In early 2020 the east of Ukraine will enter its seventh year of armed conflict where approximately 3.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. Ongoing and widespread ceasefire violations along the Line of Contact (LoC) and the restrictions on movement of people and goods continue to pose significant risks to civilian populations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (collectively referred to as Donbas).

This document highlights key findings from the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) carried out in Ukraine in 2019. The 2019 MSNA was conducted within the framework of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), with technical inputs from the Information Management Working Group (IMWG) and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) partners. Since 2016, REACH has implemented yearly MSNA in the Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk to inform the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Planning (HRP) processes. Capitalizing on these assessments, REACH conducted a follow-up data collection exercise which included comparable indicators, questions and sampling strategy to monitor key changes in humanitarian needs in GCA, 20 km from the LoC.

Findings presented in this brief are based on an analytical approach proposed by REACH for the 2019 MSNA, which incorporates elements of the draft Joint Inter-Analysis Framework (JIAF), and on a Multisectoral Needs Index (MSNI) developed to classify a household’s severity of needs in each sector. The index is based on the inability to meet immediate sectoral needs (Living Standards Gaps), the use of negative coping strategies (Capacity Gap), and household-level impact of the crisis, thus giving a crisis-specific indication of the severity of needs\(^1\).

In Ukraine, the data was collected between the 29th July and the 16th August 2019, including 1,615 household surveys across the GCA, selected to be statistically representative with a 95% confidence level and a 5% margin of error at the strata level. The assessment used a stratified sample by settlement type (rural and urban) and by distance to the LoC: 0-5 km urban/rural and 5-20 km urban/rural populations. The assessment also included an enumerator observation workshop in order to document and analyse their observations of the humanitarian situation in the settlements visited.

### MULTISECTORAL NEEDS INDEX (MSNI)

162,063 people (30% of households) were found to have severe or extreme severity of needs.\(^2\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of households per severity of needs:</th>
<th>Extreme (severity score 4)</th>
<th>Severe (severity score 3)</th>
<th>Stress (severity score 2)</th>
<th>No or minimal (severity score 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Locations of surveys collected:

For 59% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs in Ukraine, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in emergency livelihoods, and/or water, sanitation and hygiene, and/or food security.

For 1% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs, the primary driver of needs was the use of negative coping strategies to cover basic needs.

For 9% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in health and shelter\(^3\).

For 31% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in health or shelter or protection and the direct impact of the crisis.

\(^1\) The MSNI and LSGs were contextualised to each crisis context which has to be considered when comparing crises.

\(^2\) MSNI severity score of at least 3.

\(^3\) In Ukraine, protection was not taken into account for the primary drivers of severe or extreme

---

\(1\) The MSNI and LSGs were contextualised to each crisis context which has to be considered when comparing crises.

\(2\) MSNI severity score of at least 3.

\(3\) In Ukraine, protection was not taken into account for the primary drivers of severe or extreme
The highest proportion of households had severe or extreme sectoral needs in health, 35%. In almost all sectors, the 0-5 km rural households fared the worst, particularly in health, shelter, Food Security & Livelihoods (FSL) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs, per assessed area:

- 0-5 km urban
- 0-5 km rural
- 5-20 km urban
- 5-20 km rural

% of households, by severity of needs per assessed area:

- Health
- Shelter
- Education
- WASH
- FSL

The highest proportion of households had severe or extreme sectoral needs in health, 35%. In almost all sectors, the 0-5 km rural households fared the worst, particularly in health, shelter, Food Security & Livelihoods (FSL) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

4 Distance from the line of contact.
5 LSG severity score of at least 3.

REACH conducted the MSNA in Ukraine as an ACCESS Consortium member and as part of the ACCESS project.