



Emergency #Appeal Project

Current Progress Report

for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2023

Project duration: 1.04.2023 – 31.03.2024



Emergency #Appeal Project

CSU will involve **32 local implementing partners** in **7 Dioceses** in the proposed response. Together, these partners, with the support of the National Office, will provide assistance in **16 regions of Ukraine**.



Goal: Vulnerable IDP and other war-affected households meet their basic needs, access basic services, and have improved psychosocial well-being. 28 920 unique beneficiaries would be helped.

Current progress: In total, **22,881** unique beneficiaries have already received assistance.



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Odesa,
August 2023

Challenges

The dioceses are doing a good work, but this is not the same as being an efficient manager.

For a long time, there were difficulties in establishing communication between the dioceses and the local centers.

Direct contact between the project team and the local centres was lost.

The 7 dioceses all have their individual management, decision-making and internal policies. In such circumstances,

it becomes more difficult to standardise processes.

Complexity of reporting, including to donors.

The role of diocesan directors has increased, and their involvement in the project has grown. This prolongs the period of some communications, as diocesan directors must coordinate the changes proposed by the project, including standardisation of certain processes, movement of funds, etc.



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The workshop "Supply Chain and Logistics: Practical Solutions and Implementation", Kyiv, November 2023

Positive impact

Autonomy given to the dioceses and local centres to manage the Project.

More efficient distribution of processes and the possibility on individual consideration of cases.

The ability to improve the legal aspects of all stages and components of the Project.

Strengthening the role of dioceses, raising their status in the Network.

Deepening the interaction between the national office and dioceses, directors, and their teams.

Increasing of the Project's added value through the training of different groups of employees.

Improved the existing information exchange system and a common repository with documents, templates and schedules.

Unified criteria for selecting the beneficiaries for all the centres and a consolidated database of beneficiaries.

Expanding the Network, supporting new local centres (Rozhyshe, Chernihiv, Cherkasy, Uman, Dnipro, Pavlohrad, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv, etc.)



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Caritas Spes Unio, Zarichany,
August 2023

Network support. Work with the Team

Work with the team on project implementation

45

meetings on the level
of Diocesan coordinators

4

meetings with local
coordinators from
participating local
centres

1

reporting meeting with
the whole local team
("Report for 6 months",
87 participants)

Competence development

17

online and offline trainings, seminars, workshops
and consultations in various areas of work
(MEAL, logistics, procurement, finance
and accounting, work with Kobo)



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International Volunteer Day,
for Organizational development
Lviv, December 2023

Team support activities

Caritas Spes Unio networking meeting. Team building activities to improve interaction and strengthen connections between the network staff implementing the Project.

Coordinating a series of events in local centers to support the volunteer part of the project team on the International Volunteer Day. As of December, 2023, the Caritas-Spes Ukraine network includes **500 volunteers**. All of them received congratulations and official gratitude from Caritas-Spes Ukraine.



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Emergency Appeal Project coordinator in Dnipro



*Julia Kerentseva, Caritas-Spes Dnipro,
local coordinator of the Emergency Appeal Project*

Julia Kerentseva. **I joined Caritas-Spes Dnipro as a volunteer**

About two months after the full-scale invasion, I was in a completely distraught state. I had no job; I didn't know what to expect. There was a sense of hopelessness, it seemed like there was not tomorrow, no future. We were all in a constant state of fear and anxiety.

At this rather difficult psychological moment, I found out that Caritas-Spes Dnipro needed volunteers. Of course, I was happy to join the work. First, it was an opportunity for me to distract myself, to be constantly busy and not to think

about the war. Gradually, I got involved and enjoyed working here.

At the beginning, there was a lot of physical activity. Then I was involved in the management of the aid provided, and over time, I took on more and more different management tasks. And gradually, I became the coordinator of the Emergency Appeal Project.

Dnipro has received many IDPs, and 95% of the people who come to us for assistance are them. In the first months of the



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war, everyone needed help — a lot of people lost their jobs, they left their homes to seek shelter in Dnipro, and, having nothing, they were desperate and at a loss. Over time, the situation began to improve.

In our work under the Emergency Appeal project, we focused on working primarily with the most vulnerable IDPs. These are the elderly (70+), adults and children with disabilities, families with children under one year old, multi-child families and pregnant women.

I am very pleased that the Project's Programmes implemented in our centre really meet the needs of the people we are trying to support. Medical vouchers, Kits for Kids, Warm bedding sets — all these types of assistance have received a very good response.

Medical vouchers because they allowed people to choose the medicines they needed for treatment. Kits for kids — because of their relevance and composition, as they were issued on the threshold of the new school year. And of course, the availability of warm bedding sets is especially important during the cold season. This type of assistance has been in high demand for two years in a row.

Today I have to say that I am incredibly grateful to Caritas-Spes. At some point, my job just saved me from depression. After just a few months of work, I realised that I don't think about the war because I simply don't have time for it. Instead of letting despair consume me, I have to work to help others.



*The work of the Caritas-Spes Dnipro team.
Distribution of Medical Vouchers under
the Emergency Appeal Project.
Dnipro, August 2023*



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Ongoing activities. Permanent project activities



Vynogradiv,
February 2023



Sokilnyky, children's space,
March 2023

Shelters

7*

Shelters

Providing short- and long-term accommodation and hot meals. The Project also helps shelters to carry out routine repairs, refurbish and upgrade premises and furniture .

Current progress: **451**** unique beneficiaries, **76,241** person-nights

* Since October 2023, shelters in Sokilnyky and Uman have been out of the project.

** Indicators after verification of data provided by centres.



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Lviv,
July 2023

Soup kitchens

7

Soup kitchens

Providing systematic and long-term assistance in the form of hot meals.

Current progress:

981
unique beneficiaries,

78,980
hot-meals



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Lutsk,
Summer 2023

Psychological support

Psychological support is provided to beneficiaries in individual and group formats. The supervision groups for the project's psychologists have been operating since December 2023. As a part of this activity, psychologists have the opportunity to meet with a supervisor and discuss difficult situations they face when working with beneficiaries.

Current progress: **194**
unique beneficiaries



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Kharkiv,
December 2023

Children's spaces

The children's spaces regularly host thematic meetings, children's clubs and educational activities for young beneficiaries.

Current progress: **948**
children —
unique beneficiaries

Assistance is being implemented under the Project in the Kamianets-Podilskyi, Lutsk, Kyiv-Zhytomyr Dioceses and Lviv Archdiocese.



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Starokostyantyniv,
December 2023

Events for children

In 2023, as part of the project, 29 thematic events for children were held in local centres. There were 4 waves of events in total: International Children's Day, Environmental education events, St Nicholas Day, Christmas.

Current progress: **1601**
children – beneficiaries



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Planned project activities



Odesa,
August 2023

Medical vouchers

25 centres in **7** dioceses

6,640 beneficiaries received medical vouchers during Programme's duration. Also, 50 additional beneficiaries (due to cost savings) were provided with vouchers during the period 11.2023-01.2024. Face value of each medical voucher is **UAH 1,450**.

Current progress: **6,591**
vouchers have already been used



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Lviv,
August 2023

Kits for kids

2 Programmes in **7** dioceses

Aid aimed to help families of internally displaced persons and families living near the contact line.

Current progress: **1700**
little beneficiaries
received School Bag kits,

750
little beneficiaries
received Early
Development kits



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Pavlohrad,
October 2023

Metal Stoves

3 dioceses

Metal Stoves were delivered to the neediest families of beneficiaries whose houses were destroyed or damaged as a result of the hostilities in Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Cherkaska and Chernihivska oblasts.

Current progress: **200**
metal stoves were
distributed,

500
indirect beneficiaries
(family members)
have been helped



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Mykolajiv,
October 2023

Warm bedding kits

21 centres in **7** dioceses

For IDPs (from 1 June 2023), or for local residents whose housing was damaged or destroyed as a result of hostilities.

Current progress: **850**
kits were distributed



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Kam'yanets'-Podil's'kyi,
November 2023

In-kind food and hygiene assistance

26 centres in **7** dioceses

For IDP families (from 1 April 2023) or local residents (preference is given to villagers).
4 waves of assistance in November-January: **3** food kits and **1** hygiene kit.

The Programme operates in **16** regions of Ukraine.

5,105 individuals (beneficiary families) participate in the Programme.

5,097 hygiene kits and **9,830** food kits have already been distributed.

Current progress:

9,199

direct and indirect (family members) beneficiaries received the essential in-kind hygiene items,

9,573

direct and indirect (family members) beneficiaries received the essential in-kind food assistance



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Starokostyantyniv,
December 2023

Vouchers for food and hygiene products*

19 centres in **7** dioceses

For IDP households that received the relevant status after 24.02.2022 (priority is given to IDPs after 1 April 2023).

Goal: **17,610**
beneficiaries will
receive vouchers

* The new project activity started at the end of December 2023. The first pilot batch of vouchers amounted to **1,800** units.



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A participant of the assistance programme "In-kind food and hygiene assistance"



*Victoria Butenko,
36, from Berdiansk,
currently living with her family in Kamianets-Podilskyi*

Victoria Butenko. **Kamianets-Podilskyi is like our Berdiansk, only without the sea**

We are from Berdiansk, in the Zaporizhzhia region. After the start of the full-scale invasion, my three daughters and I were able to leave for Zaporizhzhia on 7 April 2022. After being rescued, my girls and I went to Germany, where we lived for a year. During this time, my husband was in Berdiansk, under occupation. As soon as he was able to leave the occupation and return to the free territory, my children and I returned to Ukraine. And on 1 April 23, we arrived in Kamianets-Podilskyi with the whole family.

EVACUATION

I knew from the first day of the war that we would not stay under occupation, and we had to leave, because in our understanding it was a necessity. But the first evacuations were just terrible, extremely dangerous. In fact, we tried to leave several times, but were forced to stop because of the shelling. So, at the first opportunity, we, along with other women and children, left for Zaporizhzhia on a bus that was bringing humanitarian aid to Berdiansk and the villages.

Leaving Berdiansk was very challenging. It usually takes 3 hours to get to Zapor-



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izhzhia, but it took us almost the whole day to get there through 15 checkpoints. And I understand perfectly well that our family was very lucky that none of us was injured in the process.

LIVING IN GERMANY

When we left, my youngest daughter was 1 year and 4 months old, my second daughter was 12, and my eldest daughter was 15. During the whole year we spent in Germany, we were longing to return home.

Of course, the language barrier was a certain discomfort factor for us. But, first and foremost, it was a forced journey for us, we were in this country because of the war, no thoughts of emigration. Of course, many people have a desire to develop and learn to adapt as much as possible in Germany.

This was not the case with us. We had help, we were given accommodation in an apartment, we received financial assistance, but my children and I wanted to go home. So as soon as my husband managed to leave the occupied territory, we all returned to Ukraine together.

KAMIANETS-PODILSKYI

This is a small city like our hometown of Berdiansk. Although, there is no sea here. But the children have got used to it very well. The youngest one goes to kindergarten, the middle one goes to school and dances, the eldest one is studying at a technical college and has also started mastering manicure. So, the girls are

settling in as much as possible.

Unfortunately, both the college and the school are now conducting classes online. But on the positive side, thanks to this format, our middle daughter continues to study at her school in Berdiansk. Fortunately, the school staff was able to leave the occupation and now works in Zaporizhzhia. When we lived in Germany, my daughter attended online classes at her school and studied at a local school as well.

WORK

Of course, at first it was quite difficult for us in the new city: my husband worked as a taxi driver, delivered goods, helped with construction.

I am currently on maternity leave with my youngest child. Yes, she goes to a kindergarten, but she is still in the process of adapting and is sick too often. But I hope that I will be able to start working soon, because currently only my husband is employed.

ASSISTANCE

To be honest, without such help from benefactors, it would be difficult for us. Everything is expensive now, and prices continue to rise. Our earnings would probably be enough to cover the most basic needs, but that's about it. But these In-kind food and hygiene assistance help us a lot, especially in winter. They have become a significant support for our rather large family.



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The Emergency Appeal Project' calendar

Programmes	2023									2024			Status
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Shelters	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	in progress
Soup Kitchens	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	in progress
Psychological support	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	in progress
Medical vouchers			■	■	■								done
Early Development Kits (years old)			■	■	■								done
School Bag Kits (7-12 years old)				■	■								done
Winterisation. Metal Stoves					■	■	■						done
Winterisation. Warm Bed Kits					■	■	■						done
Food kits									■	■	■		in progress – the 3rd wave of aid distribution continues
Hygiene kits								■					done
Food and Hygiene. Vouchers										■	■	■	in progress – aid distribution has begun

To learn more about the current progress of the Project, follow the links:

Website: <https://caritas-spes.org/ua>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CaritasSpesUA>

Our photos: <http://surl.li/lxjhw>