



**650**

specialists were trained in "Movement, Games, Sports and Creativity" methodology in 2023

**47,000**

children and young people benefited from psychosocial support in 2023

**2700**

children received social services from social workers trained and supported by Tdh in 2023

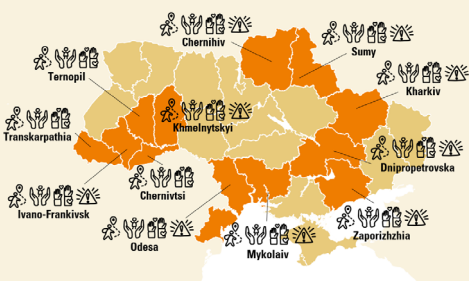
## Context

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, more than 2 million Ukrainian children have fled the country, while over 1 million are internally displaced, facing threats like abduction, abuse, and exploitation. Additionally, the conflict has led to distress and trauma among children, with an estimated 1.5 million at risk of mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.

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, Tdh 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 provision of individual support to mine victims.

After the beginning of the full-scale invasion in Ukraine and move from Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts to Ivano-Frankivsk oblast in June 2022, Tdh resumed its support to internally displaced families with children as well as local host communities together with partners in 12 regions – Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Transcarpathia, Chernivtsi, Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Odesa and Mykolaiv oblasts. Through various projects, 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 centers, addressing their specific needs related to the winter period and providing cash assistance for families to cover basic needs.



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



**Psychosocial support:** To help children and their families overcome stress and trauma, psychosocial support is provided through child-friendly spaces, learning spaces and mobile teams, based on Tdh methodologies. Positive parenting sessions are as well provided. The group activities are organized by local partners trained by Tdh or by Tdh mobile teams.

## Our impact in 2023

In total, 53,000 people (including 50,000 children) were supported by Tdh and its partners in 2023.

### Psychosocial support

- 47,000 children and young people received psychosocial support.
- 650 specialists were trained in “Movement, games, sports and creativity” (MGSC) methodology by Tdh.
- 169 child-friendly spaces and 30 learning spaces were established.
- 2,400 parents attended positive parenting sessions.

## Highlight project: Protection of internally displaced families

Nelli and her family have been displaced for almost two years and a half. They moved from Kyiv to a small town in the West of Ukraine at the beginning of the full-scale war, and earlier in 2014 – from Luhansk to Kyiv. “We moved to Kopychyntsi in 2022. People here are very friendly, they found a house for us, settled us in, and didn’t charge us anything, we only pay for utilities,” – Nelli shares her story.

Natalia, a case manager of the local NGO “Posmishka UA”, helped the family with the arrangement of their new home. Nelli recalls how it all started when they moved in: “We had no beds, no desks for the children to study at. So it was thanks to Natalia that we got beds, bedding and desks.” Thanks to the creation of appropriate conditions, her son Yevhen and niece Nastya were able to study at a local school, where they found new friends and hobbies. Also, with the support of Natalia, Nastya attended hippotherapy that helped her overcome stress caused by the war-related changes.

“My role as a case manager is to be an intermediary between the family, the child, government agencies and charitable organisations to solve their domestic and other issues.” Natalia started helping the family in June 2023. “I get the most satisfaction in my work when I see the result – when a child smiles, when I see how confident and happy a mother becomes, and I realize that my work is not in vain.”

Natalia is one of the 16 professionals that were trained and employed by Tdh in four oblasts in the West of Ukraine: Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, and Zakarpattia, within the project “Courage in the palms of hands – Strengthening the protection of internally displaced children”.

During the project, about 800 families received comprehensive individualized support, and 2,700 children received the necessary social services.

## Outlook

Tdh will continue to implement programmes providing psychosocial support to children and families and supporting social service institutions and schools in 12 oblasts of Ukraine, as well as launch impactful programmes on developing resilience, such as Resilience Innovation Facilities (RIFs) in the West of the country.

### Humanitarian aid

- 31 centers for internally displaced people were supported and equipped.
- The families of 2,250 children received multipurpose cash assistance.

### Child protection

- 2,700 children received social services from social workers trained and supported by Tdh.
- 104 social workers were trained and supported by Tdh to provide assistance to families.



*“For a while, I thought that everything could end very quickly. Then I couldn’t see anything positive, but thanks to the project’s specialists and a psychologist, I now have hope that everything will be fine. I think that the children will have a bright future and this country will too.”*

Nelli, an internally displaced mother

## Main donors

German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Swiss Solidarity, Crisis and Support Center of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, Xunta de Galicia, Banco Santander, European Union.

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As the leading Swiss child rights organisation, created in 1960, Terre des hommes stands together with children to uphold their rights, protect their lives and improve their well-being. In 2023, we supported over 5.2 million children and members of their communities in more than 30 countries.



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