



IDP COUNCILS

There are 800+ IDP Councils of various levels in Ukraine. They improve people's lives, strengthen IDP voices in communities, and introduce new programs and policies for IDPs

IDP Councils are consultative and advisory bodies that:

- » Identify the main needs of IDPs and refugees
- » Cooperate with local authorities to meet these needs
- » Create socially important initiatives for people affected by war

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WHAT DO IDP COUNCILS DO?

Each IDP Council has its own success stories, achievements, and plans.

Some have recently been established and have just drawn up an action plan. Others have been in existence for several years and have achieved remarkable changes in their community or oblast.

These achievements are diverse, but they all illustrate the power and potential of IDP Councils in improving people's lives.

COLLECT AND ANALYZE DATA ON THE NEEDS OF IDPS

Chernihivska Oblast

- » Analyzed the adaptability of the city's social infrastructure to the needs of IDPs.
- » Developed questionnaires to identify the needs of IDPs. The questionnaires are used to interview all new arrivals to the city and identify the ongoing needs of IDPs/people who have been living in the city for a long time.

Luhanska Oblast

- » Provided recommendations based on the results of IDP profiling conducted by NRC in partnership with the Department of Social Protection of the Population under the Luhanska Oblast State Administration.

Khmelnyska Oblast

- » Created the Unified IDP Database to continuously monitor the needs of IDPs.

Khersonska Oblast

- » Created the "Needs of IDPs" questionnaire to collect data.

Ivano-Frankivska Oblast

- » Created a questionnaire to identify the problems of IDPs and collect data.





HELP IDPS WITH INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT

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Ivano-Frankivska Oblast

- » Cooperate with relocated businesses by posting job ads.

Lvivska Oblast

- » In 2024, facilitated the employment of 16 IDPs in the city of Novyi Rozdil, of whom 7 were employed in the city council's structural units of.

Zaporizka Oblast

- » Supported IDPs in difficult life circumstances (legal and psychological counseling, housing issues, etc.).
- » Participated in preparing a draft regional action plan for integrating IDPs in Zaporizka Oblast.

Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Contributed to developing a regional action plan for integrating IDPs.

Donetska Oblast

- » Contributed to developing a regional action plan for integrating IDPs.

Cherkaska Oblast

- » Organize regular meetings with representatives of employment centers who provide information on grant programs and vacancies.

Mykolaivska Oblast

- » Developed booklets from the city's Employment Center on vacant positions and grant opportunities, and regularly hold job fairs.





HELP IDPS WITH HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

Kharkivska Oblast

- » Cooperate with self-government bodies to prepare facilities for IDP resettlement.
- » Created a housing stock as part of a program adopted by the city council.
- » Sent an official letter to Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal with a request to supplement funding for housing programs for IDPs in the Oblast.

Luhanska Oblast

- » Facilitated the purchase of 36 apartments for IDPs.
- » Sent an official letter to Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal with a request to supplement funding for housing programs for IDPs in the Oblast.

Zakarpatska Oblast

- » Cooperate with the community on resettlement to Collective Centers (CC).

Zaporizka Oblast

- » Facilitated the employment of 34 IDPs for socially useful work.
- » Applied for participation in the 30/70 social housing program to purchase two apartments for IDPs.
- » Promoted changes that would allow IDPs to take advantage of the city's targeted program for the construction (purchase) of affordable housing.
- » Sent an official letter to Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal with a request to supplement funding for housing programs for IDPs in the Oblast.

Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Contributed to Kryvyi Rih receiving several apartments for IDPs and renovating and making available one floor of a dormitory.

Chernivetska Oblast

- » Developed a housing program for IDPs.

Poltavska Oblast

- » Contributed to the increase of the stock of temporary accommodation for IDPs by searching for and transferring ownerless property to municipal ownership.

Mykolaivska Oblast

- » Renovated two floors of a dormitory and equipped the rooms with furniture and appliances to accommodate over 100 families.





1.4 LAUNCH NEW COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS AND CAMPAIGNS

Poltavska Oblast

- » Created a “Displaced Person's Guide” that works as a roadmap for IDPs and includes all useful contacts and services for IDPs in the Oblast.

Ivano-Frankivska Oblast

- » Created a directory of useful links for IDPs.

Zaporizka Oblast

- » Created the “New Residents of Shyroktivska Community” Viber group to inform IDPs about all events in the community.
- » Developed an IDP Roadmap that includes all useful contacts and services for IDPs in the region.
- » Implemented measures to prevent violence.
- » Provided informational support to IDPs during local elections.
- » Created a section on the city council website about the IDP Council's activities.

Mykolaivska Oblast

- » Created and distributed a printed guide for IDPs.
- » Created an information portal with a list of assistance providers and contacts (both governmental and non-governmental organizations).

Luhanska Oblast

- » Developed and distributed 5,000 copies of the “Involving Women in Management Decision-Making is a Key to Community Development” newsletter in partnership with the Department of Social Protection of the Population at the Luhanska Oblast State Administration.

- » Developed an information guide for key stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental organizations) working with IDPs in Luhanska Oblast.

Kharkivska Oblast

- » Held the Novi Kharkivnyanky (New Female Kharkiv Residents) Regional Forum.
- » Organized a round-the-clock telephone helpline for IDPs.
- » Conducted information campaigns “Change of IDPs’ electoral address”, “Social card of Kharkiv citizen”, and “Road map for IDPs in the oblast”.
- » Created a page for the IDP Council on the Kharkiv City Council’s website.

Donetska Oblast

- » Created a page for the Committee on IDPs on the Oblast administration’s website to post relevant information.





1.5 PROVIDE TARGETED ASSISTANCE TO IDPS, DISPLACED PERSONS, AND CHILDREN OF IDPS

Zaporizka Oblast

- » Provided new household appliances to collective centers for IDPs.
- » Launched the Children of Zaporizhzhia program, which covers children from internally displaced families.
- » Together with the village council, coordinate the work of the Social Taxi, a special transport service for IDPs with limited mobility.

Rivnenska Oblast

- » Provided about 100,000 people with humanitarian aid in Rivnenska Oblast through the local humanitarian hub.

Poltavska Oblast

- » Promoted the issue of recreation activities for IDP children when adopting the city program “Wellness and Recreation for Children of the Poltava Territorial Community” for 2024-2028.

Zakarpatska Oblast

- » Launched the ideathon “Create Your Own Uzhhorod. Integrated, Inclusive, Safe”, which implements 9 projects on integration and inclusion.
- » Organized a workshop for IDP families with children in partnership with the Ombudsman's Office.
- » Mediate the issue of bullying against IDP children.

Chernihivska Oblast

- » Provided humanitarian support to newly arrived IDPs (in partnership with the Red Cross Society, CF “Rokada Chernihiv”, and CF “Caritas Chernihiv”).

- » Provided clothing for newly arrived IDPs under the “Wardrobe” project (together with the Charity Organization “Blahodim”).
- » Provided recreational activities for two IDP families in western Ukraine in partnership with the Spilno Dim NGO and the Bureau of Gender Strategies and Budgeting NGO.
- » Initiated a New Year's performance for IDP children and provided gifts (in partnership with the city's House of Culture, the Department of Family, Youth and Sports, and the Department of Education).

Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Pioneered a financial assistance program for children affected by military operations in Ukraine. Program participants receive once a year UAH 5,000 per child with this status.
- » Repaired several kindergartens in the city, thanks to the IDP Council

Kharkivska Oblast

- » Helped the city council create a center for the social and psychological rehabilitation of youth.

Donetska Oblast

- » Increased the budget for social protection in 2024 to UAH 14 million, from UAH 3 million in 2023, to assist IDPs who now reside in government-controlled areas.

Ivano-Frankivska Oblast

- » Organized computer literacy courses for the elderly, as well as Ukrainian language courses, and provided IDP children with backpacks and stationery for the start of the school year.

Lvivska Oblast

- » Opened a coworking center in Lviv, where Luhansk residents can study and enjoy meaningful recreation, use equipment free of charge, and hold meetings and work discussions.





INITIATE AND PROMOTE CHANGES IN LOCAL POLICIES

Rivnenska Oblast

- » Created and submitted to the Rivne community a draft targeted program for integrating IDPs into the Rivne City Territorial Community.

Zakarpatska Oblast

- » Protect the rights of family members of fallen Ukrainian defenders to receive financial assistance under a city program.
- » Defend the rights of Roma and promote their integration into communities.
- » Promote amendments to the Oblast program for IDPs.

Zaporizka Oblast

- » Conducted an advocacy campaign to include the category of IDPs in the new City Targeted Program for the Construction (Purchase) of Affordable Housing in Zaporizhzhia for 2020-2025.
- » Conducted an advocacy campaign and included the category of children affected by the conflict in all local programs for protecting the rights of children in difficult life circumstances.
- » Included the category of IDPs in all municipal social programs.
- » Developed a comprehensive program to support children affected by the hostilities;
- » Amended the City Comprehensive Program of Social Protection of the Population in Zaporizhzhia so that IDPs in difficult circumstances can qualify for financial assistance.
- » Introduced amendments to the Program for the Use of Funds from the Deputies' Fund, which allows IDPs to apply to local deputies for support.



Kharkivska Oblast

- » Conducted an advocacy campaign on social housing, which resulted in the adoption of the Program for the Development of Social and Affordable Housing in Kharkiv for 2020-2025.
- » Promoted amendments to the Regulation on providing financial assistance so that IDPs working at municipal enterprises can receive one-time financial assistance in case of difficult life circumstances or serious illness.
- » Facilitated the launch of a temporary social housing program in Kharkiv.
- » Promoted amendments to the Program for Promoting Safe Living in the Field of Social Protection of the Population of Kharkiv for 2021-2025.
- » Initiated amendments to the Decision of the Kharkiv City Council session on providing one-time targeted financial assistance to Kharkiv citizens, including IDPs in difficult life situations, upon request to the mayor.



Luhanska Oblast

- » Created an analytical report on the existing targeted programs for IDPs in Luhanska Oblast.
- » Developed and sent recommendations to the Ministry of Regional Development on the draft Housing Code of Ukraine.
- » Promoted the participation of IDP youth in decision-making processes.
- » Prepared and sent recommendations to the UN High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, which were included in the UN High Commissioner for Refugees annual report.
- » Developed an integrated approach to internal displacement and provided a legal framework for finding long-term solutions for integrating IDPs, which earned a commendation from the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.



Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Contributed to developing a regional action plan for integrating IDPs.
- » Initiated amendments to the Program for the Development of Family and Gender Policy in the Kamianske City Territorial Community for 2022-2026.
- » Initiated a decision to adopt the Program of Support for Internally Displaced Persons for 2023-2025.
- » Initiated amendments to the Program of Social Protection of the Population of the Kamianske City Territorial Community for 2022-2026.
- » Initiated amendments to the decision “On Approval of the Comprehensive Program of Social Protection and Support for Defenders of Ukraine, Members of Their Families and Family Members of Deceased Defenders”.

Kyivska Oblast

- » Identified a technical error in the Unified Information System of the Social Sphere that prevented IDPs from receiving payments and initiated its correction.
- » Made amendments to the Turbota Comprehensive Program of the Obukhiv City Territorial Community for 2024:
 - IDPs and members of their families were added to the list of categories eligible to receive assistance for the elimination of the consequences caused by the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.
 - Provision of one-time financial assistance to mobilized servicemen and women of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military units of Ukraine who de facto reside (IDPs) in the territory of the Obukhiv City Territorial Community.
 - Made financial assistance available to family members of the first degree of kinship, and in the absence of the second degree, of IDPs killed during the military aggression.
 - In the Bila Tserkva Territorial Community, an IDP certificate was added to the Procedures for Implementing the Program of Social Support for Persons with Disabilities for 2024-2026.



Kirovohradska Oblast

- » Renewed the municipal program for rehabilitation in 2024-2026, which had not been funded since 2022.
- » Initiated amendments to the decision of the Kropyvnytskyi City Council “On Approval of the Program of Social Protection and Social Support of Certain Categories of the Population of the Kropyvnytskyi City Territorial Community for 2023-2025”.
- » Proposed amendments to the decision of the executive committee “On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Monthly Financial Assistance to Children of Deceased, Prisoners of War and Missing Participants of the ATO, JFO, Servicemen who Participated in Hostilities or Ensured the Implementation of Measures for National Security and Defense, Repulsion and Deterrence of Armed Aggression” and to a similar decision on addressing social and domestic issues.

Khmelnyska Oblast

- » Created the Women’s Association of Dunavtysi NGO, which united all women of the community and IDPs to promote better integration.
- » Added Section 7 “Support for Internally Displaced Persons” to the Pikluvannia Comprehensive Program in Khmelnytskyi City Territorial Community for 2022-2026.
- » Initiated the adoption of the Comprehensive Program for Support and Integration of IDPs in the Kamianets-Podilskyi City Territorial Community for 2024-2025.
- » Assured funding for the recreation of IDP children was allocated.



Chernivetska Oblast

- » Added measures to increase funding to the Zakhyst Program for 2022-2024:
 - Financial assistance to citizens in difficult life circumstances, including IDPs.
 - Financial assistance to families in case of need for expensive examination and treatment of seriously ill children, including IDP families registered in Chernivtsi City Territorial Community.
 - One-time targeted financial assistance on the International Children's Day to people raising children with disabilities, including IDPs.
 - Compensation for travel by public transport on the territory of Chernivtsi City Territorial Community for certain categories of citizens entitled to benefits under the law, including IDPs.
- » Chernivtsi City Council approved the Program for the Integration of Internally Displaced Persons in the Chernivtsi City Territorial Community for 2024-2025.

Chernihivska Oblast

- » Contributed to implementing a grant project to create a space for women's dialogue called DIYeva, a support and integration space with about 50 IDP women participants.

Lvivska Oblast

- » Contributed to creating a public space for IDPs in the Zolochiv city library, accessible and engaging for all age groups.

Luhanska Oblast

- » Facilitated the establishment of IDP Councils and Councils for the Restoration of Territories and Representation of the Interests of the Affected Population in Nyzhnyoteplyvska and Shyrokiivska communities.

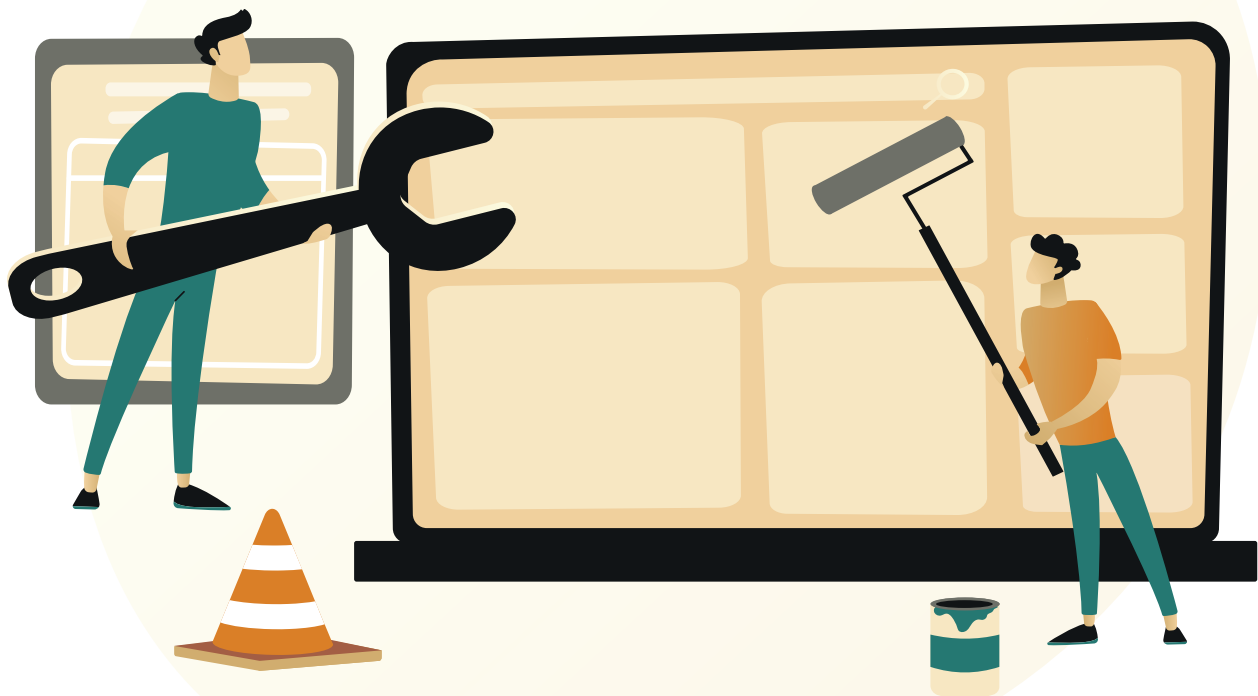
Poltavska Oblast:

- » Initiated recreation for IDP children in the Program for Wellness and Recreation of Children of the Poltava City Territorial Community for 2024-2028.

- » Promoted amendments to the city council decision “On the Provision of One-time Financial Assistance to Mobilized Persons Called to Military Service in the Armed Forces of Ukraine in Connection with the Military Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, Registered in the Territory of Poltava City Territorial Community”.
- » Initiated the organization of temporary accommodation for internally displaced people as part of the Turbota Program of Social Security and Social Protection of the Kremenchuk City Territorial Community for 2024-2026.

Kharkivska Oblast

- » Promoted the creation of a Center for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Youth with the IDP Council Office on its premises.





1.7 JOIN FORCES WITH OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Cherkaska Oblast

- » Cooperate with Oblast communities' and with established IDP Councils.
- » Signed memoranda of cooperation with the Cherkasy Agency for Sustainable Development, Cherkaska Oblast Employment Center, "Asotsiatsiya 'Vidrodzhennia Ta Rozvytok'" NGO, Sustainable Development State NGO, Right to Protection Charity Foundation, and the CO CF SSS.

Chernihivska Oblast

- » Signed memoranda of cooperation with the Rokada Chernihiv Charitable Foundation and the Pryluky City District Branch of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.

Luhanska Oblast

- » Established cooperation with the International Organization for Migration on a project to provide housing for 250 IDPs in Sievierodonetsk.

Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Received support from the Council of Europe to create a clinic on stress resistance, digitalization of social services, and digitalization of legal issues.
- » Entered into cooperation with the Ukrainian Social Investment Fund.

Dnipropetrovska Oblast

- » Received support from the Council of Europe to establish a clinic on stress resistance, digitalization of social services, and digitalization of legal issues.
- » Entered into cooperation with the Ukrainian Social Investment Fund.
- » Initiated Kryvyi Rih's participation in the Council of Europe Project "Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions. Phase II" which provides administrative services, psychological support for people affected by hostilities, legal assistance, and digitalization of social services.



THESE ARE JUST SOME
OF THE SUCCESS STORIES
OF IDP COUNCILS.
IN FACT, THERE ARE
MANY MORE.

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HOW DOES OUR FOUNDATION SUPPORT IDP COUNCILS?

The Charity Foundation “Stabilization Support Services” developed the concept and basic documents for IDP Councils. In 2019, we facilitated the creation of the first Councils.

Today, we are working to develop an all-Ukrainian network of IDP Councils.



OUR PLANS FOR 2025:

1. Support the establishment of a **civil society organization to coordinate IDP Councils**.
2. Hold **regional, interregional, and national forums** for networking and exchange of experience between authorities and Councils from all over the country.
3. **Map of IDP Councils**.
4. Create and disseminate information materials for members of IDP Councils, and launch a consolidated **online portal of IDP Councils**.
5. Designing **training and mentoring programs** for IDP Council members.
6. **Support the activities of IDP Councils:** coordination meetings, expert discussions, research, strategic sessions, self-assessment of capacity, and development opportunities.
7. **Monitor the effectiveness and build the capacity** of IDP Councils within the framework of the United Voices in Action program.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION FOR COORDINATING IDP COUNCILS

In 2024, the CF SSS is establishing an organization to develop and implement **national and regional policies to ensure and protect the rights and interests of internally displaced persons** and promote the development of effective mechanisms for their adaptation and integration.



WHAT WILL BE THE LEGAL FORM OF THIS ORGANIZATION?

An independent non-governmental organization (association) without the status of a legal entity.

WHO WILL BE A MEMBER?

- Founders of the Organization
- Representatives of IDP Councils under the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Kyiv and Sevastopol cities, oblast, raion state (military) administrations, and local self-government bodies.

WHAT EXACTLY WILL THIS ORGANIZATION DO?

- Coordinate the activities of IDP Councils
- map and collect statistical data on IDP Councils
- Provide advisory and methodological assistance to IDP Councils
- Facilitate the involvement of IDP Councils in advocating for IDP rights at the national level
- Promote the exchange of successful practices between IDP Councils
- Engage partners in cooperating with IDP Councils
- Build the capacity of IDP Council members and strengthen their sustainability (conducting trainings, webinars, workshops)
- Provide information support

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HANDBOOK FOR IDP COUNCILS



You can download
the Handbook for IDP
Councils here



The Handbook for IDP Councils provides information on the legal status, rights, responsibilities, and procedure for establishing IDP Councils in Ukraine and provides specific recommendations on the composition of the Councils, the election process for their members, and the division of responsibilities. The main objectives are discussed in detail, including assisting to IDPs with access to medical, social, and educational services, integration into new communities, legal support, and protection of their rights. Particular attention is paid to the mechanisms of coordination between IDP Councils and Ministry of Reintegration, as well as the system of humanitarian response clusters present in Ukraine. The publication also highlights the importance of IDP Councils in the recovery process at the regional level. It describes in detail the steps to be taken to develop a comprehensive community recovery program and the ways to involve IDP Councils at different stages of its development and implementation.

The Handbook will be helpful to all IDP Council members, including chairpersons, and will provide answers to most of the questions faced when planning Council activities. We plan to keep the information in the Handbook up to date.

The Handbook for IDP Councils was developed within the framework of the Strengthening IDP Councils for Youth Recovery in Ukraine project, implemented by the Charity Foundation “Stabilization Support Services” with support from the Czech humanitarian organization People in Need and the financial support of the Czech people.

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METHODOLOGY FOR CONDUCTING AN IDP COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

To download the methodology, please follow the link:



Strategic planning sessions are an important stage for the IDP Council to launch and maintain its activities. The main purpose of the strategic planning sessions is to define the functions of the IDP Council in accordance with its administrative-territorial level, as well as to develop a yearly strategic and operational plan. The methodology for conducting strategic planning sessions for IDP Councils was developed within the framework of the United Voices in Action program, which is implemented in Ukraine by the international organization IREX together with the Ukrainian Charitable Foundation “Stabilization Support Services” and with support of the U.S. Department of State. The methodology can also be used to conduct strategic planning sessions for IDP Councils established independently of this program. It is worth noting that each group, organization, project, or situation may have unique requirements, limitations, and features, so the methodology may need to be adapted to fit specific conditions.



DO YOU OR YOUR COUNCIL NEED OUR ADVICE?

Since 2019, the Charity Foundation “Stabilization Support Services” has been advising members of IDP Councils on establishment, legal framework, institutional development, networking, interaction with local authorities, and more.

Contact us to get expert assistance from our specialists.



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