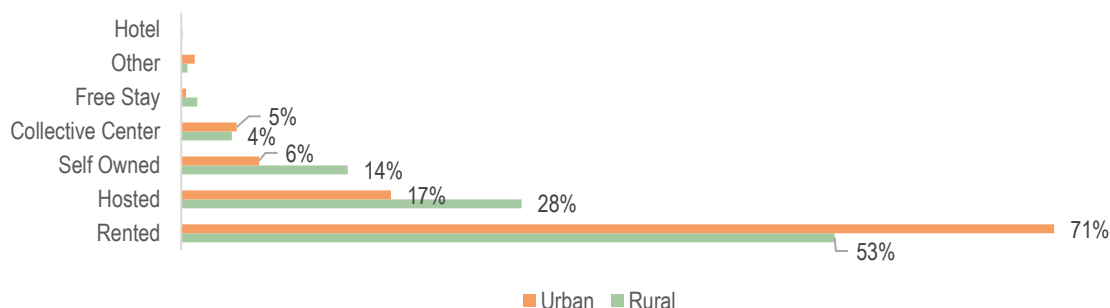
https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/reach_ukr_report_shelter_and_nfi_assessment_august2015.pdf

³⁷ IOM, National Monitoring System of the Situation with Internally Displaced Persons (Ukraine 2016)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_3VYzW3ndOTUnN1TVNxdEFdEk/view

difference is accounted for elevated rates of ownership and hosting among rural IDP populations. Though not a statistically significant difference, 96% of households remaining in areas close to the contact line own their current accommodation, compared to 89% of non-displaced households further away. This would suggest that home ownership may be a factor that influences the decision to stay. Further research should consider this point.

Figure 21. Type of accommodation, by urban and rural



There has been no significant shift in number of people per room, since last year. A noticeable difference however can be observed between the Luhansk 2015 and 2016 data where the number of households with an occupancy ratio of more than 2 persons per room has increased by 8 percentage points.

Figure 22. Change in occupancy ratio (average number individuals/room), by Oblast

	oblast	0-1	1.1 - 2	2.1 - 3	3.1 - 5	5.1 - 9
IDP 2015	Donetsk	17%	45%	22%	14%	2%
	Luhansk	29%	49%	13%	8%	1%
ND 2016	Donetsk	32%	54%	11%	2%	1%
	Luhansk	32%	56%	9%	3%	0%
IDP 2016	Donetsk	18%	51%	19%	11%	1%
	Luhansk	18%	53%	21%	7%	0%

Shelter Conditions

Due to ongoing shelling in August, REACH was not able to access many communities where non-displaced people endure shelling and damage to their buildings, therefore only 0.1% of houses were reported as fully damaged. However, the Shelter Cluster team, Donetsk oblast Administration, Luhansk oblast Administration, and Shelter Cluster partners work in these communities daily and have access to this affected population and their needs. Because these stakeholders have agreed to standard indicators to rank damage, the Shelter Cluster's Database of Damages is likely to be a more reliable indicator of the types of damage incurred to apartments and private houses in addition to beneficiary targeting and of the needs of non-displaced persons who have incurred damage during the conflict.

According to experiences from the Global Shelter Cluster, self-reported damage to shelter is likely to be over stated as it is based on perception of people who may not necessarily have the construction expertise to assess the true damage to their house. Nevertheless, REACH sought to ask internally displaced persons about property in their area of origin. While rates of reported damage to IDPs' homes in their pre-displacement locations from the 2015 Shelter and NFI Assessment are not directly comparable to the IAVA due to a differing response scale, similar proportions reported fully destroyed shelters (6%), though undamaged homes were reported at a much lower rate in 2015 (36%) than during the IAVA in 2016 (48%).

Table 16. Reported level of damage to homes in areas of origin reported by IDPs in 2015 and 2016

2015	Untouched	36%
	Light	36%
	Severe	17%
	Fully Destroyed	6%
	Not Sure	5%
2016	Untouched	48%
	Partial Damage	39%
	Looted	3%
	Fully Destroyed	5%
	Not sure	4.2%

Rent, Utilities, and Tenancy

Rent

Rent is a critical expenditure for IDPs, adding a considerable financial burden to already vulnerable populations. 57% of IDP households pay rent, with an average expenditure of UAH 670 per month. The only significant differences in expenditure comes between households in rural areas and those in urban areas: rates reported by interviewed households that had settled in urban areas are more than two times higher than those in rural ones. The table below shows the average monthly rent, utilities and heat expenses for IDP and non-displaced using the different report lenses and breaking down the data by number of rooms.

Table 17. Average rent, cost of utility payments and heating per room

		IDP			ND		
		Rent	Utilities	Heating	Rent	Utilities	Heating
Oblast	Donetsk	310	183	365	307	237	580
	Luhansk	346	131	337	385	192	467
Gender	Female	309	166	311	218	214	469
	Male	361	166	385	385	229	533
Sector	Rural	218	143	372	123	187	582
	Urban	455	199	314	332	244	452
Zone	AACL	-	-	-	72	224	490
	Other areas	-	-	-	331	213	508
Overall average		335	166	348	298	222	503

Utilities

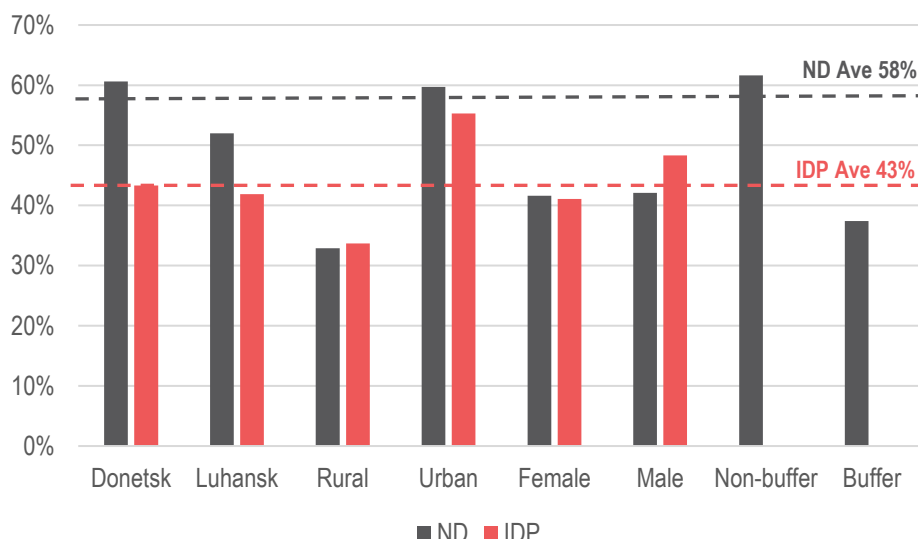
Virtually all households (99.7% of IDPs and 99.6% of non-displaced) reported to be connected to the electrical grid. 84% of households, regardless of their displacement status claim to have 24-hour access to water (though the question did not differentiate between potable and non-potable sources). The only remarkable differences in this are seen when disaggregating by oblast; households in Luhansk oblast (91% non-displaced; 92% IDP) report significantly higher levels of uninterrupted access than those in Donetsk (73% non-displaced; 77% IDP) which may be linked to the infrastructure available in the specific cities and/or villages.

There are significant differences between monthly household expenditure on both general utilities and heating (in the winter months) between IDPs and non-displaced, and within those groups when looking at the primary disaggregators. IDPs, in every circumstance, are paying considerably less than their non-displaced

counterparts. While we cannot directly compare the two groups due to differences in methodology, the demonstrated differences are worth considering. The identified differences are unlikely to be based a lower need by IDP; rather, they are likely directly related to the limited ability of IDPs to afford such expenditure. The gaps in income between IDPs and non-displaced populations appear to be the critical factor driving consumption patterns and are discussed later in the section on economic security.

Access to Hot Water

Figure 23 access to hot water, percentage of households



Significant differences exist in access to hot water between and within non-displaced and displaced populations. Those households remaining in areas close to the contact line reported considerably less access to hot water than those further away (37% compared to 62%), while IDP households in Donetsk oblast report having hot water less frequently than non-displaced households in the same area (43% vs 61%). Regardless of the causes of these differences, the availability of hot water will certainly become an issue as we move towards winter, as limited household fuel supplies and increasingly meagre financial resources will need to be consumed to heat water for washing and bathing.

NFIs and Winterisation

The coming winter, and its impact on vulnerable populations, should be one of the focuses of humanitarian response. It is critical to understand where homeowners (and renters) need assistance preparing their homes for harsh weather that is quickly approaching. Winterization issues have been targeted through specific questioning to allow shelter partners to better understand the nature and magnitude of vulnerabilities. For this assessment, households reporting to have any combination of missing windows or doors, or cracks in the floor, are considered to be living in shelters which require winterization.

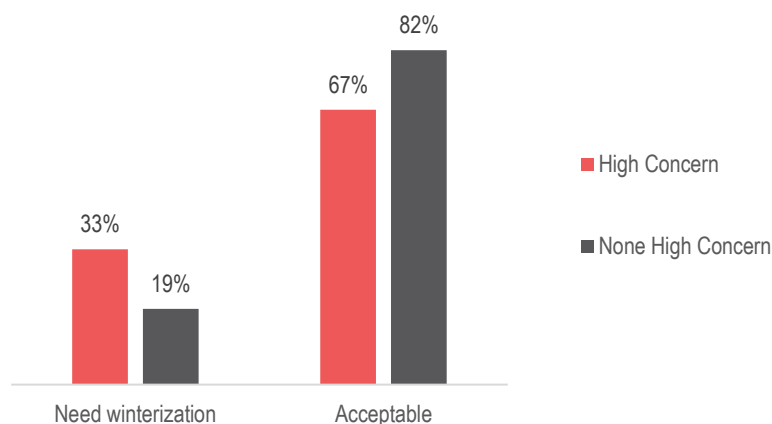
Table 18 proportion of households requiring winterization

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	21%	22%	19%	25%	17%	22%	17%	-	-
ND	21%	21%	23%	23%	21%	23%	17%	33%	19%

As expected, there is a considerable difference in the quality of available housing between areas close to the contact line (the “areas close to the contact line”) and those further away. One third (33%) of households within the areas close to the contact line require some level of critical repair ahead of the coming winter, while only 19% of

those outside the areas close to the contact line are living in similar conditions. This points to both the higher likelihood of damage (particularly broken windows) due to the conflict in this area, plus an unwillingness or inability to invest in repairs.

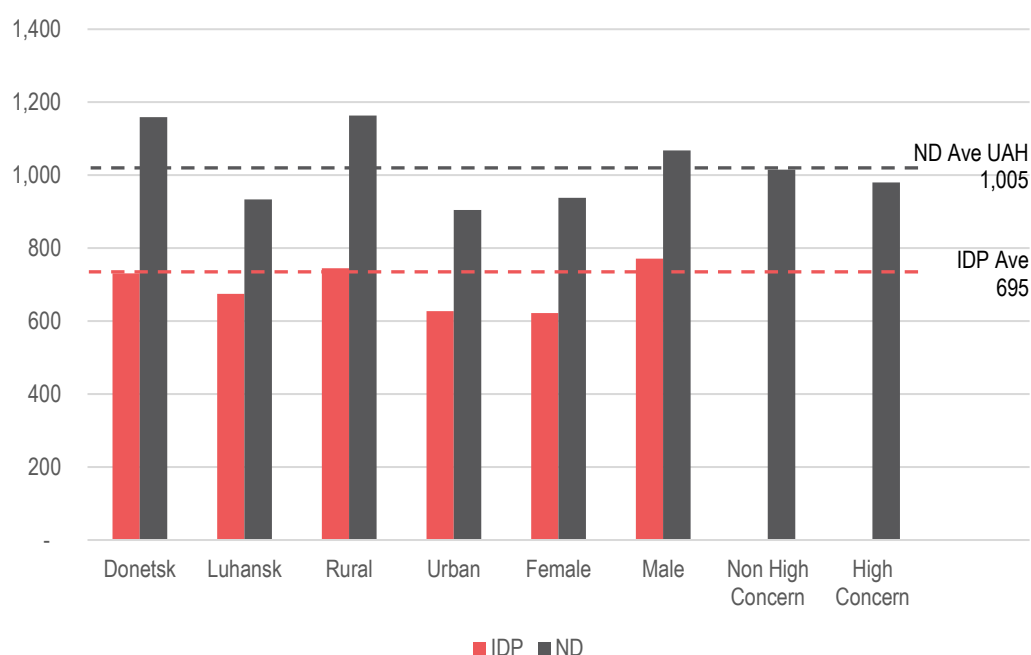
Figure 24. Proportion of HH requiring winterization support, area lense



16% of non-displaced households and 18% of IDP households also reported that their accommodation leaked when it rains. There are no measurable differences in any of the populations of interest to this study.

Given the harsh winter climate of Eastern Ukraine, access to heating will be critical survival of already vulnerable populations. But this comes at a considerable price for most households. Non-displaced households typically spend considerably more than their displaced counterparts on heating.

Figure 25. Mean household heating expenses, winter months



The table above shows that the mean household heating expenses is lower for IDPs than non-displaced. Given the timing of the data collection of this report, the data presented below reflects the situation for the winter 2015-2016. Changes in utility process and subsidies are expected to significantly impact the costs related to heating.

Table 19. Main source of heating by different lenses

		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	Coal	7%	8%	3%	10%	2%	7%	6%	-	-
	Electricity	20%	24%	5%	24%	13%	20%	20%	-	-
	Gas, Main	49%	41%	75%	38%	63%	47%	53%	-	-
	Heat, Main	11%	13%	6%	8%	16%	12%	8%	-	-
	Wood	8%	8%	9%	11%	4%	8%	9%	-	-
ND	Coal	11%	12%	10%	14%	11%	10%	13%	21%	11%
	Electricity	15%	19%	4%	16%	15%	17%	9%	12%	14%
	Gas, Main	57%	51%	75%	47%	58%	56%	61%	49%	57%
	Heat, Main	12%	14%	6%	2%	12%	13%	9%	13%	12%
	Wood	4%	4%	5%	15%	3%	3%	6%	3%	4%

While there are no significant differences in consumption patterns between IDPs and non-displaced households, people living in Luhansk Oblast and in urban areas are considerably more likely to use gas than other populations, and people living in rural areas, particularly non-displaced households, are more likely to use wood to heat their homes.

Table 20. % of Overall ND & IDP Population Unable to Replenish fuel by accommodation type

	ND	IDP
Collective Center	0.00%	2.40%
Free Stay	0.00%	0.40%
Hosted	0.20%	4.40%
Hotel	0.00%	0.00%
Other	0.10%	0.20%
Rented	1.40%	17.30%
Owned	13.50%	1.10%

Looking at availability of fuel for winter based on accommodation type not surprisingly the fact that a majority of non-displaced owned their property shows that lack of fuel depends more on your displacement status than the type of shelter owned.

Stores of food and fuel for both heating and cooking will be critical to helping vulnerable population survive the winter that is rapidly approaching. The table below shows that 1 in 4 IDP will not be able to replenish fuel for heating, 3 in 5 are unable to replenish frozen vegetables and close to 1 in 3 for canned food. Many households, particularly IDP, are in a position where they are simultaneously dependent on markets for food, but frequently cannot afford the rising prices of staple foods, a finding confirmed in FGDs. IDP in urban areas were significantly more likely to not be able to replenish their stocks of canned foods than rural ones, but equally as unlikely to be able to replenish frozen vegetables. While there is also considerable variation between IDP and non-displaced households, with non-displaced showing more capacity for self-support than IDP for every level of disaggregation, there is no significant variation within non-displaced households. These findings suggest that while both IDP and non-displaced households will face challenges in the coming winter related to food consumption and heating, they also point to the potential capacity of non-displaced families to provide for some of their needs, while highlighting vulnerabilities in IDP populations.

Table 21. Expected availability of winter stocks

		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
Will not be able to replenish canned food	IDP	31%	32%	28%	25%	40%	30%	36%	-	-
	ND	14%	14%	13%	7%	14%	12%	19%	18%	13%
Will not be able to replenish frozen vegetables	IDP	60%	59%	61%	63%	55%	59%	62%	-	-
	ND	42%	41%	46%	43%	42%	42%	44%	52%	41%
Will not be able to replenish fuel	IDP	26%	27%	23%	24%	29%	26%	27%	-	-
	ND	15%	12%	24%	14%	15%	14%	19%	20%	15%

The issue of winterization and ability to get heating and food will be compounded by the fact that a significant proportion of household reported having no income. The table below provides the breakdown of reported income from different lenses. What comes across is that IDP households are more likely to report having no income and less likely to have an income of 5,000 or more. This finding has significant implications for all sections of this assessment as limited income will have repercussions the ability to purchase goods and access basic services as shown in the previous sections of the report.

Personal NFIs

Considerable number of households currently lack access to clothing for the coming winter. While there are no significant differences when disaggregated non-displaced households by any to the key variables, there are noticeable gaps in responses between IDPs and non-displaced households. IDP households in Luhansk Oblast are considerably more likely to not have at least one item/ set of critical clothing items than those in Donetsk Oblast, while female headed households are much more likely than male headed households to report lacking these items.

Table 22. Households lacking clothing for at least 1 member

		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
Lacking warm jackets	IDP	29%	31%	23%	30%	28%	32%	20%	-	-
	ND	11%	11%	9%	14%	11%	12%	8%	19%	9%
Lacking warm underwear	IDP	32%	35%	20%	30%	35%	36%	20%	-	-
	ND	16%	17%	13%	17%	16%	18%	12%	17%	15%
Lacking shoes	IDP	28%	29%	23%	27%	29%	32%	16%	-	-
	ND	12%	12%	10%	15%	12%	13%	9%	10%	21%

While these findings are concerning, FGDs indicate that, given both the season the data was collected in and the grim economic circumstances faced by many in the study area, these items are not currently considered necessary. Respondents suggested that they will begin to purchase warm clothing as winter approaches and protection from the cold becomes an immediate need. It was not clear, however, if everyone that is lacking these basic items will be able to afford them when need arises.

Table 23. Household possession of critical NFIs

		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	Bed Sheet	88%	87%	87%	87%	88%	86%	89%	-	-
	Blanket	88%	87%	88%	88%	87%	86%	90%	-	-
	Heater	26%	24%	29%	24%	30%	25%	28%	-	-
	Mattress	80%	81%	80%	82%	78%	78%	83%	-	-
	Towel	92%	91%	93%	91%	93%	91%	92%	-	-
ND	Bed Sheet	95%	96%	93%	94%	95%	93%	97%	88%	97%
	Blanket	96%	96%	95%	95%	96%	94%	97%	97%	91%
	Heater	34%	32%	36%	26%	40%	33%	35%	32%	35%
	Mattress	90%	93%	87%	93%	88%	87%	93%	88%	91%
	Towel	97%	97%	96%	95%	97%	96%	97%	93%	98%

Housing Land and Property Rights

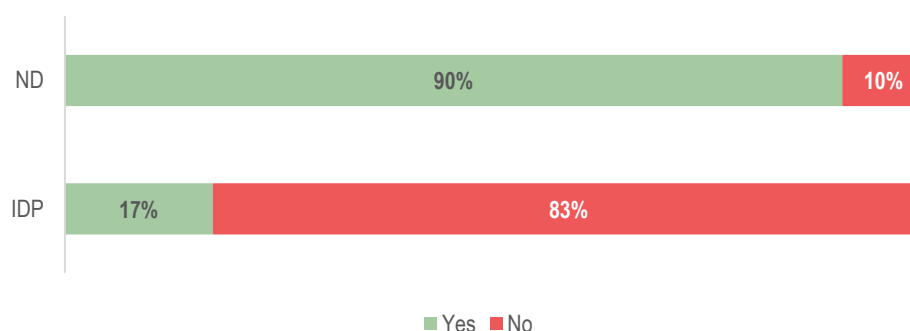
Tenancy

Flight from conflict has placed IDPs, many of whom own homes in their pre-displacement locations, in a position where they are not only likely to have to pay rent but also have to be wary of predatory landlords in the displacement locations and worry about being able to reclaiming their homes when they are able to return.

As noted earlier, IDPs primarily rent their accommodation, leaving them at the mercy of both the market and their landlords. When asked if they had a government recognized accommodation contract to prove ownership or rental agreement with the owner of their accommodation, 82% indicated that they did not. While common for many types of accommodation, this might put them particularly precarious tenancy situation – with no contract to provide a legal framework for their agreement with the landlord, the threat of eviction and predatory rent increase is possible.

In contrast, high levels of home ownership, coupled with the protection of legitimate, recognized contracts, provides a legal safety net to non-displaced populations. In discussions held with the Shelter Cluster it was highlighted that not having a tenancy contract is a common situation for many households in Ukraine hence further analysis should be conducted on whether this is an actual concern.

Figure 26. Households have government recognised contract for accommodation



The confiscation of abandoned homes in the NGCAs is a factor that may potentially complicate the return of IDPs. Despite this, interviewees overwhelmingly indicate that their homes have not been confiscated (only 14 households responded that they had). It is suggested that in order to better understand the dynamics of housing confiscation further analysis would have to be conducted in order to understand the full complexity of eviction dynamics. In fact, participants in several focus groups mentioned the fact that elderly people had been evicted to provide shelter to military personnel. Whether compensation or alternative accommodation was provided was not discussed.

Figure 27. Reported confiscation of homes in NGCAs



ACCESS TO SERVICES

Education

School Enrolment

95% of IDP households and 94% of non-displaced households with school aged children reported that at least one of these children was enrolled during the previous school year. The forecast for this current year seems equally positive: 97% of all households with school aged children indicated that their children will be enrolled in the coming school year. There are small but statistically insignificant differences within both non-displaced and IDP households, with rates of potentially enrolment marginally higher for male headed households than female ones, higher for households in urban areas than rural ones, higher for those in Luhansk than Donetsk Oblasts, and higher for those farther away from the contact line.

Table 24. % of IDP HH with children attending school the previous academic year

	Total	Rural	Urban	Donetsk	Luhansk	Female	Male
No	5.4	4.4	6.8	6	2.9	5.8	3.5
Yes	94.6	95.6	93.2	94	97.1	94.2	96.5

As the school year has now started, preliminary figures of official enrolment statistics have become available to the Education Cluster.

Level of Service

The level of services available at schools in the study area varies considerably by the type of service. More than 80% of all households with school aged children reported that they did not have out of pocket expenses for books, and nearly three-quarters of respondents did not incur expenses for lunches. However, the reported availability of child-friendly spaces and psycho-social support, which are critical for vulnerable conflict affected populations, and access to structured sporting activities, is noticeably low. No significant differences were observed between displaced and non-displaced households, by gender of head of household, or by rural/ urban area. There was also no significant difference in the availability of services to households close to the contact line and those farther away.

Following the general geographic pattern of need, households in Donetsk Oblast report considerably lower levels of some services than those in Luhansk Oblast.

Table 25. Reported availability of selected school services, by oblast

	ND		IDP	
	Donetsk	Luhansk	Donetsk	Luhansk
Free lunch	64%	58%	31%	36%
Drinking water	40%	58%	48%	42%
Furniture	56%	88%	66%	85%
Toilets	57%	90%	55%	88%
Heating	47%	85%	64%	88%
Psycho-social support	20%	33%	19%	34%

While the conflict does not appear to have significantly affected rates of household reporting on past enrolment or intentions to enrol during the present school year, it does appear to be directly affecting both the quality and the continuity of education. Focus group discussions about education services add some critical qualifications to this quantitative data. Regardless of gender and geographical location, respondents often complained that the quality of education was getting noticeably worse. "Istanbul is the capital of France" – was described by one participant as the level of knowledge his son was gaining at school.

Respondents living in the areas close to the contact line indicated that many teachers, particularly those eligible for retirement, had left due to the conflict, leaving classrooms with either untrained or less experienced instructors, or void of teachers all together. Many also reported, unsurprisingly, that active conflict had a negative impact on attendance rates, with students typically staying at home during periods of active shelling. When and if the conflict intensifies, it can reasonably be expected that, regardless of enrolment rates, attendance will drop and education will suffer.

Responses from many FGD participants reflected the grim economic situation seen across eastern Ukraine. These contradict findings from the household survey indicating that roughly 80% of households with school age children somehow receive books without having to pay out of their pockets for them. In focus group discussions, a large proportion of groups, regardless of displacement status, age or income levels, reported education to be expensive, and that they struggle to cover costs. Items that were indicated to be beyond the financial means of respondents include school uniforms, books and other stationery items. A female participant also pointed out her disdain for expenses incurred by so called "sponsor payments" where parents are pressured to fund repairs or purchase items for the school.

As for other areas of household expenditure, the dual pressure coming from rising prices and diminishing income is likely to increase difficulties in meeting education costs. For both non-displaced and displaced households, more than 1 in 3 respondents said that they had reduced health and education spending as a coping mechanism to deal with diminishing purchasing power.

Health

This assessment was conducted at a time of intensive provision of services by Health Cluster partners, which were partially discontinued after the data collection phase. As such, findings – particularly those related to the availability of services – may be a result of recent partner activity and are not necessarily representative of longer term conditions in the study area.

Gender disaggregation of these findings provides further evidence of the higher vulnerability of female-headed households, particularly in rural areas. As well as containing larger numbers of children and elderly relatives, female-headed households also have more family members with chronic illnesses. As a result, their need for healthcare services is greater, yet their lower mobility (due to a lack of time and nobody to take care for children and elderly) makes access to such services more difficult. Female-headed households were also found to be more likely to reduce expenditure on health, in order to cope with other competing priorities. In addition, access to sexual and reproductive healthcare was found to be challenging, leaving some pregnant women with no opportunity for

regular visits to the doctor. During focus group discussions, some women also mentioned an increase in skin diseases due to hygiene negligence.

Chronic Disease

Roughly 50% of both displaced and non-displaced households reported containing one or more individual suffering from a chronic illness. While there are differences between and within the two groups, none of these are statistically significant.

Table 26. Households reporting chronic illnesses

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	48%	50%	41%	50%	45%	49%	45%	-	-
ND	48%	48%	49%	47%	48%	50%	44%	57%	47%

Communicable Disease

There were virtually no communicable diseases reported during this assessment – less than one percent of all households was found to include a member with a communicable disease, with no measurable difference between or within population groups. The assumption is that given the seasonality of many of these diseases, many diseases of this type were simply not present at the time of assessment. The lack of reporting could be related to stigmatization and lack of health education regarding some communicable diseases, such as tuberculosis, HIV-infection, or sexually transmitted infections.

Proximity to Healthcare Services

The large majority of households – 80% displaced and 87% non-displaced – reported to be within 5 km of a healthcare centre. Virtually all of these (98% to 99%) were said to be functional. However, the term functional was not explicitly defined and it should be noted that the ability to physically access health facilities, their condition, the level of services available, and the ability of the population to pay for them are all critical to understanding actual access to healthcare.

When we disaggregate the response of these populations, some small differences can be seen between sub-groups and the population mean. Looking at the table below the rural population is in general further away from a health care facility.

Table 27. Proximity to health care facilities, disaggregated

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	<1km	24%	25%	20%	23%	24%	24%	-	-
	1-5 km	56%	54%	60%	49%	56%	54%	-	-
	5-20 km	16%	16%	14%	21%	8%	15%	18%	-
	>20 km	3%	3%	5%	6%	0%	4%	3%	-
	dnk	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	-	-
ND	<1km	28%	27%	31%	33%	28%	27%	31%	30%
	1-5 km	58%	58%	60%	36%	60%	58%	58%	59%
	5-20 km	11%	13%	6%	21%	10%	12%	9%	8%
	>20 km	3%	3%	2%	10%	2%	3%	2%	3%
	dnk	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Difficulties in Accessing Healthcare

As noted, proximity to a functioning healthcare facility does not ensure adequate delivery of services to those in need. 17% of non-displaced households and 25% of those displaced indicated that they had difficulties accessing healthcare services. The level of reported difficulties varies between and within population groups, with level of access for non-displaced rural households being significantly lower than the population mean.

Table 28 difficulties accessing health care

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	25%	27%	20%	31%	18%	27%	20%	-	-
ND	17%	16%	19%	37%	16%	17%	16%	29%	15%

IDPs and non-displaced households experienced similar critical issues in accessing healthcare. Chief among these access problems is the unaffordability of medicines and the distance to the facility itself, as illustrated in the figure below.

Table 29. Ranking of specific health issues based on percentage of responses by IDPs

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male
Lack of facility	11	10	5	8	12	10	4
Medicine unaffordable	2	2	1	2	1	1	2
Inaccessible for disabled	10	8	7	10	7	9	5
Too far	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
Travel expensive	13	13	11	13	6	13	9
Lack of documents	14	13	13	13	12	13	12
Security	8	12	12	12	12	12	12
Doctors unaffordable	4	4	8	5	4	4	6
Discrimination	7	7	10	7	9	7	10
Lack of referral	6	6	9	6	10	6	10
Checkpoints	8	9	4	9	8	8	8
Illegal to cross NGCAs	12	11	13	11	10	11	12
Lack of Doctors	5	5	6	4	5	5	7
Other	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Responses related to the expense of medicine should not be a surprise, given the weak economy and low levels of household income, which make everyday expenses challenging to meet. While it may be surprising that such a large percentage of respondents indicated that distance was a barrier – especially since 80% of IDPs live within 5km of functioning healthcare centre – it is possible that the services people need to access are not available at the facility closest to them, requiring them to travel considerable distances to receive adequate care. The elevated percentage of IDPs in rural areas living more than 5km away from the nearest facility is reflected in the considerable percentage that indicated distance as a critical barrier for access. However, no such potential explanation can be found for the difference between male and female headed households.

Despite distance being considered a barrier, the cost associated with travel is not. This may be related to the level of mobile health services and cash vouchers for care that are provided to IDPs by health cluster partners. Deeper analysis of secondary data related response patterns and aid delivery should be conducted to better understand this issue.

Response patterns between displaced and non-displaced households were found to be similar. Again, a striking difference was found between rural and urban households with regards to proximity. Gaps appear, however, when considering the expense of medicine and doctor's visits between rural and urban areas. Urban respondents claimed these are issues at rates significantly higher than their rural counterparts, although there is no clear indication of why this may be.

Table 30. Ranking of specific health issues based on percentage of responses by non-displaced households

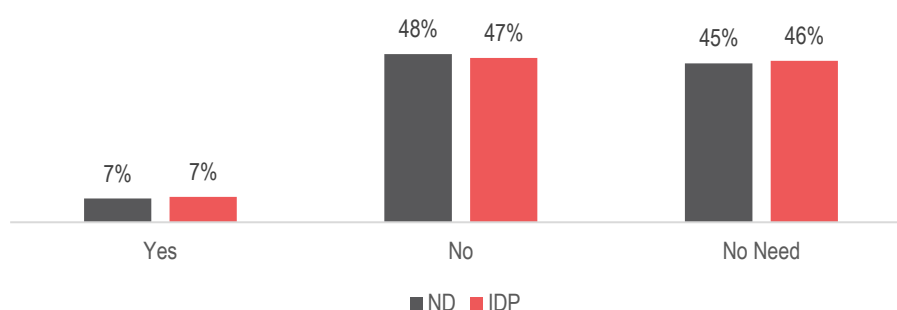
	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
Lack of facility	9	9	8	5	10	8	10	7	9
Medicine unaffordable	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Inaccessible for disabled	8	8	8	10	7	10	7	10	7
Too far	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	4	2
Travel expensive	2	6	3	3	6	3	5	3	6
Lack of documents	12	11	12	12	12	13	12	13	11
Security	11	11	8	11	11	11	11	10	11
Doctors unaffordable	6	4	5	9	3	6	3	2	5
Discrimination	12	11	12	12	12	12	13	12	11
Lack of referral	10	7	11	8	9	9	9	9	8
Checkpoints	7	10	7	6	8	7	8	6	10
Illegal to cross NGCAs	14	14	12	14	12	13	13	13	11
Lack of Doctors	4	3	6	4	5	5	4	5	4
Other	5	5	4	7	4	4	6	8	3

Psychological Impacts of the Conflict

The loss of lives, destruction of livelihoods, social fragmentation and family separation, coupled with intense uncertainty about the future engendered by the ongoing conflict, have had a clear and widespread negative impact on the mental health of respondents in the study area. UNHCR findings from an assessment of the study area in 2015 indicate that displacement has led to trauma, stress and mental health issues.³⁸ This is corroborated by findings from focus group discussions conducted as part of this assessment, in which many groups reported suffering from psychological illnesses, anxiety and depression due to the trauma caused by the conflict. FGD participants stated both that they believe they need mental health support, but also that they are not accustomed to seeking help and are reluctant to do so.

The widespread need for psychosocial services is also reflected in the findings of the household level survey, where less than half of the population reported not needing to access such services. This is not as direct as saying “I need psychosocial support” but it should be concerning that potentially half of the population of Donetsk and Luhansk may need psychological support.

Figure 28. Reported access to psychosocial support



³⁸ UNHCR, Summary of Participatory Assessments with internally displaced and conflict affected people in Ukraine, (Ukraine June 2015) http://unhcr.org.ua/attachments/article/1526/PA%20Summ_proof.pdf

In most instances, little variation was found from the population mean when disaggregating further. However, households closer to the contact line responded more frequently (57%) that psychosocial support services were not available, and less frequently (31%) that they had no need of the services. Again, this does not directly indicate that they need such assistance, but can be seen as a clear sign for an increased need of mental health support within the areas close to the contact line.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Water Sources and Availability

Response related to sources of household drinking water follow anticipated patterns. The only points of significant variation arise between urban and rural populations. As expected, most non-displaced urban populations are reliant on municipal water sources, while rural households typically source drinking water from wells or tube wells. IDPs residing in rural areas were found to be only slightly less dependent on piped water than wells, though there is no clear indication why their responses deviated so much from those of their non-displaced counterparts. In the context of this assessment, “piped water” was not disaggregated by treated water or technical water.³⁹

Table 31. Household drinking water sources

		Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	bottled	12%	14%	6%	12%	13%	12%	12%	-	-
	piped	56%	57%	53%	41%	76%	56%	56%	-	-
	spring	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	-	-
	tanker	3%	4%	0%	2%	4%	3%	3%	-	-
	tube well	15%	10%	32%	24%	3%	15%	14%	-	-
	well	13%	14%	9%	20%	4%	12%	15%	-	-
	other	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	-	-
ND	bottled	14%	17%	6%	4%	15%	14%	15%	9%	14%
	piped	65%	68%	56%	24%	67%	66%	63%	63%	67%
	spring	1%	0.3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0.3%
	tanker	3%	3%	5%	2%	3%	3%	4%	5%	3%
	tube well	10%	4%	25%	45%	8%	8%	13%	11%	10%
	well	7%	8%	6%	23%	6%	8%	5%	9%	7%
	other	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0.1%	1%	0%

Within both displaced and non-displaced populations, there are significant differences in the rates of drinking water purification. Urban households and those in Donetsk, were much less likely than their rural respondents, or households in Luhansk, to treat drinking water. However, there is no indication from health-related indicators included in this assessment that a lack of water treatment has led to heightened incidence of disease.

Table 32. % of HH that do not treat water

	Total	Donetsk	Luhansk	Rural	Urban	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	37%	31%	58%	44%	27%	35%	43%	-	-
ND	33%	23%	57%	59%	31%	33%	33%	26%	33%

³⁹ Technical water is water used in technical systems such as boiler systems, circulation systems and production plants, such as. feed water, circulating water, boiler water, condensates or cooling water.

Very little difference was found between the availability of water in urban and rural areas. Nearly 90% of all households reported that they were either never or infrequently without water, and 10% of households experienced water cuts or shortages on a daily basis. 21% of households close to the contact line experienced daily water shortages, compared to 7% living further away.

Table 33. Reported water shortage frequency

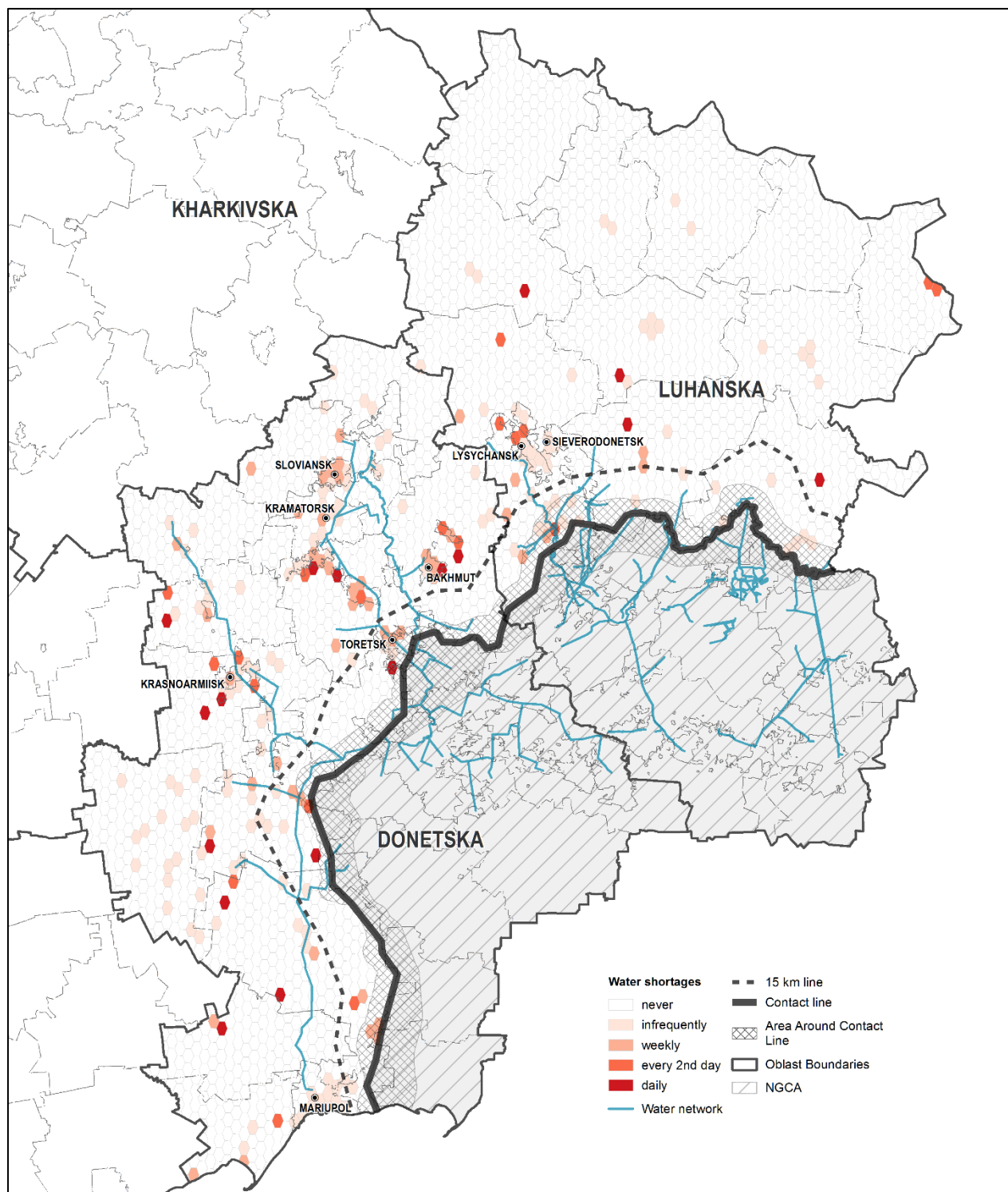
	Total	Rural	Urban	Donetsk	Luhansk	Female	Male	AACL	Other areas
IDP	Daily	11%	7%	17%	13%	5%	12%	9%	
	Every 2nd day	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	
	Infrequently	25%	23%	28%	30%	8%	26%	25%	
	Never	59%	66%	50%	52%	87%	58%	63%	
	Weekly	3%	3%	4%	4%	1%	4%	2%	
ND	Daily	9%	12%	8%	9%	8%	9%	6%	21%
	Every 2nd day	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	2%
	Infrequently	37%	14%	38%	44%	16%	36%	38%	21%
	Never	49%	71%	48%	40%	72%	49%	49%	50%
	Weekly	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%	5%

Considerable variation in shortages between households also exists when disaggregating by oblast, as illustrated in the table below. Those in Luhansk are much more likely to never experience water shortages. The pattern of shortages for households' dependent on piped water is also displayed in **map 3 on page 52**. The map provides the average reported water shortage in a 7.5 square kilometre hexagon. The indicator was calculated using the GPS level coordinates of reported water shortage from the IAVA dataset and aggregated within the specified geographic observation later divided by the number of observations. This effectively shows areas that are often prone to water shortages: we clearly see certain areas highlighted using this method along the water network provided by the WASH Cluster.

Looking at water treatment methods it appears there are no significant differences in terms of methods between IDP and ND with boiling being the preferred method.

Method	IDP	ND
Boiling	49%	46%
Ceramic Filter	18%	17%
Stand	21%	18%

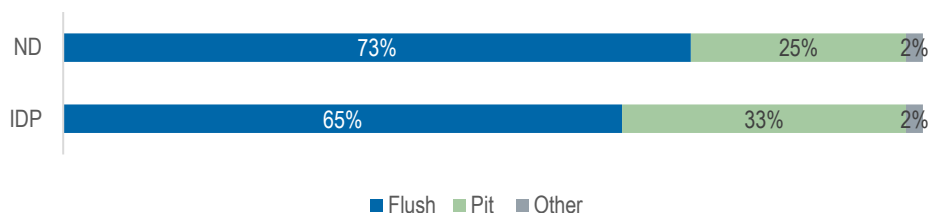
Map 3. Sample average reported water shortage frequency within a 7.5 square km hexagonal grid



Sanitation Facilities

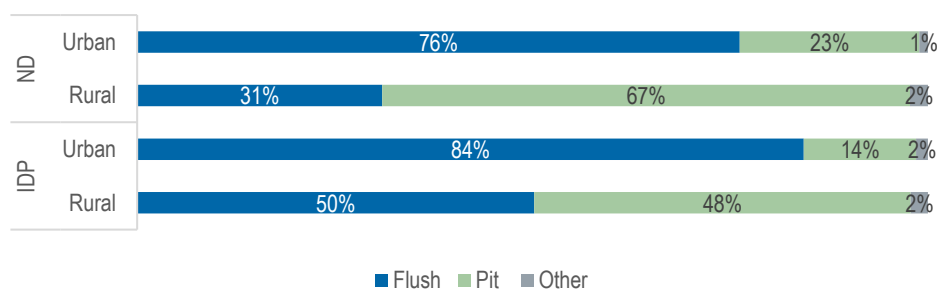
IDPs and non-displaced households demonstrated similar responses when asked what type of sanitation facilities they use.

Figure 29. Sanitation facility type, by displacement status



There are considerable, if unsurprising, deviations for the sample for both displaced and non-displaced households when considering the rural/ urban divide. 84% of IDP and 76% non-displaced households reported using flush toilets in urban areas, compared with 50% and 31%, respectively, in rural settings. Pit toilets typically replace flush toilets, as they dominate type in these areas

Figure 30. Sanitation facility type, by rural/ urban



There are no noteworthy differences between IDP and non-displaced households related to the reported conditions of their sanitation facilities.

Table 34. Reported conditions of household sanitation facilities

	Have door	Private	Disabled access	Donetsk	Luhansk
ND	78%	99%	61%	48%	61%
IDP	81%	87%	53%	53%	70%

However, both displaced and non-displaced households in Donetsk were considerably less likely to have latrines that are accessible to disabled persons.

CONCLUSION

More than two and half years into the crisis, vulnerable households in the Government Controlled Areas of Donetsk and Luhansk continue to need targeted humanitarian assistance. As the assessment findings show, IDPs and host communities endure significant hardship because of a conflict that has divided the social and economic fabric of the Donbas. The household survey, secondary data and qualitative information collected through focus group discussions has confirmed that the lives of thousands of households have been affected by the war which has led to displacement, loss of assets and income, and reduced access to services.

Until a political, economic and social solution to the conflict is found, these needs will persist. If access to protection, housing and basic services is not restored, the wellbeing of many households will remain at risk. People will stay exposed to multiple shocks, such as cold winters, increased food and medicine prices, and high utility costs, negatively affecting the ability of the most vulnerable households to meet their basic needs.

However, observed vulnerabilities should not be considered as a reality for all households. IDPs are not all vulnerable, nor are the non-displaced necessarily more resilient. While proximity to the contact line increases the likelihood that the population requires assistance, not all needs are greatest in the areas close to the contact line. Changes to current strategies of intervention should be considered very carefully, since the reduction of interventions to a specific area or population group might exclude a large proportion of households whose reliance on external support is important in preventing them from falling into a more serious situation of need. These households are not a majority but should nonetheless be reached by aid actors. In this regard, the IAVA provides household level data that can inform such a process. However, the snapshot nature of this exercise implies that significant efforts need to be deployed by organisations in the field to continue collecting a similar level of data to ensure that aid reaches those most in need.

These pockets of humanitarian need exist in a challenging political, social and economic environment. The assessment has identified significant issues that stem from households' inability to secure sufficient income. Households in both Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts may have to make difficult decisions between food, health or education spending to cover rising utility costs. Depletion of savings is pushing many into debt and respondents reported decreasing incomes due to rising unemployment and decreasing salaries. These factors demonstrate limited ability for replenishment due to the overall negative economic outlook of the region which will affect the long-term recovery of the Donbas GCAs. Furthermore, it should be highlighted that inadequate economic security can have significant implications with regards to protection concerns. As some of the qualitative data has showed households are considering returning to their area of origin due to fears of not being able to meet basic needs in their current location because of inability to pay rent and increased cost of living fuelled by inflation and devaluation of the currency.

This report highlights the need for targeted humanitarian assistance in a challenging context. This assessment has provided information and data on the different realities affecting displaced persons and host communities to fill an information gap identified in the consultation process. While the report provides a comprehensive overview of the findings, the real value of this assessment lies in the dataset made available to the humanitarian community. REACH will stay engaged with all actors to ensure that these assessment products will be used to inform planning in the 2017 programming cycle. Given the complex overlay between humanitarian needs in a middle-income country, the assessed situation will require the mobilization of different government, development and humanitarian actors to ensure that, until adequate livelihoods are restored, the population of Donbas has sufficient support to live decently with hope for a better future.

ANNEXES

Annex 1. Population Frame Agreed by TAWG, ND

Uploaded to [REACH resource center](#)

Annex 2. Population Frame Agreed by TAWG, IDP

Uploaded to [REACH resource center](#)

Annex 3. Samples Size IDP

Uploaded to [REACH resource center](#)

Annex 4. Sample Size ND

Uploaded to [REACH resource center](#)

Annex 5. Presentation on Dataset Weighting

Uploaded to [REACH resource center](#)

Annex 6. CARI

Resource available on the WFP website at

https://resources.vam.wfp.org/sites/default/files/CARI%20Factsheet_0.pdf

Annex 7. Excluded Settlements

Table 35. List of excluded settlements

Oblast	Rural / Urban	Settlement	Sample Size
Donetsk	Urban	Avdiivka	25
Donetsk	Urban	Zaitseve	5
Donetsk	Urban	Kirove	10
Donetsk	Urban	Svitlodarsk	15
Donetsk	Urban	Myronivskyi	5
Donetsk	Rural	Novoluhanske	5
Luhansk	Urban	Komyshuvakha	10
Luhansk	Urban	Katerynivka	5
Donetsk	Rural	Zirka	5
Donetsk	Rural	Rozivka	5
Luhansk	Rural	Vitrohon*	5

*Empty settlement i.e. no people were living there

Table 36. Replacement settlements

Oblast	Rural / Urban	Settlement	Sample Size
Donetsk	Urban	Dzerzhynsk	35
Donetsk	Urban	Marinka	25
Donetsk	Rural	Heorhiivka	5

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