

Short Survey on assessment the needs of internally displaced people in Ukraine

(January 2015)

Resume

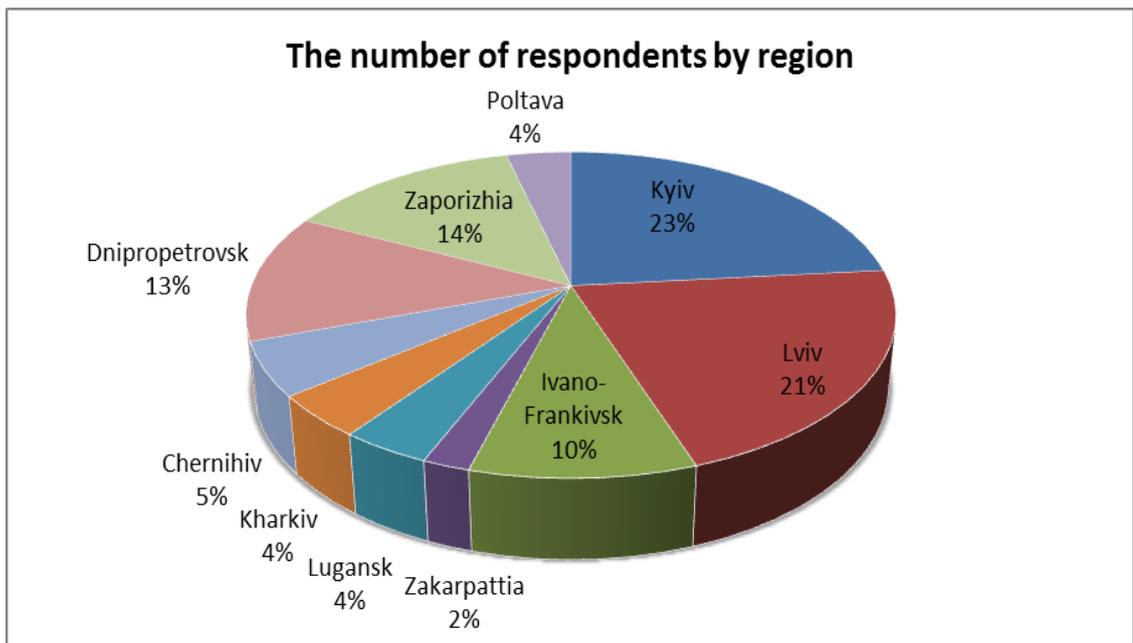
According to the information from the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine by the February 2015 there were officially registered more than 1 000 000 internally displaced people in Ukraine. This information was confirmed and verified by the UNHCR IDPs, local authorities and NGOs. However, the real amount of such people is unknown and may be higher. Moreover, with the help of the statistical analysis of the data provided by these organizations, we can conclude that the amount of internally displaced persons has increased. Since the escalation of the military conflict in the East of Ukraine continues to grow the number of IDPs in Ukraine can increase in the further.

The internal migration within the country caused a number of problems for IDPs, government, average citizens and Ukrainian society in general. As a result, nowadays IDPs are partially provided with medical, legal and administrative care, social and psychological services for the further adaptation. However, most of such services are just a short-term intervention and do not provide the integration of IDPs into the society. However, we can observe the adoption of the new legislation, creation of the new non-governmental organizations that provide assistance and support for IDPs, development of volunteering and charity etc.

Thus, it is important to research the primary and secondary needs of internally displaced persons, the services they are provided with, the level of satisfaction with such services and the effectiveness of these services in general etc. In addition, the attention should be also paid to the health conditions of IDPs and their access to health care goods, including drugs and services.

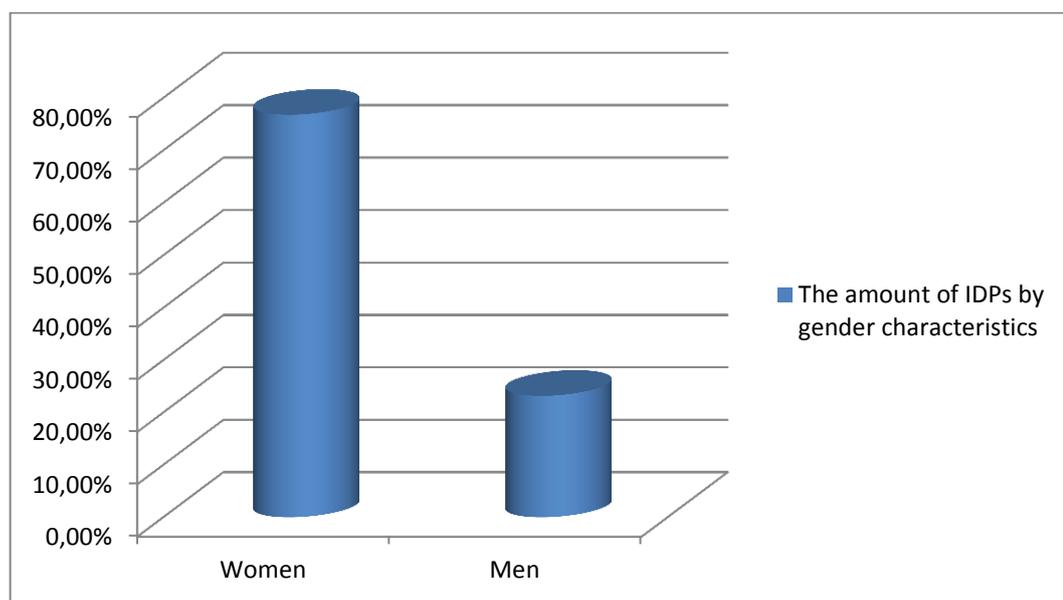
Labor and Health Social Initiatives (LHSI) conducted the survey over December 2014-January 2015 that aimed to analyze the primary and secondary needs of internally displaced persons in Ukraine, who had to leave their place of permanent residence as a result of the antiterrorist operation (ATO) in Donetsk and Lugansk regions and the annexation of Crimea. The survey also enquired about the quality of governmental and non-governmental social services for IDPs, as well as their level of satisfaction with these services.

The research was assisted by partner agencies and organizations, including the “Centers of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth” of Kyiv city, Poltava, Zaporizhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Lugansk, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv oblasts as well as NGOs and volunteers working with IDPs. The research involved 471 IDPs from these regions of Ukraine.

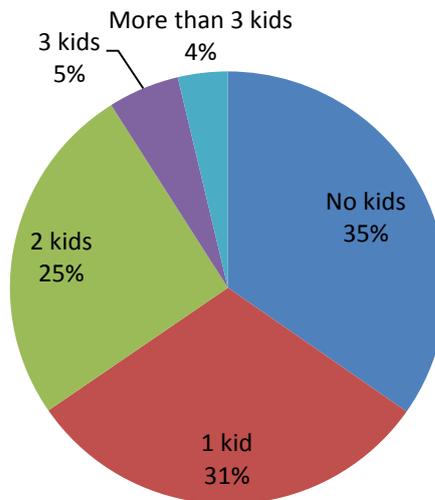


The results of the study showed that the primary needs of the IDPs are: **financial** (employment), **humanitarian** (food and clothes), **housing** and **medical** need. Among the secondary needs of IDPs are: **social** (participation in community life), **legal** (protection of rights), **psychological**, **cultural** and **political** (participation in political life). It should be noted that the rate of IDPs' political need was the lowest - 12.4%.

According to the results of this research, the biggest primary needs of the IDPs are financial and the employment (69% of all respondents). Also, 45% of the respondents are not satisfied with their financial and employment situation, while only 27% are quite satisfied. Moreover, almost 40% of IDPs consider that the employment services are unavailable in the country, while only 21% of all respondents consider such services quite available. In addition, it is important to mention that most of the respondents are middle-aged women (76,8%) with underaged children (65,3%), because of this fact – it must be noted, that most of the unemployed IDPs with financial problems are women, who have children (70,1 %).

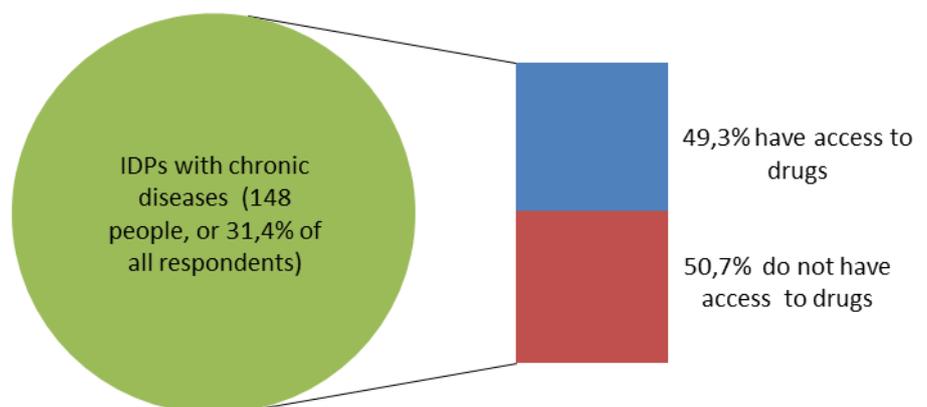


The amount of underaged kids of IDPs



The research also showed that more than a third of all respondents have chronic diseases (31.4%). Also, taking into account, that 7% of respondents were not certain about their health condition, it can be assumed that the real needs in health care services are higher. Out of those IDPs, who are aware about having chronic diseases – more than a half (50.7% or 75 persons) reported not having the access to health care and drugs. Furthermore, similar number of respondents (76 IDPs) also reported having no access to health care and drugs out of those who do not know about their health conditions or do not have chronic diseases. Also, nearly a third of all respondents reported not having access to drugs (27.3%). Moreover, it should be noted that 24% of all respondents were retired people, 81% of all respondents migrated with relatives and 65% of IDPs have under-age children. These factors also influence the overall situation with health care among IDPs. Most of retired people and children reported having age-related diseases.

The access to medical drugs of IDPs with chronic diseases



Most of the IDPs applied for assistance to the following government agencies: Centers of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth (51.5% of IDPs), Department of Labor and Social Welfare (38%), local authorities (18%) and the State Emergency Services (15.4%). IDPs positively rated the assistance that they have received in government agencies. In contrast, much less of IDPs applied for help at the NGOs, charitable and voluntary organizations (12.4%), but, according to their answers, the level of assistance obtained there was also very high. Religious institutions were among the institutions least addressed (less than 1%), and 1% of respondents haven't asked for any assistance at all. It is important to add, that even those who haven't applied for assistance to any institutions, still received it.

Conclusions:

The results of the needs assessment showed that the primary needs of the IDPs are: **financial** (employment), **humanitarian** (food and clothes), **housing** (permanent or temporary lodging) and **medical** need. The main three needs (financial, humanitarian and housing) maybe match into basic economic needs of targeted disadvantaged group.

The most of the respondents (60%) were women with children who need a special approach in social support, social and medical service provision such as home based work, distance work, post graduate education and psycho social support. Gender sensitive and mentorship programs organized at the workplaces for the group of disadvantaged women.

45% of the respondents are not satisfied with their financial and employment situation, which request a strong efforts from local government and non-governmental organizations in regards to comprehensive approach on supporting employment of IDPs and ensuring the available and accessible housing. The government should develop the national strategy for ensuring the economic and social rights of IDPs and with a broad involvement of all local, national and international resources.

The results of the survey may be used by the governmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and voluntary associations in scientific and practical purposes, given that the proper references are provided.

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