

DanChurchAid: One year in Ukraine



Church in Beryslav, Kherson Oblast, providing people with a warm meal, December 2022.

DanChurchAid, in close cooperation with our humanitarian partners, has reached more than 120,000 people in Ukraine with emergency aid in the past year, and the important work continues in 2023.

February 2023, DanChurchAid Ukraine

DanChurchAid (DCA) has been present in Ukraine since March 2022 shortly after the Russian full-scale invasion, both with emergency relief and longer-term humanitarian efforts. In close cooperation with Ukrainian partner organisations, DCA has supported humanitarian initiatives across the country to help support some of the millions in need of humanitarian assistance.

Major information campaigns about mines and unexploded ordnance have been seen by millions of Ukrainians, helping children and young people in particular to navigate safely in areas where hostilities have taken or still takes place. Flexible financial support to local aid groups have reached thousands of war-affected communities with food, winter support, repairs to water, heat, and energy supplies and psychological first aid. Shelters and community centres accommodating people displaced by the war has been supported to make sure people would be protected against the coldest winter months. People who have lost their homes, family members, jobs and income are given legal support to access legal aid and vital social services. Vulnerable population groups have received monthly cash support, and private individuals have received financial support to heat their homes over the winter so that they can house internally displaced persons.

In total, DCA and partners have supported 121,131 war-affected Ukrainians and this number continues to increase.

In 2023, DCA will have an increased focus on direct support to and capacity strengthening of local emergency aid initiatives for the most vulnerable local communities and internally displaced persons among Ukraine's war-affected population. The support enables local communities to structure and implement tailor-made relief initiatives for their village or local community. By collaborating directly with local initiatives, we ensure that local needs are met quickly, and the financial support gives the initiatives maximum flexibility to cover changing humanitarian needs on the ground. This effort compliments larger humanitarian efforts implemented by DCA and other humanitarian actors and strengthens Ukrainian local social structures which continue to play a large and important role in the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

In addition to this, DCA will continue the work with legal assistance for internally displaced populations in 2023; contribute to the reconstruction work of Ukraine; disseminate information about mines and unexploded ordnance to various population groups, and further develop and implement our demining programme, to help facilitate a safe return for refugees and internally displaced persons back to their homes in Ukraine.



- Projects
- Office locations
- Community-based initiatives

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Map data sources: CGIAR, United Nations Cartographic Section, ESRI, Europa Technologies, FAO, GEBCO, Natural Earth. NOTE: Oblast names are the same as their respective centres except where labelled.

41,468 people have been supported through humanitarian initiatives implemented by 27 local Ukrainian aid groups across

Ukraine, including Mykolaiv, Kherson, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Bucha, Kyiv, Dnipro, Chernihiv, Sumy, Cherkasy, Uzhorod, Ternopil, Vinnytsia, Zakarpattia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Rivne.

The many different initiatives implemented include the following examples:

- **Housing of internally displaced people and families** in disused schools, sports facilities and private homes, including the purchase of beds, bedding, hygiene materials, etc., as well as subsidies for electricity, water and heat, for the accommodation to be habitable despite power cuts and targeted attacks on the Ukrainian infrastructure,
- Internally displaced families, who have lost everything in the war, receive **warm meals, hygiene materials and medicine**,
- Schools are supported to function so that children can continue to receive education despite power outages and targeted attacks on infrastructure,
- **School children** who are internally displaced or whose schools are closed get **access to schoolbooks and other materials** so that they can continue with their school activities and maintain a daily life despite the war,
- **Elderly and vulnerable population groups who cannot themselves move freely can have food and medicine delivered to their homes**,
- Children and adults accessing **psychological first aid** to process war trauma and war-related stress,
- **Winter support** for internally displaced persons, including blankets and subsidies for heating, so they can get through the **cold Ukrainian winter**,
- By offering **quick financial injections to local initiatives**, DCA and local partners are able to meet the urgent needs and at the same time strengthen the local markets and give the groups the opportunity to identify and prioritize their own needs.

DCA has supported local groups all over Ukraine. In the **western** oblasts and **central** regions, these initiatives have primarily met the need for **shelter and psychological first aid** for internally displaced persons, whereas the initiatives in the **northern, southern, and eastern** regions have been characterized by meeting the immediate and very **basic humanitarian needs** such as access to food, heat and medicine. This work continues throughout 2023.

47,122 Ukrainians have actively participated in trainings and **innovative safety campaigns** with information about the **risk of mines** and **unexploded ordnance** and other **explosive remnants of war**.

- The communication campaign "**Watch your step**" is coordinated by our Ukrainian partner organisation **East Europe Foundation**.
- The campaign is delivered through interactive trainings, games, books and billboards, with specific campaigns reaching children and young people.
- **Innovative digital channels**, including YouTube, social media and pop-up events have been used to spread the safety messages widely to the Ukrainian population. One of the most successful Ukrainian hip-hop groups, **TNMK**, has recorded a song with catchy lyrics contributing to teaching especially children and young people to remember the most important advice: "**Do not come closer, do not touch, do not panic**".
- **The messages reach millions of Ukrainians across the country with safety messages on how to maneuver safely in unsafe environments.**
- DCA cooperates with Ukraine's **State Emergency Service**, which includes demining equipment handover, and support for trainings of SES servicemen and volunteers to identify and report explosive ordnance in their local area.
- Further development of digital platform and app in collaboration with the State Emergency Service to report on the discovery of explosives.



Children listening closely to safety messages about mines and explosive ordnances, Kyiv, Ukraine.

25,811 people supported with humanitarian aid through the ACT Alliance and partner Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) in Lviv, Beregovo, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Rivne, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk and beyond.

- ACT Alliance partner HIA were present in Ukraine and positioned to start working immediately after the Russian full-scale invasion to **rapidly support the war-affected population** with humanitarian relief aid.
- In coordinated efforts and support from the ACT Alliance, HIA provides **food, shelter, blankets, cash support, support for health, water, sanitation, hygiene**, etc. to vulnerable population groups and people who are internally displaced in Ukraine. DCA's contribution has supported 25,811 people. This work continues in 2023.



Above: Young woman in a shelter with sandbags as protection from missile attacks in Lviv, Ukraine.
Below: women preparing food at a shelter for internally displaced people, Lviv, Ukraine.

2,051 war-affected Ukrainians have received legal aid from our Ukrainian partner organisation Right to Protection:

DCA in partnership with Ukrainian humanitarian organisation, Right to Protection, who provides **free legal assistance to internally displaced people, and civilians who have lost family members in the war**. People who have lost everything, including family members, their homes, jobs, and often personal possessions, incl. passports and other important documents, can with our help gain access to vital social services. Right to Protection and DCA support people in former Russian-occupied areas of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Chernihiv and Sumy Oblasts in Ukraine. This important work continues and will expand to **Mykolaiv** in 2023.



Oleksandr showing basement he was hiding in during the Russian occupation, and from where his son disappeared. Through legal aid from R2P and DCA, his son was identified and now buried. Ozera, near Bucha, Ukraine.

2,447 people in Bucha, Irpin and Kyiv have received cash support:

- DCA together with ACT Alliance partner Hungarian Interchurch Aid has established an emergency aid project that directly supports internally displaced persons and local populations in areas formerly occupied by Russian forces with **monthly cash amounts so that they can cover their most important expenses**, whether it is food, temporary housing, clothing, medicine, transport, etc. This work continues in 2023.

Partners	Project activities	Number of people reached by DCA:	Where?
HIA, ACT Alliance	Humanitarian emergency aid: Food, health, shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, winter support, cash support and other types of relief support	25,811	Lviv, Beregovo, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Rivne, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk
East Europe Foundation, State Emergency Service	Risks of mine and explosive ordnance campaigns: Education, training and safety campaigns about risks related to mines, unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war	47,122	Training and physical campaigns in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv Countrywide online campaigns
Eleos St. Olga	Shelter for women and children who lost their home in the war	1,232	Hostomel, Bucha
10 local humanitarian groups	Humanitarian emergency aid: Food, health, shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, heating, psychological first aid, education support, winter support and other types of support	14,667	Mykolaiv, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Chernihiv, Uzhorod, Rivne, Sumy, and across regions
HIA	Direct cash support to internally displaced and vulnerable war-affected population groups	2,447	Kyiv Oblast, incl. Bucha and Irpin
17 local humanitarian groups, HIA	Humanitarian emergency aid: Food, health, shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, heating, psychological first aid, education support, winter support and other types of support	24,801	Kherson, Kyiv, Cherkasy, Vinnytsia, Donetsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Chervonograd, Khmelnytskyi, Poltava, Lviv, and across regions
Right to Protection	Legal aid to internally displaced people and civilians who have lost their homes and family members in the war.	2,051	Kharkiv, Kyiv, Sumy, Chernihiv Oblasts
Iskra Voly	Winter support	3,000	Dnipropetrovsk
6 partners + 27 local humanitarian groups	TOTAL	121,131 people	

Thanks to our partners East Europe Foundation, Eleos Ukraine, Hungarian Interchurch Aid, Iskra Voly, Right to Protection, Ukrainian Education Platform and the State Emergency Service of Ukraine:



Thanks to our donors and supporters, which include All We Can, Augustinus Foundation, Bygma Foundation, Danida, Disasters Emergency Committee, Norwegian Church Aid, Save the Children, various other Danish Foundations, and the Danish population:

