



UHF Ukraine Humanitarian Fund



Sweden Sverige



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Swiss Confederation



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Danish



novo nordisk fonden
Benefiting people and society

Ole Kirk's Fond



Newsletter: October 2022 | [View this email in your browser](#)



© DRC Ukraine, Kyiv, October 2022

I am pleased to be writing to you within the first month of my tenure taking the opportunity to introduce myself as Danish Refugee Council's (DRC) new Country Director in Ukraine. It is a privilege to represent our organisation – and in particular so, at this very difficult moment in time where joint efforts are critical to meet the needs of people affected by this humanitarian crisis.

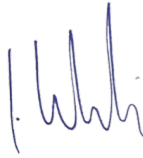
Over the past two and half years, I was leading the Danish Refugee Council's office in Sudan implementing both humanitarian programming and durable solutions focused initiatives. I am truly impressed by the accomplishments of our team here over the past years and months - knowing not least that so many are deeply affected both personally and professionally by the ongoing crisis in and around Ukraine.

With many challenges ahead, I am excited to build upon our achievements as we continue to provide lifesaving protection, legal aid, economic recovery, shelter, and other assistance

to meet basic needs - all the while ensuring that people are safer through explosive ordnance risk education activities and the removal of explosive remnants of war.

Our efforts in the days ahead include the continued operational adaptation to ensure that we in DRC can deliver the best possible and most relevant assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Julian Zakrzewski
Country Director



Protection



©DRC Ukraine, Arena Lviv, Lviv, Lviv Oblast, September 2022, Pavlo Kutana

Since 24 February 2022, DRC Ukraine has delivered emergency aid to people affected by the war in Ukraine. Among those who need support the most and are often overlooked are elderly people. Due to low income, they often cannot afford purchasing the items essential for covering their protection needs.

Ihor is 75 years old, from Sievierodonetsk, Luhansk Oblast. After two months of intense shelling in his hometown, he fled to the western part of the country. In April, Ihor found

shelter in one of the biggest collective centers located in Lviv.

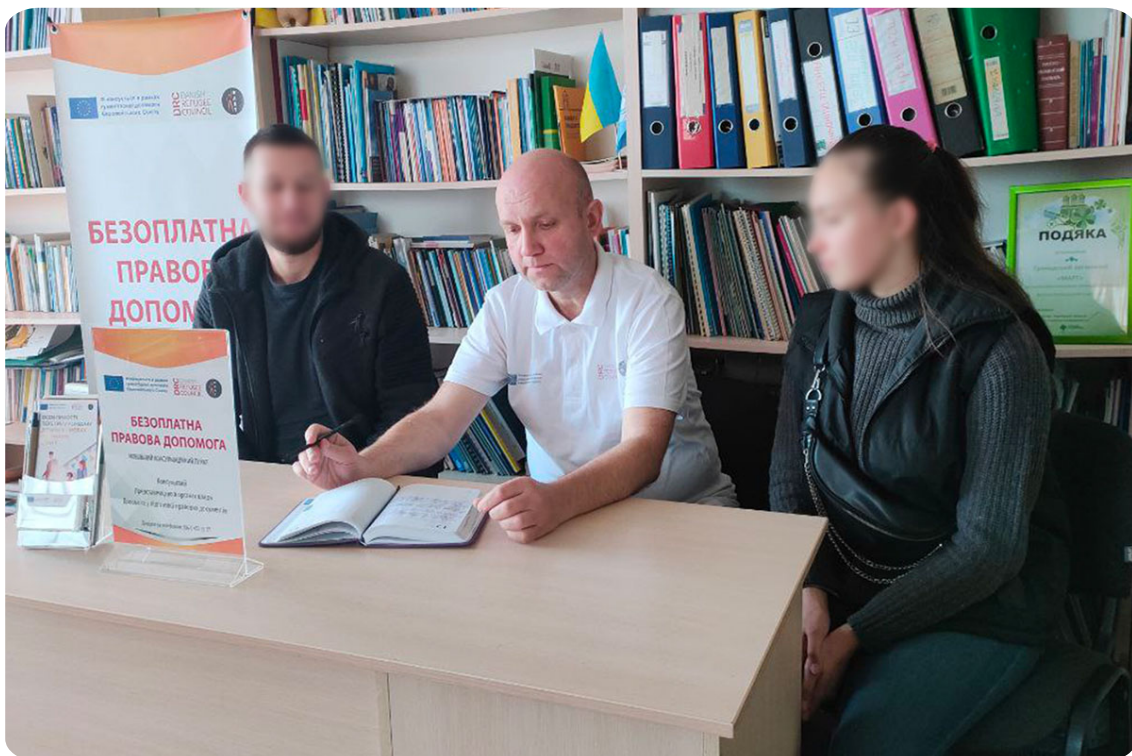
During the evacuation, Ihor lost contact with his relatives and has not been able to find them ever since he left Sievierodonetsk, as the city is now a non-government-controlled area. In addition to all the distress related to the lost contact with the family, Ihor's glasses broke. Without them, he can hardly see anything and cannot read at all. With the help of the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, DRC was able to support Ihor with a grant to purchase a new pair of glasses.

“DRC’s assistance has been of great help to me. The price of the glasses exceeds the amount of my monthly income and I would not be able to purchase them on my own.” – said Ihor.

By Ivanna Tkachuk, DRC Protection assistant, Chernivtsi



Protection: Legal Assistance



©DRC Ukraine, NGO "MART", Chernihiv, Chernihiv Oblast,
September 2022, Dmytro Naumenko

Andriy and Oksana are from Kharkiv. Oksana was pregnant when they were forced to relocate to Kremenchuk, Poltava Oblast, due to heavy shelling. Their daughter was born in May 2022, and shortly after Kremenchuk city suffered a series of rocket and bomb attacks, once more forcing the family to move to Chernihiv.

Here, the local authorities refused to register them all and issuance a certificate proving they were internally displaced and therefore entitled to financial aid. The reason was that

Andriy and Oksana did not have a registered place of residence in Kharkiv, and therefore there were no immediate legal grounds for issuing certificates.

The family turned to the local NGO 'MART', a partner of DRC for legal assistance. MART's lawyer helped Andriy and Oksana to collect all the necessary documents and submit them to the relevant state authorities to receive IDP status. At the beginning of October 2022, the family received their certificates and is now able to apply for financial assistance from the state.

DRC's partnership with MART is made possible through funds from the European Union through its Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations.

*Names changed for confidentiality purposes.

By Oleksandr Zhylynskyi, NGO MART lawyer, Chernihiv



Capacity Building



© DRC Ukraine, Lviv, Lviv Oblast, August 2022, Olena Vysokolian

DRC implements an integrated emergency response in Ukraine by engaging and strengthening local civil society organisations. Besides directly supporting the organisations in addressing immediate needs of conflict-affected people, DRC helps developing their institutional and organisational capacity.

In August 2022, DRC started mentorship services aimed at supporting personnel of civil society organisations assisting people in need. Mentorship support is focused on

enhancing the professional skills and knowledge of staff members, increasing their performance level, and improving attitudes toward tackling strategic and operational challenges.

Today, DRC provides mentorship support services to 15 civil society organisations delivering humanitarian aid across Ukraine, including in areas adjacent to the frontlines in the east and south of the country. A total of 38 men and women from - from manager to operational staff - benefit from mentorship activities that vary from strategic planning to basic professional skills.

"Owing to the participation in the DRC mentorship programme, the staff members were able to gather and focus on their work in the civil society organisation just like it was before 24 February 2022" – tells a representative of one of the organisations benefitting from the mentorship support.

By Serhii Havrylenko, DRC Capacity Building Coordinator, Kyiv



Economic Recovery



© DRC Ukraine, Shelter for IDPs in Dnipro, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast,
May 2022, Arsen Dzodzaev

Inna is internally displaced from Bilokurakine, Luhansk Oblast. In March 2022, due to hostilities, she had to evacuate with her family – a 2-year-old child, her husband and her elderly parents. They went from their hometown to Dnipro city, where they found temporary shelter in a collective centre.

Inna is on maternity leave, her husband cannot find a full-time job but only sporadic and low-paid part-time labour while her parents receive minimal pensions. The family's income is therefore around only 10,000 Hryvnias (equal 273 USD) per month. A multi-purpose cash grant of 47,600 Hryvnia (equal to 1,304 USD) allowed Inna to cover basic needs, pay rent and buy warm clothes for winter.

“When I applied for financial support, I did not believe much I would get selected – we never received any kind of help from anyone” – Inna said. “It was such good news for my entire family when we were told that we would receive this payment!”

DRC provides multi-purpose cash assistance in several parts of Ukraine and plans to expand the implementation to support more people in need through the Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund.

By Oleh Vyshnevskiy, DRC Project Lead, Dnipro



Humanitarian Disarmament & Peacebuilding



©DRC Ukraine, Zaruddia, Kyiv Oblast, September 2022, Oleksandr Usik

From village to village, from town to town — DRC's Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) teams travel across Ukraine to spread the knowledge of safe behaviour around Explosive Remnants of War. Fighting has contaminated vast parts of Ukraine's territory including residential areas, roads, agricultural land, forests, lakes and rivers – leaving threats hidden in places which were previously safe for decades.

DRC plans to provide additional direct sessions in five Oblasts in the north and east of Ukraine during the winter. In Ivankivska community in Kyiv Oblast, DRC integrates risk education with surveys and actual demining operations.

“Currently in this community, risk education activities go hand-in-hand with surveys. When our survey teams finish their search for explosive ordnance, we understand where the contamination is and in which villages, we need to prioritise risk education sessions,” says Ksenia, DRC EORE Facilitator.

After a risk education session, a participant added: *“My house was hit with a missile and a lot of its parts are still around. I am very anxious about this situation but now I at least better understand risks and how different ammunition works - and what I should do in case I find any”*.

These activities are possible through funds from the European Union through its Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations.

By Volodymyr Malynka, DRC Communication Officer, Kyiv

