



ADRA UKRAINE

NEWSLETTER

10/2025



 **PYLYP SHUBERT**
Project Manager

“The Wheels That Bring Back Freedom”: How ADRA Ukraine Provides Wheelchairs to People with Disabilities During the War

ADRA Ukraine’s wheelchair programs have become a lifeline for many Ukrainians — giving people with disabilities the chance to regain mobility and dignity in their daily lives

Implemented in cooperation with international partners — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Wheelchair Foundation — these projects support both individuals and hospitals across Ukraine. At the heart of this effort is project manager Philip Schubert, who combines project coordination with safety management amid wartime challenges.

— **Philip, tell us about your work at ADRA Ukraine. What are your responsibilities?**

— Within ADRA Ukraine, I am responsible for the security component — ensuring the safety of our staff and guests. This includes planning field trips to high-risk areas, conducting risk assessments, coordinating movement, and responding to incidents.

At the same time, I work on three projects. Within the partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), I serve as a protection officer and security advisor. In addition, I manage two programs providing wheelchairs to people with disabilities:

LDS Wheelchair 2025, supported by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints;

Wheelchair Foundation 2025, implemented in partnership with the U.S.-based donor Wheelchair Foundation.

— When and how did this area of assistance appear at ADRA Ukraine?

— The initiative came from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who offered to help people living with disabilities or those who had acquired disabilities due to the war by providing wheelchairs.

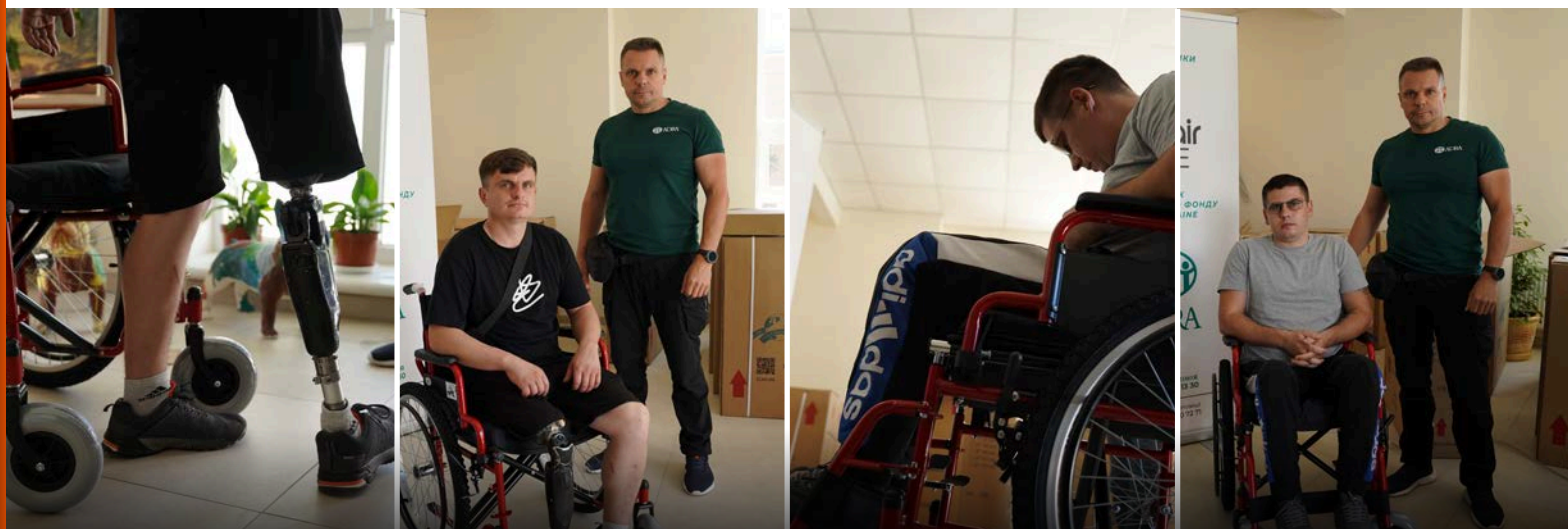
We saw the real need but had no capacity to respond at that time, so we agreed to cooperate, and I was appointed as the project coordinator. The partnership with LDS has continued since 2022. In May–June of this year, we agreed on a new shipment of wheelchairs, and the project is still ongoing.

Later, Wheelchairs Foundation reached out, offering additional support for Ukraine, which led to the second project — Wheelchair Foundation 2025. The management decided to merge the coordination of both initiatives, so I oversee them together.

— How much has the need for wheelchairs increased since the start of the war?

— Unfortunately, significantly. Many people have suffered injuries during hostilities and now rely on wheelchairs to regain mobility.

But hospitals also need them — the number of patients has grown, and existing wheelchairs are often insufficient.



Excombatants receive wheelchairs as part of the Wheelchairs Foundation 2025 project. Kremenets, rehabilitation center for people with disabilities.

Wheelchairs under the LDS Wheelchair 2025 project are mainly distributed to hospitals and care homes. They are designed for assisted movement — a person cannot move independently in them.

In contrast, Wheelchair Foundation 2025 provides semi-active, individual models with large wheels and push rims for independent movement. We distribute these directly to individuals for personal use.

— How do people or institutions apply for assistance?

— Requests come from hospitals, churches, associations of people with disabilities, and directly from individuals.

We inform communities, religious groups, and regional associations about the opportunity. Then we collect applications from hospitals and individuals and explain what documents are required. After the preparation and planning stages, we arrange deliveries to hospitals and announce the time and place where people can receive their wheelchair upon presenting the necessary documents.



— How do you determine who receives the aid first?

— It depends on the urgency of the need.

Hospitals serving both veterans and civilians in rehabilitation get the largest allocations. Local clinics requesting two or three chairs also receive assistance — because the need exists everywhere. The same applies to associations.

For instance, the Mykolaiv Association of People with Disabilities helps evacuate people from dangerous areas. They need wheelchairs even just to move people from their homes to transport or hospitals.

— Which institutions have already received large shipments?

— The largest deliveries include:

- Svalyava Hospital (Zakarpattia region) — 30 wheelchairs;
- Kaniv, Cherkasy region — 47 wheelchairs;
- Odesa City Hospital No.10 — 72 wheelchairs;
- Mykolaiv hospitals — 22 wheelchairs.

Distribution of LDS Wheelchair 2025 began in July, while the Wheelchairs Foundation 2025 deliveries of individual models started in September.



Distribution of wheelchairs at the nursing home.

— How many have been delivered so far?

— Under LDS Wheelchair 2025, we've already distributed all 333 wheelchairs.

Under Wheelchair Foundation 2025, from 280 available, about 200 have already been delivered....

— Are there any stories that touched you the most?

— Many.

For example, in Kremenets, we delivered 45 wheelchairs to a rehabilitation center and elderly care homes. One woman shared that her acquaintance, Olena, a resident of Kryvyi Rih, had lost a limb due to illness complications. She was using a borrowed wheelchair, but when the owner needed it back, she had to return it and was left unable to move around her home. She prayed to God for help — and just a few days later, our team brought her a wheelchair.

She was deeply grateful — for her, it was literally a chance to regain life.



Olena, a resident of Kryvyi Rih, prayed for help — and soon received a wheelchair from ADRA Ukraine.



Individual wheelchair distributions for people with disabilities, Ternopil region.

— What kind of feedback do you receive most often?

— People are sincerely thankful.

Many veterans express appreciation: while waiting for prosthetics or fundraising for expensive active wheelchairs, our semi-active models allow them to move, go outside, and reconnect with life.

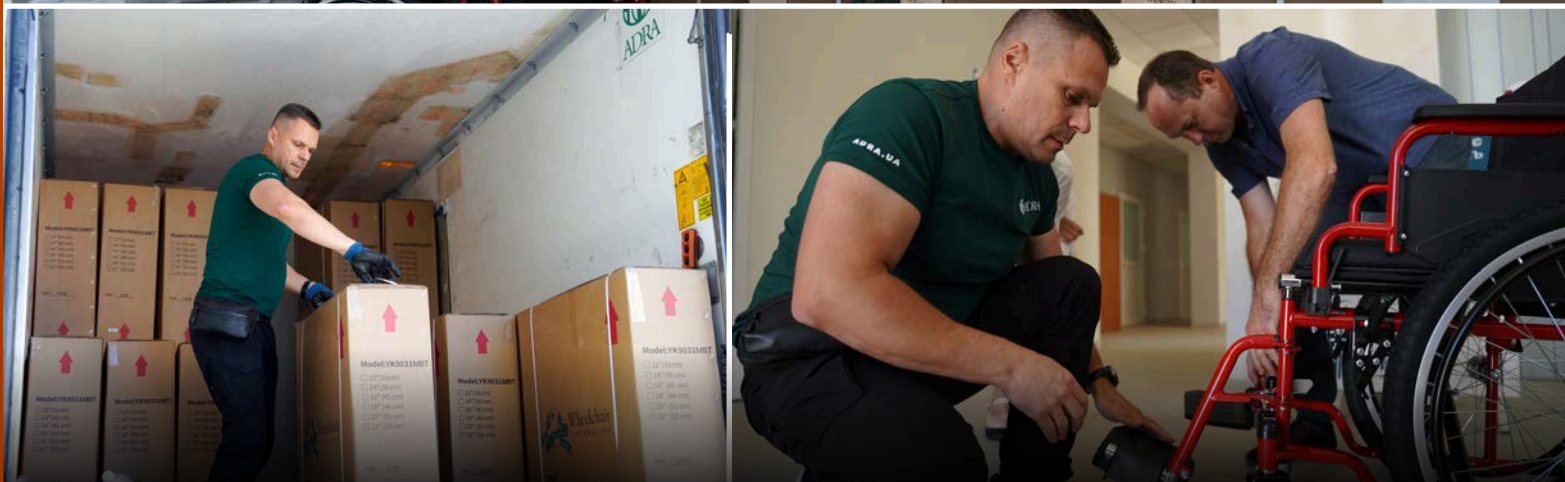
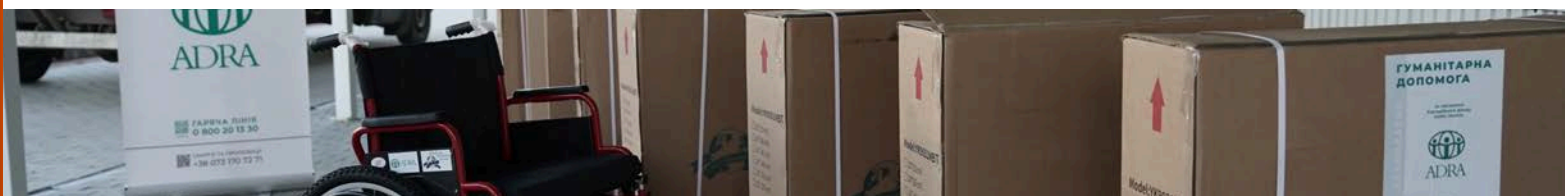
— Do you have logistical support from partners?

— Yes, Nova Poshta has been a huge help.

The first large shipment — over a hundred wheelchairs to Mykolaiv and Odesa — was transported by them free of charge.

When a similar request came later, they supported us again.

Thanks to their help, we managed to deliver 107, and later another 103 wheelchairs, to frontline regions quickly and safely.



Unloading of wheelchairs for the rehabilitation center for people with disabilities in Kremenets.



Kremenets
Nursing home



Mykolaiv
City hospital



Dubno
Maternity hospital



Mykolaiv Regional Hospital



Kremenets City Hospital

INSTITUTIONS THAT RECEIVED WHEELCHAIRS FROM ADRA UKRAINE.

— What are the main challenges now?

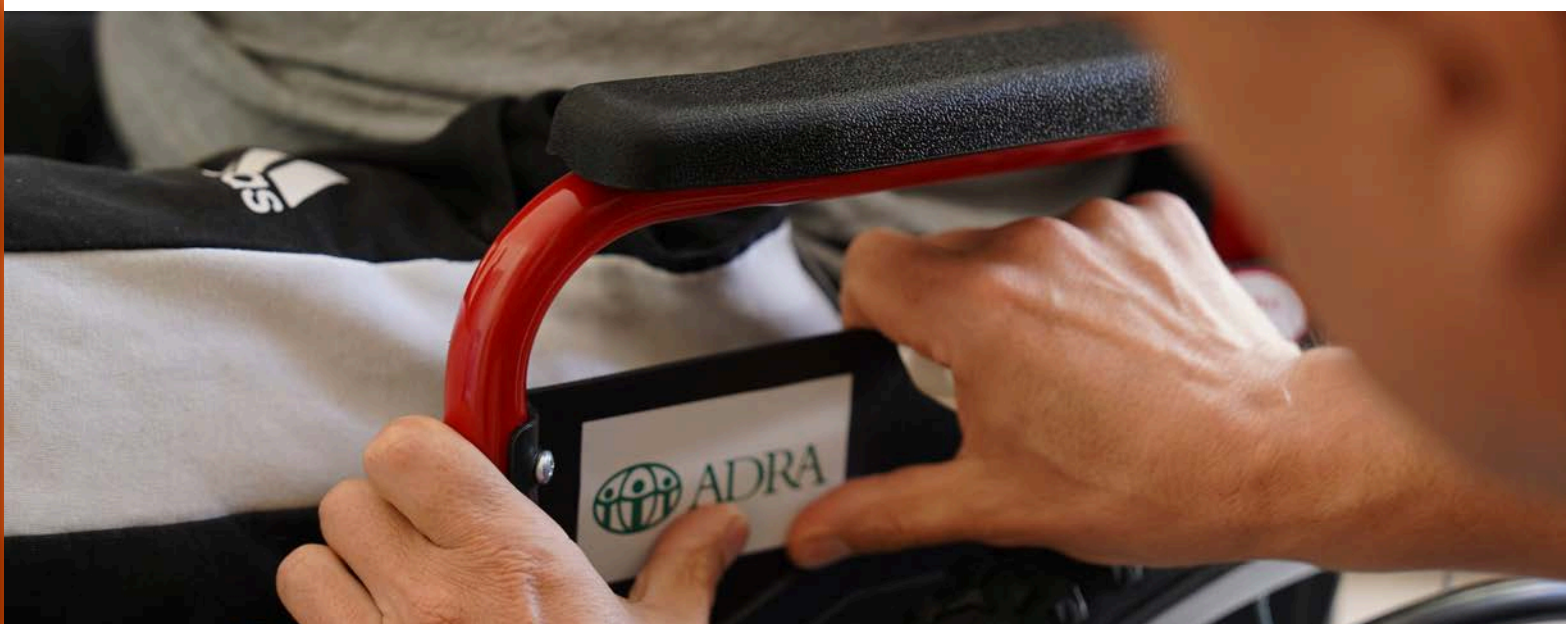
— The biggest issue is transporting large shipments over long distances. We don't have our own heavy trucks; smaller vehicles can only carry 30–40 wheelchairs at once. So, partnerships like the one with Nova Poshta are critical for continuing this work.

— What are your plans moving forward?

— We are currently collecting requests from southern and central regions.

We expect a new shipment under the LDS Wheelchair 2025 project and will then focus on supporting medical facilities and individuals in eastern Ukraine — particularly in Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions, where the needs are greatest.

Our goal is simple: to make wheelchairs accessible across the country and improve the quality of life for people with limited mobility.



STATISTICS ON ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

October 2025

Direction of assistance	Number of beneficiaries	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Name of Donor
Food Security	157 811 beneficiaries	67 088 food kits, 5 979 canned food kits, 278 756 loaves of bread, 5 500 ATB-vouchers	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Odesa, Lviv, Kyiv, Chernivtsi, Cherkasy, Vinnytsia regions	The UN World Food Programme & ADRA Switzerland, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints & ADRA France & ADRA Ukraine
Legal Assistance	1 554 beneficiaries	-	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Zaporizhia, Kyiv regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), ADRA Japan
MHPSS	3 394 beneficiaries	individual sessions, group sessions, trainings	All of Ukraine	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), OCHA & Ukrainian Deminers Association ADRA Japan
Protection Center	1 597 beneficiaries	10 protection centers	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Chernihiv, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv regions	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada
Social Transportation	2 350 beneficiaries	106 trips	Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia, Donetsk, Kherson regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft
CASH Assistance	112 beneficiaries (52 households)	29 233 \$ (1 209 600 ₴)	Kharkiv, Vinnytsia, Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Poltava, Sumy regions	ADRA Japan, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
Health Assistance	-	237 wheelchairs	Cherkasy, Poltava, Mykolaiv, Rivne, Odesa, Zakarpattia, Chernivtsi regions	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saint & Wheelchairs Foundation





HIGHLIGHT

ADRA UKRAINE IS THE FIRST CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION THAT DELIVERED SOLID FUEL TO CHERNIHIV REGION THIS YEAR

The ADRA Ukraine team delivered RUF fuel briquettes to residents of the Koryukivka district in Chernihiv region. Thanks to this initiative, at the end of September, 75 vulnerable households received environmentally friendly fuel to help them prepare for the cold season.

Among Ukrainian charitable organizations, ADRA Ukraine was the first that start delivering fuel briquettes to residents of the region this year.

This assistance is provided as part of the MHWP project, which is implemented with the support of [the Canadian government](#) and [ADRA Canada](#).

The project includes:

- financial support for the purchase of fuel for the Chernihiv region;
- psychological and psychosocial assistance in six protection centers;
- provision of fuel briquettes to 150 households and 17 collective centers for internally displaced persons in frontline areas.

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HIGHLIGHT

IN ZHYTOMYR, STUDENTS LEARNED HOW VALUES HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE

On October 15, ADRA Ukraine specialists held a psycho-educational training for students of the Polytechnic College of Zhytomyr. The event was dedicated to the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and took place within the framework of the WMTW Ukraine project with the support of [Aktion Deutschland Hilft \(ADH\)](#), [ADRA Czech Republic](#).

30 students of the specialty «Social work» took part in the training. The classes were conducted by psychologist Nataliya Konopkina and lawyer Sofiia Melnychuk, who talked about the importance of realizing one's own values and forming life goals — as a key factor in preventing violence.

During the meeting, experts explained that values determine what is important to a person, and goals show exactly how he implements it. When values are violated in interaction, there is a risk of violence or acquiescence in it due to the loss of internal support. Awareness of one's own values helps a person to maintain this resistance, and setting goals promotes the choice of actions based on mutual respect, not support for violence.

The event received positive feedback from participants. College student Diana shared her impressions: «Thanks to the information I received, I better understood which areas of my life I can improve, how important they are to me and what needs more attention».

Published On: 22.10.2025



HIGHLIGHT

17 CHARITABLE AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS OF THE MYKOLAIV REGION RECEIVED FUNDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL INITIATIVES

ADRA Ukraine has selected 17 charitable and public organizations that implement their own ideas in the «Community Initiative Support» program on a competitive basis. The program is implemented within the framework of the project «Reconstruction of social infrastructure in the Mykolaiv region» with the support of [Danish International Development Agency \(DANIDA\)](#), [DanChurchAid \(DCA\)](#) and [ADRA Denmark](#).

Non-profit organizations — charitable, public, volunteer and social organizations were invited to participate in the program. The main condition — is the presence of projects aimed at improving the quality of life in communities, developing social cohesion, overcoming crisis situations and expanding access to social services for all residents.

The total support budget this year is approximately 7 million UAH. All selected initiatives meet local needs determined by the communities of Mykolaiv region.

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TETIANA BOYKO
from Lotskyne village of Mykolaiv region

Tetiana lives with her mother and four children.

They had to go through difficult times, because from 2022 they remain in their village. Despite all the dangers and active hostilities, there was nowhere to go — so they remained.

«On the next street where I live, a rocket flew in, but it didn't explode», — says the woman.

It's scary to even imagine how she felt when she saw a rocket that could explode at any moment.

When the village was liberated, it became a little easier, but there was no food — the garden the family does not grow, and the shops were closed. They had to travel to a nearby town to at least somehow provide the family with food.

«There was not even bread — we survived as best we could», — Tetiana remembers that difficult period.

Currently, [ADRA Ukraine](#), with the support of the [UN World Food Programme](#) and [ADRA Switzerland](#), helps the residents of the village. Volunteers used to bring food kits, but now they provide financial support. The charity organization significantly supported Tetiana and her fellow villagers.

Food kits — is an important help. And — funds are even more appropriate: for them, people can choose what they really need or want.

«Money is better — you can buy meat so that children have to eat», — adds the woman.

Tetiana is sincerely grateful for the care and support!



VOLODYMYR ANDRYSHKO
Vertiivka village, Chernihiv region

Volodymyr lives with his family in the village of Vertiivka in the Chernihiv region.

They did not leave their home even during the most anxious days of the full-scale invasion — they stayed at home and stuck together.

«I live with my family: my wife and two children, the younger of whom has a disability,» he says.

Due to the complex diagnosis of their younger child, the family belongs to a vulnerable category of the population. The village council is aware of this, so when the opportunity arose to support such people, Volodymyr was offered to apply for assistance from [ADRA Ukraine](#) and [ADRA Canada](#) — funds to purchase fuel briquettes, which would be enough for this and next winter.

«Heating is difficult. It takes a lot of money to buy firewood, especially for my large house,» says Volodymyr.

The family immediately agreed. Providing heating on their own is very expensive, so every winter is becoming more and more difficult. Volodymyr submitted all the documents and received 24,000 hryvnia on his card within a week.

These funds provided significant support on the eve of the cold season. Now the family has fewer worries about winter and more confidence that their home will be warm.

Volodymyr is very grateful for this help. For the family, it is not just money — it is an important reminder that they are not alone. There are people who care. There are those who will take care of them when times get tough. There are those who are there for them.



ANNA PROSHUTTIA
Kharkiv region

Anna is a caring mother of two children.

Just a few years ago, her family lived a calm and happy life: they planned their future, dreamed of traveling, of their children's education, of owning their own home. But one day, everything changed abruptly. The war took away their sense of safety — and with it, their ordinary rhythm of life. Joy and confidence in the future gave way to fear and anxiety.

Her husband is now forced to stay far from home. Anna remains with their two children — a little daughter and a son who is in the fourth grade. She tries to stay strong for their sake, though she admits: sometimes it's hard to find the strength. Each day begins with the same thought — as long as everyone stays alive and healthy. At the beginning of 2022, because of constant shelling in their native village, the family made the difficult decision to move to Kharkiv itself. There, despite the danger, it's somewhat calmer — there are shelters and opportunities for the children to study and develop. The parents simply wanted their children to be able to sleep peacefully, even if only for a few hours a day, and they worried deeply about their well-being. Now Anna's son attends an underground school in Kharkiv every day, where he continues learning with his classmates even during air raids. Her daughter is a bit younger, but she also tries very hard and eagerly learns new things.

"I was very lucky," says Anna. "We received school supply kits from ADRA for my children."

For somebody, it might seem like a small thing — but for Anna's family, it was a huge support. The children were genuinely thrilled: they rejoiced over every pen, every pencil. In those moments, Anna could once again see their happy smiles — and for her, that's the most precious thing of all.

For Anna, these gestures of care from [ADRA Ukraine](#) and [Japan Platform](#) are a reminder that she is not alone. Despite all the hardships, she believes that one day her family will be reunited — in a peaceful home.



БІЛЬШЕ НОВИН

[ADRA Ukraine joined the UN OCHA meeting in Chernihiv](#)

[Psychological support where it is needed most](#)

[ADRA Ukraine is discussing restoring access to the Kuryliv community of Kharkiv region](#)

[ADRA Ukraine concluded memorandums of cooperation with the Red Cross and NGO «Zahody» in Dnipro city](#)

[ADRA Ukraine expands the WASH component: a memorandum of cooperation was signed in Dnipro](#)

[Barrierlessness, care and space for the community: how the communities of Mykolaiv region implement their initiatives with ADRA Ukraine](#)

[IDPs in collective centers in Dnipropetrovsk region received solid fuel from ADRA Ukraine](#)

[Representatives of Radiohjälpen and ADRA Sweden visited Ukraine: supporting children and youth through stories of hope](#)

[Representatives of ADRA Sweden and ADRA Ukraine discussed further cooperation in the humanitarian sphere with the Embassy of Sweden](#)

[ADRA Ukraine and WFP UN delivered more than 400 food kits to the front-line community of Kharkiv region](#)

CONTACTS



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