# 2022 / 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT

East
Europe
Foundation

The report in your hands covers almost a year and a half from January 2022 to May 2023. A year and a half when time stopped being measured in the usual way.

On the 10th day of Russia's full-scale invasion, we launched a project to help people who were driven from their homes by the war. On the 500th day, I am writing this text and looking back at the path we traveled: As a Ukrainian public organization; as a team of dedicated people; as Ukrainians who continue to suffer from the war, but persevere in overcoming its challenges.

On February 24, 2022, we faced the same situation as thousands of other Ukrainian organizations: public, nongovernmental and private. Our primary objective, and my own as a leader, was to protect the lives and health of our employees and take care of those around us. Because the most important value of the Foundation is people, the team.

The second objective was to use our many years of experience, expertise, and connections with international partners and government authorities to respond effectively and promptly to Ukraine's urgent needs.

In fact, this gave rise to new programs – humanitarian assistance and civilian security programs. This programming influenced our mission and vision as a nongovernmental organization. Since the beginning of 2023, we continue to do our best to transform Ukraine into a country that serves people. And, also a state that protects them.

At the beginning of the Russian invasion, many of the Foundation's employees left for safer places, volunteered, and helped their loved ones. Some went to the front, others found themselves under occupation. Of course, like all Ukrainians, we were frightened. But fear did not stop us. I am proud of what we as a team were able to do then and continue to do now.

On March 5, 2022, we launched the Shelter program. With the help of local partner NGOs, we created shelters for internally displaced persons, or IDPs, and delivered and distributed humanitarian aid. We were among the first to deliver medicine to the hospital in Yavoriv

in the Lviv region immediately after the missile attack on March 13, 2022. We also delivered aid to de-occupied territories. We supported hospitals in the Kyiv region.

A large cluster of our programs is now related to civilian security which we are implementing in cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine. Yes, Ukraine is the most mine-contaminated country in the world. Therefore, we ensure that Ukrainians know how to handle explosive ordnance and protect themselves. We conducted information campaigns, developed online courses for adults and children, provided training for mine identifiers and updated the mobile application, Demining Ukraine.

We equipped shelters in 28 educational institutions so that children can safely return to school. Of course, I would be delighted to see the Foundation pursue its regular activities, like in the pre-war times, implementing programs to modernize education, support talented children or launch school social entrepreneurship programs. And I am sure that all this is still ahead. Yet, here and now, we have been arranging shelters and looking for every opportunity to continue this no less important work. Because we have a

choice: either to complain about the circumstances or to adapt to those who need help now. We choose the second option.

We continue to strengthen civil society through grants, training and acceleration programs. We release online courses that meet the needs of the present day. The Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform sets records for views of a landmine safety course and Ukrainian psychologist Svitlana Royz instructs on how to take care of yourself and your children. And we are not stopping with this assistance.

E-democracy and digitalization are a priority for us. Ukraine impresses the world by developing digital services, even during wartime. And, I am pleased the Foundation is directly involved in this. Read this report to find out how.

Although the war continues, the Foundation has long since moved from a state of emergency to a stable mode of operation. We continue to develop, demonstrate flexibility, seek additional program funding and expand our program portfolio. Over the past year, both have it has doubled in size and the number of our employees has also increased.

Our achievements would not have been possible without the team of professionals with who I am honored to work. Behind every figure in this report is their hard work in unimaginable conditions during this war. I thank each and every one of them. I am sincerely proud to be in the same boat with you.

I also thank all of Ukraine's friends from around the world – partners and donors for their support. Special words of gratitude go to the Foundation Board which always supports us with advice, expertise and action. We are grateful to our civil society and government partners.

Together we are strong. Together we are confidently bringing victory closer. And, I will do everything in my power to ensure that we do not let you down.

## East Europe Foundation's mission is to transform Ukraine into a country that serves and protects its people

**Victor Liakh,
President,
East Europe Foundation**

# The EEF Board Of Directors

East Europe Foundation is one of the few foundations in Ukraine that has an independent Board of Directors consisting of prominent Ukrainian and foreign members of business and socio-political circles.

For as long as EEF has been operational, its board has included more than 30 distinguished individuals such as Natalie Jaresko, Ivanna Klympush-Tsytsadze, Stephen Pifer, Vitaliy Sych, and Olesia Ostrovska-Liuta.

The Board supervises all areas of activity of Foundation. It also provides recommendations regarding the strategic institutional and program development of our organization, advocates for key issues at the highest political level, and raises funds.

**Victor Liakh**
President, East Europe Foundation

**Sevgil Musayeva**
Editor-in-Chief of the media Ukrainska Pravda

**Sergiy Gusovsky**
Owner of Sergey Gusovsky Restaurants

**Robert O'Donovan**
Vice President, Eurasia Foundation

In addition to the Board of Directors, EEF also has an Advisory Council.

# Advisory Council

**Oleksandr Pochkun**
Managing partner, Baker Tilly Ukraine

**Anna Derevianko**
Executive director, European Business Association

**Margarita Karpenko**
Managing partner, Kinstellar

**Oleksiy Haran**

Political analyst, Director of Research at the Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation

**Timur Bondaryev**

Managing and Founding Partner, Arzinger

**Melinda Haring**

Nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center

**Nadia Vasylieva**

Deputy General Director for Digitization and Innovation at UkrOboronProm, the state-owned defense corporation

**Michael Bociurkiw**

Global affairs analyst

**William B. Taylor**

Vice President, Strategic Stability and Security at the United States Institute for Peace (USIP), 6th US Ambassador to Ukraine (2006–2009), US Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to Ukraine (2019–2020)

**Morgan Williams**

President, US-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC)

**Trond Moe**

Managing Director of NEFCO

**Sandra Willett Jackson**

Director of Strategies & Structures International, Eurasia Foundation

# Smart Goals

**Progress in reaching the 2019–2024 Smart Goals as of April 2023**

## › Goal 1:
### Strong and Active Civil Society

**388,300**

citizens have become involved in the decision-making process via the Foundation's participation instruments like e-petitions, e-consultations and open budget

**448**

CSOs have raised their capacity through participating in the EEF events like seminars, training events, consultations and organizational capacity assessment

**24**

civil society organizations have been supported by the Foundation for relocation, reprogramming, launch, or continuing their activities in new areas or territories

**27**

innovative instruments/platforms/models to foster civil society development have been implemented with the EEF participation

## › Goal 2:
### Effective, democratic government at all levels

**56.5 million**

service transactions under the client-oriented public e-services provided to citizens developed by EEF with at least 70% satisfaction rate

**330**

laws, regulations, and practices that promote good governance have been drafted with the support of EEF

**28**

innovative instruments and services to ensure resilient and sustainable operation of local/regional/national governance

**12**

national/regional-level tools that facilitate doing business were created with the support of EEF

**31**

communities that introduced innovative inclusive sustainable growth models in partnership with EEF

**8**

advocacy events were conducted outside Ukraine

The Foundation undertakes programs to pursue its four Smart Goals set out in its Strategic Plan for 2019–2024. The Plan was updated in 2022 in response to challenges and needs that arose due to the full-scale Russian aggression against Ukraine.

## › Goal 3:
### Safer Communities, Protected Civilians

## › Goal 4:
### EEF's Institutional Development

**148,431**

citizens received humanitarian assistance including **95,711** individuals received psycho-social support / services and **23,917** received shelter / NFI support (basic support for shelter, hygiene kits, equipment, accommodation)

**317**

EEF partners among local governments, central executive bodies, educational institutions of different forms, and non-governmental organizations that implement the EEF's programs

**578,298**

citizens trained on safety, risk, CBRN, and mine education through the EEF's online and offline courses (long-term safety, security and freedom of movement)

**10**

new courses launched on Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform

**654**

micro and small businesses supported (grants, consultations, training opportunities)

**7**

communities introduced innovative resilience and inclusive development models in partnership with EEF

**10**

countries outside Ukraine where the EEF conducted program activities

**18**

community objects renovated / reconstructed under support of EEF programs / projects

**137**

community objects equipped under support of EEF programs / projects

› Cluster:

Programs to Develop
E-Governance and
Democracy

› Programs:

EGAP Program

# EGAP Program

**The E-Governance for Accountability and Participation Program (EGAP) is being implemented in cooperation with Innovabridge Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of Digital Transformation over 2015–2023. In 2022, Switzerland increased the budget to finance the EGAP Program by 16.5 million Swiss francs**

## Objectives:

To develop e-services, and democracy at national and regional levels in order to improve lives of Ukrainians and facilitate interaction between the government and citizens.

We are supporting 44 pilot communities in Vinnytsya, Volyn, Dnipro, Luhansk, Odesa, and Chernihiv regions, in the field of digitalization.

## Key Accomplishments:

**Electronic Services:**
- 17 new services and tools were created: declaration of residence; registration of citizens in the register of persons liable for military service; obtaining an extract from the register of territorial communities on the Diia portal and in the Diia app; a fee-based services for sole proprietors; automatic registration of LLCs and more.
- Automated public services that exclude the involvement of officials have been launched. In particular, the processing time for an application to register a sole proprietorship is now 1.6 seconds instead of 24 hours.
- 94% of Ukrainians register their LLCs online; 87% of citizens have obtained their COVID certificates through Diia App.
- Conducted a study on the economic and anti-corruption effect of e-services (2020–2021). Over UAH 6 billion is an estimated amount of potential bribes prevented due to digitalization of services.
- Ukraine's achievements in the field of digital transformation were presented abroad, in particular at the World Economic Forum in Davos and Ukraine Recovery Conference in Lugano. We strengthen the brand of Ukraine as a digital state and share successful practices.

**E-Democracy Development:**
- 1.9 million Ukrainians use e-Democracy tools on the

**Read more:** https://egap.in.ua/

e-DEM platform. Almost 500 local governments are connected to it.
- During the wartime, e-Consultations have become the most popular. This tool is used in 200 communities, in particular to rename streets and even settlements.
- E-petitions to local authorities through the e-DEM platform received more than 90,000 votes during the reporting period and 1,000,000 votes since this tool had been deployed.
- The E-Contest module was developed, which allows central and local authorities to hold competitions for civil society projects and engage the public online. 19 competitions have been announced using this platform.
- 50,000 citizens use the Chatbot Legal Advisor for IDPs to get advice on legal issues, including employment, housing, state aid, and more.
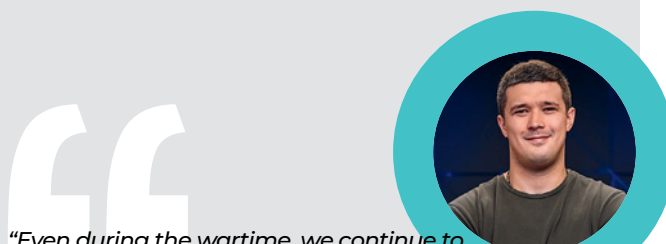
**Digital Transformation of Regions and Communities:**
- 360 communities are connected to the SVOI Platform, and more than 47,000 citizens use the SVOI Chatbot. In 2022, the following tools were added to the platform: a website builder to create websites for Administrative Service Centers; and, an e-Queue.
- A project to work with the Chernihiv Region has been launched. Four pilot communities

In October 2022, the Ministry of Digital Transformation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) signed a memorandum of cooperation, which includes additional funding for digitalization development

*"In the first months of the full-scale invasion, the uncontrolled amount of disinformation became a big challenge for the communities,"* said **Oksana Pitsyk**, head of the Smidyn community in Volyn region. *"So every time during my live broadcasts, I appealed to the public: if you want to receive high-quality and truthful information, connect to the SVOI Chatbot."*

*"Even during the wartime, we continue to simplify services, launch new convenient services and adapt existing ones,"* said **Mykhailo Fedorov**, *Ukraine's Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation. "Our digital base and financial support from Switzerland helped us quickly adapt and be effective in the war. Now more than ever, it is important to deliver targeted aid without delay. EGAP is helping our team to launch convenient services."*

have been selected to receive comprehensive digitalization support.

- **Creating New Digital Tools in the Wartime:**
  The ECHR application platform allowed Ukrainians affected by Russian aggression to file an application to the court online. 7,600 applications have been filled out.
- Demining Ukraine Application was developed to raise public awareness of explosive ordnance and allow people to report potentially dangerous objects.

## SEE ALSO

- ›››› Successful e-Governance practices: how online business services make Ukraine "the digital transformation tiger". Column for the Asian media GovInsider
- ›››› How citizens use electronic petitions during wartime. Column for the Ukrainian Pravda
- ›››› Community development during the wartime and the role of Citizen Activity Centers. A success story
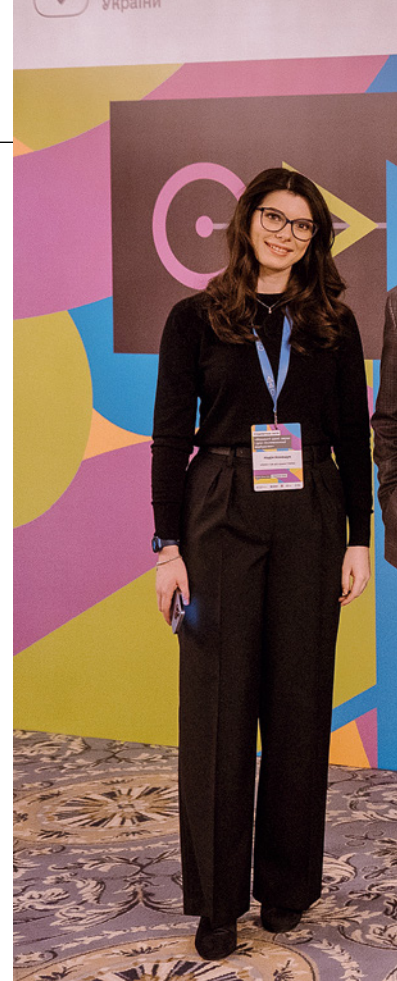- ›››› How civic participatory budgeting affects local decision-making in Ukraine. A success story

# TAPAS Project (Phase II)

**The USAID/UK Aid project Transparency and Accountability in Public Administration and Services /TAPAS (TAPAS Project) is implemented in partnership with the Eurasia Foundation.**

**We develop and improve the open data ecosystem in Ukraine and electronic public services.**

**Project implementation period: August 1, 2022 – November 30, 2023. This is the second phase in the Project implementation**

## Objectives:

The Project aims to improve the legislative framework for open data development, ensure the availability and quality of data, and encourage the public to use it.

For a number of years, Ukraine has been setting trends in open data development. In 2022, our country ranked 2nd in the Open Data Maturity rating among 35 countries, whereas earlier, in 2021, Ukraine occupied the sixth place in the rating, and in 2020 – the 17th. This year, the level of open data maturity in Ukraine is 97%.

In wartime, access to public information in the form of open data was partially restricted. Nevertheless, it is important to work on opening up data, increasing transparency and accountability of the authorities so that citizens can monitor and influence government decisions.

## Key Accomplishments:

- e-Recovery state program was launched to help citizens rebuild houses damaged by hostilities after February 24, 2022.
- Major anti-corruption projects are being implemented, including e-Queue 2.0, the unified state electronic system in the field of construction, certification of seafarers, online declaration of income and property of civil servants, and more.
- Two studies were conducted on the compliance of Ukraine's open data legislation with the EU acquis. This will contribute to the harmonization of Ukraine's legislation with the EU Law and will facilitate Ukraine's European integration.
- 80 data standards were created to ensure a high level of valuable data management and disclosure by the government.
- The Open Data Service Support contest was held to identify the best projects to help different categories of people through open data:

  ◦ The Ukrainian Pravda newspaper is implementing a media project called Weekly Chart: What's Happening in the Country in Numbers to create weekly info-graphics on the economic, political, and social life of Ukraine.
  ◦ NGO Liki Control created the I'll Be Mother Chatbot to help women who are planning motherhood or are already pregnant, learn about free medical examinations, medications, and services under the Medical Guarantee Program.
  ◦ Clarity Project LLC has developed the Open Data Watchdog analytical platform to track events with data sets on the Unified State Open Data Portal.
  ◦ Pravosud (Justice) Analytical System capacity has been expanded to ensure automatic review of court practice for transparency. In particular, the system has new functions: keyword search, document search, and acknowledgment of a legal entity's participation in a court case.

- The Open Data Master's Program was developed in Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman.

"It is impossible to overestimate the role of East Europe Foundation in the open data development, especially against the backdrop of the full-scale war," said **Mykhailo Korneyev**, Head of the Open Data Expert Group at the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine. "As part of the TAPAS Project, together we managed to hold a grant competition for open data projects and systematically train civil servants and students. The TAPAS team is highly professional in open data development. This is not just a "bureaucratic" job, but a comprehensive immersion in the issues of each project and involvement at all stages of its implementation."



"Thanks to the TAPAS Project and the Open Data Service Support contest, we launched I'll Be Mother Chatbot, which has become an electronic assistant to support pregnant women," says **Nataliya Guran**, Head of the NGO Liki Control. "The Chatbot will guide you through the possibilities of free medical care, find the best medical facility, and tell you about the medical reform, in which both the patients', and future Ukrainians' lives and health come first. Open data is not only the basis for democracy development, but also is a great system of creating tools that serve citizens."

## SEE ALSO

» [8 tips](#) on how to get a grant for your own open data project during the war

› **Cluster:**

**Programs to Develop
E-Governance and
Democracy**

› **Programs:**

**Employment Opportunities with
Diia.Digital Education**

# Employment Opportunities with Diia.Digital Education

**The Program is implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Digital Transformation with the support of Tides Foundation and funds from Google.org. The Program implementation period is from October 2022 to January 2025.**

**Diia.Education is the next stage in the evolution of the Diia.Digital Education Project, which focused on digital skills and literacy and was supported by the Swiss-Ukrainian EGAP Program**
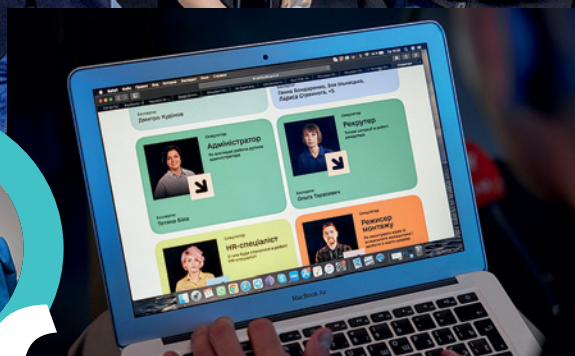
## Objectives:

According to the report by the UN International Labor Organization, nearly five million Ukrainians have lost their jobs since the outbreak of the full-scale invasion.

Technology companies continue to support Ukraine during the full-scale war. In particular, Google was one of the first companies to side with our country and continues to support Ukrainians: a US$2 million grant was allocated for the development of the Diia.Education Platform.

The Project aims to reduce unemployment in the country through improving professional skills of Ukrainians who have lost their jobs or are at risk of losing them, including internally displaced persons, the elderly, and women.

## Among the Key Accomplishments:

- Launched the Diia.Education Platform, which offers hundreds of new educational courses to allow you to explore career opportunities, master a new professional area, and find a job. Upon successful completion of the course, participants receive a certificate that can be added to their CV.
- Diia.Education is based on "edutainment", a modern education format that combines entertainment and learning. The training is

*"According to the United Nations, almost 60% of Ukrainian internally displaced persons are people of working age, and many of them are unemployed," said **Valeriia Ionan**, Deputy Minister of Digital Transformation for European Integration. "Changing activities, developing new skills to start or continue a career path is extremely important nowadays. Our platform will introduce new digital professions, help develop or improve skills in specific topics, and find open vacancies in the user's target region."*

based on the principles of serialization: there is dialogue, humor, audience involvement, improvisation, and fragmentation (the episode ends at an interesting point). Thanks to this, those who start the course complete it and pass the final test.

- The platform also offers career guidance tests, podcasts, webinars, and guides. Artificial intelligence makes it easy to choose a personalized learning path or select the topics that interest the user most.
- In addition to theory, there are simulations with real tasks faced by employees in various fields: baristas and bakers, data analysts or targeting professionals.

# Developing Digital Registers



**The Program is being implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine with funds from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany via GIZ.**

**The Program implementation period is from December 2022 to May 2023**

## Objectives:

In Ukraine, there are about 450 state registers, 80% of which are technologically outdated and vulnerable to cyberattacks. The government has adopted a resolution to allow ministries and authorities to create new registers on a special platform. This will enable streamlining the data and make it easier and faster to launch new government services.

## About the Program:

The Program's aim is to develop a basic digital public infrastructure and to create about 20 new digital registers on one platform; including a register of technological vehicles; a register of special-purpose food products; a register of blood donors; a register of pets; and, even a so-called register of registers. The new digital registers will be available at the end of 2023.

*"One of the main challenges in building a digital state is the status of government-run registries," said **Oleksiy Vyskub**, First Deputy Minister of Digital Transformation. "This issue is relevant for all countries, and the problems are typical: systems were created at different times, and technologies are rapidly "aging". In Ukraine, we have created something unique: a platform of registries, which is a modern, secure and open source environment, based on which you can quickly deploy any register without the need to reinvent the wheel every time. This allows us to move quickly, safely and technologically."*

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# 3D Project

**The 3D Project: Development Despite Disruption. Resilient Civil Society at a Time of Covid-19 and Beyond was implemented with the financial support of the European Union in the time period from October 2020 to May 2022**

## Objectives:

The Project aim was to help Ukraine's civil society overcome consequences and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; strengthen the organizational capacity of NGOs, including the Foundation itself; and, promote their involvement in the widespread implementation of civic tech tools.

## Project Accomplishments:

**The grant component:**
- 20 organizations received grants to solve the problems of their communities and develop their organizational potential through the use of civic tech instruments in collaboration with local authorities. Nine digital tools were developed, including chatbots, online courses, and portals. The remaining grants advocated for and popularized the use of existing civic tech instruments at the community level.

**Acceleration Program:**
- As part of the Acceleration Program, six civic tech products were developed, aimed at improving the interaction between the community and the government.

- **Coaching support for leaders of civil society organizations:**
  A coaching program for NGO leaders was implemented in two groups. A total of 200 hours of coaching consultations were provided to 40 NGO leaders.
- The first manual on coaching for NGO leaders in Ukraine was published.
- Two online courses were launched: on open data for NGOs and civil servants and on design thinking and innovation for NGOs, which contributed to the improvement of the institutional capacity of NGOs.

**Institutional Support of East Europe Foundation:**
- The Foundation was able to systematically improve its internal procedures and processes, and more than 40 employees attended training on program management, communications, and financial management.

*Liudmyla Nikitina, formerly Communications Manager with My City Platform in Kharkiv and now the Spilnokosht (CommonFunds) Platform crowdfunding manager, took an online course on design thinking in the fall of 2022. As a result, she created a whole portfolio of solutions to facilitate My City Platform further development in Kharkiv:*
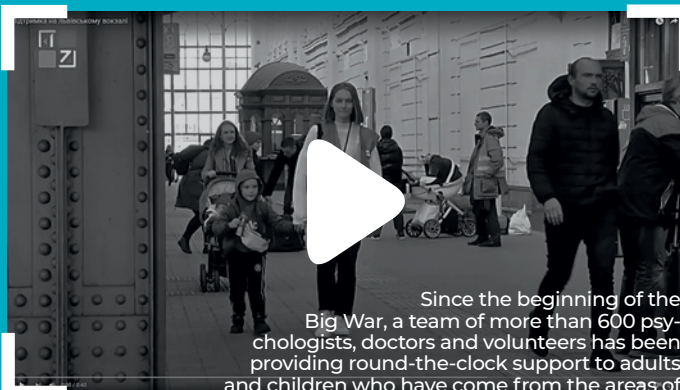*"We used design thinking to find the most effective way to develop the Platform. We gathered requests, problem issues, and needs from users – civil society representatives in both Kharkiv city and the nearby region. As a result, we updated the Platform's development strategy and identified activities that would contribute to it. The course gave me an understanding of how I can apply design thinking to improve the business model of an organization, project or initiative."*

**As a result,**
the project covered more than 200 communities in Ukraine. At the same time, a significant part of the activities were implemented online. First during the pandemic, and later during the full-scale invasion.

Since the beginning of the Big War, a team of more than 600 psychologists, doctors and volunteers has been providing round-the-clock support to adults and children who have come from the areas of active hostilities. At the beginning of the invasion, about 140-160 people were volunteering, depending on the schedule of evacuation trains, and the number of people assisted ranged from 25,000 to 35,000 daily

A network of about 70 partner organizations was created, which gained experience and knowledge in the fields of civic technologies and e-democracy, government, and community communication. After February 24, 2022, the 3D Project was reformatted to meet the challenges and needs of the wartime, and became a basis for rapid response to wartime-related challenges. A number of civil society organizations working in host communities received support to set up shelters, and psychological aid services run by volunteers at the Lviv Railway Station were supported as well.

**Yevheniy Pavlov**, *a representative of the Interregional Institute for Community Development, an NGO based in Konotop, Sumy Region. Within the framework of the 3D Project, the grantee worked on the implementation and promotion of e-DEM tools, and since the outbreak of the Big War, he was supported to address the urgent needs of his community: "Since the outbreak of the war, it was not before March 12, 2022 that an evacuation corridor was opened [for the members of the public to leave the areas of hostilities]. Before that, there were no safe routes, so our organization worked to help community members who decided not to leave their homes. In May 2022, with the help of the Foundation, and with funds from the EU, we equipped a shelter for IDPs with furniture and kitchen utensils, we made it cozy and bright, and held a series of psychological counseling sessions for adults and children."*

## READ MORE

»»» Special Project: Coaching Support in Times of Pandemic: Five Stories of Civic Activists

»»» Coaching Manual for NGO Leaders

»»» Report on the Final Independent Evaluation of the Program

# SpilnoDiia Program

**The SpilnoDiia (Joint Action) Program is implemented by East Europe Foundation in partnership with the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR) and the NGO Together Against Corruption with funds from the EU**

### Objectives:

Promote the capacity building of the volunteer groups, as well as promote volunteering in Ukraine.

### Among the Key Accomplishments:

**Educational Component:**
- Three online courses in cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine:

  ◇ Volunteering from A to Z is a course that talks about the legal framework of the volunteering activity in different areas, team building, and more. The course is based on expert advice and best practices on how to motivate volunteers.
  ◇ Civil Defense Basics for Volunteers is a course on safety and first aid to help prevent and respond to emergencies.
  ◇ Watch Your Step! Watch Where You're Going! is a course that talks about explosive ordnance and how to handle them, and how to talk to children about mines.

- Offline trainings to engage volunteers in rescue efforts, mine identification/reporting, and refresher workshops.

**Support Volunteer Activities:**
- 16 NGOs engaged in volunteer activities received microgrants to build capacity and integrate volunteer centers; provide psychosocial aid; strengthen cohesion and stability of volunteer networks; assist medical volun- teers in mobile healthcare units, and increase the capacity of the volunteer fire units.
- The All-Ukrainian Public Center Volunteer received a grant to modernize the SESU Training Center and to provide training for volunteer rescuers.

*"The development of volunteer fire and res-cue units remains a priority despite the hos-tilities,"* said **Roman Prymush**, *Deputy Head of the SESU for Digital Development, Digital Transformation and Digitalization. "We are grateful to our partners for their support and modernization of the Training Center where we train our volunteers."*

*"The volunteer movement in Ukraine is strong and highly moti-vated,"* said **Xavier Camus**, *Head of the Good Governance and Rule of Law Section, the EU Delegation to Ukraine, during his visit to the SESU Training Center. "The cohesion of civil society plays an important role in stimulating the European Union's support for Ukraine. Effec-tive cooperation between NGOs and the Government of Ukraine will definitely contribute to the country's recovery."*

# ELECTRONIC TOOLS

**»»»**   [Demining Ukraine](#) Application update

**»»»**   Launching the [Affordable Housing Platform](#)
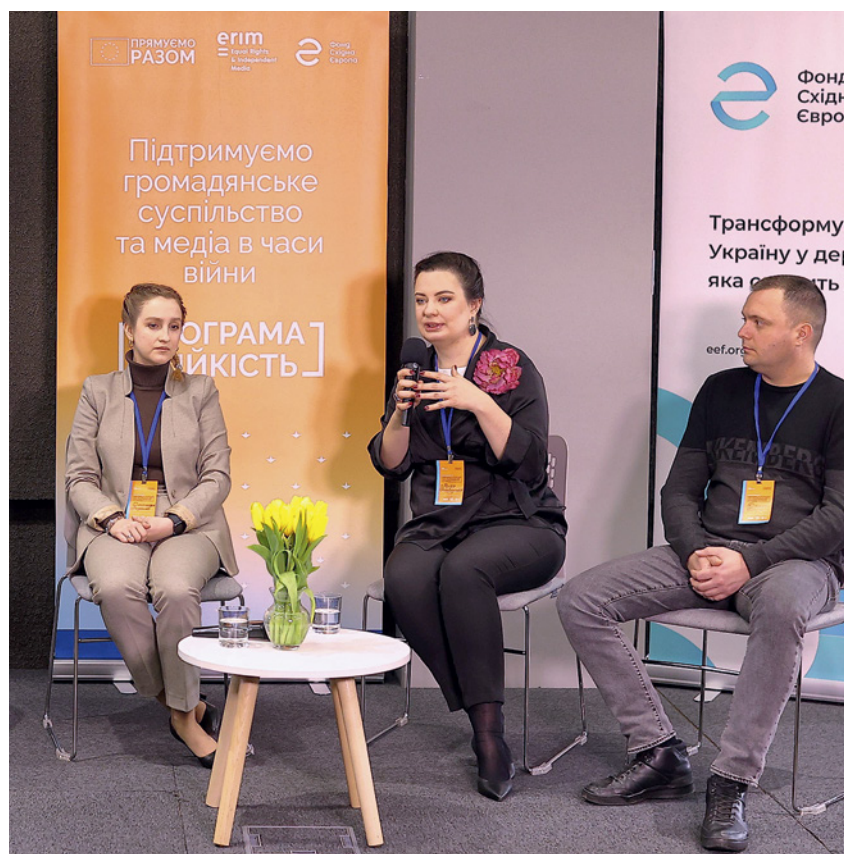
# Stiykist' Program

**It is being implemented by within a consortium of non – governmental organisations led by ERIM (France) in partnership with Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights House Tbilisi, the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, and funded by the European Union. The Program implementation period is until July 2023. The Program includes a grant component and a capacity building component for NGOs and communities**



## Objectives:

Build capacity of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), individual activists and media in Ukraine affected by the war.

## Among the Key Accomplishments:

**Grants for NGOs and Media**

- 15 NGOs and media outlets registered as NGOs received grants to relocate and adapt in their new locations; create coworking spaces and support centers for IDPs; and, in the case of media outlets, to cover salaries, purchase necessary equipment, produce content, protect data, and more.

**Strengthening Resilience Through Educational Initiatives**

- Two online courses on psychological resilience and cybersecurity for NGOs were launched. Three more courses are planned to be released on the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform on information hygiene, monitoring and evaluation for NGOs, and, a course for local governments on integration of IDPs into communities.
- Displaced activists and NGOs have participated in the training program:
  - 84 representatives of NGOs attended a week-long training in Lviv to support NGO leaders and teams.
  - 120 participants met online daily to attend a three-day training on grantwriting.
  - A total of seven training sessions, lasting two-three days each, were held for the Program's grantees, including adaptive NGO management; project planning; communication skills development; use of e-democracy tools and civic technologies; work with volunteers; and stress relief.
  - 13 NGOs have undergone an organizational capacity assessment and will receive development roadmaps tailored to their needs. Another organization will develop an anti-corruption policy strategy under a mentor's guidance.

**Support for IDP Host Communities: Workshops and Methodology Development**

- 15 communities from six regions are participating in this component of the Program. Three offline workshops were held to share experiences and develop approaches to solving existing problems;
- Organized a discussion platform in Lviv that brought together 103 representatives from different communities in Ukraine, regional and local nongovernmental organizations and government authorities, where participants jointly discussed the opportunities and importance of IDP integration in their new communities.
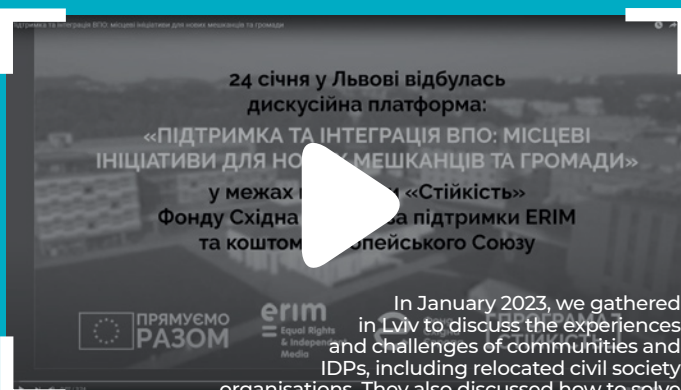
*NGO Journalistic Organization of the MIG Newspaper received a grant under the Program to support the work of the editorial office and publish special issues of the printed newspaper The Word of Truth is Our Weapon. **Gennady Deribas**, editor-in-chief and NGO Chairman, said: "We have retained the staff and are publishing special issues in 10,000 copies. We distribute the newspaper in IDP hubs, hospitals, and, at the markets. All copies are distributed, no single copy left. People from the frontline territories learn about Zaporizhzhia news and receive truthful information from our printed issues. As an editorial office, we faced challenges: There was often no Internet, so we would record materials and layouts at home on flash drives and take them to the printing house. All this was under constant shelling. Because of the unexpected nighttime strikes (sirens were turned on after the explosions), it was morally difficult to pull ourselves together, events and meetings were canceled, and some materials were created and released later than we planned."*

*__Liudmyla Absava__, Global View NGO Board Chair, educational program facilitator, participant of the week-long training for NGOs in Lviv: "Our organization Global View was relocated from Kherson, and we did not know where to start. The biggest challenge this year was a tragedy of lost lives. Now, at this training, first of all, we got mental support. Secondly, after the lectures, we developed a course of action for the next six months. Thirdly, I met wonderful people here and I am delighted with our civil society community. I understand that the war will end and we will rebuild our country, Kherson is Ukraine."*





In January 2023, we gathered in Lviv to discuss the experiences and challenges of communities and IDPs, including relocated civil society organisations. They also discussed how to solve the problems that had arisen since February 24, 2022 and how they have been transformed over time. Watch the video from the event.

## READ MORE

›››› Report from the training for civil society organizations in Lviv

›››› Report from the Discussion Platform for local authorities and NGOs

› **Cluster:**

Civil Society Development
Programs

› **Programs:**

Phoenix Project: Resilient
Ukraine in the Time of War

# Phoenix Project: Resilient Ukraine in the Time of War

The Phoenix
Project is being
implemented with
the financial support
of the European
Union. It runs until
May 31, 2024

### The Project's aim:

is to build capacity of civil society organizations to work effectively with IDPs and host communities; engage youth and tech activists; promote small and microbusinesses; and overcome the war challenges.

The Project is a logical continuation of the 3DProject: Development Despite Obstacles, which supported the public sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the development and promotion of useful online tools such as chatbots, websites, applications, and more.

### It consists of several components:

**Online Training Program:**

- Two online courses are being developed for the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform. The first one is SMM for NGOs. The course is scheduled for release in July 2023. Another course, which will be released in the summer of 2023, will talk about how a NGO can be a successful grantee: policies and procedures, fundraising, and interaction with the donor.
- A study of the needs and problems of Ukrainian NGOs, during the war, was announced. The results of this study will lead to the topic and the development of another course to be released in early 2024.

**Acceleration Program:**

- At the end of May 2023, the NGO selection process has begun to identify the participants in the Acceleration Program. 40 eligible organizations will take part in the Ideathon, 20 will undergo acceleration, and finally 10 teams will receive up to 20,000 EUR each to develop civic tech tools to help overcome the war challenges.

**Grant Support Program for Civic Initiatives:**

- Recently, we have closed the call for NGO applications for grant project support. Out of 270 applications received, approximately 17 organizations will start implementing initiatives at the local level in July 2023. Each one of them will receive between 10,000 to 20,000 EUR. Soon we will announce a grant competition for institutional support for 10 NGOs.

*"In response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the European Union has supported, among other assistance and support programs, a number of projects and programs to strengthen the Ukrainian civil society sector and initiatives to overcome the challenges of the big war,"* said **Martin Schroeder**, *Head of the Local and Human Development Section at the EU Delegation to Ukraine on the press event dedicated to launch of the Project. "These include support for internally displaced persons, relocated organizations, and host communities. The Phoenix Project is distinguished by a strong focus on building the institutional capacity of Ukrainian NGOs and useful technological solutions."*

› **Cluster:**

Civil Society Development
Programs

› **Programs:**

Capable and
Resistant Project

# Capable and Resistant Project

**The project is implemented by East Europe Foundation with support from Switzerland. The implementation period is until July 2023**

### Objectives:

To support and strengthen civil society organizations implementing projects in various areas, including those aimed at combating gender-based violence, protecting women's rights, supporting vulnerable groups, national minorities, and providing support to IDPs in the wartime.

## Project Accomplishments:

- 17 nongovernmental organizations received grants to implement both local initiatives, across 16 regions of Ukraine, and nationwide projects, in particular: to arrange and repair shelters for IDPs; arrange hotlines for victims of gender-based violence; organize psychological support groups; hold events for IDPs; provide career counseling; ensure legal, medical, humanitarian assistance, etc. 57,236 persons were covered by these activities.
- Participating organizations were offered an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA). This should help them implement projects and initiatives in a sustainable manner. Nine NGOs passed the OCA and will soon receive a development roadmap tailored to their needs.
- More than 30 NGO representatives attended a series of trainings, including on internal policies and procedures; financial management; digital tools for NGOs; processing, storage and protection of personal data. In May and June, trainings were held to address the needs and

Watch in the video how NGO Women's Perspectives Center has set up a shelter for mothers with children from one month to 18 years old. All of them are from different territories, mostly occupied or where active hostilities and shelling continue: Lysychansk, Nikopol, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk. The shelter has been operating for six months with the support by the Capable and Resistant Project.

NGO Center for Civic Initiatives "Public Dimension" is running a series of support groups in 10 regions of Ukraine. They are open to volunteers, IDPs, local residents, and family members of military personnel. **Naira Davoyan,** a civic activist, tells about her participation in the support group in Lviv:
"This is a 'goldmine' of energy support for myself and for our friends and families alike. You would want to come here, because you would feel safe in this place. There are other people out there not to give advice, but just listen to you. So you feel comfortable and safe here, and it helps mentally."

offer relief to the victims of war-related sexual violence and to prevent gender discrimination.

◆ To help organizations solve a specific problem or improve their processes, mentoring and expert advice was offered. This was used by 7 organizations. Mentors helped selected NGOs enhance their capabilities in the areas of communications, policy development, financial management, and digital transformation.

After being relocated from Zaporizhzhia to Uzhhorod, Voice of Romni NGO has started working with local Roma residents, as well as with those who moved to Zakarpattia to escape the war. Currently, this organization offers English language classes, career counseling, and helps IDPs learn new skills. These activities were supported by the Capable and Resistant Project since November 2022. **Anna Redko**, NGO Program Director, says: "It was mind-boggling for me to realize that I am now a displaced person, too. I realized this after six months of living in Uzhhorod. We all had a wonderful life before, and we felt that we could change something in it. After the full-scale invasion, we lost this ability. Working on the Place of Power Project is an opportunity to get involved in change. This is what gives us an incentive to support each other and live in a new reality. And not only to survive, but also to create this new life wherever we find ourselves."

› Cluster:

Humanitarian Aid
Programs

› Programs:

The Shelter Program: assistance to
internally displaced people

# The Shelter Program: assistance to internally displaced people

**The Program is being implemented with multi-donor funding. The Program implementation period is from May 2022 till May 2023**

## Objectives:

Help people and strive to make Ukraine a better place. Since the outbreak of the Big War, we launched the Shelter Program to provide internally displaced people with shelter and everything they need to live in safer areas of Ukraine.

- We were among the first to deliver medical supplies to the hospital in Yavoriv, Lviv region, immediately after the missile attack on March 13.
- We delivered aid to the de-occupied territories.
- We supported hospitals in the Kyiv region.
- We distributed humanitarian aid to the western and central regions of Ukraine through NGOs that run shelters for IDPs.
- To implement the Program, we set up the Emergency Fund and the Humanitarian Coordination Center.
- People and institutions from all over the world could donate money or send humanitarian aid to Ukrainians who needed it most.
- We turned to our network of partners – international donors, commercial companies, government agencies, and other public organizations.
- We used the GoFundMe platform to raise funds, where we managed to accumulate about $16,000 thanks to foreign donors. The money was spent on transportation of humanitarian goods to IDP hubs, which was an urgent task at the time.

At the beginning of the Big War, the Shelter Program was implemented at the expense of private donors and companies. Later, the Foundation enlisted the support of systemic donors, such as the Fondation de France and the Embassy of Denmark in Ukraine, which allowed us to continue and scale up assistance to Ukrainians from the regions most affected by the fighting.

## Shelter Program Accomplishments

- Delivered 275 tons of humanitarian aid across 20 regions;
- Helped to set up 65 shelters in fourteen regions;
- Helped almost 75,000 Ukrainians in need of support;
- Provided more than 9,000 grocery packages and more than 5,000 non-food packages;
- Provided grants to 30 nongovernmental organizations that have been hosting IDPs since the outbreak of the Big War. Most of these organizations were new to the field, so in addition to grants, we helped them set up and grow through sharing our knowledge and recommendations and taking care of their institutional development.
- We provided grants to six organizations from different regions of Ukraine for psychological assistance to war victims. Thanks to the specialists, almost 1,900 Ukrainians received professional psychological support.
- We created a free online marathon called Together We Are Stronger, during which five lecturers told NGO representatives about the main steps to successful activities (communications, fundraising, tax aspects, etc.). The marathon was also used to develop a course on the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform.

Commentary
by Program Manager
Olga Moloko
for Suspilne

# The Program Together – We Shelter

**It is implemented with the support of the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (OCHA). The Program Together we – Shelter is a logical continuation of the Shelter Program. Program duration: December 2022 – December 2023.**

## Objectives:

Build capacity of Ukrainian civil society organizations that provide vital services to the war-affected population. Based on its own population needs monitoring, the Foundation will work in the de-occupied regions and those with the largest number of IDP hubs.

## As part of the Together We – Shelter Program, we plan to:

- Provide 25 grants to local organizations. The competition is held in two waves.
- Take measures to increase the institutional capacity of civil society organizations.
- Provide mentoring and coordination support to NGOs from the moment they are selected throughout the grant implementation.
- Develop a course on the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform, that will cover the basic principles and standards of humanitarian assistance: accountability to the affected population, protection from sexual exploitation and violence.

### Oksana Anatoliyivna,
IDP, currently residing in Dnipro

*A team of volunteers from the Charitable Foundation Center for Aid to Displaced Persons and the Army is helping IDPs in Dnipro. They received two grants under the Shelter Program.*
*That day, about 100 people gathered near the organization's office in Dnipro to receive groceries and non-food supplies. Oksana was one of them. She told us how she and her family left the Russian-occupied Berdiansk in April 2022:*
*— How was it for you to be under occupation until April 7?*
*— We were freezing. We were hiding in the basement with our seven-month-old granddaughter. The woman tells how they fled by car through checkpoints: "There were about 20 checkpoints on the way from Berdiansk to Zaporizhzhia. The occupiers stopped cars and strip-searched the boys near their cars. Apparently, they were looking for patriotic tattoos. We were very scared. We drove 15 hours to cover the distance that in peacetime would take us 2.5 hours."*
*Now, living in Dnipro, Oksana is worried about her relatives who remained in the temporarily occupied Berdiansk. Without hiding her tears, she says that the occupiers come to her mother almost every day: they check how she lives, why she still has a Ukrainian passport, and where her family is. It was not the first time the team of volunteers helped Ms. Oksana with humanitarian aid.*

**Shelters (14 regions)**: Vinnytsya, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Zhytomyr, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Odesa, Rivne, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Khmelnytsky, Chernivtsi, Cherkasy.
**Humanitarian Aid (20 regions)**: Vinnytsya, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zakarpattia, Zaporizhzhia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Kirovohrad, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Kherson, Khmelnytsky, Chernivtsi, and Chernihiv.

› **Cluster:**

Civil Protection
Programs

› **Programs:**

Civilian Population
Protection Program

# Civilian Population Protection Program

**The Program was implemented in partnership with Hala Systems Inc. and the State Emergency Service with funds from the European Union. The Program implementation period is from September 2022 to February 2023**

### Objectives:

Raise public awareness of self-defense during and after occurrence of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazard events (CBRN-hazards).

### The following information activities were implemented:

- Together with Hlib Repich, PhD in Chemistry, and Oksana Moroz, founder of the infohygiene initiative How Not to Become a Pod Person, an online course CBRN Hazards: From A to Z was created.
- A series of 12 TV guest studios and stories, featuring experts from the SESU and the Ministry of Healthcare, was conducted to explain how to behave in case of CBRN events. The series was aired on Breakfast with 1+1 and on the Facts ICTV channel.
- Graphic information banners were placed in the rated TV programs.
- Three educational videos were created.
- Explanatory materials were prepared in online media (a total of five pieces, including three longreads, one interview and one article);
- Outdoor social advertisements were placed in Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Dnipro, Kharkiv, and Zaporizhzhia with the ABC of Security.

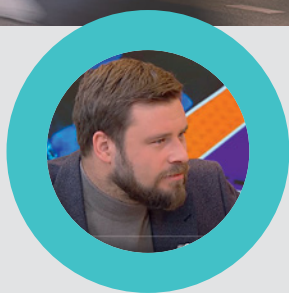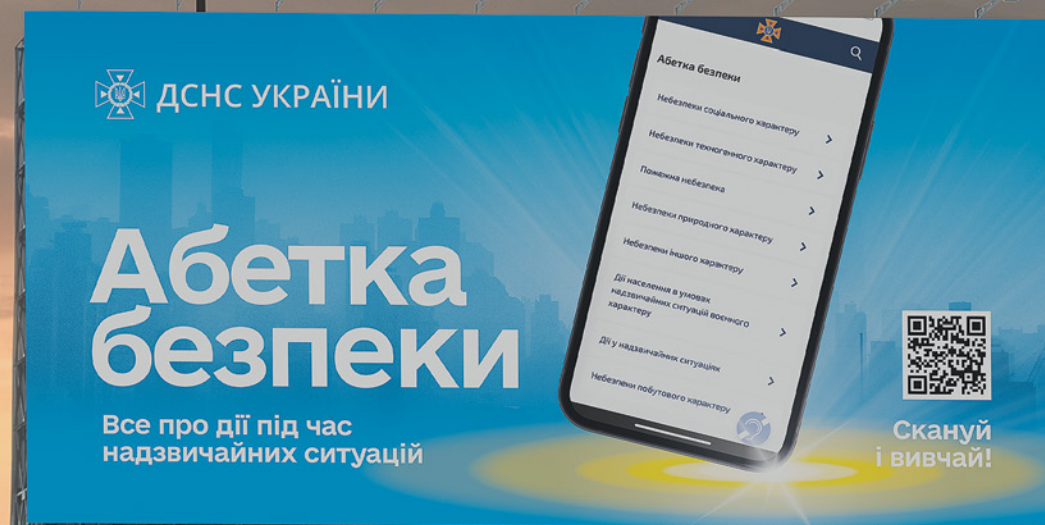**Oleksandr Khorunzhyi**, *the SESU spokesman:*
*"Imagine, for example, that a fire broke out after a shelling of critical infrastructure. At this time, there may be people bleeding at the scene of the emergency. What should you do? Of course, according to safety rules, we have to stay in shelters until the air raid is over. But do we go to the basement in such circumstances? No! We put out the fire."*

Watch the story aired on 1+1 "Survival kit in case of blackout and frequent shelling" prepared within the program

> **Yegor Gordeev**, *Breakfast with 1+1 host:*
> *"It is impossible to prepare for everything. But it is worth protecting yourself by learning the most essential skills, in particular, with the help of the Safety ABC from the SESU. This safety instruction explains in detail what to do in case of military emergencies. You can never have enough of such knowledge and skills, and this can save your life and health in case of danger."*

# SEE ALSO PUBLICATION ON THE UNIAN WEBSITE

»»» Interview with Oleksandr Khorunzhyi, spokesman for the State Emergency Service of Ukraine for UNIAN

»»» Wartime Must Have

»»» When Evacuation is a necessity

› **Cluster:**

Civil Protection
Programs

› **Programs:**

Watch Your Step!
Program

# Watch Your Step! Program

**The Program was implemented in cooperation with State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) funded by DanChurchAid. The Program implementation period: June 2022 – December 2022**

## Objectives:

Raise public awareness of landmine risk and minimize the number of accidents, deaths and injuries related to improper handling of explosive ordnance.

## Key accomplishments:

◆ **Training for explosive ordnance identifiers**
As part of the Program, SESU experts conducted eight training sessions for explosive ordnance (EO) identifiers. During the events, the participants studied the types of EO and

how to identify them, and learned how to provide first aid in the event of a mine explosion.

◆ **Watch Your Step! Board Game**
The third edition of the board game for children Watch Your Step! was published. Together with the authors, we updated the game's content to reflect the new challenges of the Big War. We also created video guides for teachers and children to help them understand the rules and their role in the game.
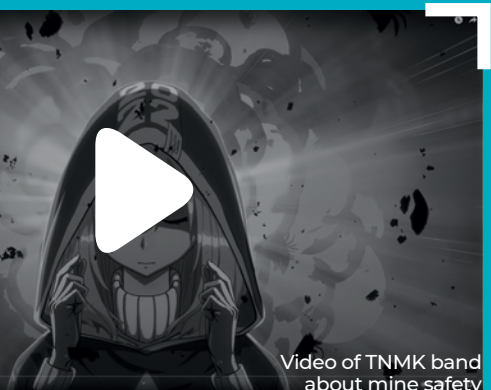
◆ **Outdoor Information Campaign**
An outdoor public service announcement campaign was conducted from September 15 to November 15, 2022. A total of 125 billboards, CityLights and electronic screens were placed on the main streets and roads of Kyiv and Sumy regions to inform people about mine safety.
Information brochures developed by the Foundation at the request of the SESU, as well as stickers for public buildings such as pharmacies, banks and post offices.

◆ **Online Course with Fahot**
Together with SESU experts, we developed a mine safety online course for adults and children. It has already received more than half a million views. The course consists of five lectures and one inter-

Video of TNMK band about mine safety "Watch Where You're Going!"



> **Andriy**, Territorial Defense fighter, training participant: "I think mine safety concerns everyone, from children to adults. The war is ongoing, and many areas, even in the Kyiv region, are still mined. Based on the knowledge gained during the training, we have already conducted classes in kindergartens and schools on the subject of "Homeland Defense". You can never have enough of this type of knowledge, as it can save health and lives."



view with the SESU demining specialist. The course is hosted by Oleh Fahot (Mykhailyuta) from the TNMK Band.

**◆ TNMK Song and Video**
The Ukrainian band TNMK has created a track and video about mine safety Watch Where You're Going! – especially for our Program. The video has already garnered over a million views on YouTube.

**◆ Mine Safety Week**
Together with Solomiansky Kotyky NGO, we conducted a mine safety week in Chernihiv, Kyiv and Sumy regions. These events attracted over 600 participants.

**◆ Opening the Safety Class in Kyiv**
On December 20, 2022, the EEF and the SESU presented a new interactive safety class for schoolchildren. It is equipped with interactive tools that allow students to watch educational videos and see what can happen if they do not follow safety rules.

**◆ Updating the Demining Ukraine Mobile Application**
The Demining Ukraine Mobile Application was created by the State Emergency Service of

Ukraine to promptly notify demining units of detected EO. With our help, the application was updated with new features.

**◆ Mine Awareness in Five Minutes**
As part of the Mine Awareness in Five Minutes Media Project, two videos were created in cooperation with the well-known Ukrainian media outlet Shotam? ("What's up?")
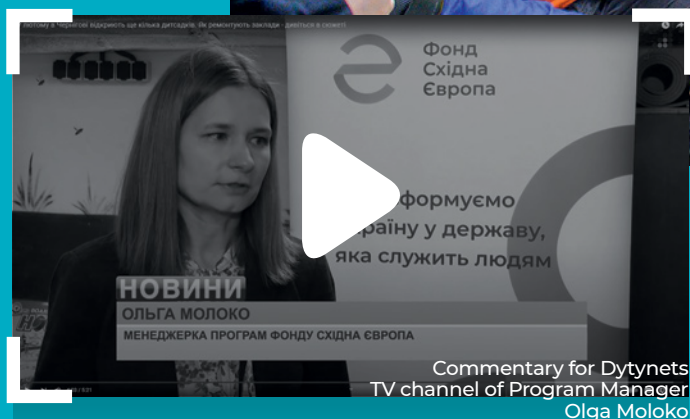
**◆ SMM Support**
In December 2022, more than 50 posts on mine awareness were published on the SESU official social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube). The creative concept of the SMM campaign was developed by Provid, a well-known agency in Ukraine and abroad, in cooperation with the EEF and the SESU. The campaign included not only publications, but also quizzes and videos.

# Safe School Program

**The Program is implemented by East Europe Foundation in partnership with Eurasia Foundation, Sy Syms Foundation and Terre des Hommes, as well as EPAM Ukraine and Baker Tilly International. The Program implementation period is from August 2022 to May 2023**



Commentary for Dytynets
TV channel of Program Manager
Olga Moloko

## Objectives:

- Ensure the physical safety of children, teachers and community members in selected educational institutions by equipping and repairing shelters in accordance with the SESU requirements;
- Psychological support to children in shelters; providing teachers with methodology and tools to ensure that they support children psychologically.

## As part of the Program, together with our partners, we:

- Selected 28 schools in the regions of Ukraine where the security situation allowed for offline learning to begin, and set up shelters there:

  ◇ Out of these 28 schools, 25 received a basic package of equipment for shelters: first aid kits; furniture; blankets; fire-fighting equipment; TVs; water coolers, etc.;
  ◇ In addition to purchasing basic equipment, we renovated shelters at three other schools. These schools have become model schools for others (renovated in accordance with the SESU requirements).

- Developed the Psychological Safety of Adults and Children during Air Alert at School course and released it on the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform. Teachers and parents can access it at no charge;
- Prepared three success stories: three text materials and three videos.

**Natalia Mutska**, *Chernihiv kindergarten director*
*An educational institution in Chernihiv was selected to participate in the Foundation's Safe School Program, which provides for the shelter arrangement in accordance with all safety requirements.*
*"Generally in a month and a half since the renovation began, the premises will have changed so much, that you can hardly recognize them: lighting and ventilation will have been replaced, an additional exit has been created, a bathroom has been provided, cots added so that children can rest, playrooms and all the accessories necessary for leisure were provided. Now the kindergarten shelter is not just a place to wait out the air raid, but a full-fledged educational space for 240 children in the basement."*





## SEE ALSO

East Europe Foundation

2022 / 2023

Annual Report

eef.org.ua

› **Cluster:**

Programs of Economic
Orientation

› **Programs:**

**Microgrants for
Small Businesses**

# Micrograms for Small Businesses

**The initiative was implemented under the international cooperation program EU4Business: SME Competitiveness and Internationalization that is co-financed by the European Union and the German Government and implemented by the German federal company "Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH" in cooperation with the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, the Ukrainian portal Diia, the Entrepreneurship and Export Development Office, and the national project for development of entrepreneurship and export Diia.Business**



## Objectives:

To support Ukrainian entrepreneurs as they were resuming business operations to manufacture products or provide services in the wartime. The Program lasted from May 2022 to February 2023.
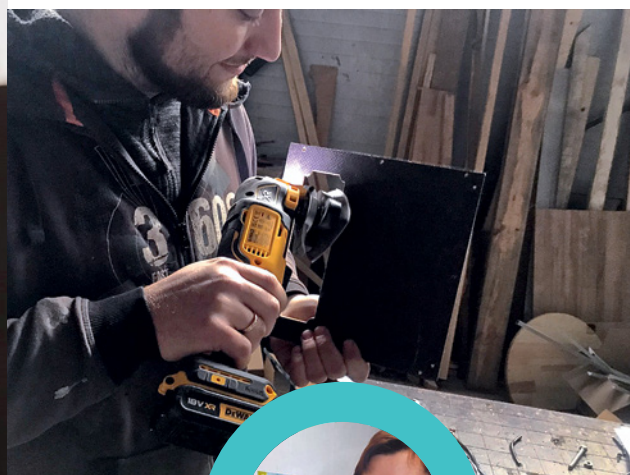
## Among the Key Accomplishments:

- **328 micro and small businesses** from nine regions of Ukraine affected by Russia's armed aggression received funding in the amount of UAH 150,000 (equivalent to EUR 4,000).

**The microgrants were aimed at:**
- Preserving and creating new jobs (paying salaries);
- Purchase or replacement of necessary equipment;
- Procurement of raw materials and other materials for business operations;
- Rent payment for business premises; and,
- Other expenses aimed at restoring business operations.

During the Program implementation, the grantees faced constant power outages caused by Russia's missile attacks on Ukraine's critical infrastructure. Therefore, part of funds was spent on purchasing power generators in order to maintain all technological processes for manufacturing goods or providing services.

## Thanks to the funding received:

**178**
grantees resumed the work of their enterprises;

**86**
grantees moved their business to a safer location in Ukraine;

**117**
grantees addressed the damage caused to their business as a result of hostilities;

**169**
grantees increased the number of jobs;

**57**
grantees diversified the goods and services they provide;

**67%**
of grantees reported an increase in their business turnover;

**99%**
of grantees acknowledged the support was very relevant and timely to ensure sustainability of their business operations and reported positive revenue growth despite the ongoing war and economic downturn.

*"Since the first days of the war, our Arty.ua fruit and vegetable processing facility has been working to provide healthy, fast and tasty food for both civilians and the military. Our soups take 2-3 minutes to prepare and are a complete meal. Thanks to the microgrant, we were able to expand production, purchase raw materials and equipment. Thus, we increased our output by 30%. The Program also helped us cover water and electricity costs and pay rent for 3 months."*
**Hanna Dondyk**, *co-founder of Arty.ua, an enterprise operating in frontline Zaporizhzhia*

## Success Stories

As part of the Microgrants for Small Businesses Program, seven success stories of Ukrainian entrepreneurs who received microgrants have been published. You can read them on East Europe Foundation's website here: https://eef.org.ua/-arhyv/ystoryy

› Cluster:

**Political Programs
and Advocacy**

› Programs:

**Supporting Crimea
Platform**

# Supporting Crimea Platform

**"Supporting the Crimea Platform: It's Time to Remind that Crimea is Ukraine" is a program implemented by East Europe Foundation with funding from USAID**

## Objectives:

Develop effective approaches to the reintegration of Crimea; and improve the operational capacity of the Crimea Platform Office.
The Program was implemented in the time period between October 2022 to March 2023. This Program was an extension of the previous Crimea Platform support program, which was implemented from December 2021 to February 2022.

## Among the Key Accomplishments:

**The Program supported three international missions:**

- In October 2022, the plenary session of the First Parliamentary Summit of the International Crimea Platform was held in Croatia, attended by delegations from more than 50 countries and international organizations. The Summit participants adopted the Joint Declaration of respect for sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.
- In December 2022, the visit of the Ukrainian delegation to Turkey took place, during which 11 meetings and four public events were held to express the views of the Ukrainian government, strengthen international relations and support the activities of the Crimea Platform.
- In February 2023, the visit of the Ukrainian delegation to Asia (India, Malaysia, and Indonesia) was held to facilitate dialogue with the Global South countries and to draw attention of the governments, media and nongovernmental organizations to the war in Ukraine and the human rights situation in the temporarily occupied Crimea.

**Two public events were held:**

- On December 16, 2022, a panel discussion Accomplishments and Challenges on the Way to De-occupied and Peaceful Crimea featuring speakers from the government and civil society. On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Mission of the President of Ukraine in the AR of Crimea, the results of joint activities were summarized, and strategies and plans for the future were developed.
- On January 26, 2023, an event was held for diplomatic representatives of Asian countries, as part of Ukraine's advocacy efforts, to convey Ukraine's views on the de-occupation and reintegration of Crimea.

"*Thanks to the support from the EEF and in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the delegation from the Mission held a number of public events and meetings with representatives of parliaments, nongovernmental and religious organizations, academic institutions and the media. Such fruitful work contributed to highlighting the topic of the temporarily occupied Crimea and indigenous peoples of Ukraine, in particular, the oppression and persecution of Crimean Tatars by the occupation authorities and countering Russian disinformation and propaganda.*" **Tamila Tasheva**, *Permanent Representative of the President of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea*



**Developing an Online Course:**

◆ The Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform published the course [ProKrym: State Policy of Reintegration of Crimea](). The course consists of 10 lectures covering a broad range of topics, in particular: history of Crimea; Ukraine's policy for de-occupation and reintegration of the Crimean peninsula; countering the Russian aggression, and more. The course contains series in English and comments by experts.

"*The format of the Crimea Platform is not only about the de-occupation of Crimea, it is also about the liberation of all the territories of other countries occupied by the Russian Federation.*" **Ihor Zhovkva**, *Deputy Chief of Staff of the Office of the President of Ukraine*

**Strengthening Communication Capacity:**

◆ Ensured stable operation of the official website and social media pages, which allowed more people to learn about the Crimea Platform.

◆ 81 media products were published, and the total number of references to the Program and its activities in both domestic and international media was 199. The total number of views reached 878,880.

**Involving Experts:**

◆ Ukrainian and international experts were involved in the work of the Crimea Platform's Office in all the most important areas: legal advice, communication support, and advocacy. They assisted the Crimea Platform in its daily work and in developing a robust scenario approach and vision for the de-occupation of Crimea.

› **Cluster:**

**Political Programs
and Advocacy**

› **Programs:**

**Ukraine in Europe:
Parliamentary Dimension**

# Ukraine in Europe: Parliamentary Dimension

**The Program is
implemented by East
Europe Foundation
in cooperation
with the Center for
Liberal Modernity
(Berlin) with the
financial support of
the German Federal
Foreign Office**





## Objectives:

Make a long-term contribution to deepening the
German-Ukrainian parliamentary dialogue and strength-
ening the capacity of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to
implement reforms for European integration.

The second phase of the Program was implemented
in the time period from July 2021 to January 2023.
Initially, the Program focused on inter-parliamentary
cooperation and the implementation of the European
Green Deal, but after February 24, 2022, the Program's
geopolitical focus shifted to the full-scale Russian invasion.

## Public events and visits:

◆ The day before the invasion began, on February 23, a
public online discussion Prevent War! was held. During
the event, German and Ukrainian politicians discussed
the response to the Russian military threat and the
future of the international and European order.

◆ At the end of March 2022, the co-founders of the Center
for Liberal Modernity, Ralf Fuchs and Marieluise Beck,
came to Ukraine to show their support. They were the
first German politicians to visit Lviv and Kyiv since the

outbreak of the Big War. Ralf Fuchs and Marieluise Beck held a number of meetings with the Ukrainian MPs, government officials, politicians, and civil society representatives. They also met with the President of East Europe Foundation, Victor Liakh, who presented the Foundation's humanitarian initiatives, including the Shelter Program, which was subsequently supported by the Center for Liberal Modernity.

- On October 21, 2022, East Europe Foundation representatives took part in the international conference Völkerrecht gegen Völkermord in Berlin. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of the international legal dimension of the Russian war of aggression and Russian war crimes. The conference was another step towards Germany's recognition of the Holodomor in Ukraine (1932-1933) as genocide. On November 30, 2022, the Bundestag adopted the resolution to recognize the Holodomor as a crime of genocide.
- On November 9-10, 2022, the international advocacy visit to Brussels took place. The Ukrainian delegation met with representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European External Action Service, and the EU Member States. During the visit, the issues of Ukraine's rapid recovery, Ukraine's European integration and the prospects of confiscation of sanctioned assets to support Ukraine's reconstruction / modernization were raised. The Ukrainian delegates also discussed EU-Ukraine cooperation in the wartime, including ways to improve it in the short term.

## Meetings Within the Ukrainian-German Parliamentary Dialogue:

- On May 24, 2022, a closed discussion was held to address the issues of increasing arms supplies to Ukraine, advancing sanctions pressure on Russia, and Ukraine's European integration.
- On June 30, 2022, a closed discussion was organized to talk about Ukraine's EU candidate status and the European integration prospects.
- On December 7, 2022, the participants discussed the process of Ukraine's integration into the EU, strengthening German support to counter the Russian aggression, developing approaches to post-war Ukraine recovery, and prospects for establishing a special international tribunal to investigate Russia's crimes against Ukraine.

*"Germany was not on Ukraine's side as much as Ukraine needed it when the full-scale Russian invasion began. That's why many of Ukraine's true friends in Germany are not comfortable now. Putin unleashed this war not only against Ukraine, but also against the West as a whole. So, everyone in Europe must be responsible. Russia is committing genocide, so the principle of The responsibility to protect must be applied."* **Marieluise Beck**, *co-founder of the Center for Liberal Modernity*

Yaroslava Kravchenko, television presenter, founder and director of the Wild Theatre, during the filming of a new online course by Zrozumilo!

# Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform

**Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform is a free online educational environment for civil society, central executive authorities and local self-government bodies, educators, students, and schoolchildren. The Platform was designed to facilitate and promote self-education.**

**The Platform was created by East Europe Foundation as a response to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, when all program activities were transferred to the online format. This educational project proved very effective, and during the wartime, even more so**

### Objectives:

Create online courses to talk about the most difficult topics in a clear and comprehensible way to make sure course participants acquire useful knowledge and skills.

A strong, capable and educated civil society will allow us to take another step towards achieving the goal of East Europe Foundation – to create a state that serves and protects people.

### Key Accomplishments:

- 600,000 users;
- 535,000 certificates issued;
- 30 online courses.

# Three most popular courses are:

## Watch Your Step! Watch Where You're Going!

**528,860**
participants registered

**482,030**
participants received course completion certificates

### Celebrity presenters and guests of the courses:

- Svitlana Royz, child and family psychologist-practitioner;
- Oleh Fahot, musician, leader of the TNMK band, soldier of Revanche volunteer battalion;
- Serhiy Prytula, founder of the Serhiy Prytula Charitable Foundation

All courses on the Zrozumilo! Online Educational Platform are available at no charge. All course participants who successfully pass the tests are issued a course completion certificate together with 0.2 ECTS academic credits.

## Civil Defense and Emergency Preparedness

**32 316**
participants registered

**14 587**
participants received course completion certificates



## Psychological Safety of Adults and Children During an Air Raid at School

**21 587**
participants registered

**8 023**
participants received course completion certificates

# Financial report by December 31, 2022 and 2021

grf
CPAs & ADVISORS

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors
East Europe Foundation
Kyiv, Ukraine

**Opinion**

We have conducted an audit of the financial statements of the East Europe Foundation (EEF), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended on the above date, and notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, (or give a true and fair value of) the financial position of the East Europe Foundation as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and its financial results and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Int[...]
responsibilities under those standards are further desc[...]
of the Financial Statements section of our report. We [...]
ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the[...]
our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with [...]
evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate[...]

**Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged[...]
Statements**

With respect to these financial statements, managem[...]
presentation in accordance with IFRSs 5 and such [...]
necessary to enable the preparation of financial state[...]
whether due to fraud or error.

Those charged with governance are responsible for[...]
process.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Finan[...]**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance abou[...]
free from material misstatement, whether due to frau[...]
includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high [...]
audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always [...]
Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and a[...]
aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influe[...]
basis of these financial statements.

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(301) 951-9090 · ww[...]

MEMBER OF CPAMERICA INTERNATIONAL[...]
MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC A[...]

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We are required to communicate with [those charged with governance] regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We are also required to provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we are required to determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We are required to describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation preclude public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter that has not otherwise been publicly disclosed should not be communicated in our report in view of the significance of the adverse consequences that can reasonably be expected to arise as a result of such communication.

**Other Matter**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. Grant Activities on pages 18 - 21 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Gelman Rosenberg & Freedman

November 16, 2023

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## Income received by the financial sources, 2021-22

|  | 2021 | | 2022 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 4 443 065** | **100%** | **$ 22 867 656** | **100%** |
| The US Government | $ 2 140 696 | 48,18% | $ 1 274 280 | 5,57% |
| Governments of other countries | $ 1 824 216 | 41,06% | $ 15 099 797 | 66,03% |
| The EU | $ 438 589 | 9,87% | $ 3 095 687 | 13,54% |
| Private funds | $ 39 564 | 1,85% | $ 991 929 | 4,34% |
| Private companies | – | 0,00% | $ 2 405 963 | 10,52% |

## EEF expenses by categories, 2021-22

|  | 2021 | | 2022 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 7 167 305** | **100%** | **$ 5 927 565** | **100%** |
| Programs expenses | $ 4 451 778 | 62,11% | $ 4 143 839 | 69,91% |
| Grants | $ 2 234 967 | 31,18% | $ 1 433 278 | 24,18% |
| Administrative Expenses | $ 480 560 | 6,70% | $ 350 448 | 5,91% |

## The EEF Balance Report

|  | December 31, 2022 (USD) | December 31, 2021 (USD) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTIVE ASSETS** | | |
| **CURRENT ASSETS** | | |
| Cash in bank | 14 079 406 | 1 591 558 |
| Grants and contributions receivable | 4 197 785 | 403 208 |
| Prepaid expenses | 1 807 113 | 475 278 |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | **20 084 304** | **2 470 044** |
| **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** | | |
| **CURRENT LIABILITIES** | | |
| Grants payable | 965 866 | 811 129 |
| Accrued vacations and salaries | 90 425 | 88 718 |
| Accounts payable | 54 020 | 43 530 |
| Refundable advance | 733 684 | 811 129 |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES** | **1 843 995** | **943 377** |
| **NET ASSETS** | **18 240 309** | **1 526 667** |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** | **20 084 304** | **2 470 044** |

# We are grateful for supporting our projects and programs to:

- the European Union
- the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- the Swiss Confederation
- the Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark in Ukraine
- DanChurchAid
- Hala System Inc.
- ERIM
- Eurasia Foundation
- CNFA Europe
- The Center for Liberal Modernity (LibMod)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- Visa Foundation
- Google.org / Tides Foundation
- OCHA Ukraine
- DAI (USAID HOVERLA)
- University of Murcia
- Kyiv School of Economics
- Europe Foundation Georgia
- The King Alfred School Society
- Two Degrees ApS
- Brücke der Hoffnung
- Stiching Derdengelden
- Terre des hommes
- EPAM Ukraine
- Baker Tilly International
- METRO Ukraine
- RB (Hygiene Home) Poland sp. z o.o (Reckitt Benckiser Group)
- Ukrainian and foreign trade networks (including Eldorado) that assist with humanitarian projects; and private individuals.

For the first time, EEF had the honor of receiving individual donations. Eight-year-old girl Michelle, who is studying in The King Alfred School in London, sews and sells hearts to support Ukraine and Shelter Program

More about
the EEF work
can be found at
www.eef.org.ua