



ICRC

Ukraine: Current Response to Harsh Temperatures

Preparation for Winter Season 2019-2020



DISTRIBUTION OF WOODEN BRIQUETS AHEAD OF WINTER SEASON.

It has been five years since the start of the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

Many people have lost their income due to the conflict and rely on humanitarian assistance. The situation worsens when the winter comes, which is compounded with the accrued damage to physical infrastructure, disintegration of public services and diminished resources affecting livelihoods, due to continuing hostilities. Monthly payment for utilities has risen and it can be problematic to even purchase heating materials in some areas.

The ICRC's response to the harsh winter conditions in Ukraine includes the following key activities:

- Cash assistance to ensure that vulnerable beneficiaries are able to cover their domestic needs of fuel, wood, gas and electricity bills during the winter period.
- In-kind assistance with coal and wooden briquettes.
- Support with animal feed to allow the local population to restore and develop their livelihood practices during and beyond the winter season.
- Improvement of the living conditions through insulation of houses of people living by the contact line.
- Improving the conditions for those waiting in long queues to cross the contact line from both sides by running heating points in cooperation with the local Red Cross, where people receive hot drinks and warm shelter.

6,600

families received around 20,000 tonnes of coal and briquets for heating of their houses.

5,160

families in GCA* received cash to cover their expenses for heating of their homes.

135

families received around 130 tonnes of animal fodder to maintain their livestock.

Over **7,000**

households received warm clothes, i.e. hats, scarfs and socks.

Around **2,200**

people on both sides of the LoC* benefited from the improvement of heating systems at 15 education, forensic and health facilities, as well as detention institutions, including those outside of the Donbas.

1,700

residents of Pervo-maisk benefited from the improvement of the centralised heating system.

Around **1,200**

families on both sides of the LoC* got new doors and plastic windows installed.

Over **1,580**

families received kits or cash (GCA*) to insulate windows and roofs.

Around **73,000**

people have been assisted with tea, water, warm shelter and the first aid at the Red Cross heating points on both sides of the bridge at Stanytsia Luhanska since the start of the cold season.

At **5**

crossing points, facilities for civilians were supported with stoves, fuel, cleaning materials, LED bulbs, etc. People crossing the LoC* were protected from the adverse weather conditions while waiting under **five** refurbished sheds.

* Acronyms: GCA – government controlled areas, LoC – line of contact.