

ADRA UKRAINE

NEWSLETTER



JULY 2024





Interview

“Incredible people! For them, helping the victims is not just a job, it is the meaning of life”

ADRA Ukraine has been working with [the World Food Programme](#) for several years. From the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022 until June 2024, 11,713,792 Ukrainians received various types of food aid thanks to the joint project. Roman Orlov, project manager, tells us more about this activity.

- Roman, could you please tell us when the partnership between ADRA Ukraine and WFP UN started and what the cooperation looks like?

- I have been working in the project since June 2023. In general, this project of the UN World Food Programme in Ukraine has been operating since 2014, when the war in Donbass began. And since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, in May 2022, WFP has been working in partnership with ADRA Ukraine. The Adventist Relief and Development Agency in Ukraine is one of WFP's key partners. We were one of the first organisations to respond to the partnership in 2022. And ADRA Ukraine was one of the first to implement this project in Ukraine.

- What does the project involve?

- The World Food Programme (WFP) provides humanitarian assistance in the form of food and cash to people most affected by the hostilities, including the IDPs (internally displaced). Together with the WFP management, we select the areas where we will carry out our activities. Currently, these are two large districts in Kharkiv Oblast - Izyum and Kupyansk. And the entire Mykolaiv and Kherson regions. Earlier, in 2022, we covered about 13 regions. In 2023 we covered six regions. And now it's three regions, but with a large amount of aid. Kherson, Mykolaiv and Kharkiv oblasts are areas where shops are closed because of the hostilities, where infrastructure has been destroyed and where it is almost impossible to buy food. We are providing in-kind aid in the form of food parcels. This parcels includes products of primary necessity, balancing with total calories and microelements that one person needs for a month. Sunflower oil, flour, canned vegetables (peas, beans), canned meat, salt, sugar, cereals (buckwheat, millet, oatmeal). The total weight of a one-month box for one person is about 13-14 kilograms, depending on the set included. Between 2022 and 2024, vulnerable Ukrainians received 5,090,447 of these kits.

In addition, over these years we have distributed 1,515,173 ready-to-eat food parcels (consisting of tinned meat and beans and two loaves of bread) weighing 2.9 kg. Families with children under the age of 5 received 365,241 packs of baby food.

In regions where the security situation has stabilized and infrastructure such as shops, banks and post offices has begun to recover, WFP is introducing a transition to cash assistance. Last year, people were given vouchers that allowed them to buy a certain amount of food in a shop. Now we have moved to cash assistance, which WFP transfers to bank cards. Since the end of 2023, some settlements have already switched to cash assistance, such as the city of Mykolaiv. Since spring 2024, the Balakliya settlement in Izyum district and several settlements in the Mykolaiv region have switched to cash transfers.

We also distribute WFP bread in many communities close to the frontline. There is constant bombing and shelling, bakeries and shops are not functioning and bread is not being delivered. These are special communities where people have nowhere to buy bread, so we distribute it to everyone without exception. Bread is delivered to these areas every week, at a rate of 4 loaves per person per month. The volume of bread aid is very large. We have distributed a total of 26,659,037 loaves of bread since the start of the full-scale invasion.



Fierce weather is not an obstacle for desperate volunteers, nor for people who are waiting for them

So we distribute aid to everyone without exception in areas close to the frontline, which is about a 30-kilometre zone, because that is where virtually everyone needs help. We also take into account factors such as roads, crossings and whether they are under drone or artillery fire. So each district is decided on a case-by-case basis with the WFP UN.

In regions further away from the front line, assistance is targeted only at vulnerable groups and household members. These categories include lonely elderly people aged 60 and over, internally displaced people, people with disabilities, large families, low-income families, people in difficult circumstances and the unemployed. At the request of the WFP UN, the list of categories of vulnerable groups has now been reduced. Internally displaced persons and vulnerable groups have been removed from the list. Any changes to implement the new rules for the provision of food aid must be approved by the WFP UN.

- What can you tell us about the team of this project?

- In general, this is ADRA Ukraine's largest project at the moment. It was the biggest in terms of budget and number of staff. We currently have more than 170 employees. And if you include all the volunteers who help us in the field, we have a team of around 270 people. When we arrive in a particular place, freelance volunteers come and help us unload the trucks or welcome people. These are mostly local people, representatives of the authorities, town and village councils. They are not part of our staff, but they help us a lot.

- Among them, I remember, were victims of a missile attack.

- A freelance volunteer died in the village of Groza, Kupiansk district, Kharkiv region, on 5 October 2023. There was a wake in a cafe, some people gathered there, and a rocket flew straight into the cafe. 59 people were killed, half the village was killed there. And among them was our volunteer, who had been helping since the first days of the war. Her house was our humanitarian headquarters, where we distributed aid. Also our volunteers are still suffering from contusions caused by the ammunition attack.

In the summer of '23, our volunteer Marina, who works for ADRA Ukraine, was hit by a drone in Beryslav, Kherson Oblast. The volunteers were delivering food parcels when a drone spotted them and started dropping ammunition. Maryna received a contusion. In addition, both the car and the trailer were damaged. And recently, our volunteers in the Kherson region were also attacked, just a week ago, as they were moving from place to place. But thank God everyone is alive and well, they managed to hide, although the car was damaged by shrapnel.



Lyudmila, a volunteer who laid down her life for others



In such difficult times, bread is more valuable than gold

- Given these dangers, what can you say about the personal qualities of the volunteers involved in this project? Especially those working in the frontline areas?

- Currently, the two most dangerous regions where ADRA Ukraine operates are Kupiansk district in Kharkiv region and Kherson region. These regions are under constant shelling. I want to say right away that the people who go there are incredible. I go there too, but mostly for monitoring and control, so I don't go there all the time. But these people go to these villages every day, despite the heat, despite the bad roads, despite the broken crossings. By the way, bridges and crossings are a big problem in Kupiansk district of Kharkiv region. They are being blown up all the time because the Russians know all the points and are constantly targeting them. As soon as they build a crossing, it is destroyed within a day or two. Vehicles have to travel a long way to get to these places. That's why our teams who go there to help the local people are incredible people. I am really proud of my team, firstly because they are all brave and secondly because they are very dedicated. And for these volunteers, helping is not just a job, it is their choice, their purpose in life, to be useful to their country, to help the affected Ukrainians, despite the shelling, knowing that it's a danger every day, they go and do this work.

Even when they go to villages where there are only a few people left, maybe up to 10, they still go because they know that their grandparents who are still there are waiting for them. That's why everyone who works on the project now is a proven person who has shown their commitment to a very difficult and often dangerous job. Of course, they have bulletproof vests and helmets, but that is unlikely to save them if something serious happens. But thank God there have been no tragic situations with our regular volunteers and God has protected them all the time.

- The project is also supported by the WFP and the Swiss office of ADRA. What is the role of the Swiss?

— The UN WFP project budget covers the main expenses, and [ADRA Switzerland](#) supports the implementation of the project. We are provided with branded clothes and various technical features - for example, are radios, modems, computers, tablets, GPS trackers, personal protective equipment, helmets, vests, first aid kits, tourniquets... These are all the products of ADRA Switzerland and also several branches of ADRA from various countries. Also, thank to our partners, we are involved in the project of several vintage cars with the brand logo. Also, recently there was a financial support from the people of Japan, who made donations through [ADRA Japan](#). This is a great support for the project.



The World Food Programme provides an amount of humanitarian aid that it covers entire communities

- How do the people who receive the aid react to it?

- Our staff, who go to different settlements every day and distribute the aid, receive a lot of gratitude from the people. The local people are waiting for the volunteers, it is very important for them, so there are a lot of personal thanks. First of all, in the areas where there are no shops, where there is no transport, people are very grateful to us for coming and delivering food. Products like bread are a matter of life and death for many people, so they are particularly grateful for the help. And it has to be said that ADRA Ukraine is at the forefront of this project because no one else goes into some of the areas where our charity delivers aid.

- What does the project team need to take the project forward?

- In communities that are moving to financial support, it is very important to have an internet connection to register people and we need computer equipment to work with. As the electricity situation in the country is quite difficult, we need somewhere to charge mobile phones, tablets and power computers, so we really need EcoFlow chargers and Starlinks for internet access. This is something we still lack.



Every volunteer understands that his work is a risk to life, but this love is stronger than any fears



Assistance activity statistics for July 2024

Component	Number of beneficiaries	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Donor Name
Food Security	267 188 people	139 918 food kits 509 080 loaves of bread	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson regions	The UN World Food Programme (UN WFP) with support of ADRA Switzerland
Protection: PSS	2 044 people	-	Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Poltava, Zhytomyr, Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsia, Chernivsti, Lviv, Kharkiv, Odesa, Ternopil, Sumy, Donetsk, Mykolaiv, Kirovohrad, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Volyn, Kherson regions	Japan Platform, ADRA Japan, ADRA Australia, ADRA Sweden
Protection: Protection centers for IDPs	648 people	5 protection centers for IDPs	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv regions	ADRA Sweden, Radiohjälp
Protection: Evacuation	1 146 people	67 evacuation trips	Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Kherson regions	The Government of Canada, ADRA Canada
MPCA (CASH)	418 people	109 000 USD (4 514 400 UAH)	Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsia, Chernivsti, Lviv, Khmelnytskyi, Odesa, Ternopil, Donetsk, Poltava, Mykolaiv, Cherkasy, Zhytomyr, Volyn, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv regions	Japan Platform, ADRA Japan, the Government of Canada, ADRA Canada



HIGHLIGHT

ADRA Ukraine supported the Concept of legal protection of victims of war, presented by Dmytro Lubinets

On July 5, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets held a presentation "The concept of improving the national system of remedies and support for persons affected by the armed aggression against Ukraine." The event was attended by representatives of the executive branch of government, officials of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, as well as representatives of several public organizations and charitable foundations. Representatives of ADRA Ukraine - lawyer Yevgeny Teleganenko and GR-director Olexander Alyshev also took part in the meeting.

During the presentation and panel discussion, the participants discussed the main provisions of the Concept and ways of the implementation, key approaches and problems of supporting affected persons and administrative mechanisms of their social protection. They paid attention to programs of psychological support, medical and social rehabilitation of victims. They considered administrative mechanisms for the protection and restoration of property rights of victims and compensation for material damage, as well as criminal and judicial means of protecting such persons.

24/07/2024

The publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/adra-ukraine-supported-the-concept-of-legal-protection-of-victims-of-war-presented-by-dmitro-lubinets>



HIGHLIGHT

ADRA Ukraine joined the financing of rehabilitation of children in Irpin

On July 21, the Irpen Lyceum No. 3 launched the program for the rehabilitation of children during the war "Children Act" organized by [the charitable foundation and the sports club "Klan"](#) (headed by Sergii Skoropadsky). The event brought together about 110 children from Irpin city, whose parents died or were disabled as a result of hostilities, and children evacuated from the occupied territories. The premises for the rehabilitation of children were provided by the city council of Irpin. The program was funded by the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine thanks to people donations raised through the organization's website. The Seventh Day Adventist Church of Irpen helps with food and logistical issues.

As a result of the losses experienced during the war, the children lost their support in life. Thanks to the rehabilitation program, they can reveal their talents, emotions, learn to prove themselves. Mentors-psychologists from the club "Klan" using games, music, learning of English, art therapy help children overcome social isolation and return back to a full life.

24/07/2024

The publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/adra-ukraine-joined-the-financing-of-rehabilitation-of-children-in-irpin>



HIGHLIGHT

In Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions, Japan Platform and ADRA Japan provided humanitarian assistance

This providing of humanitarian aid to people affected by the war in Ukraine is supporting by [Japan Platform](#) and [ADRA Japan](#). Volunteers of the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine on July 22 and 23 delivered kits with food and hygiene items in Orikhivska territorial community of Zaporizhzhia region. According to the request of the local administration, there were 1,137 basic kits (per 1-2 person) and 73 family kits (per 3 person) were provided. As well as 248 sets with feminine hygiene items. On July 24, the delivery began in Mylove territorial community of Kherson region. 473 basic, 97 family kits, as well as 277 kits with feminine hygiene items were delivered there.

The goal of the project is to provide humanitarian aid in remote communities where access to markets is limited. Residents of the communities are at increased risk due to constant shelling and therefore need help.

“This is invaluable support for our people. Together we can overcome the challenges and make the life of the community more comfortable.” says to the charity organization and its partners, Lyubov Minko, the head of the Mylove village administration of Berislavsky district in Kherson region.

25/07/2024

The publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/in-zaporizhzhia-and-kherson-regions-japan-platform-and-adra-japan-provide-humanitarian-assistance>



Story

Natalia Sobol **from Nechvolodivka village of Kharkiv region**

Natalia is one of the residents of Nechvolodivka village. From the beginning of a full-scale invasion, she experienced all the difficulties of life during the war. She lives in the front-line region, where explosions and air-raid sirens are constantly heard to this day. The danger there does not fall, and the tense situation does not allow people to relax even for a moment.

Initially, she lived in the neighboring village of Kindrashivka, but later she was forced to move to Nechvolodivka. It's a bit calmer there. However, the house was not equipped with light and gas. Thus, she had to adapt to these conditions.

Later, she met with the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine, which began to bring various humanitarian aid and food kits from [the UN World Food Programme](#) to the village.

"At the beginning everything was very difficult. Then volunteers began to bring us bread, and a little later they began to bring us other kinds of humanitarian aid," says Natalia.

With the assistance of the charitable foundation, residents of front-line villages can get food and things necessary for life. Such support is extremely important, because many shops are closed due to power outages and constant shelling and people cannot buy the most necessary things for life. Also it is extremely difficult to go to another city for shopping.

Natalia and other residents of the village are very grateful that ADRA Ukraine and WFP do not forget about the people in need and help them during this terrible war.



Story

Mykola Maslovsky from Novokamyanka village of Kherson region

Mykola lives in Kherson region. With the beginning of hostilities, it became very difficult to live there, because it is still dangerous in the whole region. Well-being of citizens deteriorates every day. Life no longer seemed so bright and interesting.

Of course, constant shelling and danger also affect the financial situation of people. Ordinary food and other goods become less accessible. After all, many enterprises close or reduce the salary of employees.

Mykola does everything to provide food for his family, but they never refuse to help, because there is always a need for money.

Mykola's family got acquainted with the charity through volunteers who came to their village and began to give assistance. Now Mykola regularly receives humanitarian aid kits with food and hygiene from ADRA Ukraine with the support of [Japan Platform](#) and [ADRA Japan](#), this helps his family to survive.

"Thank you for your help that you do not forget" says the man.



Story

Yana **from Drobyshevo village of Donetsk region**

Yana lives in a small village. She regularly uses free social transport, which operates with the support of [the Government of Canada](#) and [ADRA Canada](#), because this is the only one opportunity to get into the city.

"We have no opportunity to buy anything where we live. We live in the front-line zone." the woman says.

Since it is still very dangerous in the Donetsk region, many drivers refuse to drive in the front-line cities. Thus, the people of these villages left without the opportunity to visit a doctor, buy medicines or food, withdraw funds and pay for home utilities. It would seem that these are very simple things - but now they are not available to everyone.

"We depend on you and your help. I have no words, how we depend on you!" adds Yana.

The woman is very grateful to ADRA Ukraine and Canadian partners for such support.



More news

A new truck, purchased thanks to Japanese partners, will deliver food kits in Kharkiv region
05/07/2024

Residents of Mykolaiv region receive food kits from the UN World Food Programme
08/07/2024

«We combine our creative activities with charitable projects» says a businessman who received a grant from ADRA Ukraine
19/07/2024

Residents of two villages in Kharkiv region received 497 food kits from the UN World Food Programme
24/07/2024

18 non-profit organizations of Mykolaiv city and region selected for the funding of their projects
29/07/2024

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