

Monthly report Activities of the Liaison Officers on IDP issues of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine

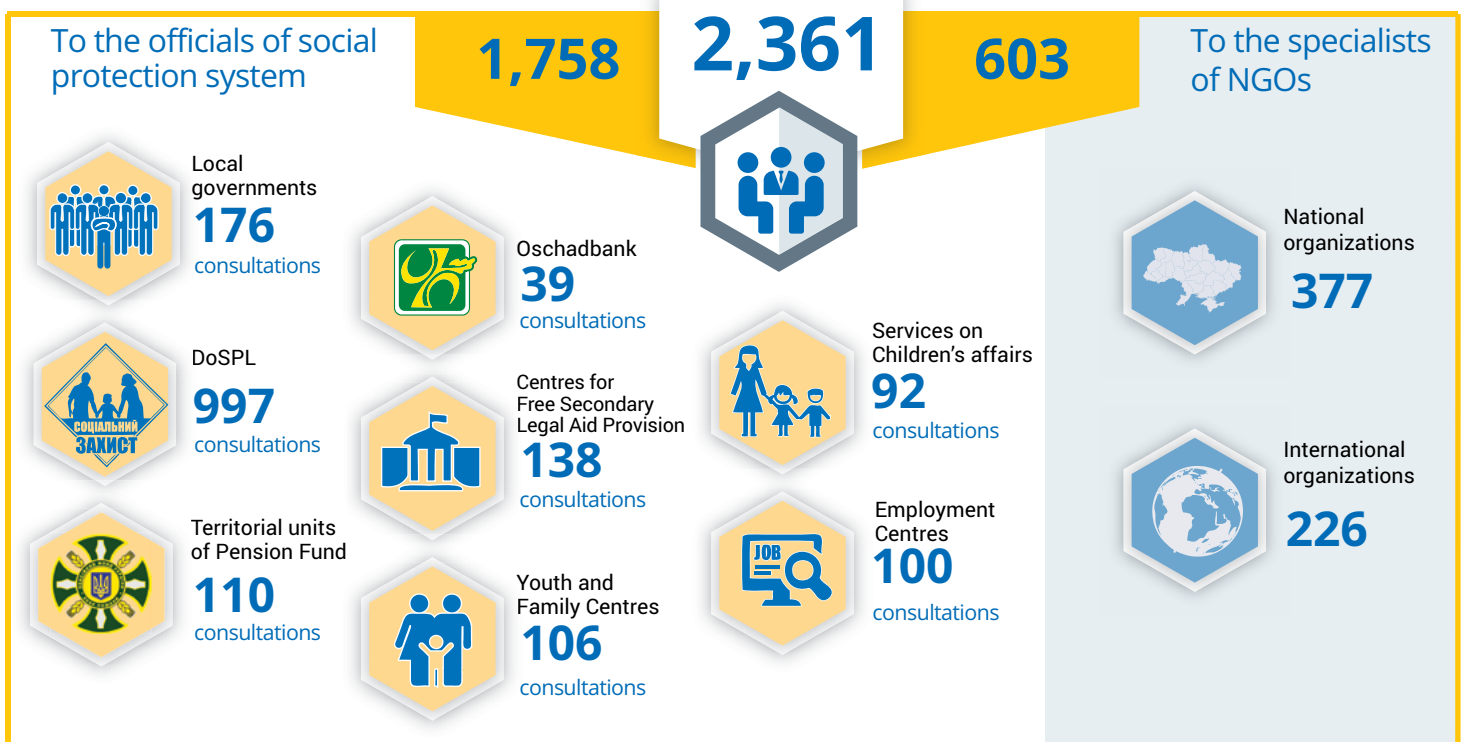
THE LIAISON
OFFICERS (LOs)
PROVIDED



2,804

SERVICES ON
THE PROGRAMME

The LOs provided consultations on social protection of IDPs



LOs ORGANISED AND CONDUCTED



155 letters and explanations, expert opinions



54 monitoring and analysis



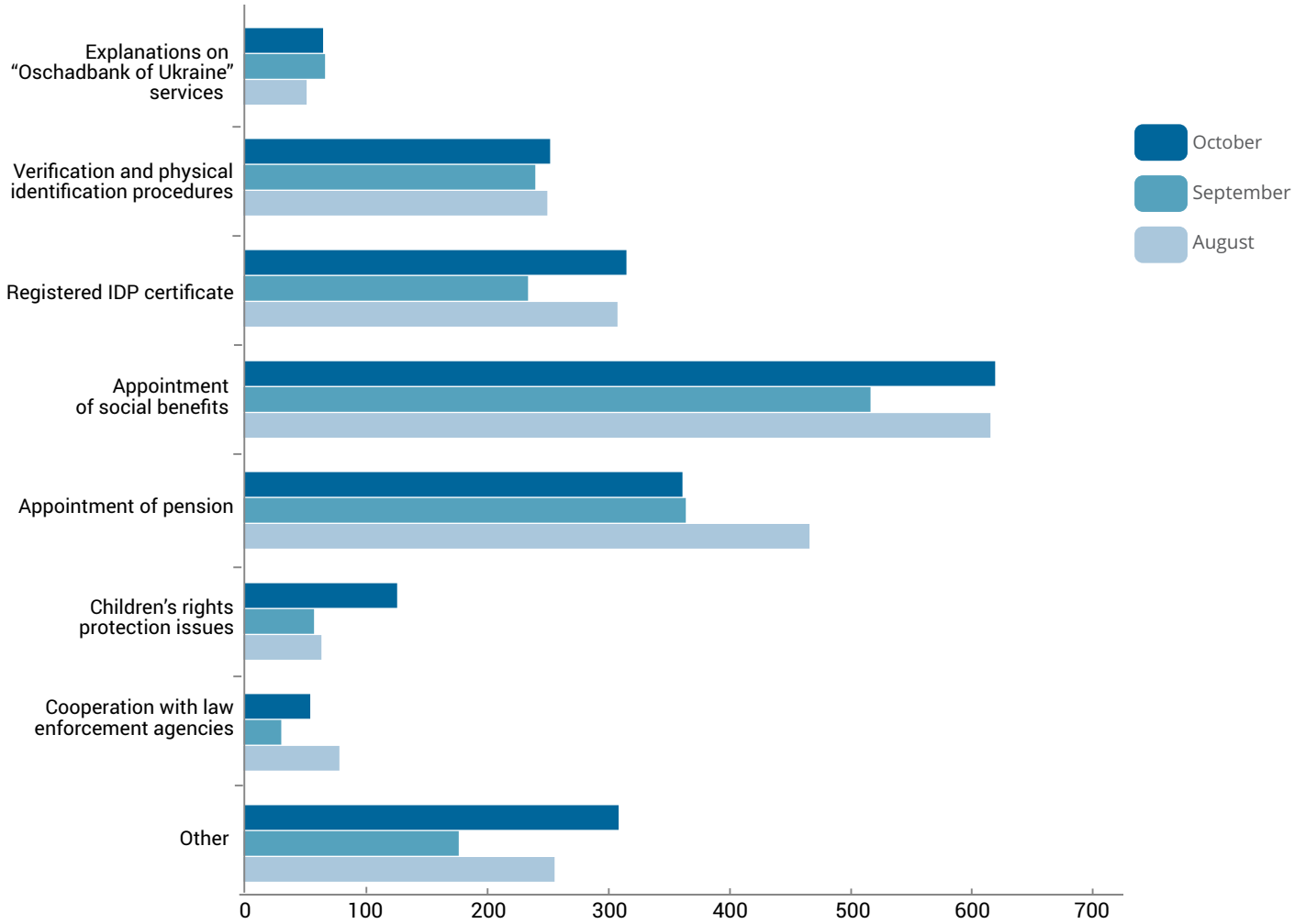
234 events among them



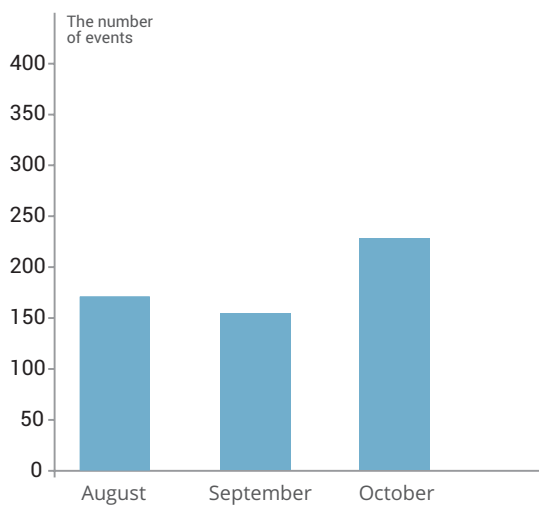
65 training events for **1,524** participants

Consultations distribution by types of questions

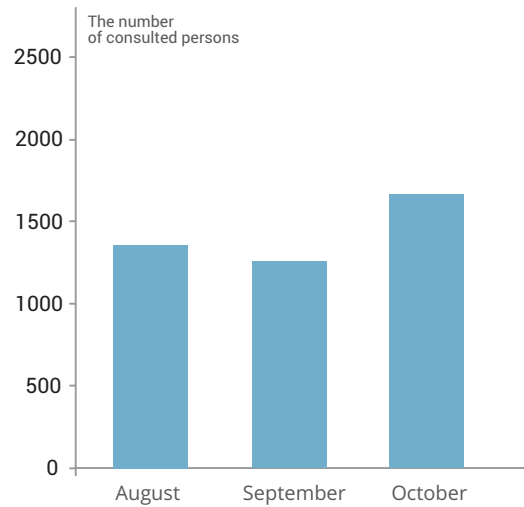
The number of provided consultations by LOs



Events initiated/organized by LOs



Appeals to LOs from experts in social sphere





THE PROGRAMME KEY RESULTS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

The trilateral Memorandum on the Hotline functioning was signed between the representatives of the Ministry for Temporary Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons of Ukraine (MTOT), the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Donbas-SOS and the Liaison Officer's (Radnyk) Programme. The main aim of the hotline is to provide prompt and consultative information to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and persons affected by conflict in the East of Ukraine and the illegal annexation of Crimea, and also to react to isolated-case issues and to identify systematic problems and to correct them. The Memorandum formalizes the framework of a joint case-work process for calls received from Internally Displaced Persons and persons residing in Non-Government Controlled Areas of Ukraine. The signatories of the memorandum will respond more efficiently to human rights violations and to involve state bodies and local self-government bodies to solve the problems of those who require assistance.

There was provided the organizational support to the trip of the Committee on Social Policy, Employment and Pension Provision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (VR) to the city of Bakhmut of the Donetsk region. The delegation included members of the Committee on Social Policy, Employment and Pension Provision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, employees of the Secretariat of the Committee on Social Policy, Employment and Pensions of the VR of Ukraine, representatives of ministries and departments, as well as public activists. The aim of the monitoring visit was to get acquainted with the work of local institutions and departments, which provide the services to retirees and IDPs in Bakhmut, and also to check the situation at the checkpoint "Majorsk" and in the "grey zone" near the contact line (village Novoluganska). On the results of the business travel the Committee on Social Policy, Employment and Pension Provision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine developed and resolved the recommendations.

The meeting with the His Holiness, the Patriarch of Kyiv and All Rus-Ukraine Filaret was held at his residence. The current social and political situation in Ukraine, in particular the issues of protection of the social rights of citizens, who left or stayed in the non-government controlled areas (NGCA), was discussed. One of the major topics discussed by the participants was the pension provision, in particular the pension payment in the NGCA. The Programme representatives asked the Patriarch to encourage the head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to support the draft law No.6692.

The Liaison Officers and Experts of the Programme analysed the *Strategy for Integration of IDPs and implementing long-term solutions to internal displacement for the period until 2020*. On the basis of the analysis of the document, the comments and suggestions on how to improve this strategy were elaborated and provided to MTOT.

According to the pre-developed methodology to monitor social cohesion and conflict sensitivity, the following activities were carried out: 1) interviews with IDPs, representatives of public services and non-governmental organizations working with IDP issues; 2) further processing of the results of this interviews; 3) generalization of the materials received earlier during the monitoring on the relevant indicators; 4) analysis of conflicts between IDP and local communities. The programme experts began the preparation of the report. The presentation of the results is scheduled for November 2017.

The work on the draft Law of Ukraine On the Rehabilitation System in Ukraine was completed with the participation of the Programme experts. The mentioned law provides not only for the construction of a fundamentally new rehabilitation system in accordance with the world-wide rehabilitation standards, but also, determines the features of ensuring the psychological rehabilitation of children affected by armed conflict and civilians survived the captivity, torture, were hostages, and members of the families of such persons, in terms of protecting the rights of civilians affected by military actions in the East of Ukraine. The Draft Law was prepared by a working group formed under the Presidential Administration, and the President of Ukraine has to submit it as a subject of legislative initiative.



ANALYTICAL, MONITORING AND NORM-SETTING ACTIVITIES

In October 2017 the Programme Liaison Officers (LOs) held 54 monitoring and analyses. Particularly, the LOs at the national level together with the international organizations held the monitoring of citizens' inquiries regarding the MTOT order No. 39 about the list and volumes of goods allowed to move across the checkpoints. A joint meeting on this issue with representatives of the Antiterrorist Centre and international organizations is planned.

LOs at the national level prepared a comparative chart on draft amendments to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (CMU) on amendments to the Procedure for the provision of monthly targeted assistance to internally displaced persons to cover residential expenses, including housing and communal services resolved by Resolution of the CMU No.505.

Amendments to the draft law No.7163 On the peculiarities of the state policy of ensuring the state sovereignty of Ukraine over temporarily occupied territories in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions are being prepared in order to extend the MTOT powers in terms of procedures of the entry and exit of persons and the movement of goods.

A letter was sent to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine (MOSP) requesting to post on its official website the algorithm to provide monetary assistance to children, whose interests are protected by the Offices of Children's Service that appeal to the structural subdivisions of the social protection of the population referring to the normative acts.

LOs prepared and sent a letter from the MTOT to the MOSP in order to prevent the violation of the legislation in terms of refusal to charge and pay pensions to persons who have moved from the NGCA to the GCA, where they have now the permanent residence, and to provide the respective explanations to the Pension Fund of Ukraine (PFU). A letter was also sent to the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning proposals for amendments to the resolution of the CMU No.1085.



EDUCATIVE AND INFORMATIVE PROGRAMMES

During October the Programme LOs have been providing the explanations, letters and experts conclusions on the violations of IDPs rights issues and on the proper application of the law norms on the IDP social protection. In total, 155 of such documents were prepared for the reporting period.

Programme LOs organized or participated as trainers in 65 educative meetings with trainings elements regarding the experience sharing (trainings, lectures, seminars, workshops). In total, 1,524 experts participated in such educative meetings. The total number of events in October involving LOs is 234. In particular, LOs at the national level took part in the coordination meeting of representatives of the Kyiv City State Administration and Kyiv Region State Administration; the coordination council of non-governmental organizations dealing with IDP on recent legislative amendments regarding IDP.



MEDIA SUPPORT OF THE ACTIVITY

In October, there were 7 printed references about LOs, 7 stories and 3 television broadcasts with their participation. Moreover, LOs provided 4 commentaries, took part in the round table, a briefing and 3 other media events.