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## **Improving local capacity and readiness to respond effectively to emergencies in Ukraine**

*KYIV, UKRAINE – February 2023 - Funded by the European Union, 3P Consortium partners have worked on improving the capacity and readiness of local authorities and civil protection actors to respond effectively to emergencies.*

As the armed conflict in Ukraine continues, Ukrainian cities and villages are strengthening preparedness systems to prevent further harm on civilian population. ACTED, as the lead agency of the 3P Consortium ('Prevent, Prepare, Protect'), together with the Ukrainian NGO Right to Protection (R2P) and IMPACT Initiatives have been working with authorities and first responders to strengthen their capacity to respond quickly and effectively to emergency situations. In the framework of a 24-month project funded by the European Union, the agencies have been providing information management and technical support.

*"Our program initially aimed to support Disaster Risk Management in Donetsk and Luhansk, and we had to re-organize everything with the invasion to address more pressing needs. Thanks to the flexibility of the EU, we therefore shifted our support onto reinforcing capacities of stakeholders in preparedness and civil protection, aiming to ensure that more civilians are safer from attacks and existing risks across Ukraine. " - Benoit Gerfault, 3P Consortium Coordinator, ACTED*

To increase emergency preparedness and disaster risk management capacity, and reduce populations' vulnerability, ACTED has provided material support to the oblast level branches of the Ukrainian State Emergency Service, including tents, petrol/diesel generators, tablets, mobile Wi-Fi connections, firefighting equipment.

In order to provide safe shelters for Ukrainians when under air raid alarms, ACTED, together with its partners, undertook light renovations of ten bomb shelters in the Dnipro and Odesa regions. Floors, walls, wiring, bathrooms and doors were repaired and/or modernized. In addition, all shelters were provided with places to sit and lie down, drinking and technical water tanks, backup lighting, fire safety equipment, Wi-Fi modems, blankets and various tools such as shovels, crowbars, axes, and saws for wood and metal. As a result, up to 20,000 people in Dnipro and Odesa oblasts will be able to take refuge in comfortable, safe and secure shelters during air raid alarms and other emergencies.

Since the conflict began, local civil society organizations, groups, and individuals continue to play a crucial role in responding to emergencies at the community level, while official first responders are stretched to their limits. Recognizing this, ACTED and its partners have conducted training in first aid, mental health and psychosocial support to personnel of State Emergency Services and of social care institutions in Vinnytsia, Lviv and Dnipro city.

With the support of European Union, the capacity and readiness of local authorities and civil protection actors to respond effectively to emergencies, and keep their communities safe from harm has been improved.

## Notes to Editors

### **The 3P Consortium**

The 3P Consortium, established in Ukraine in 2019, comprises a group of international and national NGOs operating in the country – ACTED, IMPACT Initiatives, and the Right to Protection. Under ACTED's leadership, the 3P Consortium works to reduce disaster risk vulnerability and enhance community resilience. Initially focused on Eastern Ukraine, the Consortium has expanded its geographic scope since the start of the 24 February conflict to support recently liberated oblasts and those that have so far been spared from the effects of large-scale military operations. The 3P partners are united by their desire to prevent, prepare and protect – the '3P' – civilian populations and critical service systems from conflict-related risks, as well as the risks of natural, ecological and industrial disasters in Ukraine.

### **3P Consortium Partners**

**ACTED** [www.acted.org](http://www.acted.org): ACTED is a French humanitarian organization present in 40 countries and supporting over 18.2 million beneficiaries worldwide. ACTED works to save lives and support people in meeting their needs in hard-to-reach areas. ACTED first responded to the crisis in Ukraine in 2015, with its partner IMPACT through the REACH Initiative. Since the 24 February conflict, ACTED has expanded to cover all government-held areas of Ukraine with seven field offices and over 300 staff, providing a variety of humanitarian and development assistance, including multi-purpose cash assistance, food security and livelihoods, WASH, shelter and winterisation, camp coordination and camp management, emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and CSO partnerships and localisation.

**IMPACT Initiatives** <https://www.impact-initiatives.org>: IMPACT Initiatives is a leading Geneva-based think-and-do tank. Together with sister organization ACTED, and UNOSAT, IMPACT launched the REACH Initiative in 2010, which provides granular data, timely information, and in-depth analysis from contexts of crisis, disaster and displacement to feed into evidence-based aid response and decision-making. Since 2016, the REACH initiative has been leading annual interagency humanitarian needs assessments to inform the Humanitarian Needs Overview and Response Plans in Ukraine. IMPACT – including through REACH – also provides continuous information management and geographic information systems support and capacity building to humanitarian agencies and clusters. Like ACTED, IMPACT is now active across all government-controlled areas of Ukraine, with a staff of 57.

**Right to Protection (R2P)** <http://r2p.org.ua/en/>: Right to Protection is a Ukrainian non-profit organization. R2P is dedicated to protecting refugees who find themselves in Ukraine due to dire circumstances. R2P ensures the protection and human rights of other vulnerable migrants -the conflict affected, the internally displaced (IDPs), the stateless, the undocumented and those at risk of statelessness. R2P's key programmatic strengths are legal assistance, monitoring, advocacy as well as government and civil society capacity building. R2P has approximately 150 staff members working across Ukraine.



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