



Caritas Kolomyia humanitarian aid distribution point

Caritas Ukraine Emergency Strategy



PROVIDING URGENT, COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIANS AFFECTED AND DISPLACED BY WAR



Caritas Zaporizhzhia delivers food kits and fresh bread to the residents of villages close to the combat zone.

4.2 million

REFUGEES HAVE REGISTERED FOR PROTECTION IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, AND AT LEAST 7.1 MILLION PEOPLE ARE INTERNALLY DISPLACED

OVERVIEW

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, more than 5 million refugees have registered for protection in neighboring countries, and at least 8 million people are internally displaced. The crisis has led to the largest population movement in Europe since World War II. Within Ukraine, homes and infrastructure have suffered massive damage, as well as local markets and people's livelihoods, especially in the east. Uncertainty and instability are pronounced as the situation remains fluid with active hostilities.

The overwhelming majority of the internally displaced people and refugees are women and

children, as many families have had to separate, and many men have joined the military to defend the country. This has caused significant stress, fear and anxiety. Throughout the country, people are facing shortages of food, shelter, water, electricity, heating and transport, as they suffer increasing trauma and loss.

Caritas Ukraine is taking an integrated approach that aims to enable people to meet their needs for safe and dignified accommodation, food, hygiene, and household items, while building social and emotional resilience.

ABOUT CARITAS UKRAINE

Caritas Ukraine operates across the country, from cities to very isolated areas, with years of work in partnership with communities. Since 1992, it has supported social services for the most vulnerable, ensuring home and palliative care, and assistance for children and youth, people with special needs, and labor migrants and their families.

In 2014, after Russia illegally annexed Crimea, and Russian-based separatists seized parts of the Donbas region, an estimated 1.3 million people were forced from their homes. Over the next eight years of conflict, 14,000 people were killed. Caritas Ukraine opened more centers in the east to provide humanitarian assistance, including cash for rent, food and living supplies; shelter repair; and livelihoods support. With the escalation of hostilities in 2022, Caritas offices adjusted their activities to meet the urgent needs of displaced families fleeing the Russian invasion, as well as vulnerable Ukrainians in the affected areas.

Caritas Ukraine recognizes the interconnection of the spiritual, human, social, political, financial, natural and

physical aspects of people's lives. In times of crisis, these holistic elements can be disrupted or destroyed. Caritas Ukraine is committed to Integral Human Development, and to addressing the holistic needs of the individual, always promoting and protecting human dignity.

A registered international charitable foundation, Caritas Ukraine is a network of more than 37 independently registered local offices, with a national office in Kyiv. It is a member organization of Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations operating in more than 200 countries and territories worldwide. Caritas Ukraine provides assistance solely on the basis of need. Its Humanitarian Response Department has sub-departments focusing on Program Development: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning; Material Assistance; Protection; and Logistics. Its Department of Network Identity helps coordinate between the national office and local office directors and to strengthen the capacity of local offices.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Caritas Ukraine carries out holistic, comprehensive programming that responds to urgent, life-saving needs while building the foundations and means for long-term recovery. The organization operates in all oblasts¹ (except occupied Crimea, Donetsk and Luhansk), and serves almost a quarter of the displaced population.

Between February 24 and early August 2022, Caritas Ukraine provided more than 2,25 million humanitarian-related services, including meals, food kits, water and sanitation, medicine, and cash to meet vital needs, and directly served more than 1,45 million people. Caritas Ukraine has provided this assistance throughout the country, under highly volatile and unsafe conditions.

In its emergency efforts, Caritas Ukraine prioritizes the needs of the most vulnerable, including women and children, single parents, large families, elderly people, and people with disabilities.

The following areas will be the focus of this emergency response:

Safe and dignified accommodation: Providing temporary housing in Caritas-run accommodation centers for internally displaced people. In the longer term, Caritas Ukraine will support returnees and community members in the repair and rebuilding of homes and key infrastructure.

Food assistance: Providing hot meals and food kits, including dry staples, to vulnerable people through its many Caritas centers.

1. A type of administrative division often translated as “province.”

Hygiene and living supplies: Equipping displaced families with hygiene kits, which include soap and buckets, as well as with living supplies such as bed linen, clothing and cooking sets.

Medicine: Providing medicines and medical supplies, and assisting medical facilities with resources and equipment.

Cash assistance: Providing cash assistance to help people pay for rent, fuel, gas, food, clothing, medicine and other essentials.

Protection: Providing emotional care and psychosocial assistance to help people heal from and manage a range of emotional hardships, including grief, distress, fear, anxiety and trauma. Specialists are employed to address the following:

- Psychosocial support, crisis counseling and emotional support
- Case management to navigate complex issues
- Child-friendly spaces to provide safe, inviting places for children to engage in range of activities
- Education and trainings on communications and conflict resolution, tailored to tense environments such as transit sites and shelters
- Legal assistance and advocacy related to making decisions and accessing to social services



Caritas Donetsk humanitarian aid distribution point in Dnipro City. People who managed to flee the occupied territories get help here.

Caritas provides safe and dignified temporary housing for internally displaced people who plan to stay in their regions, as well as those who are on their way to the border to seek shelter in Europe.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Market-based approach

A key priority in Caritas Ukraine's emergency responses is to ensure local markets are central to recovery. Caritas Ukraine provides cash assistance where feasible so people can buy goods locally and inject cash into the local economy. In coordination with Ukraine's Cash Working Group, Caritas Ukraine hopes to monitor and assess the availability, quality, diversity and prices of food and other essential items. When cash or other market-based modalities are not feasible or appropriate, Caritas Ukraine provides in-kind assistance. It also monitors the satisfaction of families and adjusts the approach accordingly.

Protection mainstreaming

Caritas Ukraine applies four principles of protection throughout programming that can be assessed and monitored. The principles are that activities should:

- Increase security, dignity and care for people's rights, and not endanger them.
- Provide people with access to assistance according to their needs and without discrimination.
- Help people recover from the physical and psychological consequences of threatened or actual violence.
- Help people assert their rights.

Caritas Ukraine's feedback, complaints and response mechanism includes an internal hotline operated independently of program teams, with an established protocol for handling sensitive and non-sensitive feedback.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Caritas centers involved in humanitarian response to the crisis caused by the war in Ukraine



Caritas Ukraine's network includes more than 37 local offices (including those supporting the Caritas Internationalis Emergency Appeal) and about 450 parishes, covering all accessible areas of the country. Given the rapidly changing context, it has an agile categorization system to illustrate the level and impact of conflict in each location, with priorities for assistance and target groups. These categories are defined as follows:

Front-line conflict areas

- Oblasts: Dnipro, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk and Zaporizhzia, Mykolaiv
- Target group: Individuals who cannot evacuate

Newly liberated areas

- Oblasts: Chernihiv, Kyiv and Sumy
- Target group: Vulnerable returnees

Transit areas

- Oblasts: Dnipro, Khmelnytskyi, Odesa, Poltava and Zaporizhzia
- Target groups: Vulnerable internally displaced people

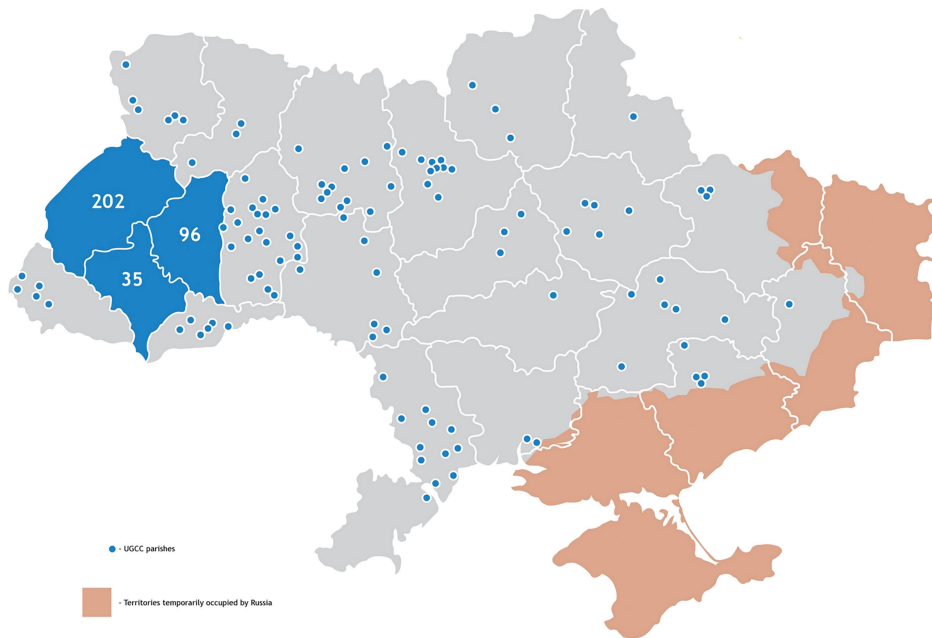
Host communities

- Host communities in all other oblasts
- Target groups: Vulnerable IDPs and host families

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

UGCC parishes involved in humanitarian response to the crisis caused by the war in Ukraine

From Feb 24 thru Aug 22 charities of Caritas Ukraine network provided **2 246 247** services for beneficiaries, including:



APPROACHES IN THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM

The table details Caritas Ukraine's short- and medium-term approaches to addressing needs.

Objectives	Interventions and modalities	Objectives	Interventions and modalities
Food and living supplies	Emergency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-kind food parcels and drinking water In-kind hygiene supplies One-time multi-purpose cash during early displacement Linkages to information and referrals to services 	Logistics and Infrastructure	Emergency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation of displaced people to collective shelters and support services Cross-border procurement of food and hygiene items Cross-country delivery of humanitarian cargo
	Medium term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly multi-purpose cash Linkages to accommodation support 		Medium term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihoods in the form of cash for work, agricultural inputs support and job creation grants Build capacity of local organizations to procure goods and manage logistics
	Longer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for livelihood activities Linkages to government social services 		Longer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihoods in the form of vocational training and business development grants Social entrepreneurship support: Product processing or packaging, window production, and heating material production
Safe and dignified accommodation	Emergency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caritas-run collective shelters Living supply kits Linkages to basic needs assistance (food, meals, hygiene, multi-purpose cash); information and referrals to services 	Protection	Emergency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychosocial support Child-friendly spaces Case management and crisis counseling Conflict sensitivity and conflict mitigation Linkages: Referrals services for specialized mental health and gender-based violence
	Medium term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency shelter kits Cash assistance for host families Cash assistance for rent Cash grants for light and medium repairs Linkages: Referrals to services, psychosocial support, social integration within community 		Medium and longer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scaling up of all emergency activities Integration of case management into cash and shelter assistance Social cohesion activities integrated into all interventions; focus on peacebuilding
	Longer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition to / sustained stay in individual accommodation Expansion of stocks for adequate, separate accommodation to move families from collective shelters Linkages: Referrals to services, psychosocial support, social integration within community 		Cross-cutting: Protection main-streaming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and referrals at offices, collective shelters, distribution points and transit areas Psychological first aid and light psychosocial support Mapping and referral standard operating procedures Feedback, complaints and response mechanisms Safeguarding training across the network

LONG-TERM VISION

Caritas Ukraine will support comprehensive assistance and recovery across Ukraine, with a focus on care for conflicted-affected children, counseling and psychosocial support, livelihoods restoration, housing repair and long-term solutions, and social cohesion. Caritas Ukraine's long-term programming will be designed to respond to ongoing needs based on organizational strengths, with planning for the possibility of different scenarios.

CARITAS UKRAINE

2,25 million

HUMANITARIAN-RELATED SERVICES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY CARITAS UKRAINE, INCLUDING MEALS, FOOD KITS, WATER AND SANITATION, MEDICINE, AND CASH TO MEET VITAL NEEDS.

1,45 million

OF THE MOST VULNERABLE HAVE BEEN REACHED, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, SINGLE PARENTS, LARGE FAMILIES, ELDERLY PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.



Workers of Caritas Zaporizhzhia brought winter heating supplies to the villages close to the combat zone. Those villages no longer have water, natural gas or electricity.



Caritas Poltava distributes hot meals.



Caritas Mariupol Children's Center. IDP children hand-crafted the dolls themselves.



Caritas Kolomyia volunteers



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