

Winterization update

November 2018



Within the framework of its 2017/2018 Winterization Program, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), together with partners, distributed coal to 3,000 vulnerable conflict-affected households in Donetsk. The distribution of coal is part of UNHCR's Winterization Program to help vulnerable families cope with the extremely cold winters in Ukraine and is made possible thanks to the support and funds of EU's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). Photo: UNHCR Ukraine.

Background

Winters in Ukraine are harsh, with temperatures dropping as low as -30 °C. Low temperatures and heavy snowfall make daily life difficult, particularly for the country's internally displaced persons (IDPs), who often live in poorly insulated homes or collective centres and are unable to cover utility costs, which have risen considerably in 2018. Among persons who return to the NGCA, over 90% cite the high cost of housing and utilities as the primary factor leading them to return. Persons living in areas near the 'contact line' contend with conflict-damaged and ageing utility infrastructure, difficulty acquiring coal or wood for heating, and lack money to buy adequate winter clothing and heating in the winter months. Movement during winter across the 'contact line' is impeded by reduced checkpoint operating hours, poor transportation services and a shortage of heated waiting areas, with those waiting exposed to the elements while others are unable to travel due to the extreme cold. These extensive challenges mean that additional support is essential for the well-being of the most vulnerable displaced and conflict-affected households during winter. UNHCR's 2017 post-distribution winterization monitoring identified that 85% of beneficiaries had no coal reserves before the previous winter (2016), while 14% had some coal reserves, but insufficient to last the winter season. 98% highlighted continued need for winterization assistance over the 2018/2019 winter.

Assistance



3,500

VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS

USD 991,600

TOTAL WINTERIZATION BUDGET

UNHCR's 2018/2019 Winterization Assistance Plan will target 3,505 of the **most vulnerable displaced and other conflict-affected households** living in areas near the 'contact line' in eastern Ukraine. UNHCR will work with its partners to deliver assistance in the form of coal for heating and cash grants to meet winter expenses.



Coal

2,485

Households will benefit

3 Tonnes

per household

To meet the winter heating needs of vulnerable persons living near the 'contact line' in the non-government controlled area of the Donetsk region, UNHCR will provide **7,455 tonnes** of coal to **2,485 households** (3 tonnes per household). UNHCR has selected elderly at-risk and persons with disabilities living near the 'contact line'.

ELDERLY PERSONS
AT RISK

SERIOUS MEDICAL
CONDITIONS AND/OR

LIVING NEAR THE
CONTACT LINE



The distribution of coal in east Ukraine for the 2018/2019 winter is exclusively supported and funded by EU's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).



Cash

1,020

Households will benefit

10,000 UAH

per household

In government-controlled areas, UNHCR will provide one-time unconditional winter cash grants of **USD 380 (UAH 10,000)** to **1,020 households** to help them meet winter costs such as heating and clothing. Among those most affected by the cold winters, UNHCR is prioritizing the following vulnerable categories:

LEGAL AND PHYSICAL
PROTECTION NEEDS

SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITIONS
AND/OR DISABILITY

SPECIFIC NEEDS
BASED ON AGE

SEXUAL, GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE (SGBV)

UNHCR is grateful to its donors for supporting winterization cash, in particular:



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LINKS

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