

Ukraine: Mid-year report





Situation overview

Since March 2014, the conflict in Eastern Ukraine has claimed thousands of lives and has led to 1.6 million people being displaced. As stated in the <u>UN OCHA Report</u>, over 2,540 civilians have been killed and thousands more injured. Some 600,000 people, including 100,000 children, live within 10-km of a 457-km contact line, where there is daily shelling, armed clashes and extreme levels of mine contamination.

Currently, tens of thousands of children live in areas where the sound of shootings and bombs is a part of their reality. Many children find it difficult to cope with this situation and suffer from stress and anxiety.

According to <u>UNICEF</u>, at least 45 schools have been damaged or destroyed over the last 16 months. This is in addition to more than 700 schools damaged since the conflict began, forcing 200,000 girls and boys to learn in militarized environments, amid volatile fighting and dangers due to unexploded weapons.

Our projects:



child protection:
psychosocial support

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child protection: youth livelihood

Highlights

One of the main needs of conflict-affected and displaced children and their families is psychosocial support. Since the beginning of 2018, Tdh Ukraine reached 3,573 children from Donetsk and Luhansk region.

As Tdh promotes the use of games and sports, including football, as efficient tools for children's development and protection, on 25-26 May Tdh participated in the UEFA Champions Festival in Kyiv. We organized fun activities for young visitors and inviting twelve children from eastern Ukraine.

Results in numbers

- 3,573 children and youth have benefited from protection services and psychological support
- 113 educational units are selected to participate in the project (Child protection in educational units and after school activity centers)
- 114 local education and protection specialists improved knowledge and practices through continuous training provided by Tdh

Children and youth assisted by Tdh January – June 2018



What we do in Ukraine

Having a coordination office in Kyiv, Tdh is active in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (regions) on the government-controlled area through Severodonetsk and Mariupol field offices, supporting the victims of the armed conflict.

Tdh provides psychosocial support and creates child-friendly spaces for them, as well as trains local professionals to better protect children and they carry out psychosocial activities that help children reduce feelings of fear, isolation and depression, and to build confidence and a positive outlook on life.

Updates on Tdh activities

Since the beginning of 2018, Tdh Ukraine reached 3,573 children from Donetsk and Luhansk region. Children benefited from protection services and quality psychosocial support, they played games designed to develop collaboration and social skills, and had sportive activities that develop physical abilities.

As UEFA partners, <u>Terre des hommes participated in the UEFA Champions Festival</u>, which took place in Kyiv, Ukraine, from May 24 until 27. On May 25, Tdh organized fun activities for children vising the Festival. Children played giant Jenga, coloured various pictures, created a football of messages, and received Tdh small gifts. **Tdh promoted the use of games and sports, including football, as efficient tools for children's development and protection.**

Twelve children from Nyzhneteple, Triohizbenka and Popasna (Luhansk region) affected also had the opportunity to take part in the Festival with the support of Tdh and UEFA. On May 26, the day of the Champions League Final, they played a mixed teams football game with rules that are encouraging the collaboration among girls and boys.

In collaboration with its partner Dorcas Aid International Ukraine, at the end of May Tdh provided a two-day training on Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action in Zaporizhzhia. The training was attended by personnel from Dorcas, Terre des hommes, SOS Children's Villages and Caritas. Participants gained knowledge on how to work with children and their families in a humanitarian context. They discussed about protection environment and child protection, and analyzed such standards as psychosocial distress and mental disorders, unaccompanied children and separated children, case management, child-friendly spaces, protecting excluded children, and other.

In 2018, Tdh will launch a **new FabLab in Eastern Ukraine** in order to address the educational needs of vulnerable children and teenagers. There children and youth will be able to come into contact with modern technologies that help them explore their creativity and develop interest and skills for new professions.

"It was very exciting to participate in such a big event. This kind of activity helps us to learn how to play in a team and to communicate among each other. And these good and fun moments just alleviate the bad moments", said Bogdan, one of the children who traveled to Kyiv from Luhansk region.

We thank

Our donors and partners:

Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Swiss Solidarity, UNICEF, Medicor Foundation, Terre des Hommes Netherlands, Dorcas Aid International, SOS Children's Villages.

Our state partners:

Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Education and Science, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, local authorities in the conflict area (Donetsk and Luhansk regions).



Terre des hommes (Tdh) is the leading Swiss organisation for children's aid. Through our health, protection and emergency relief programmes, we provide assistance to over three million children and their families in more than 45 countries each year.

Terre des hommes in Ukraine

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