

**Global WASH  
Progress Report  
SC149903**



*Photo credit: Distribution of hygiene kits in Svyatohirsk. ©UNICEF Ukraine/2015//P.Zmey*

**UNICEF UKRAINE**  
24 March 2017

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children

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CO	Country Office
CP	Country Programme
GCAs	Government-controlled Areas
GoU	Government of Ukraine
EECP	Exit-Entrance Checkpoint
ECA	Eastern Conflict Area
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
HAC	Humanitarian Action for Children
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
INGO	International Non-governmental Organisation
MoES	Ministry of Education and Science
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NGCAs	Non-government Controlled Area
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSCE	Organisation for Security Cooperation in Europe
PRV	Popasnyans'kyi Rayonnyi Vodokanal
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PUC	Public Utility Company
SES	State Emergency Service
SRP	Strategic Response Plan
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
WASH	Water, Sanitation, Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

## PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Country	UKRAINE
Programme/ Project Name	Assistance to conflict-affected children and families in eastern Ukraine with a focus on WASH
Donor	THEMATIC WASH
PBA Reference	SC149903
Funds received	\$195, 045.05
Funds used to date	\$143,516.68 (utilization of funds will commence in April 2016)
Unspent Balance	\$51,528.37
Duration of Grant	1 December 2015 – 31 December 2017
Report Type	Progress
Reporting period	25 January 2017 – 24 March 2017
Report Due Date	24 March 2017
Report prepared on	22 March 2017
UNICEF Strategic Plan 2014-2017 Organizational Priorities	<u>WASH</u> : Improved and equitable use of safe drinking water, sanitation and healthy environments, and improved hygiene practices
Humanitarian Action for Children 2015 targets	<u>WASH</u> : 1.2 million conflict-affected people gain access to safe drinking water; 300,000 most vulnerable people receive hygiene supplies and messages on safe hygiene practices;
Geographic Focus area	Eastern Ukraine
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**In WASH programme**, the unchanging position of the contact line in 2016 continued to pose problems with access to water in both Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. With the River of Donets, the main source of all water in the region, situated in the GCA, the population of the NGCAs remained in greater water dependency throughout the year.

The position of the contact line in Luhansk oblast has made water provision to the NGCA particularly challenging with seven out of the nine main water inflows located in the GCA. In fact, with five of the nine water inflow systems crossing the contact line and with 60 per cent of wells out of service due to recurring damages, the access to drinking water in Luhansk NGCAs remained a challenge in 2016. The company's refusal to relocate its top management from Luhansk (NGCA) has persuaded the GoU to establish a separate PUC "Popasnyans'kyi Rayonnyi Vodokanal" (PRV), which took over authority of the water inflows and production facilities of the PUC "Luhanskvoda" remaining in the GCAs. However, with no return payments for water delivered to NGCA, the GoU made several attempts to stop delivery of water to NGCA due to unpaid electricity bills, which PRV incurred as the result of operations in 2016. No reliable 'cross-border' payment mechanism was established by the parties to the conflict in 2016.

In Donetsk oblast, the operations of PUC "Voda Donbassa" were constrained by a similar set of problems. Although the main water inflows were also located on the GCAs in the north, with the main supply crossing the contact line several times before reaching Mariupol in the south, the company has managed to continue its operations as a single entity instead of fragmenting to meet the conflict-defined territorial arrangements. As with the example of PUC "Luhanskvoda", the ageing system in need of major replacement has also been exposed to shelling on a regular basis.

The position of the contact line as well as the continuous limited access to the NGCAs have continued to shape UNICEF's WASH strategy in 2016, in its attempt to improve children's access to safe drinking water in areas directly affected by the conflict. Furthermore, given that the water supply systems are also an essential part of the heating system for households and institutions throughout Ukraine, the conflict-related damages to infrastructure of PUCs in Donetsk and Luhansk regions reduced the provision of both water and heat, resulting in a wide-scale impact on children's health especially during the winter months. Consequently, to reach the most vulnerable communities in the conflict-affected areas, UNICEF, in close cooperation with PUCs and implementing partners organized water trucking to improve access to drinking water in the NGCAs, whilst also continuing the provision of chlorine and other critical treatment chemicals as well as reconstruction and creation of alternative water sources in the GCAs.

A hygiene and sanitation awareness programme, including distribution of hygiene kits to the most-affected families, adults and children have proven to be effective strategies to address the immediate needs of the affected population in 2016. The number of people with access to safe water was exceeded for both the WASH Cluster and UNICEF targets primarily due to the continued uninterrupted delivery of chlorine and other critical chemicals for water treatment. Moreover, UNICEF continued working towards resilience of communities vis-à-vis water supply shortages by providing communities with water tanks, installing water pumps boring wells and dispersing infomercials about personal hygiene practices. Working with local partner organizations, UNICEF could achieve some progress in the NGCAs by preparing grounds for water risk assessments in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts as to identify critical issues in the system and inform stakeholders about dangers the civil population would face should the critical water infrastructure to endure more targeting.

As a part of the innovative WASH strategy for 2016, UNICEF and its partners developed an electronic voucher system aimed to optimize the distribution of hygiene supplies. The technology that works like

an electronic wallet available on mobile phones, allowed the exchange of vouchers for hygiene items at selected shops for over 6,000 vulnerable persons and over 400 infants living along the contact line. The innovation also provided the possibility to choose hygiene items according to beneficiaries' needs, as opposed to receiving a pre-packaged hygiene kit; favoring "value for money" through considerably reduced distribution costs and improving access to hygiene supplies at the beneficiaries' door step.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

In 2016, the humanitarian situation inside the Eastern Conflict Area (ECA) remained tense. As the conflict continued, approximately 3.7 million people, including about 580,000 children, remained affected and vulnerable. Despite the Minsk II agreement, parties to the conflict have continued hostilities, especially in areas along the contact line pushing the conflict to its second year. Whilst the socioeconomic burden on host communities is increasing, humanitarian access to certain areas remains limited, particularly in the NGCAs and in certain areas of GCAs along the contact line where armed hostilities never stopped. Overall, the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people remained a challenge in 2016.

The conflict has further exacerbated the long-lasting water supply issues, as the contact line cut through key water supply systems and water points in both Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. In 2016, water pipes, pumps, and filtration systems were also frequently damaged by shelling, and the capacity of public utility companies (PUC) "Voda Donbassa" and the former "Luhanskvoda" to repair them being hindered by a shortage of funds and materials needed for repairs. The security aspect played a crucial role as recurring hostilities significantly limited access to the damaged infrastructure. In addition, frequent electricity outages due to shell-damaged infrastructure halted pumping and filtration station production, temporarily cutting water and heating to consumers on both sides of the contact line.

As hostilities continued, loss of life and injury among civilian population further worsened human rights protection issues, impunity and lack of accountability, and the loss of basic services became more entrenched; community cohesion, family unity, and children's wellbeing has further fragmented across Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The protection of conflict-affected people remained a major priority, amid efforts to stop the fighting and to find a sustainable peace. With the humanitarian and socioeconomic situation deteriorating further, increasing the need for scaling up of UNICEF's response has become more acute, especially in the face of limited funding by donors.

The established restrictions on the freedom of movement inside the ECA continued to a negative impact on Ukrainian citizens on both sides of the contact line. Local communities had to redefine their lives to access regular services such as to obtain legal documents (i.e. birth and death certificates, certificates of primary and secondary education) or to access vital social benefits (i.e. education, pensions and medical care), all of which became unavailable due to the new divide. Moreover, a myriad of checkpoints inside GCAs as well as five special exit-entrance checkpoints on the contact line force people to wait in the cold of winter or in the heat of summer in long queues for many hours before crossing usually without access to sanitation and in danger of sniper fire, shelling, unexploded ordnance and landmines. Notwithstanding these dangers, in November 2016 and the preceding months, nearly 700,000 people crossed the contact line through five checkpoints to access vital services and simply visit relatives across the line.

Furthermore, access to the NGCAs remained an issue in 2016. The imposed restrictions only worsened the humanitarian situation, especially for the most vulnerable people in need of vital goods and services. The UN Agencies have called on humanitarian actors to have the freedom to deliver aid to those in need. In a joint statement, they highlighted the fact that access to water and other basic needs is a human right and that all authorities are duty-bound to provide it to the population, regardless of

whether there is conflict or not.

UNICEF continues to coordinate its efforts with other stakeholders to ensure efficient and effective use of the limited resources available to establish base for sustainable programming with a long-term impact in mind.

## RESULTS ACHIEVED

**WASH.** The unchanging position of the contact line in 2016 continued to pose problems with access to water in both Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. With the River of Donets, the main source of all water in the region, situated in the GCA, the population of the NGCAs remained in greater water dependency throughout the year.

The position of the contact line in Luhansk oblast has made water provision to the NGCA particularly challenging with seven out of the nine main water inflows located in the GCA. In fact, with five of the nine water inflow systems crossing the contact line and with 60 per cent of wells out of service due to recurring damages, the access to drinking water in Luhansk NGCAs remained a challenge in 2016.

In this context, UNICEF in partnership with P&G Ukraine provided hygiene supplies as contribution in kind (CIK) in different consignments. The support reached conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine, including Donetsk, Luhansk, and Kharkov regions.

UNICEF also partnered with the local NGOs “Foundation for Community Development” (FCD-SOS Kramatorsk) and “The Help Is Me Charitable Foundation” for needs assessment, distribution of hygiene supplies and post distribution monitoring in Donetsk, Luhansk and Karkive oblasts. More than 50,000 individuals were reached (including approx. 10,000 10,000 children).

UNICEF and its partners developed an electronic voucher system aimed to optimize the distribution of hygiene supplies. The technology that works like an electronic wallet available on mobile phones, allowed the exchange of vouchers for hygiene items at selected shops for 25,329 people, including 4,559 children, living along the ‘contact line’<sup>1</sup>.

The innovation also provided the possibility to choose hygiene items according to beneficiaries' needs, as opposed to receiving a pre-packaged hygiene kit; favouring “value for money” through considerably reduced distribution costs; access to hygiene supplies at the beneficiaries’ door step.

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<sup>1</sup> Humanitarian Situation Report #52 (November 2016.)



## UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)



OTHER RESOURCES CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED FROM: GLOBAL - WATER SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE

DONOR STATEMENT BY ACTIVITY (UNCERTIFIED) FROM 01 OCTOBER 2013 TO 31 DECEMBER 2017 IN US DOLLARS

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**Status of Contribution**

External Reference:	THEMATIC WASH 2014-2017		
Description:	Thematic MTSP 2014-2017 Outcome 3: Water, sanitation, hygiene		
Contribution Reference:	SC149903		
Effective Date:	01.10.2013		
Expiry Date:	31.12.2017		
Recipient Office(s):	EAPR Regional Office, ESAR Regional Office, LACR Regional Office, MENA Regional Office, ROSA Regional Office, WCAR Regional Office, Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Cuba, DP Republic of Korea, Data, Research and Policy, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Evaluation Office, Fiji (Pacific Islands), Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Dem Rep., Lesotho, Liberia, Macedonia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Office of Emergency Prog., Pakistan, Palestine, State of, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Programme Division, Public Partnerships Division, Rep of Uzbekistan, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Mozambique, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syria, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Rep. of Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe		
Agreement Currency:	Various		
Funds Received:	USD	0.00	
Refunds:	USD	0.00	

**Summary of Expenditures (USD)**

Description	Cumulative Expenditure
Programmable Expenditure:	134,490.06
Indirect support cost 6.711740%	9,026.62
<b>Total:</b>	<b>143,516.68</b>
Funds Received in USD:	0.00
<b>Unspent Balance:</b>	<b>(143,516.68)</b>

**Summary of Expenditures by Recipient Office (USD)**

Country/Regional Office	Incurred Expense		Cash Advances and Prepayments	Cumulative Expenditure	Commitments*
	2013-2016	2017			
Ukraine	95,696.84	47,819.85	0.00	143,516.68	19,618.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,696.84</b>	<b>47,819.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>143,516.68</b>	<b>19,618.38</b>

\* "Commitments" include undelivered purchase orders, payment commitments for implementing partners and travel advances approved but not yet paid. The amounts shown in this column represent the status and value of the commitment as at the date the report is produced. As goods are received and commitments in respect of implementing partners and travel advances are paid these amounts will be added to "incurred expense".

## FUTURE WORK PLAN

**WASH.**

In the situation overview, UNICEF has emphasized the precarious state of utilities' infrastructure. Consequently, with this global contribution, access to safe drinking water will be supported for 1.2 million people through the provision of critical treatment chemicals, rehabilitation of infrastructure, provision of alternative sources and provision of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)-related supplies.

In 2017, UNICEF will continue to provide humanitarian support including coordination lead and service delivery in water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector in Ukraine. UNICEF will also put in place



appropriate feedback mechanisms and involve the affected population in each stage of the humanitarian programme cycle, including assessment, design and monitoring.

In 2017, UNICEF will continue to deliver measurable impact and value through the innovative use of technology. UNICEF will continue to partner with stakeholders to implement its programmes through the use of innovative, technology-enabled solutions. UNICEF's tools - the Electronic Voucher System and U-Report are field-tested innovations that aim to benefit those in need, particularly the most disadvantaged.