

Ukraine Conflict | ACT Appeal UKR221

Name of ACT member: Hungarian Interchurch Aid

This report is issued every Monday, consolidated by ACT Secretariat in collaboration with ACT members.

Date: 25 October 2022

Highlights

Please list 5 key points that you want to communicate to ACT Alliance network

- After 6 months of humanitarian response carried out by HIA not only in Ukraine but in Hungary as well, and before the **revision of future programming, a needs assessment was carried out in Hungary** among refugees. The summary **enclosed in Annex 1.**, conducted in the summer, in which refugees' major demographic characteristics, health and mental well-being status, family structure, the support they received, and income-revenue information have been summarized. The outcomes will determine the following months' humanitarian response.
- Going further, as **Kharkiv** has been partially liberated, HIA's senior staff visited the region at the end of September to **assess the security environment** and gain greater insight into heating and power supply, job opportunities and care, and residential moves. They also visited locations like Saltivka, Zolochiv, Pervomaysky to **map up programming** based on their initial findings. **Possible partners** in the region were also **contacted**, and project ideas and their allocation were discussed. *Operational and security findings are presented in the Situation Overview section below.*
- **In addition** to this assessment and to understand profoundly the needs of the people living in the **Kharkiv region, a rapid assessment** - methodologically based on telephone and face-to-face interviews - **was carried out** by one of the partner organizations of HIA between 8-10 October. The assessment investigates the **preparedness of the respondents for the upcoming 6-month winter period** by examining a non-representative sample of the residents of the Kharkiv region. HIA **also wished to explore the support needs the respondents indicated for the next 2-3 months.** With these objectives in mind, the analysis had four main themes:
 - current heating appliances respondents possess and heating appliances and winterization they need for the upcoming winter;
 - type of fuel currently in stock estimated duration;
 - current reserves of non-perishable food, detergents, toiletries, and other hygiene products; estimated time;
 - needs - listed in detail - of the respondents for the next 2 to 3 months, with a focus on non-perishable foods, detergents, toiletries, other hygiene products, winter clothing, household equipment, and other household items.

In addition, the survey covered basic sociodemographic characteristics, such as the respondent's municipal residence, household status, gender, age. **A summary** of the assessment is **enclosed in Annex 2.**

- **HIA has reached 167,078 people so far**, providing access to basic humanitarian aid, protection activities and other life-saving services both in Ukraine and in Hungary.

Situation Overview

Please give a short overview of the overall situation (security, number of IPDs/Refugees, economic) in the countries where you are responding

Since the beginning of hostilities, nearly one-third of Ukrainians have been forced from their homes. As of today, over 7.7 million refugees from Ukraine are present across Europe. Over 4.3 million refugees from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes. According to the UNHCR figures, there were 6,941,852 returnees in Ukraine.

Missiles hit multiple Ukrainian cities starting on 10 October, including Kyiv, Lviv, Ternopil and Dnipro, targeting critical infrastructure, residential buildings, public transport, water supply and power networks, causing blackouts in many parts of the country.

HIA security assessment results on Kharkiv and NLA are the followings

The city of Kharkiv is located about 25-30 km from the Russian border, which means that the city is inside the range of artillery cannons. Has no street lighting and there are very few shops, restaurants and cafes. There are 3-4 working hotels in the town. The city is constantly hit by artillery and rockets. Attacks, with air raid sirens going off at least four times a day. The sirens do not sound as audible as in Lviv or Kyiv, therefore it is worth using the TRIVOKA app. There is a concrete decelerator in every 500 metres or so in the city, which is not illuminated in the evening, thus, driving in the evening is not recommended unless necessary. Petrol and diesel are available in the town at the same prices as nationally. The GPS signal repeatedly gives a faulty signal, it is possible that the signal is being jammed.

Zolochiv and NLA (newly liberated area)

There are military checkpoints on the roads leading out of the city, HIA did not encounter any significant problems. All staff must carry a copy of the organization's registration. Settlements close to Russia are affected on a daily basis by artillery and rocket attacks. Most of the civilian infrastructure is military objects, so they should be avoided, or it is worth minimizing the time spent there.

Most newly liberated areas are full of mines and improvised explosive devices. Most settlements are not entirely (or only partially) de-mined, so it is extremely dangerous to stay there. The challenges range from multiple mine accidents to mined bridges, from opening fire to medical personnel evacuating patients to the Pechenizkiy dam attacks.

Hundreds of explosives and ERW are destroyed every day by EOD personnel in the Kharkiv oblast, including banned anti-personnel mines. In total, disaster management has searched approximately 110 kilometres of roads in the reclaimed areas of the county and published a map of safe routes. INSO has already recorded several mine incidents in the newly recaptured areas, and the overall security situation in the newly liberated areas remains tense.

The repeated attacks on the Pechenizkiy dam are a cause of concern since they could lead to catastrophic flooding downstream. In addition, it could trigger mass evacuation of residents in the area. The National Police is calling on residents to wait before returning to Malynivka, Chkalovske and Pechenihy communities of Chuhuiv district, as large areas of these communities are still under demining. The Ukrainian National Guard, the Special Operations Forces and the Ukrainian Security Service have been deployed in the areas in the late spring to blow up bridges in the Kharkiv region, including the Rubizhny and Stari-Saltiv bridges to slow down the Russian Forces' advance on Severodonetsk and Lyschansk, to protect Kyiv. The dam across the reservoir is also impassable by vehicles. As all three bridges across the Pechenihy reservoir were damaged, Vovchansk can only be reached on foot from Kharkiv.

The route via Starytsia and Ternova is not advisable, as these settlements are regularly hit by artillery fire and rocket attacks. According to residents, travelling through Hontarivka is also not recommended, as the area is wooded and full of mines.

As a consequence of large-scale missile attacks on industrial and energy centres of Ukraine, the number of IDPs in *Cherkasy and Poltava oblasts* from the Kharkiv, Kyiv, Dnipropetrovs, and Zaporizhzhia regions is increasing. Cherkasy region is currently a safe region for IDPs who arrive in search of heated housing to live during the winter period. The region is not an energy or transport centre of the region.

Appeal Financing

Please fill out information on Funds Received. ACT Secretariat will fill out the information on Pledges.

Funds Received

Outside the Appeal

- EUR 5,1 million from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary Helps Agency and private donors, companies through HIA's fundraising campaign in Hungary
- In kind donation in the value of EUR 1,12 million (food, NFI and other aid items)
- Christian Aid: 2,65 million GBP
- World Vision International: 837 K USD
- Dan Church Aid: 336 K USD

Inside the Appeal

- Act Church of Sweden: 5,552 million SEK
- Dan Church Aid: 988 K EUR
- Kerk In Actie: 1,5 million EUR
- Finn Church Aid: 1 million USD
- Act for Peace: 602 K USD

Total ACT Response

Please provide topline information of your current response such as number of people already reached indicating the areas, planned interventions, type of assistance. For example: HIA provided hygiene kits in Lviv, Beregovo, and Budapest for 500 persons

Please provide details on all activities (ACT Appeal and non-appeal funded) for ACT members information about our Total ACT response.

The key actions carried out by HIA and its local partners on **Weeks 41-42**:

Kyiv Office has carried on with managing the **construction of a modular kindergarten** in the village of Zagaltsy. The kindergarten is designed for 90 children. The groundwork has been completed, and currently selection of suppliers for the purchase of equipment is underway. Also, in this settlement, the **groundworks for school reconstruction and health centre** have already started. To support the **online education** and **catching up** process of the Ukrainian children, the Office is engaged with the procurement of **350 laptops for the schools** in Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia regions. Also, in the Kyiv region, HIA is assessing the feasibility of **winterization work** in private homes to give essential help to those who have been under occupation. In addition, the Office continues negotiations with shelters to equip them with furniture, generators or air conditioners. Regarding protection activity, in the past few weeks, project teams were selected, and their programs were developed for **performing two psychosocial support (PSS) projects** in the Kyiv region and in Kropivnitsky. The Office is actively involved in **MPCA programs in close collaboration with Lviv Office**; regions and villages most in need have been identified, and the program soon starts. HIA received funds from the European Food Bank Federation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary for food aid distribution; the Office is actively contributing to implementing this **in-kind**

support delivery by selecting partner NGOs for food distribution in the region. Given the current security environment in Kyiv oblast, organizational upscale and programme planning and execution are difficult and frequently halted.

After completing MPCA program successfully and having received funds from donor organizations for continuation, *Lviv Office* carries on **registering people for cash distribution** to assist them in covering their most basic needs and giving them a helping hand with winter coming. Now **Kyiv team has joined**, and taking the security environment into account, the work probably starts this month. The second most important leg in the programming activity of the Office is the **flexible small grant (FSG)**. This grass-roots initiative is an instrument aimed at assisting organizations, communities and congregations working with internally displaced people and those who are deprived by war. From specialized organizations helping a particularly disadvantaged minority to local NGOs providing food and essential relief items to those in need, the organizations chosen by the Office are doing a tremendous job in their field. Now **12 new FSGs were signed** to support these organizations - among others - to equip shelters with beds, provide MHPSS, distribute food aid or meal, support education activities, and organize camps for children.

Beregovo Office made huge progress in managing the **shelter reconstruction in Vynohradiv**, which will accommodate approximately 150 people on two floors. Works include not only reinforcing crumbling walls and replacing plumbing, heating and electrical systems but also renovating rooms, kitchens and sanitary facilities. **The provision fuel wood** for the most vulnerable people in Zakarpattia in cooperation with regional councils is one of the recurrent aid projects of the Office with winter approaching. Agreements were signed, currently, the Office is working on delivery plans. During the above-mentioned reporting period, HIA **delivered aid to 19 shelters and one church** (Ukrainian Evangelical Reformed Church) in Svalyava city that serves as a humanitarian aid distribution point. Thanks to the **immediate response** of the Office, two shelters in Gorinchivska and Bilkivska, where **69 mothers and children** are accommodated, **received essential aid**. In Hust, Mukachevo, Beregovo regions 2,008 people were assisted by 7 metric tons of aid. There are **negotiations on building bomb shelters** for education facilities following Ukrainian regulations.

Despite severe rocket and artillery attacks on Ukraine's energy and industrial centres in the past few weeks, HIA's local implementing partner in **Cherkasy and Poltava Oblasts** distributed 129 sets of **food and WASH kits** in Cherkasy, Zolotonosha, Buky and Ivanky settlements. During the reporting period, the League continued its protection activities by conducting **PSS sessions** for 272 people; among them 12 were PwD, and provided **legal counselling** services for 263 people. The services were performed in in-person, group and on-line forms.

In **Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast**, provision of **PSS** was conducted for IDPs by Etalon, reaching out 115 children and 33 adults in Bogorodchany, Verkhovyna, Kalush and Nadvirna settlements. **Shelter reconstruction** in Krasnoillia is underway, the works include the demolition and renovation of the entrance porch, repairing staircase, repairing the interior, replacement of the door blocks, replacement of the heating of the furnace, carrying out of internal electrical works and partial facade insulation.

Despite air strikes and attacks in recent weeks, local implementing partners in **Zaporizhzhia and Dnipro** are registering new beneficiaries and contacting suppliers for composing future aid and WASH distribution parcels.

In Hungary, HIA assisted 327 refugees with **in-kind support** (distribution of food, non-food items (clothing, medicines), and hygiene items). In Kaposvár, two sports teams got full **medical support** from

the basic to ophthalmology. During the reported period, 1538 people were provided with **accommodation** in various hotels and institutions, 736 of them also received warm meals. In BOK Arena, 309 people were assisted. Regarding protection activity, HIA supported 785 refugees in the last two weeks in 5 locations. 273 people benefited from **information services** in person. **Interpreting** is important, especially in the case of personal services; HIA colleagues interpreted 91 times during the reporting period. In addition, HIA continued the **provision of psychosocial support** in Debrecen, where development activities were implemented in a **roma refugee camp**. HIA runs **education project** in the Piarista Gymnasium and reached 195 refugee children in the last two weeks. **Hungarian language learning lessons** are popular among children and adults; more than 150 people visited the after-school online and offline sessions. There were 40 participants in the sports clubs, and other 15 children (ages 12-17) participated in the **development activities**.

Thus far these efforts have reached **167,078** people since the beginning of the crisis, providing emergency access to basic food and non-food items, information, shelter, WASH and health support, protection and links to transportation services.

ACT Appeal Please provide a programme update under the relevant sectors below

Implementing partner	Country	In country site	Sector	Achieved targets In reporting period (#beneficiaries <u>direct/indirect</u>)	Cumulative Achieved targets (#beneficiaries <u>direct/indirect</u>)	Within appeal /outside of appeal
HIA	Ukraine		FSL	2137	85989	50%-50%
HIA	Ukraine		WSH	129	63562	50%-50%
HIA	Ukraine		H&N	0	727	outside
HIA	Ukraine		Shelter+NFI	0/0	306/3344	outside
HIA	Ukraine		Protection	683	11802	50%-50%
HIA	Ukraine		Livelihood	0	345	outside
HIA	Hungary		FSL	1120	19507	50%-50%
HIA	Hungary		Shelter+NFI	1538/192	20237/1780	outside
HIA	Hungary		WSH	31	6357	50%-50%
HIA	Hungary		Protection	649	10424	50%-50%
HIA	Hungary		Logistics	0	950	outside
HIA	Hungary		Education	345	345	100%

*People received both food and hygienic support in Ukraine: 129

FSL – Food Security & Livelihoods

WSH – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

C/FP – Child/Family Protection – incl. into Protection

H&N – Health & Nutrition

SitRep completed by (name & job title):

Eszter Sebők, project manager