

Shelter/NFI Cluster

Annual Report

2020

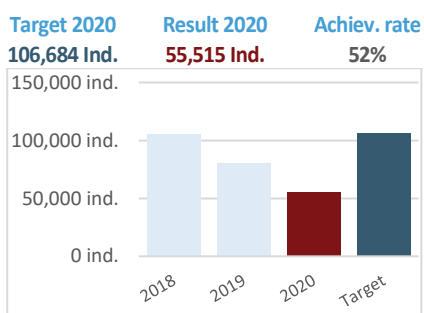
HIGHLIGHTS

- **Change of the Cluster's coordination structure:** The Strategic Advisory Group agreed to initiate the deactivation process. The Ministry for Reintegration of Temporary Occupied Territories is supposed to take a leading role at a national level while regional authorities will lead the sub-national coordination. To ensure the continuity of humanitarian assistance, SAG members agreed to establish a winterization working group in early 2021.
- **Achievements:** The Shelter/NFI Cluster reports operational achievements according to the **3 Cluster Objectives:**

the **first one** includes core and immediate **life-saving activities**;
 the **second one** relates to transitional solutions and the provision of **adequate shelter** in the absence of durable solutions;
 the **third one** aims at stabilizing the humanitarian situation on a **longer-term perspective**

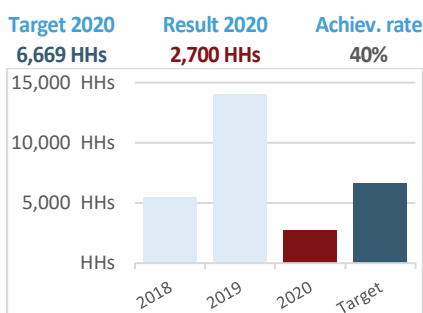
Cluster Objective 1

To provide acute emergency response to newly damaged homes and life-saving winterization support.



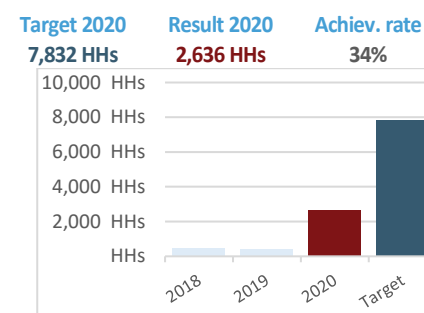
Cluster Objective 2

To contribute to adequate transitional shelter solutions (monetized or in-kind).



Cluster Objective 3

To provide/upgrade permanent shelter solutions for the most vulnerable conflict-affected population.



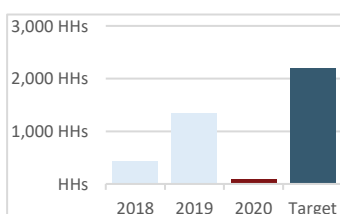
Achievements by activity

For each activity associated with a Cluster Objective, the following graphs show: (a) the output vs the HRP target; (b) the achievement rate; and (c) a comparison with the achievements in the previous year's (using the same color code as above).



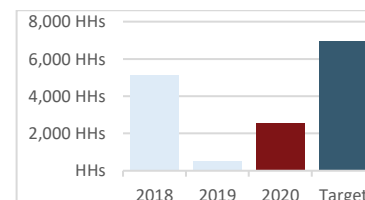
Acute emergency shelter

85/2,020 HHs
4%



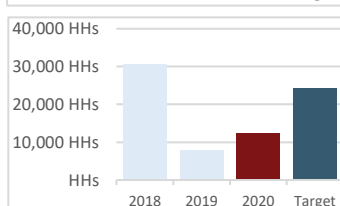
Essential utility network repairs and connection

2,555/6,933 HHs
37%



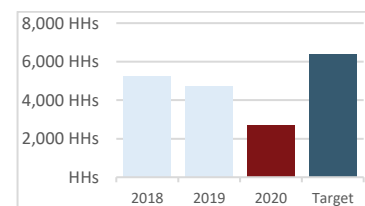
Solid fuel & heater distribution

12,340 HHs/24,160 HHs
51%



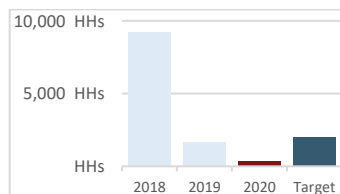
Light and medium repairs

2,700/6,404 HHs
42%



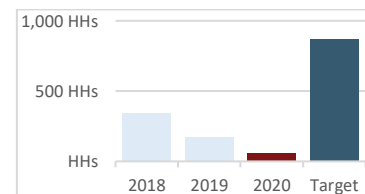
Winterization cash grant transfers

347/2,000 HHs
17%



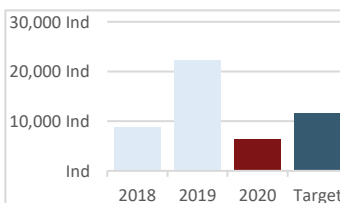
Structural repairs ("heavy repairs")

57/869 HHs
7%



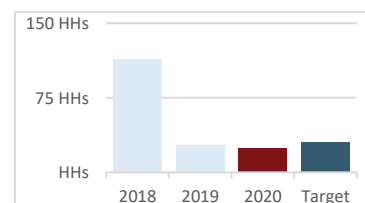
Non-Food Items distribution

6,349/11,550 HHs
55%



Permanent housing (incl. relocation)

24/30 HHs
80%

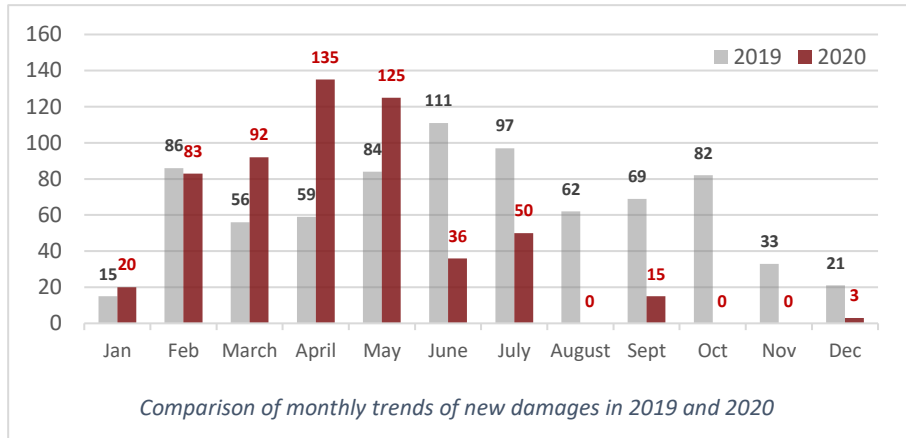


New damages 2020

Following the ceasefire agreement in late July 2020, shelling incidents decreased significantly for several months. Cluster partners registered 18 damaged houses from August to December 2020 compared to 267 in the same period in 2019. In 2020, 559 homes were damaged in total, as compared to 776 in 2019, representing a 28 percent decrease. More than half of the damages occurred in the second quarter of the year; and most of them were registered in April (135 new damages). The hotspots throughout the year were Staromykhailivka, Horlivka and Oleksandrivka in NGCA and Zolote4, Krasnohorivka and Verkhniotoretske in GCA. The vast majority of damages were in NGCA – 84 percent (471 new damages out of 559 overall registered).

71 percent of the 2020 damages occurred in Donetsk (398 houses). Only 12 percent of the 2020 damages occurred in GCA.

As to the type of damages, windows (280 cases), roofing systems (169 cases) and outdoor structures (112 objects) were the most affected. There are also 41 registered cases of direct hits that caused multiple damages to living spaces. As an emergency response to these incidents, the Shelter/NFI Cluster partners provided 85 acute emergency kits to affected families.



Home repairs

In GCA, 2020 marked the last year of emergency shelter assistance. The only three Cluster partners still active covered 434 of the estimated 1,400 families in need of emergency shelter assistance. For the first time since the start of the response, state actors - namely the State Emergency Service of Donetsk oblast - were the main responder, reporting the repair of 1,292 houses (compared to 200 in 2019). Residual needs still falling in the humanitarian framework are estimated to be a couple of hundred, almost exclusively in unsafe and inaccessible locations or in buildings that require investments outside the scope of humanitarian agencies. In NGCA, the presence of shelter agencies remains limited, but the number of families assisted by Cluster partners or other humanitarian actors was relatively high in 2020. In the absence of a detailed survey, Cluster's triangulation of available information estimates that 60% of the unmet needs were covered in 2020, leaving some 4,000 families still in need. Most of these families are assumed to have houses with medium and heavy damages (since the largest part of 2020 shelter assistance focused on light repairs, mainly windows replacement), most of them dating back to 2014 and 2015.

Needs vs. humanitarian response

	GCA	NGCA
Unmet needs in the beginning of 2020	1,400	8,560
Repaired by humanitarian agencies in 2020	434	5,107
Repaired by state actors in 2020	1,292	n/a
New damages in 2020	88	471
Estimated residual needs		
2021-...	200*	3,924

Winterization assistance

As in previous years, winterization assistance remained one of the Cluster's priorities in 2020. The recurrent nature of this type of assistance is explained by the six years of crisis which have prevented large parts of the population from recovering their livelihoods and exhausted their financial savings, making it more and more difficult for them to prepare adequately for winter. In this phase of the response, the Shelter/NFI Cluster keeps recommending humanitarian agencies to approach their winterization programs as actions complementary to the assistance provided by state agencies in GCA and de-facto authorities in NGCA. Also, the Cluster recommends partners to focus on most urgent needs not covered by other programs, to prioritize isolated settlements along the line of contact, households with no access to the centralized gas supply system,



* SESU provided repairs in Donetsk GCA to citizens regardless of humanitarian criteria, i.e. to a higher domain of the population group. Repairs covered all damages within the given settlements. It resulted in no uncovered needs in repairs in Donetsk GCA and in some 200 HHs in Luhansk GCA where SESU is not currently operational. There are also uncovered shelter needs in areas that are still unreachable (for state actors and for humanitarian agencies) due to harsh security concerns, beyond the humanitarian capabilities for interventions – those needs are excluded from the calculations.

and communities where preparation to winter is particularly difficult because of security concerns related to shelling or military presence.

During the winterization campaign 2019-20, cluster partners provided support to 12,340 HHs (51% of the target). Partners covered the most urgent needs through the provision of winterization solutions for persons who reside in isolated settlements in GCA. Almost 63 percent of families received assistance in the form of solid fuel while others received cash (25 percent), and NFIs (11.1 percent) to cope with the winter season.

State support and development efforts

State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) is a key state actor playing a major role in the provision of physical repairs of damaged houses in the conflict area. In the past year, the Donetsk oblast SESU broadened their geographical coverage and repaired 1,292 houses, overachieving the 2019 results (some 200 completed repairs) and also their original 2020 target (1,000 houses). Their focus was on the repair of damaged roofs using construction materials from the Regional Fund for emergency situations. SESU allocated 502 staff in total and deployed them to the affected settlements. Local administrations contributed with the

provision of accommodation for the construction brigades and the supervision of the implementation process. The Cluster continued to advocate for the Luhansk oblast SESU to start a similar programme (not possible in 2020 due to lack of construction material).

Compensation for destroyed houses. On 2 September 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine issued a decree on compensation to citizens whose house or apartment was destroyed because of military activities¹. According to the decree, local administrations (or, in their absence, the civil-military administrations) are to establish commissions to inspect the destroyed houses. 56 commissions were formed since September 2020. They consist of eight members on average and two out of three have a technical focal point. In 2020, the 56 commissions have assessed 117 houses and issued 89 acts for totally destroyed buildings. The commissions submit the documentation to oblast authorities who take the final decision on compensation on a case-by-case basis. The process is still slow; the total allocated budget - 20 million UAH (some \$ 715,000 USD) represents at the moment a further limitation. The humanitarian community expects that around 60 families will soon receive the state compensation.

¹ <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/767-2020-%D0%BF#Text>