

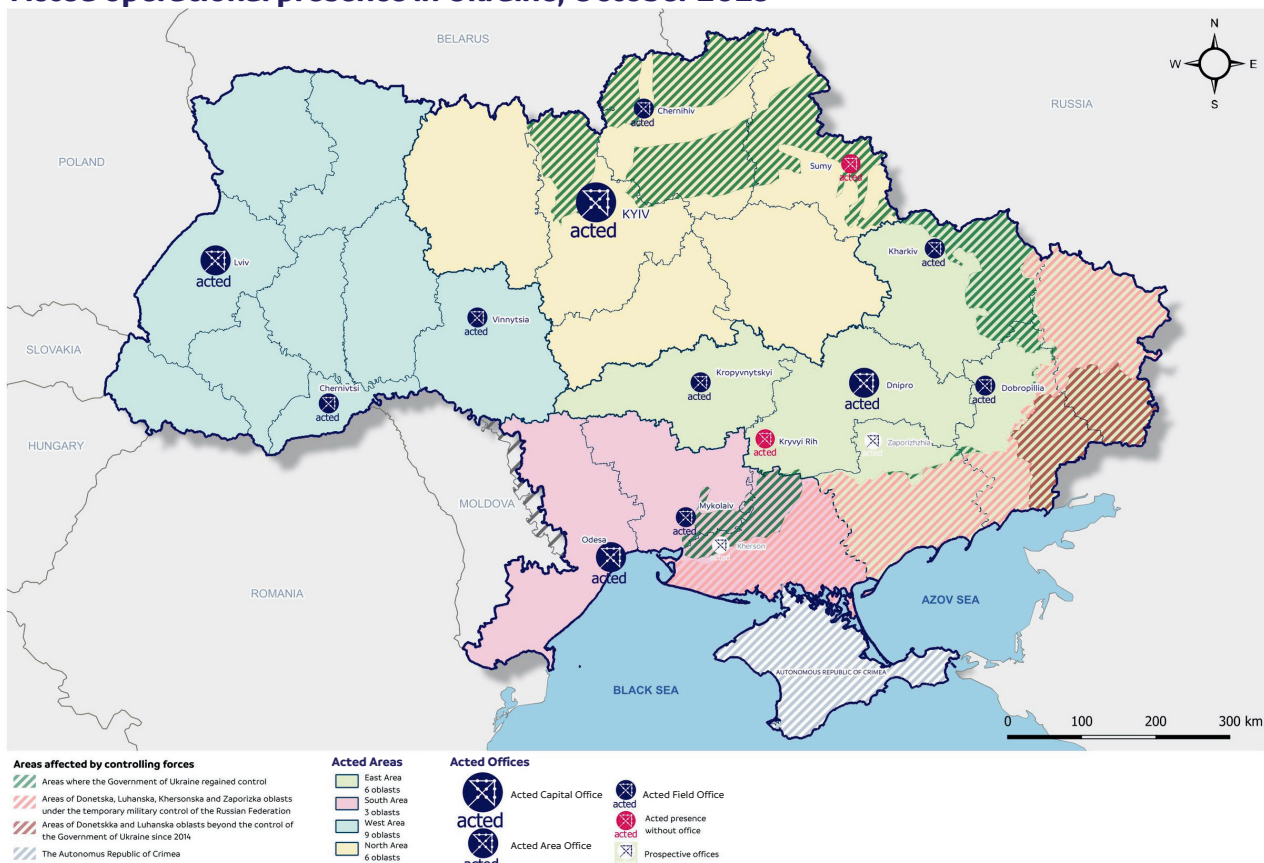


Acted Ukraine

OPERATIONS UPDATE AUGUST - OCTOBER 2023

Acted operational presence in Ukraine, October 2023

Production date: 23 October 2023



Since 2015, Acted has been providing humanitarian aid in Ukraine, addressing the urgent and long-term needs of vulnerable populations. Initially focused on Donetsk and Luhansk regions, in Eastern Ukraine, Acted expanded its efforts after Russia's large-scale invasion on February 24, 2022. This led to a surge in internal migration and heightened humanitarian needs. Following three months of rapid response and increased operations, Acted shifted its approach to provide comprehensive aid in three specific areas:

- Delivering rapid humanitarian aid in active conflict zones, prioritizing hard-to-reach areas.
- Ensuring displaced individuals have their basic needs met in host communities.
- Supporting the recovery of recently reclaimed territories.



Acted provides a diverse range of assistance across Ukraine, adapting aid to suit the unique context and various impacts of the war depending on areas. Acted's sectorial areas of intervention in Ukraine include Multi Purpose Cash assistance; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Shelter, Food Security and Livelihoods; Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction and Local Partnerships.





MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA)

Acted implements Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) as the primary emergency response method, enabling people to maintain their dignity and provide for their specific needs all the while being able to adapt to emergencies.

In response to the volatile situation in Ukraine, Acted uses a well-established rapid cash assistance mechanism to swiftly assist those in urgent need after a strike. This mechanism, differs from Acted's ongoing cash assistance as it focuses on heavily war-affected areas. This includes immediate on-site and remote registration for individuals directly affected by the attacks.

"In the summer there was an explosion very close to us. I stayed in the corridor at night. One of the explosions was very close, apparently across the street. The building was destroyed. Many people had glass blown out of their apartments and balconies."



"We got a call from Acted. It was very unexpected and pleasant. I was one of the first to arrive to the school where registration for cash assistance took place. I went with my neighbor, and a few days later we received the cash aid."

– Mrs. Tetiana, 80 years old from Kyiv.



During the April-October period - 20,257 people received multi-purpose cash assistance and 1361 people received cash for heating from Acted.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

From August to October 2023, Acted carried out a wide range of activities, from delivering water to communities in need to installing and repairing crucial water supply infrastructure. The initiatives aimed at ensuring access to clean water and addressing water supply challenges.

In August, Acted provided assistance to the Toretsk and Ochereteno administrations in the Donetsk region to deliver water by vehicles to populations near frontline areas.

The replacement and maintenance of equipment previously provided by Acted, such as borehole pumps, control panels and cables; was completed in 36 settlements in Mykolaiv, Kherson, Donetsk and Kharkiv regions in the period of August-October.

In September and October, Acted provided essential water-related equipment and materials to a total of 14 settlements in Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Kharkiv and Donetsk regions. This enhanced water infrastructure and access, contributing to the overall improvement of water supply systems.



Acted donated 18 plastic tanks of 500L and 20 tanks of 1,000L for water storage to settlements in Dnipro, Kherson and Kharkiv regions in October. The tanks will be used at a water distribution point, in social institutions, in Points of Invincibility and Heating Points.

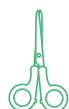


INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS RESPONSE

Acted conducted a variety of programs focusing on safety, education, repairs, and capacity-building sessions, aiming to empower internally displaced persons and enhance their well-being.



Acted provided essential items like fire extinguishers, first aid kits, socialization room equipment, monoblocks, and dehumidifiers in Kirovohrad and Dnipro. Kitchen appliances and laundry equipment were distributed to 7 CCs in Vinnytsia.



A pilot manicure training courses for IDPs began in October, 52 participants in Kirovohrad and 70 in Dnipro enrolled.



Repair works by Acted CCCM teams in Kirovohrad and Dnipro improved living conditions for over 500 CCs residents. In Vinnytsia, 15 rehabilitation works were completed, improving the lives of 1,799 IDPs.



Training sessions for Collective Centers (CCs) managers in Kirovohrad and Dnipro aimed to improve living conditions, enhance professionalism, and teach conflict management and burnout prevention.



Information sessions on mine safety, emergency response drills, and Employment Center sessions were conducted in Kirovohrad. Additional information sessions were held on health issues, first-aid and stress relief techniques. In Vinnytsia, Acted focused on practical employment, state support programs, and art workshops for psychological relief.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE MECHANISM

Between August and October, the Emergency Response Team distributed hygiene kits, shelter aid, and water supplies across frontline areas in Kherson, Mykolaiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Kharkiv.



Acted provided 1,847 household hygiene kits (including special needs hygiene kits) to frontline and liberated areas in Kherson, Mykolaiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Kharkiv, helping 7,567 individuals. Teams in Mykolaiv, Dnipro, Dobropillia (Donetsk oblast), and Kharkiv were able to conduct door-to-door distributions.



1,134 Emergency shelter kits were provided to people with damaged housing in the same areas, aiding 2,808 individuals, with 275 kits distributed in Zaporizhzhia oblast by the local partner “Potentsial.” Furthermore, 375 shelter kits were rapidly distributed within 72 hours after missile strikes in Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts.



After the Nova Khakovka dam destruction, Acted distributed 167 NFI kits to displaced persons in Mykolaiv oblast and supplied over 150,000 bottles of water to areas in Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv oblasts facing water shortages. Continuing aid efforts, Acted is carrying out water distributions—approximately 3,500 bottles per week—to Torestk (Donetsk oblast) and Oskil hromada (Kharkiv oblast) due to infrastructure destruction.

Acted supports local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Ukraine to help them in their humanitarian efforts and also to expand coverage on Ukrainian territory and provide support in hard to reach areas.

From August to October, Acted and its partners implemented 25 grants in Kherson, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts. Out of these 25 grants, 10 were directly responding to the Kakhovka dam destruction, mitigating the consequences and strengthening the population's resilience.

There are 10 ongoing grants dedicated to supporting conflict-affected populations and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Vinnitsya, Chernivtsi, Kherson, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrov, Kirovohrad, and Donetsk oblasts. These grants encompassed psychological and legal support, capacity-building trainings for Civil Society Organizations, distribution of food and hygiene kits, water, hot meals, and materials for light repairs.





EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The invasion's scale poses significant challenges for civil protection and emergency response. This strains authorities and first responders. Additionally, shelling in Ukrainian cities raises concerns for public safety.

To ensure effective measures are in place to address these challenges and safeguard the well-being of the population, Acted rehabilitated 3 bomb shelters in educational institutions of Dnipro, Odesa, and Kozyatin, Vinnytsa Oblast.

Being well-prepared for emergencies is crucial in the ongoing war. Acted supported the State Emergency Service of Ukraine with essential equipment: firehoses for Kryvyi Rih SESU, a compressor, firehoses, and fire hydrants for Mykolaiv and Kherson Oblast SESU, and 7 Zodiac-type rubber boats for rescuers in Zaporizhzhia Oblast SESU. This humanitarian aid, increases their capacity to respond to emergencies and disasters.



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Acted works on enhancing economic security and employment opportunities for women, girls and the most vulnerable people in Ukraine.

During the period of August-October, Acted provided 97 livelihood grants supporting different businesses such as poultry, egg and dairy production, jewelry and hair accessories manufacture, production of smoked meat, berries farming, nail and manicure services, tailoring, beekeeping and honey production, and many more.

The Business Advisory Center (BAC) in Chernivtsi, ran by the CSO partner Synergy, conducted its first 7 trainings on how to start developing a business for 117 people. Another BAC started running in Lutsk. The center will provide 36 offline and 28 online trainings on financial management, accounting, taxes, running and enterprise, law, computer literacy, leadership, gender issues.

Acted provided 72 IT scholarships. The skills in motion design, programming, digital marketing and project management will allow people to apply to jobs, follow even more specialized courses, or become more qualified to continue their own activity.



Acted and its local partners provided 352 food kits and 1872 hot meals to affected people in Ukraine.

