

# Situation Report #1 (2019)

# Caritas Ukraine

## Response to the Humanitarian Crisis (as of January 1, 2019)



### Key figures

- **4.4 million** people affected, **3.4 million** people in need
- **1,8 million** people in need in Non-Government-Controlled Areas
- **Over 35 000** conflict-related casualties with **10 500** killed (OHCHR)
- **217** civilian casualties from January 2018 (**40** killed, **177** injured). From the beginning of
- the conflict - the civilian death toll is more than **2441**, over **9 000** have been injured. At least **141** kids injured/killed and **632** seniors
- Positive tendency of **decreasing of the number of civilian casualties** by half compared with 2017, and the number of injured fell by 52% - lowest level since the beginning of the conflict
- **1 512 367** IDPs (as of January 8, 2019)
- **600 000** people in need living in insecure areas along the contact line including **200 000** children



**585 000** people assisted by Caritas since May 2014



**8 437 628 ,51 Euro** funded since January 1, 2018

### Caritas Ukraine Response



Caritas Ukraine started to provide humanitarian assistance to conflict -affected people in April 2014, when the mass displacement of people in Ukraine began. Since then, Caritas Ukraine has helped nearly 560 000 people affected by the humanitarian crisis.

Caritas Ukraine places people in need at the heart and forefront of all its responses and is guided by the humanitarian principles and Christian values. Scrupulous assessments of needs are conducted before a project begins and help is provided regardless of nationality, religion, age, gender and political background.

## Key developments

- Caritas Ukraine has started implementing activities to combat human trafficking in Eastern Ukraine (centers for the victims of trafficking in Zaporizhia, Mariupol, Kharkiv and Kramatorsk). A new trend and challenge is the increase of domestic trafficking, including in non-government controlled areas of Ukraine as well as an increase of the number of children among the trafficked victims.
- Main focus of activities in 2018 - strengthening of cooperation with state and non-governmental organizations who work in the social sphere , focus on attracting funds from private business, employment and developing a volunteer movement among former beneficiaries of the projects.
- Strengthening advocacy work based on requests from beneficiaries of different programs and on the needs which emerge from both humanitarian and development projects.

## New Projects

- From September 2018, the project "Social Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings in the Regions of Ukraine in Armed Conflict Areas" started with the financial support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

**Key donors:** German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Caritas Germany/BMZ, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Poland, Caritas Poland, Catholic Relief Services, LDS, Caritas Austria, Renovabis, CNEWA Canada, Caritas Denmark, Austrian Development Agency, Dorcas, Caritas France, Caritas Espanola, Caritas Korea, Caritas Internationalis, Apostolic Nunciature in Ukraine, Embassy of Japan in Ukraine, Kindermissionswerk, Caritas Italiana, Caritas Australia, Caritas Internationalis, UNODC.

## Activities by sector



### ***Food Security and Nutrition***

No less than 7300 people reached

- **4911** food relief packages
- **1620** multipurpose grants
- **552** grants for agricultural activities
- **10** Agro Training Events with a total of **217** visitors



### ***WASH***

No less than 2400 people reached

- **2,400** beneficiaries received free access to drinking water in 2 locations of the GCA of the buffer zone



**Emergency Shelter/NFI**

*No less than 8 000 people reached (2 887 households (HH))*



- **2480** HHs in GCAs received winterization support (**1136** HHs fuel briquettes in the amount of 1,5 tons per household, **1136** HHs – 3 tons per HH)
- **407** HHs in NGCA received winterization support



**Healthcare:**

*No less than 15 000 people reached*



- **3143** people received cash grants/vouchers to purchase medicines
- **370** people received medical/hygiene packages (home care services)
- **268** IDPs and inhabitants of the buffer zone reached through the home care program in Eastern Ukraine
- **6 604** consultations for relatives/close ones of people in need of medical assistance on home care
- **250** IDPs reached through home care services in the regions of Ukraine

### ***Psychological assistance***

- **1042** beneficiaries have been provided with 1035 individual consultations
- **2642** beneficiaries participated in group counselling sessions



### ***Early Recovery & Livelihoods***

No less than 2000 people reached



- **10** grants for business development
- **7** vocational re-training grants
- **3** employment fairs with a total of **857** visitors
- **32** grants for employers to create **89** new jobs
- **371** consultations for employment
- **1183** legal consultations
- **4** business Incubation Trainings (203 participants), 1 acceleration

training (25 participants)

- **2** business schools
- **14** trainings on employment issues



### ***Education***

No less than 3000 people reached



- **2539** children in 20 locations in the buffer zone reached through recreational and psychological assistance
- **20** family-friendly centers created in 20 educational establishments of the buffer zone



## ***Integration and Peacebuilding*** *No less than 15 000 people reached*

- **10 859** people received accompaniment (**3143** by family assistants, **2533** by psychologists, **332** by case managers, **4851** participated in **127** integration events) offered by **Family Integration Support Centers**
- **12 809** people (IDPs, the members of the local community and ex-combatants) participated in **1897** conflict transformation and peacebuilding events in **9** locations
- **2** integration visits of families from Mariupol and Berdyansk to Kolomyia and Drohobych, **32** participants. **25** families and **12** volunteers were involved as tutors for people in need of integration

### **Complex/ Comprehensive Assistance**



- **Social centers on crisis management and self-help for people and communities affected by the conflict** (Kramatorsk, Mariupol, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv) – **10 888** people received assistance:
  - Crisis centers (call-center, counselling, case management)
  - Community Development Centers (social space for community activation, self-support groups)
  - Resource centers: lobbying and advocacy
- **Multifunctional Social Center in Dnipro: 2 957** people have been provided with social and humanitarian services in 2018 (69% IDPs and 31% locals). Services that are most in demand are: soup- kitchen, medical and legal consultations, home care services, psychological assistance, and hotline for IDPs (2332 calls).

### **Key challenges**

- Strengthening and structuring the Humanitarian-Development Nexus
- Changing the organization structure of Caritas Ukraine and knowledge management in humanitarian sphere
- Political risks to provide assistance in Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA).
- Further promoting the visibility of Caritas activities in the humanitarian sphere and introducing innovative models of assistance for people in need

- Prioritizing activities in a context of decreasing funds for humanitarian projects despite the great needs of conflict affected people

### **New areas of interest and perspectives of work**

- **Access to drinking water along the contact line:** Caritas is looking for more localized and sustainable solutions for water provision in the buffer zone as well as better waste management as this has been identified as one of the key causes of water pollution and sanitation problems deriving thereof
- **Development of agriculture projects:** further development of livelihood activities in the sector of agriculture. Caritas will include innovative approaches for agricultural businesses in the regions close to the conflict area. This can include peer-to-peer trainings and mentorship, study visits as well as support to agricultural cooperatives
- **Strengthening the Caritas network on parish level** including Pastoral-Social Centers in the East as well as parish social ministry all over the country. 133 parishes are included in the process in 2018 and 125 additional parishes will be included in 2019
- **Development an advocacy component in ongoing projects** has become the new priority for the next three years. This should help to strengthen the impact of the projects and to find new approaches for the exit strategy

### **Human Interest Stories**

#### **Susanna's story**



Until 2014 her family lived in Khartsyzsk, Donetsk region. The family was wealthy and lived in a large house. Unfortunately, everything changed dramatically, and the family was forced to move to another city.

In Odessa, Susanna's husband tried to start his own business but died of illness in a few months. For two years Susanna was trying to provide her children with everything they needed. "You do not even imagine how I dreamed about my own business! - says Susanna, - but our income was so low that it was not possible to buy any equipment».

A friend told her about the project to support business initiatives. Today, with the new equipment for baking pancakes, pies and meat pastry, Susanna is running her own business and is gradually moving from a break-even point to profit: "As it was taught at the training," Susanna

smiles. Dough-dispensing electric machine significantly accelerates work and reduces the cost of energy, and the fryer is a constant helper in the preparation of tasty pies and meat pastry, which everyone can check out on one of the largest markets in Odessa.

Susanna received assistance in the form of equipment in the framework of the project "Strengthening self-sufficiency of internally displaced persons and communities affected by conflict in Ukraine" by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), implemented in the Odessa region by the Charity Fund "Caritas Odessa UGCC" with funds of the German Government through **the German KfW Development Bank.**

## Svitlana's story

**Svitlana Lyashenko** lives in a village of Visokopolye, Oleksandrivsky district, together with her husband and two adopted daughters (11 and 12 years old). A family friend, who has a disability, is also a part of the household.

Svitlana works as a librarian with a salary equivalent to \$96 per month. Her husband is a driver without a stable income. For the family it is very complicated to cover their basic needs, especially after they adopted their girls in 2014. Yevgen is unemployed, but is able to help the family with the housework.

Svitlana was in the library, rehearsing a singing performance with the children, when the local head of village council stepped in and informed her about the project implemented by Caritas. Svitlana had a long time interest in private agriculture activities so she submitted her application.



In May 2018, Svitlana received a cash grant of 16,000 UAH (570 USD) and bought 50 gees, 50 ducks and 50 chicken broilers. The assistance was very timely to allow the family to make provisions for more than 10 months ahead and greatly cut on food spending. It allowed her to save the money for her girls. *"We got money to improve the health of our girls.*

*We sent them to the children's camp, and also a few times we managed to take them to the Yubileyniy Park and Bernadskiy garden in Kramatorsk; we also plan to show them Svyatogorsk".*

Svitlana is very optimistic about her future. Having gained new knowledge about poultry through the trainings she received in the Caritas project, she is going to have more chicken broilers next season to supplement the family budget.

### About Caritas in Ukraine

International charitable foundation Caritas Ukraine is a humanitarian non-governmental organization which aims to help people in need regardless of their religion, nationality or social status. Caritas provides social development programs and humanitarian services to members of vulnerable communities in Ukraine supporting social development and fostering the traditions of charity and social work. The strategic mission of Caritas Ukraine is to develop philanthropy and to encourage community participation in charitable work according to Christian moral and ethical teachings.

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