



## Ukraine Emergency Response

### HI current presence

- ❖ **Ukraine:** Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Lviv, Dnipro and Kharkiv
- ❖ **Moldova:** Chisinau

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- HI staff : **73**
- Physical rehabilitation sessions : **499**
- Mental health & psychosocial support sessions : **30 group sessions and 52 individual sessions**
- Assistive and mobility devices distributed : **236**
- Hospital staff trained in specialized rehabilitation (burns and amputation) : **51**
- Structures supported (health facilities, collective centers, centers for persons with specific needs): **14**
- Shipments of humanitarian goods facilitated: **36**



### Context

Since late February 2022, intensifying armed conflict has continued throughout Ukraine, exposing the population to violent bombing and shelling in densely populated areas and forcing millions to flee the country. More than 8,000 civilian casualties have been accounted for, including over 4,200 injuries. This figure is likely grossly underestimated. In addition to significant infrastructural damage, the war is expected to have major long-term economic impacts on Ukraine and could require decades of recovery and mine clearance efforts after its conclusion.

### Humanitarian Situation

More than 24 million people are in need as a result of the conflict. Over 6 million people have left the country, and another 8 million are estimated to be displaced within Ukraine - many residing in host communities or in crowded and often ill-adapted collective centers, institutions and metro stations for shelter. Intense armed conflict has caused devastating damage to cities and civilian infrastructure, with over 200 attacks impacting healthcare facilities and 1500 education structures damaged, affecting 3.6 million children. Populations still trapped in besieged and isolated regions are facing significant food insecurity and struggle to access vital goods such as medicine, health services, or even water. Some have died of dehydration. Hospitals have seen increased war-wounded patients with severe burns and blast injuries requiring amputation. The UN estimates that more than 12 million people in Ukraine will need health assistance between March and August 2022. Older populations and persons with disability greatly lack sufficient resources and access to aid.

# HI's emergency intervention in Ukraine

## Health

### **Improving access to quality physical and functional rehabilitation and mental health and psychosocial support services.**

In various structures in Chernivtsi (i.e. collective centres, orphanages, etc.), and 5 health facilities in Lviv Oblast and Dnipro, HI is providing physical and functional rehabilitation services to injured people, persons with disabilities and people displaced by the conflict in need of rehabilitation care. The organization has trained over 50 hospital staff in specialized rehabilitation services such as burn and post-amputation care, and reinforces hospital capacities to meet the increased emergency demand. Assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes and adapted supplies have been provided to older persons and individuals with specific needs in collective centers and health structures.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) has been identified as a priority need for conflict-affected populations and staff responding to the crisis. HI has deployed a mobile MHPSS team to support conflict-affected persons in 7 structures hosting displaced persons, deployable where needs arise. HI also supports a 24-hour hotline, which provides mental health support to callers from across the country in collaboration with the University of Medical Psychology of Chernivtsi and a local Ukrainian psychology organization.



## Basic Needs

### **Enhancing the capacity of vulnerable conflict-affected households and structures**

**hosting displaced persons to cover individuals' basic needs.** HI is responding to the most acute needs of displaced households hosted by the local population or living in collective centres / other structures. HI has been supporting the functioning of collective centers to ensure that conflict-affected populations have access to sufficient and appropriate hygiene and Non Food Items (NFI) such as toilet chairs, bedding, soap, etc., including tailored items responding to the specific needs of infants, older people and persons with disabilities. HI is currently preparing to distribute 35 Collective Centre NFI kits to 2 centres hosting displaced persons in Chernivtsi. HI is also providing financial support to ensure that displaced persons are able to meet their basic needs including food, water and essential medication.

## Armed Violence Reduction

**Mitigate the effects of explosive ordnance and armed conflict on individuals.** Displaced families returning home face increased risks of encountering explosive ordnance left from warfare, or being exposed to bombing and shelling attacks. In this context, HI is preparing explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and conflict preparedness and protection (CPP) messaging to empower individuals to identify signs of hazard in areas contaminated by explosive ordnance, and to better protect themselves by adopting safe behaviors in the face of threats.

## Humanitarian Logistics Services

**Enhancing humanitarian service accessibility and availability.** HI continues to support and facilitate the immediate delivery of humanitarian goods to conflict-affected populations through common storage and transportation services, with a focus on temperature-controlled storage for environment-sensitive medical supplies, as well as last-mile transportation. Two operational logistics hubs have already been secured in Vinnytsia and Dnipro, and HI has been able to ensure the successful delivery of close to 40 shipments from Dnipro to areas under hostilities or close to the frontline (i.e. Kharkiv, Kramatorsk). The organization's logistics platform is supporting 7-10 shipments of vital goods per week to help humanitarian actors to ensure that conflict-affected populations meet their essential needs.



## HI Germany responds to Ukrainian refugees

HI Germany is supporting refugees with disabilities from Ukraine who are seeking protection in Germany. Through the website [www.hilfsabfrage.de](http://www.hilfsabfrage.de), refugees with disabilities can find access to housing that meets their needs. The project supports refugees and professionals with training events. High numbers of participants and registrations of up to 900 people per event, show the need for information. To ensure that disability is taken into account in the arrival processes and German legislation of Ukrainian refugees, the project is in exchange with politicians and decision-makers. The project is financed by donations from Aktion Deutschland Hilft.

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**About HI:** Co-recipient of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, HI is an independent and impartial organization working in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. We work alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action and bearing witness in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and fundamental rights. With local partners, we run programs in health and rehabilitation and social and economic integration. We work with local authorities to clear landmines and other war debris and to prevent mine-related accidents through education. We respond quickly and effectively to natural and civil disasters in order to limit serious and permanent injuries and to assist survivors' recovery and reintegration. We advocate for the universal recognition of the rights of the disabled through national planning and advocacy. [www.hi.org](http://www.hi.org)