

Human Trafficking Risk Assessment for Internally Displaced Persons in Ukraine

Kateryna Levchenko, International Women's Rights Center "La Strada-Ukraine", Chairperson of La Strada International, Doctor in Law, Professor, Member of GRETA

Vienna, July, 7, 2015

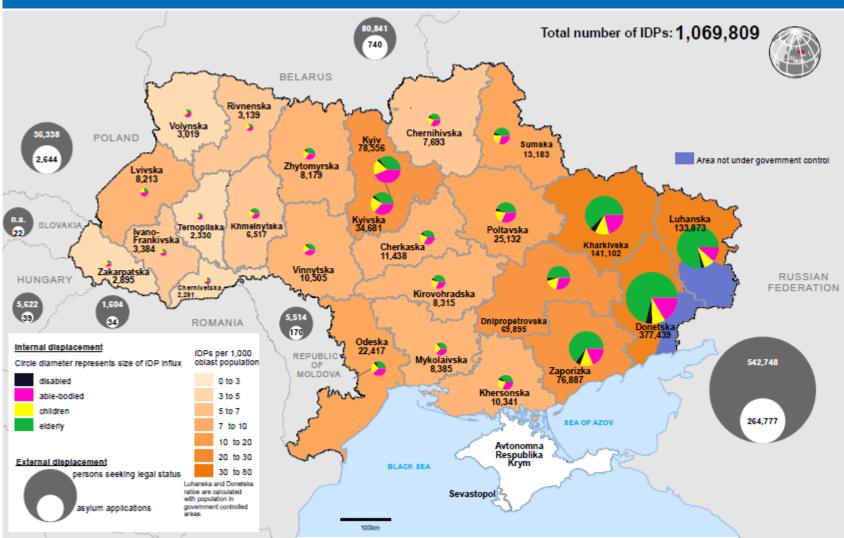


- 5 mln people living in a conflict affected area
- Over 1.3 mln IDPs (32% children, 14% elderly persons or persons with disabilities, 2/3 of adult IDPs are women)
- At least 6 362 people (625 women and girls, 45 children) killed
- At least 15 775 wounded
- At least 1 460 missing









The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. <u>Internal Displacement</u>. Data provided by the Ministry of Social Policy, as of 23 February. <u>External displacement</u>. Figures reported to UNIHCR by Government Asylum Authorities as of 01 February for Hungary 10 February for Moldow, 12 February for Belarus, 31 December 2014 for Romania and Slovakia, and as reported by the Russian Federal Migration Service as of 3 February for the Russian Federation. | Feedback Shubina@un.org | Document: ultri displacement, 28 February 2015 Creation date: 28/00/2015





Problems faced by IDPs:

- 1) Getting the status of IDPs and getting or transferring social payments (pensions, child benefits and others);
- 2) Getting the information about humanitarian aid;
- 3) Possibility of departure from areas of ATO;
- 4) Problems with documents recovery (lost documents);
- 5) Problems with employment;
- 6) Problems with housing and with registration in a new place of living;
- 7) Getting different services (medical, psychological, etc.);
- 8) Searching for missing people;
- 9) Possibility to return home;
- 10) Requests for volunteering;
- 11) Problems with bringing children from Donetsk and Lugansk regions;
- 12) Problems with education (pre-school, school and higher education), etc.

National Toll Free Hot Line: increase in number of calls (up to 1 000/month), increase of calls from women (up to 80%), increase in number of calls from IDPs, increase in emigration-related questions





Increasing the amount of calls on National Hotline on prevention trafficking in human beings, domestic violence and gender discrimination in migration context during 2014-2015.

Economic difficulties, absence of income, loss of personal property, and the difficulties to find job and housing in the places where IDPs arrive are the reasons why **displaced persons become a vulnerable group for getting into human trafficking situation**.

Tasks of the research:

Define the readiness of IDPs to accept **illegal employment as a risk factor for human trafficking.** Study **migration intentions** among IDPs.

- Partners:
 - The Ukrainian Institute of Social Studies of O. Yaremenko With the support of the "OPEN" project (Germany)
- 1000 responders (IDPs) living in other territories and 403 respondents who returned to the places of their residence (under control of Ukrainian Government, non-occupied territories)
- Interviews held from December 29, 2014 till January 12, 2015 in 16 oblasts of Ukraine
- **Methods of getting the information:** individual interviews "tête-a-tête"



Research outcomes

- The fact that about 30% of IDPs do not know about the existence of such a problem makes this group vulnerable to getting into a human trafficking situation.
- Persons of retirement age (60+), males and females in both groups, know less about the problem of human trafficking compared to younger respondents.
- A significant number of respondents have experience of illegal employment in Ukraine. At the same time, the number of respondents who have experience of illegal employment abroad is much lower.
- Trafficking cases involving internally displaced persons are known to 6.5% of those who live in other territories, and known to 12.5% of those who returned to their places of residence.

Research outcomes

- Nearly 8% of IDPs plan looking for a job abroad: 8,2% of IDPs who are living in the other territories and 8,7% who returned to places of residence.
- 7.8% of persons living in the other regions and 8.9% of those who returned to the residence places indicated "it does not matter what the conditions are, it is important to have a job".
- 8.3% and 9.7% consider that it is important to have a written working contract.

Research outcomes. Sources of information

IDPs who are living in the other territories:

- ✓ Communication with other IDPs 63.4 %
- ✓ TV programs 52.4 %
- ✓ Communication with friends and relatives -50.0 %
- ✓ Volunteers, representatives of charitable organizations 37.2 %
- ✓ Internet 35.8 %
- Displaced persons who came back to their places of residence:
- ✓ TV programs 82.1 %
- ✓ Communication with friends and relatives 81.1 %
- ✓ Internet 40.4 %
- ✓ Newspapers (magazines) 38.2 %
- \checkmark Communication in the public transport, public places, on the street 30.2%
- ✓ A big role in getting information is played by the centers of IDPs' registration (29.8%), communication with representatives of state institutions (28.8%). A hotline as a source of information is important for 12.7%.



Where to look for help

IDPs who live in other territories

- To police 57.5 %
- To representatives of volunteers' (civil society) organizations 8.9 %
- To social services (to social workers) 8.9 %
- To the hotline -8.7%
- To friends, acquaintances 4.6
 %.
- Do not know whom to address for a help 31.6%

IDPs who returned to place of residence

- To police— 55.6 %
- **To hot line** 18.4 %
- To social services (to social workers) –11.4 %
- To representatives of volunteers' (civil society) organizations 7.4 %
- To family members– 6.0 %
- Friends, acquaintances 5.0 %
- Do not know whom to address for a help – 31.5 %



Needs for prevention of THB among IDPs and affected population

- Strengthening civil society's ability to advocate for the development and implementation of gender-sensitive laws and policies in conflict and post-conflict period
- Increase awareness of decision-makers on international commitments and practices
- To empower and strengthen women IDPs in economic area, support centers which provide assistance to IDPs
- To build the capacity of local communities to address the protection needs of women and girls
- To train volunteers on addressing trauma



OSCE and IOs activity. Special monitoring mission of OSCE for Ukraine

The issues of GBV and trafficking in human beings are important components of the SMM monitoring and reporting activities.

As a follow up of the training for SMM monitors which took part in April 2015, the OSCE's Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings visited Ukraine again in May 2015, also in order to raise awareness among the monitors and enable them to identify victims of human trafficking http://www.osce.org/secretariat/165226

Recently the SMM issued the thematic report on "Gender Dimensions of SMM's Monitoring: One Year of Progress" which outlines the gender dimensions of the SMM's monitoring, reporting and dialogue facilitation activities, from the mission's inception until May 2015. It is available on our website: http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/165806

SMM is also working on concrete instructions for monitors on how to tackle the issue of trafficking, it is a work in progress.



OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

- While implementing four anti-trafficking projects, adjusts their modalities to respond to new THB risks, including:
- ✓ raising awareness of NRM stakeholders on new trends to increase victims identification and assistance
- ✓ providing economic opportunities for at-risk groups and victims
- √ combating IT-facilitated THB
- Trains police on new THB manifestations, incl. IDPs as atrisk group
- In co-operation with NRM stakeholders conducts prevention and awareness raising activities to inform people about new THB threats and available assistance
- Assists in developing NAP on UNSCR 1325





Recommendations

Ukrainian Government

To finalize and adopt State anti-trafficking program for 2016 – 2020 including the special needs of IDPs To finalize and adopt NAP on implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325

International Organizations and donors

To increase support of anti-trafficking activity in Ukraine, prioritize this issue among others

OSCE ATC

To continue training programs related to THB issue for all relevant actors in Ukraine, especially for those who contact and provide assistant to IDPs, including the monitors of SMMU

OSCE SMMU

To include the topic of GBV and THB in the monitoring report as soon as possible To continue the trainings on THB and GBV prevention and identification for the monitors of SMMU To continue cooperation and regular meetings with women-rights NGOs

NGOs

To continue monitoring the governmental policy and activity of IOs in Ukraine with regard to THB issue







Thank you for your attention and solidarity!

La Strada Ukraine Kyiv, Ukraine +38044-205-36-95

info@la-strada.org.ua www.la-strada.org.ua

