



3,143

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Context

The war in Ukraine is having a devastating impact on the civilian population and particularly on children which were already under great stress from years of tension.

Due to Russia's full-scale invasion since 24 February 2022, about 7 million people were forced to leave their homes and move to the West of Ukraine, of which about 5 million are children. And near 9 million people left Ukraine in search of security and protection in other countries.

The war is heavily violating children's rights, including the right to life, survival and development; the rights to health, safety, protection and education.

Intervention map



General overview

Terre des hommes (Tdh) has been providing various services to children, young people and their families in the East of Ukraine since 2015. Before the full-scale invasion, we implemented a wide range of projects with a strong focus on psychosocial support, as well as on skill development and access to innovation, youth entrepreneurship, child participation, and providing individual support to mine victims.

After 24 February 2022, due to the risk of occupation and constant shelling in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, Tdh Ukraine teams were forced to leave their homes and look for a safer place in the West of the country or abroad.

In June 2022, Tdh launched an emergency response project to support internally displaced families with children as well as the local host communities in five regions – Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Transcarpathia and Chernivtsi oblasts. Within this project, we provide humanitarian aid, child protection services and psychosocial support.

Our thematic priorities



Humanitarian aid for internally displaced families: We improve the wellbeing of internally displaced children and their families by equipping accommodation centres and covering their urgent needs such as food, hygiene products and school kits.



Child protection: We strengthen the child protection system, improve provision of social services and prevent risky situations by mobilising communities and training social workers, teachers and other professionals in this field.



Psychosocial support: To help children and their families overcome stress and trauma, we set up child-friendly spaces and provide psychosocial support through movements, games, sports and creativity group activities. The activities are organised by local partners trained by Tdh or by our mobile teams.

Results in 2022

Humanitarian aid

- In total, 55,315 people (including 30 284 children) were supported by Tdh in 2022.
- 12,493 families received humanitarian aid in kind of food, hygiene, children and school kits.
- 30 centers for internally displaced people in Ivano-Frankivsk and Khmelnytskyi oblasts were supported and equipped.
- We supported the construction, renovation and/or equipping of bomb shelters in 28 educational institutions.

Child protection

- 3,135 people received social services from social workers trained and supported by Tdh.
- 20 social workers were trained and supported by Tdh to provide assistance to families.

Highlight project

Within the project "SMILE – Support for children and their families during Migration and Integration in new Local Environments", Tdh trained and employed 20 specialists in 19 communities in Ivano-Frankivsk oblast.

Liubov Gerasymiuk is one of those who changed her field of work to help families with children during the difficult situation in the country. *"I decided to take the Terre des hommes training, as it was a very good project, and I tried my hand at it. I want to help people,"* says Liubov.

Almost everyone who came to the social worker for help needed counseling and referral services. Liubov usually refers people to different institutions and organisations: the administrative service center, humanitarian funds, inclusive resource centers, hospitals, etc.

During the six months of her work, Liubov became a support for many families and in some situations – a friend. Sometimes it was enough to talk to a person by phone when it was needed. To listen, to give advice, to calm.

In the SMILE project, 61 families received comprehensive individual support, and 3,200 adults and children received social services.

The next step is to create a position of social work specialist in the communities, so that they can help protect the most vulnerable families with children.

Outlook

Tdh will continue to implement programmes providing psychosocial support to children and families and supporting social service institutions and schools in the West of Ukraine, as well as plans to expand its programmes together with partners in the East of the country, which is more affected by the war.

Psychosocial support

- 3,143 children and young people received psychosocial support.
- 131 specialists were trained in "Movement, games, sports and creativity" (MGSC) methodology by Tdh;
- 18 child-friendly spaces were established in five oblasts in the West of Ukraine (Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytskyi, Zakarpattia, Ternopil and Chernivtsi).
- 72 schools received MGSC kits in 5 oblasts on the West of Ukraine.
- 29 teachers and 91 students from 3 displaced educational institutions were trained in psychological first aid methodology.



"My role as a social worker is to help families in difficult life circumstances, internally displaced people who have moved due to wartime."

Liubov Gerasymiuk, social worker

Main donors

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Terre des hommes (Tdh) is the leading Swiss organisation for children's aid. Each year, we provide direct and indirect assistance to over four million children and their families in more than 30 countries through our health, protection and emergency relief programmes.



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