

3P CONSORTIUM

Newsletter, 2nd edition

Since the beginning of 2020, ACTED continues to demonstrate its ability to work productively with raion and oblast administrations, which is key to ensure strong results when implementing emergency preparedness and mitigation activities. Thus, over several months, the “**Plan on Establishing the Mass Public Alert and Information System in Toretsk municipality**” was jointly developed with and then officially adopted by the municipality. Procurement of the system, for which the first phase will cost 1 million Hryvna and is going to be co-financed by ACTED (50%), Donetsk oblast administration (25%) and Toretsk municipality (25%), can therefore now start. Following the development and adoption of the Plan, ACTED is also going to support the municipality with the development of “**Instructions on Transmitting Information**” through the system, which will be based on ACTED-organized consultations with population.

Another positive example is ACTED’s close cooperation with the Popasna raion administration and State Emergency Services of Ukraine in Luhansk oblast and Popasna raion in preserving the bomb-shelter fund of the raion. The partners have conducted joint observation of **20 depleted bomb-shelters** in front-line villages, have developed a plan on partial refurbishment and are now moving forward on co-financing the refurbishment of 15 bombshelters.

Several other plans are in the process of being developed jointly by ACTED with local authorities – this includes an evacuation plan which is inclusive of people with disabilities with Bakhmut raion, mitigation plans for Toretskugol and Pervomaiskugol, and an emergency response plan to incidents at waste sluges in Yasinovata raion. Through this work, ACTED and local authorities will decrease the vulnerability to industrial and ecological risks of conflict-affected populations.

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Since March, the 3P Consortium has been consulting with local authorities to understand their needs in response to the pandemic and support them to be better-prepared, while ensuring that the most vulnerable are protected. For example, ACTED donated **32,200 masks** (procured from local companies) to five raions and two oblasts administrations, to be distributed to vulnerable populations and administration staff who continue engaging with the public. ACTED is also investing in Risk Communications and Community Engagement: **12,000 visual information materials** have already been printed and disseminated among local populations.



ACTED is also providing material support to local administrations, notably to fill the gap left by increased demand of certain items. Thus, ACTED donated over 20 000 euro worth of **sanitizers, disinfectants, medical masks and gloves** to raion administrations making them more prepared to face the virus and contain its spread.

Finally, to ensure that reliable information on COVID-19 is easily available to the general public, ACTED has also been working closely with the Donetsk oblast administration to establish a **COVID-19 dedicated hotline**: it is hosted by the oblast administration and operated by ACTED. In only 9 days, the hotline was established; almost **400 calls** were received within the first month.

PREPARING COMMUNITIES

Through the distribution of Information, Education and Communication materials on disaster risk reduction Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) reached **2333 residents** of Eastern Ukraine where the project is being implemented.

TRAININGS ORGANIZED IN Q1



12 First Aid (FA) trainings with 149 participants



11 Psychological First Aid (PFA) trainings with 151 participants



5 one-day Community Emergency Planning (CEP) sessions with 71 participants



5 communities developed their individual emergency plans

An important activity were the 5-days and 3-days **Community Base Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) trainings** for representatives from local authorities, Consortium partners, URCS staff and key volunteers. The main goal of these CBDRM trainings was to analyze hazards to which the population is exposed, their vulnerabilities, resources available to the settlement and to develop draft Community Emergency Plans(CEP) jointly with and in each community. CEP sessions were held in Novgorodsky, Zelenopillya and Rybinski settlements.

On February 28-29, a seminar entitled “**Disaster Risk Reduction in the Eastern Ukraine**” was conducted in Kyiv, attended by URCS project team, volunteers, management and staff of the National Committee of URCS. The participants considered the main features and relevance of the project, discussed communication schemes, priorities and prepared a plan for the development of DRR activities within URCS for the next year.



RESPONSE TO COVID-19

From the beginning of February 2020, 15-minutes COVID-19 prevention information sessions were included in First Aid trainings. In total, **51 residents** of the Novhorodskyi, Zelenopillya and Rybinskyi raions of Donetsk oblast communities received basic information about preventive measures in the context of COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to restrictive quarantine measures, changes to the project were made to promote relevant information on limiting the virus spread in front line communities. Since end of March, the team has conducted **14 field visits** to over **22 settlements** to distribute information materials with over **1,500** such posters distributed in village councils, midwifery centers, hospitals, as well as on stands near shops, clubs and post offices. Detailed distribution results are available on the online map [here](#) and [here](#).

URCS is working also on adaption online Family Emergency Planning (FEP). For this it was developed and launched FEP KoboToolbox form in April 2020 that will be distributed by DRR officers in schools in 37 key locations of the project. Main approach of this process: remotely access to FEP education tools – such as presentations, education materials and tables using this key information, children with their parents can make their own family plan remotely.

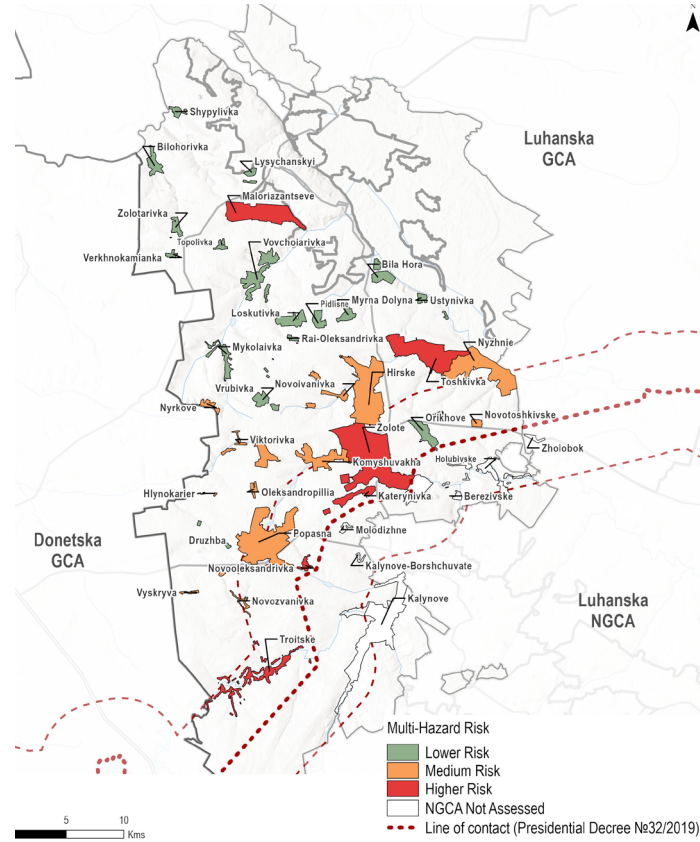


AREA-BASED RISK ASSESMENTS

IMPACT Initiatives published in February the first of five planned **Area Based Risk Assessment (ABRA)**, this one covering Popasna raion. To conduct these assessments, IMPACT developed and applied a multi-hazard risk assessment methodology which looks at hazard and vulnerability indicators.

As agreed with key stakeholders, 3P partners and local authorities, ABRAs focus on the key conflict-related, industrial, ecological, and natural hazards located in the areas where the Consortium works. The selection of hazards to be assessed takes into account the current state of hazardous industrial objects and conflict dynamics throughout 2019.

The Popasna ABRA will serve as a tool for local authorities and international aid actors to prioritize of risk reduction management plan development on settlement level as well as an evidence-base for further primary data collection to support Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives in areas of high concern.



MAPS IN SUPPORT OF RISK REDUCTION

IMPACT GIS team also provides ongoing technical support by developing various maps requested from partners. This include a set of reference and thematic maps, like regional hazardous objects location to be used in local capacity building trainings.



During trainings organized by the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, IMPACT maps were effectively used as a visual instrument for mapping risk vulnerability and capacity of communities as well as planning exercises. Community representatives learned to use spatial analysis of hazards and available resources as a part of their community emergency plans.



STRENGTHENING COOPERATION WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Since January 2020, R2P field team conducted **5 meetings** with representatives of local authorities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. A broad variety of stakeholders took part in those discussions including representatives of the departments of civil protection, cities and villages executive committees, departments of ecology, State Emergency Services of Ukraine (SESU) and enterprises of critical infrastructure. Complex topics such as the status of the **civil protection system**, environmental monitoring and compliance with environmental legislation, as well as issues relating to coordination among state structures in emergencies were discussed. The consultations are critical to gain local perspective on those issues and support the analysis of legislation on environmental and industrial risks in Ukraine. Moreover, R2P mobilized additional support from external consultants who are bringing in technical expertise on monitoring underground water levels in coal mines, strengthening the overall resilience of those sectors, and supporting the development of recommendations for Ukrainian authorities in the **environmental and energy sectors**. Due to restrictions related to the national quarantine - and with support from the state authorities participating - some meetings are now being conducted online.



Hand in hand with legal research, R2P continues its **advocacy** activities by holding frequent meetings at the national level. For example, building on the field meetings and research, at a meeting with representatives of the Department of Civil Protection Measures of SESU, the existing concept of public alert systems was discussed and ways forward for modernization were brainstormed. R2P team has also met and exchanged with experts from the Reform Support Team of the Ministry of Energy and Environmental Protection of Ukraine, as well as with the OSCE Project Co-Coordinator in Ukraine. Topics of discussion have included the implementation of European and international standards, including the Sendai Framework Program, into Ukrainian environmental legislation and suggested steps to improve the environmental monitoring system. At the request of representatives of the Ministry of Veterans and Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, consultations were initiated on environmental monitoring in Donbas.

Finally, R2P is taking steps to sensitize the general public on the issue of ecological and industrial risks and the work done by the 3P Consortium to reduce vulnerability to these risks. For example, **a video** on the critical environmental situation of Toretskugol coalmine was created by media project “Rubric” with support from R2P and jointly with leading technical experts, coal miners and local eco-activists from Toretsk.

