

2016

#### IN THE CONFLICT IN EASTERN UKRAINE

78 HOSPITALS ASSISTED 191,216 PATIENTS REACHED including

20,654 SAVED FROM DEATH 465 TONS OF MEDICINES, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND CONSUMABLES DELIVERED

## **UKRAINE: A FORGOTTEN CONFLICT CONCERNING 5 MILLION CIVILIANS**

5 million people continue to live close to the front line; those in areas beyond government control and those who have been displaced. According to the European Commission some 3.8 million people still require humanitarian assistance in Ukraine.

Since 2004 the International Humanitarian Foundation AICM has provided assistance to hundreds of Ukrainian hospitals, doctors and medical staff. Its aim is to provide top quality health support to the medical profession. New medical practices and protocols were facilitated through internships, workshops and teaching programs. Over the past few years AICM has delivered over 500 MT of medical equipment.

Since 2014 the AICM has increased its humanitarian activity by 350%. This is as a result of the critical situation of hospitals in Eastern Ukraine on both sides of the "contact line". This would have not been possible without the help of local and international donors, as well as countless individuals. In accordance with the UN Humanitarian Charter, observing a neutral policy of strict impartiality and fulfilling legal requirements, the AICM continues to assist hospitals and populations on both sides of the frontline.

The conflict has claimed more than 10,000 lives with more than 24,000 people injured since the war began in 2014. February 2017 brought record levels of ceasefire violations in eastern Ukraine. Areas affected were densely populated towns and cities running through the contact line.

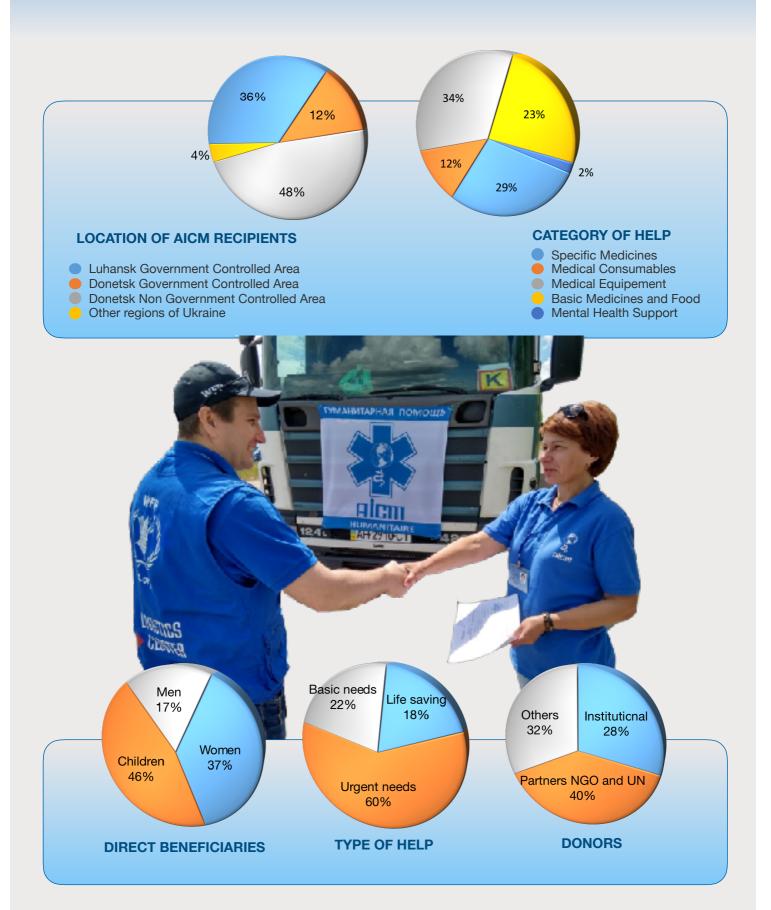
Moreover, the Ukrainian Government further tightened communication links into the Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA) by banning all public transport and blockading all commercial shipments, including food and medicine. The unarmed monitoring mission from the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has noted hundreds of explosions a day. In front line hot spots, people living in towns and cities have often experienced lengthy periods of time without water, power and gas.

As of February 2017, over 1.6 million people were registered as internally displaced persons (IDPs), this is according to the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid office. Some two thirds of IDP's are pensioners and approximately 13% are children. Many civilians live on just 80 USD per month.

In spite of the conflict, blockade, cold winter and some security issues AICM has reached out to more than 191.000 patients in 2016 and more than 275.000 since the start of 2017.



# **AICM ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016**



#### The economic situation of Ukraine has worsened over the past 12 months. As of February 2017, over 1.6 million people were registered as internally displaced persons (IDPs), with an the average income of less than 80 USD per month.

Reports of Human Rights abuses and Gender Based violence have surfaced over the recent period.



# **THE SITUATION IN 2017**

Fighting escalated sharply in February 2017 with the number of casualties doubling in comparison with 2016. Several hospitals, schools and civilian districts on both sides have suffered from intense shelling.

Furthermore, interruptions in water and electricity supply have only added to the difficulties of daily life for more than 1.9 million civilians. Over the past year the "contact line" has seen both sides of the conflict draw closer – putting the local civilian population at risk. The humanitarian situation has worsened considerably over the past 12 months.

Basic medical supplies have not reached hospitals in hot spot areas of the front line. The situation has worsened over the past 3 years, especially in the area of health service and general sanitation of medical facilities.

At this moment in the NGCA, 110,000 children are left without basic vaccines against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis. From January to June 2017, AICM provided 322 units of various medical equipment and 20 MT of medicines to 21 hospitals including 10 paediatric and 7 maternity wards. Nonetheless, 18 medical projects remain postponed due to the general decrease in donations - this at a time when there is a greater need for the medical equipment.

The conflict in Eastern Ukraine may be turning into Europe's forgotten war. International donors and media have allocated a large part of their funds and coverage to other conflicts such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Central Africa. As a result, when there is spike in hostilities in Ukraine, there are no financial reserves left to be able to provide civilians with the urgent help that is needed.

The local population is dependent on AICM's aid effort and we will always put the <u>patient first</u>, no matter which side of the conflict zone.

# PLEASE DONATE: WWW.AICM.CU

## TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP THE PEOPLE OF DONBASS

## IN THE 1st HALF OF 2017 AICM DELIVERED:

**322** UNITS OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT **20** MT OF MEDICINES

#### WHICH REACHED

21 HOSPITALS 275,200 BENEFICIARIES

