

# AREA-BASED ASSESSMENT

## LVIVSKA OBLAST – UKRAINE

### February 2023



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## About REACH

REACH facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT). For more information, please visit [our website](#). You can contact us directly at: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto:geneva@reach-initiative.org) and follow us on Twitter @REACH\_info.

## SUMMARY

Lvivska oblast has been playing a key role in hosting displaced people in Ukraine since 24 February 2022. According to official figures, as of January 2023, around 247,000 people were registered in the region as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).<sup>1</sup> Among those, a significant number are hosted in collective sites (CSs). While there are indications that needs among the population in CSs are higher than for the displaced population outside CSs and host communities, there is limited data available to allow for representative comparisons between these demographics.

The purpose of this assessment is to provide an overview of the needs and concerns of displaced populations in Lvivska oblast, comparing with the needs and concerns of the host community, while assessing how they are being met by local and international actors. To that end, REACH in close cooperation with the CCCM cluster, conducted 1,287 households (HH) surveys with displaced households in collective sites (IDP households in CSs), displaced households living in the community (IDP households outside CSs), and non-displaced households (non-IDP households). Findings are complemented by interviews and discussions with civil society organisations (CSOs), representatives of local authorities, public service providers (PSPs), and international humanitarian respondents.

## KEY FINDINGS

### Humanitarian response and coordination trends

- **Local and external actors coordinate their activities in Lvivska oblast effectively to a large extent. However, it could be further improved.** Some respondents reported issues resulting from a lack of common approaches, coordination, or information sharing. In the meantime, some smaller local actors meet challenges trying to connect with the humanitarian international system.
- **Many local respondents are expected to have difficulties in maintaining their activities in the long-term due to a lack of funds and resources.** Civil society actors struggle to meet compliance requirements or are unaware of funding opportunities. Public actors on the other hand must cope with a decrease in public funding, which, combined with an increase in prices, directly affects their resource level.
- **Non-displaced households are significantly less likely to benefit from assistance.** No less than 73% of non-displaced households reported not having received assistance, while this was reported by only 1% of the IDPs in CSs and 7% of the IDPs outside CSs. In addition, the overall level of satisfaction with the response was considerably lower for non-displaced households, as only 45% of those who reported assistance found it satisfactory, while this was reported by 88% of IDP households in CSs, and 82% of IDP households outside CSs.

### Demographics, vulnerabilities, and socioeconomic needs

- **IDP households living in CSs are overall characterised by additional vulnerabilities and socio-economic fragilities.** While they initially earned less income on average compared to the other groups surveyed, the context of the conflict further reinforced their economic difficulties. However, data shows that IDP households in CSs with the lowest incomes are less likely to see their incomes decrease. This 'safety net' permits to mitigate the impact of the hostilities for those with fewer capacity to access employment, rely on saving, or access friends and family's assistance.
- **In the meantime, IDP households outside CSs often reported similar – if not higher – levels of needs in some sectors.** They self-reported issues meeting some of their basic needs and pointed out greater barriers to accessing state monetary compensation related to the hostilities (38%), or access to employment support (21%).

<sup>1</sup> IOM, [Ukraine — Area Baseline Assessment \(Raion Level\) — Round 20 | Displacement Tracking Matrix \(iom.int\)](#), February 2022

## Housing, CCCM, and Shelter

- **Nearly a fifth of IDP households (both in and outside CSs) reported barriers in accessing long-term accommodation solutions in Lvivska oblast.** They were twice as likely to report this issue when living in Lviv city (27%) than in areas outside Lviv city (11%). Findings indicate that difficulties faced by displaced households result from the lack of sustainability that both CSs and, to some extent, the private housing market seemingly fail to provide fully.
- **This issue is further complexified by the uncertainty that characterised displacement dynamics in Lvivska oblast.** While most IDP households do not intend to move in the next months (81%), an overall majority have the intention to leave for their settlement of origin when the security context eventually allows it, 73% in Lviv city.

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## List of Acronyms

<b>ABA:</b>	Area-Based Assessment
<b>ASC:</b>	Administrative service centre
<b>ATM:</b>	Arrival and Transit Monitoring
<b>CCCM:</b>	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
<b>CS:</b>	Collective Site
<b>CSM:</b>	Collective Site Monitoring
<b>CSO:</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>FGD:</b>	Focus Group Discussion
<b>GCA:</b>	Government-controlled Area
<b>GCM:</b>	General Coordination Meeting
<b>GoU:</b>	Government of Ukraine
<b>HH:</b>	Household
<b>HoHH:</b>	Head of Household
<b>IA:</b>	International Actors
<b>IDP:</b>	Internally Displaced Person
<b>IO:</b>	International Organisation
<b>IOM:</b>	International Organisation for Migration
<b>KII:</b>	Key Informant Interview
<b>LA:</b>	Local Actors
<b>MHPSS:</b>	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
<b>MPC:</b>	Multipurpose cash
<b>NAS:</b>	Nation-wide assessment survey
<b>NGO:</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>OCHA:</b>	The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>PSP:</b>	Public Service Provider
<b>PTSD:</b>	Post-traumatic stress disorder
<b>SDR:</b>	Secondary Data Review
<b>UNICEF:</b>	United Nations Children's Fund

## Geographical Classifications

<b>Oblast/region:</b>	First-level administrative unit (24)
<b>Raion/district:</b>	Second-level administrative unit (136)
<b>Hromada/municipality:</b>	Third-level administrative unit (1,496)

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## INTRODUCTION

The sudden escalation of the hostilities in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 has intensified the humanitarian crisis in the country. Among the primary issues of concern are six and a half million people internally displaced as of December 2022<sup>2</sup>. While the majority live in private residences in the community, a significant number have been hosted in collective sites (CSs), established in public and private buildings across Ukraine.

Lvivska oblast has been playing a key role in hosting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) since 24 February 2022. **Official figures in January 2023 reported the registration of 247,000 IDPs**, which represents only half of the actual number according to the oblast administration.<sup>3</sup> For the International Organisation for Migration's (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), this influx puts Lvivska oblast in the top four of hosting oblasts in Ukraine, behind Kharkivska, Dnipropetrovska, and Kyivska.<sup>4</sup>

A significant proportion of IDPs are hosted in collective sites in Lvivska oblast. the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster and its partners have mapped 243 active CSs throughout the region, hosting an evaluated 22,946 IDPs.<sup>5</sup> It indicates that **close to 10% of registered IDP individuals are accommodated in CSs in Lvivska oblast**. While there are indications that needs among the population in CSs are higher than for the displaced population outside CSs and host communities, there is limited data available to allow for representative comparisons between these demographics.

Recovery activities are required to cope with a protracted displacement situation. The satisfaction of long-term priorities, such as access to employment and livelihoods, long-term housing alternatives, access to basic services, or social integration is increasingly taken into consideration by local and external respondents. Importantly, data available one year after the start of the escalation indicates that **the impact of the crisis is multisectoral and context-specific**, therefore requiring comprehensive area-based analysis to better identify how to sustainably meet the needs of the affected population.

The scale-up of the response to involve multiple actors in Lvivska oblast leads to questions around cooperation dynamics. The implication of local and regional authorities, civil society, and humanitarian actors run the risk of creating parallel structures of collaboration, potentially leading to gaps and duplications in the response. **It heightens the need for reliable data on coordination trends, activities, and capacity gaps of response actors.**

In this context, REACH worked with the CCCM cluster to develop and implement an **area-based assessment (ABA) in Lvivska oblast to support the information needs of the cluster and other partners**, by answering the questions below. REACH and the CCCM cluster consulted with a wide range of additional stakeholders to gather input on the research design as well as the interpretation of findings, including local authorities and local organisations.

### Research questions:

- What are the **short and long-term needs** of IDPs and the host community in Lvivska oblast, and how do they vary across the oblast?
- Which **local and international actors** are responding to meet those needs, and how do they coordinate?
- In what ways could the local response be further **supported**?

<sup>2</sup> International Organisation for Migration (IOM), [Ukraine | Displacement \(iom.int\)](#), December 2022

<sup>3</sup> Lvivska oblast administration, [More than 250,000 IDPs are officially registered in Lviv Oblast](#), December 2022

<sup>4</sup> IOM, [Ukraine — Area Baseline Assessment \(Raion Level\) — Round 20 | Displacement Tracking Matrix \(iom.int\)](#), February 2023

<sup>5</sup> As of January 2023, following a baseline mapping conducted by the CCCM cluster with support of REACH, UNHCR, IOM, ACTED, NRC and other partners. Obtainable via CCCM cluster.



## METHODOLOGY

### Geographical scope

The geographical scope of the assessment encompasses:

- 184 **settlements** across the oblast (Lviv city and 183 settlements outside Lviv City).
- 5 **priority hromadas** (urban hromadas – Lvivska, Chervonohradska; rural hromadas – Skhydnytska, Novoyarychivska, Krasnenska).

### Data collection methods and Sampling strategy

This ABA follows a **mixed-methods approach**, consisting of both quantitative and qualitative research methods.

The quantitative component includes a **household survey** of 1,287 face-to-face interviews, conducted in 184 settlements across the oblast between 8 November and 2 December 2022. Results are generalisable at the oblast level and comparable – with a 95% level of confidence and 7% margin of error – between displacement status (IDP households in CSs, IDP households outside CSs, and non-IDP households), and areas of settlement (in Lviv city and outside Lviv city). For the IDP households in CSs, 112 CSs were visited.

**Table 1. Sampling of households' data collection**

	IDP households in CSs	IDP households out of CSs	Non-IDP households
Lviv City	211	208	212
Outside Lviv City	218	232	206
<b>Total</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>418</b>

Additionally, an **actor mapping** including 75 local actors' key informant interviews (LA-KIIs) was conducted across the oblast to obtain general information on their role and capacities in crisis response. They were interviewed remotely through telephone calls from 24 – 31 October 2022. Contrary to the household survey, this data is not representative of local response actors at the oblast level and should be considered indicative. However, it allows to discern trends regarding the activities, capacities, and needs of local response actors in the oblast.

Qualitative data collection took place between 1 November 2022 and 2 December 2022 in five priority hromadas. These hromadas were purposely selected for their particular interest in the humanitarian response, and their value in exposing variations between urban and rural hromadas. There, a total of 14 **public service providers' key informant interviews** (PSP-KIIs) were conducted to understand the impact of the escalation of hostilities in three main sectors (education, healthcare, and social/administrative services). REACH also conducted 8 **local actors' focus group discussions** (LA-FGDs) and 2 **international actors' focus group discussions** (IA-FGDs) to understand the priorities and opportunities for both local and international responses.

## FINDINGS

### 1. General overview of the situation in Lvivska oblast

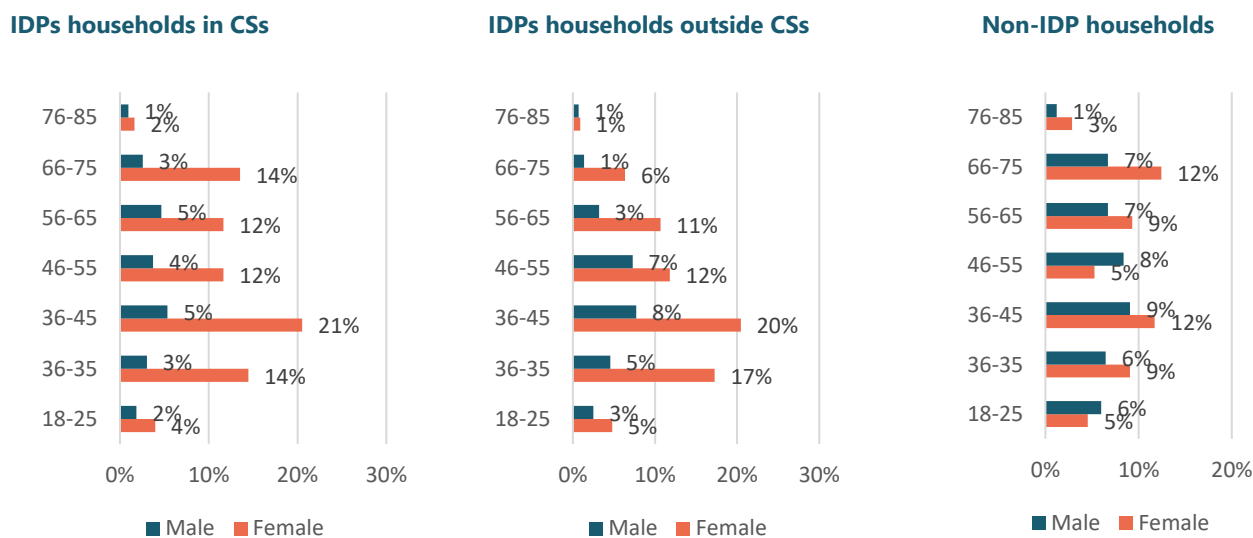
#### 1.1 Households' demographics and vulnerabilities

##### Demographic characteristic

The **average household size** was identified as 2.57 persons for IDP households in CSs, 2.88 persons for IDP households outside CSs, and 2.84 persons for non-IDP households. The figure for non-IDP households indicates a lower figure than the official number for Lvivska oblast (3.01), according to 2021 data from the State Statistics Service of Ukraine.<sup>6</sup>

**Households with children** made up 51% of surveyed IDP households in CSs, and 53% of IDP households outside CSs. It was significantly higher than the figure among non-IDP households (38%). The latter finding contradicts the figure of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, for which the proportion of households with children in Lvivska oblast was 46% in 2021. Among the households who reported having children, 54% of IDP households in CSs had only one child, 56% of IDP households outside CSs had only one child, and 55% of non-IDP households had only one child. The share of families with three or more children amounted to 13% of IDP households in CSs with children, 14% of IDP households outside CSs with children, and 12% of non-IDP households with children.

Figure 1. Gender and age distribution of respondents, by displacement group



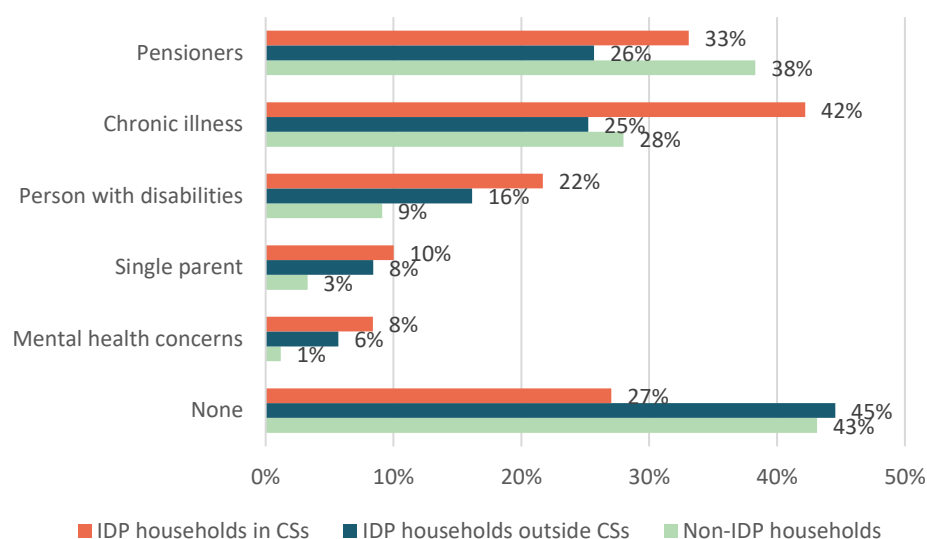
A majority of IDP households were **female-headed**. Among respondents who reported being head of household (HoHH), **92%** of respondents representing the group of IDPs in CSs were women, versus 68% for IDP households outside CSs. This figure was only 48% for non-IDP households.

<sup>6</sup> State statistics service of Ukraine, [Social and Demographic Characteristics of Households of Ukraine](#), 2021

## Households' vulnerabilities

The data confirms that IDP households in CSs are generally characterised by additional vulnerabilities, compared to IDP households outside CSs, and non-displaced households. They were more likely to report having members with chronic illnesses, disabled persons, single parents, or mental health concerns. They were also more likely to report having pensioners in their households compared to IDP households outside CSs, but less likely than non-IDP households (Figure 2). These findings differ from the results of the ABA in Dnipropetrovska oblast, where displaced households in CSs were characterised by a more frequent presence of pensioners than the other two groups of analysis.<sup>7</sup> The vulnerability to chronic illnesses of IDP households was also emphasised in a report from HelpAge, indicating that 96% of IDP people interviewed (76% women) have at least one chronic disease.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 2. Households' reported vulnerabilities, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)



## 1.2 Displacement dynamics

### Number of IDPs in Lvivska oblast

Official figures in January 2023 reported the registration of **247,000 IDPs** in Lvivska oblast, this influx puts it in the top four of hosting oblasts in Ukraine, behind Kharkivska, Dnipropetrovska, and Kyivska. At the raion level, Lvivskiy hosted the highest number of registered IDPs, with over 129,020 IDPs (108,300 in Lviv city), followed by Stryiskiy (33,474), and Drohobyskiy (32,206).<sup>9</sup> These figures point toward a slight drop in the number of IDPs in the oblast, compared to November-December 2022 (256,775).<sup>10</sup>

However, the oblast administration estimates that these figures only represent half of the actual number of IDPs in the oblast, as many of them reportedly **did not register** while settling in private accommodations.<sup>11</sup> When interrogated on the matter during the HH survey, IDP households in CSs were 97% to report that all the members of their households had officially registered, this number was only 91% for IDP households outside CSs. This average falls to 89% when looking at IDPs households outside CSs living in **Lviv city**. Taken at face value, it would mean that more than an estimated 10% of IDP households outside CSs do not register officially in Lviv city (~10,000 IDPs).

<sup>7</sup> REACH, [Area-based Assessment in Dnipropetrovska oblast](#), September 2022

<sup>8</sup> HelpAge, [Humanitarian needs of older men and women IDPs in Lviv and Lvivska oblast](#), November 2022

<sup>9</sup> IOM, [Ukraine — Area Baseline Assessment \(Raion Level\) — Round 20 | Displacement Tracking Matrix \(iom.int\)](#), February 2023

<sup>10</sup> IOM, [Displacement Report - Area Baseline Report \(Raion level\) — Round 18](#), November-December 2022

<sup>11</sup> Lvivska oblast administration, [More than 250,000 IDPs are officially registered in Lviv Oblast](#), December 2022

### Areas of origin of the IDP households

**Top 3 oblasts of origin for IDP households in CSs:** Donetsk (36%), Kharkivska (20%), and Luhanska (14%).

**Map 1. Reported origin of displaced households in CSs**



**Top 3 oblasts of origin for IDP households outside CSs:** Kharkivska (24%), Donetsk (21%), and Khersonska (16%).

**Map 2. Reported origin of displaced households outside CSs**



## Push and pull factors

REACH's Arrival and Transit Monitoring (ATM) Round 4 (October 2022) indicates that reasons for leaving the settlement of habitual residence from households transiting and arriving in Lvivska oblast mostly revolve around security considerations. Shelling in/near the settlement was reported as the primary reason (41%), followed by concerns about an escalation of hostilities in the future (28%), and threat to personal/family safety (23%).<sup>12</sup>

Accordingly, for the HH survey, the most common reason from IDP households for choosing a settlement in Lvivska oblast was security considerations (Table 2). The second most reported reason for choosing Lvivska oblast varies by displacement group: for IDP households outside CSs – the location of friends/family (41%), for IDP households in CSs – availability of humanitarian aid/assistance (27%).

**Table 2. Most reported reasons for choosing the settlement in Lvivska oblast, by displaced living arrangement (multiple-choice question)**

Reason for choosing the settlement	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
Security considerations	84%	66%	66%	67%
The location of friends/ family	23%	28%	40%	42%
Availability of humanitarian aid/ assistance	30%	23%	23%	16%
Following advice	25%	22%	22%	17%
Availability of permanent accommodation	16%	19%	15%	22%
Ease of registration as an IDP	19%	13%	23%	12%
Availability of public services	17%	9%	21%	8%
Availability of work/income opportunities	5%	5%	14%	9%

## Movement Intentions

Only 6% of IDP households in CSs (8% in Lviv city; 5% outside Lviv city) and 7% of IDP households outside CSs (6% in Lviv city; 8% outside Lviv city) reported **a clear intention to move again in the next month**. Of those, the majority of IDP households in CSs (17 out of 27), and IDP households outside CSs (23 out of 32), reported intention to return to their settlement of habitual residence.

These findings must be balanced with data from the ATM Round 5 (December 2022), in which 79% of respondents surveyed in Lviv city indicated considering the settlement as a **transit point** in their displacement. Of those who intended to transit, 81% planned to travel abroad. Furthermore, 73% of surveyed households (transiting and arriving) in Lviv city reported an intention to return to their habitual residence in the future.<sup>13</sup> It points towards a situation of uncertainty for many IDPs in Lvivska oblast, unable to move soon, but willing to do so when the security context allows it.

The transit role of Lviv city is strongly determined by its connections to the railway network across the country and abroad. In the first months following the escalation of hostilities, Lviv railway station received up to 100,000 people per day, 20 times higher than its usual passenger flow.<sup>14</sup> The evacuation flow has now decreased, but Lvivska oblast still sees arriving evacuation trains and buses every day.<sup>15</sup> In total, more than 5 million displaced people passed through the city since 24 February 2022.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>12</sup> REACH, [Arrival and Transit Monitoring](#), October 2022

<sup>13</sup> REACH, [Arrival and Transit Monitoring](#), December 2022

<sup>14</sup> Ukrainian railway, [Since the first days of the war, the Lviv railway station received 100 thousand people a day](#), July 2022

<sup>15</sup> Lvivska oblast administration, [Lviv region is the only station in Ukraine receiving evacuation trains every day](#), November 2022

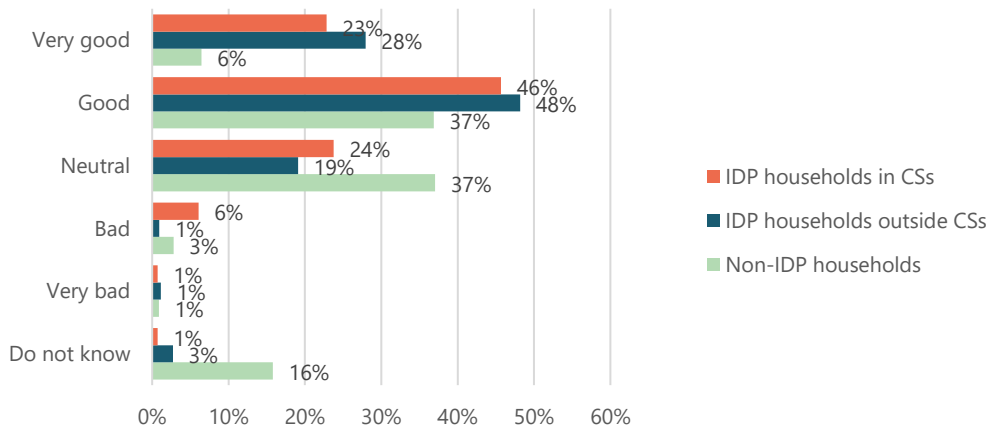
<sup>16</sup> Radio Svoboda, [Lviv during the war. How has the city changed?](#), January 2023

### 1.3 Social cohesion

#### Social cohesion between IDPs and the host community

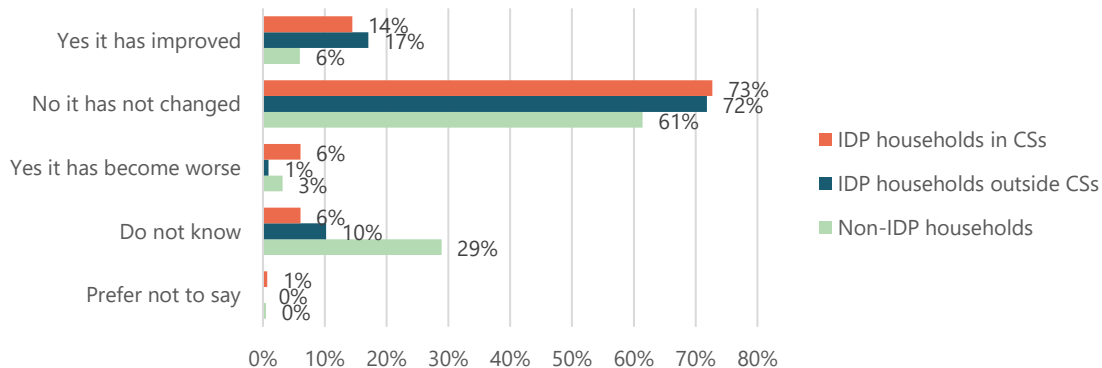
Results from the HH survey indicate that **IDP households were overall more likely than non-IDP households to perceive a positive relationship between them.** Indeed, **69%** of IDP households in CSs, and **76%** of IDP households outside CSs, reported that the relationship between IDPs and the host community was either 'good' or 'very good'. Only 43% of non-IDP households reported the same level of social cohesion. In the meantime, a significant proportion reported that this relationship was 'neutral' (37%), or that they did not know (16%). Finally, it is important to note that **7%** of IDP households in CSs, and 4% of non-IDP households reported a relationship either 'bad' or 'very bad' (Figure 3).<sup>17</sup>

**Figure 3. Perception of the relationship between displaced and non-displaced households, displayed by displacement status (single-choice question)**



Despite the above, **nearly half of the IDP households** (47% in CSs; 44% outside CSs) reported that **more should be done to improve this relationship.** In the meantime, most respondents reported that the relationship had not changed recently (Figure 4). Once again, the negative perception was more likely to be reported by IDP households in CSs (6%) and non-IDP households (3%).

**Figure 4. Dynamic of changes of relationship perception between displaced and non-displaced households, displayed by displacement status (single-choice question)**



<sup>17</sup> Answers to single-choice questions should amount to 100% for each category of respondents. However, due to the rounding of percentages and aggregation of strata, the total could vary slightly in some cases.

In the **priority hromadas**, nearly all participants taking part in the LA-FGDs indicated that there were **tensions** between the IDPs and the host community. However, they reported that these tensions were overall decreasing over time.

### Factors influencing social cohesion in Lvivska oblast

Participants of the LA-FGDs discussed **factors negatively impacting** social cohesion in their hromadas. The **language** was the main reported issue, and the most sensitive. Numerous participants shared accounts of IDPs not wanting to speak Ukrainian after living several months in the host communities, which eventually create tension and disbelief. According to an assessment by the non-governmental organisation (NGO) “European Dialogue” conducted in 10 territorial communities across Lvivska oblast, 26% of respondents encountered prejudice in the community due to the status of IDPs. Of those, 14% reported that the main cause was the language issue.<sup>18</sup>

The second most reported factor was a perception from host communities of **bad behaviours** or ungratefulness on the part of IDPs. Participants shared accounts of IDPs reportedly behaving incorrectly, or taking the aid for granted, eroding locals' willingness to provide further assistance. Finally, participants from Lviv city and Chervonohrad stressed the resentment felt by some members of the host communities towards the perceived **unwillingness to work** of IDPs, especially when living and receiving assistance in CSs.

Participants of the LA-FGDs also discussed a series of **factors enabling social cohesion** between IDP and non-IDP households. **Working together** on similar tasks has been cited throughout all the discussions, as it has the potential to reinforce communication, and motivate host communities to keep working and supporting IDPs. **Integration activities** were also presented as good opportunities to create social cohesion.

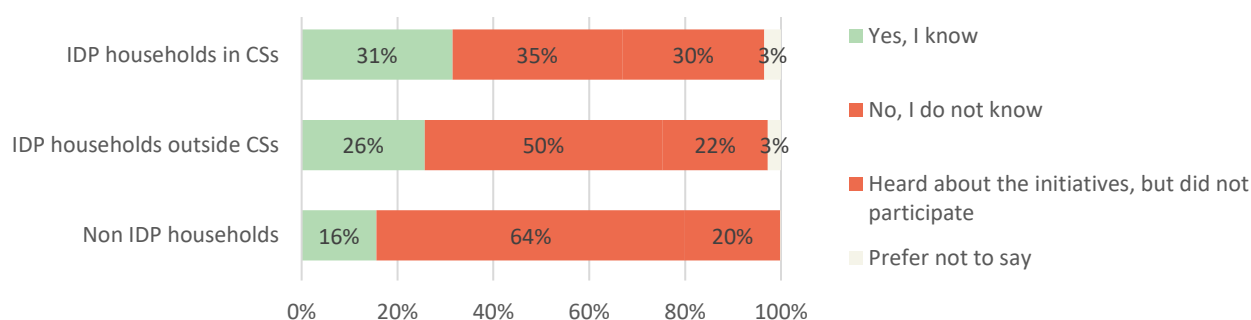
*“It’s necessary to encourage [IDPs] to work and socialise. We regularly see very active people among IDPs who try to help and communicate with the residents”.*

*Participant of FGD with local actors, Chervonohrad*

### Integration initiatives

Participants of all LA-FGDs reported organising **integration activities** in their hromadas. The most cited were outdoor activities (e.g., hikes, sporting events, leisure activities), language classes for learning Ukrainian, and cultural activities (e.g., theatre club, library meetings). According to the HH survey, **IDP households inside CSs have more awareness of integration initiatives**<sup>19</sup> than IDPs household outside CSs, and non-IDP households (Figure 5).

**Figure 5. Awareness of integration initiatives, by displacement status (single choice question)**



<sup>18</sup> NGO “European Dialogue”, [Analytical note "Assessment of the needs of IDPs in territorial communities of Lviv region"](#), December 2022

<sup>19</sup> In the questionnaire, ‘Integration initiatives for IDPs’ included economic (e.g., employment opportunities), social (e.g., activities for children) and cultural initiatives (e.g., festivals, etc.) carried out by the local or oblast authorities or organisations with the purpose of promoting better integration of IDPs.

## 1.4 Impact of the escalation of hostilities on the economy

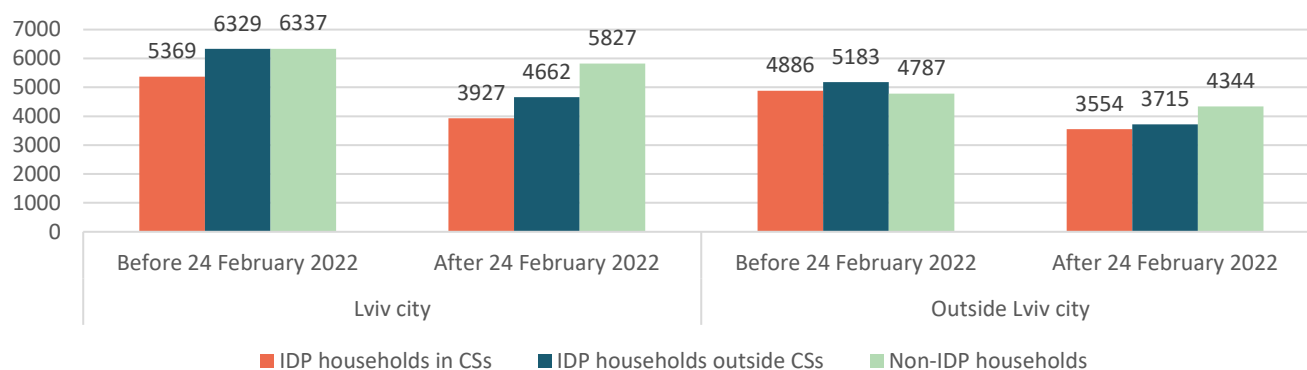
Entire sectors of Ukraine's economy have plunged into crisis in the aftermath of the escalation of hostilities, due to the destruction of productive capacity, damage to arable land, and reduction in labour supply.<sup>20</sup> Moreover, the intensification of attacks on Ukraine's critical infrastructure towards the end of 2022 has put even more strain on the economy. The shortage of electricity led to a reduction in production and an increase in business costs. To adapt, businesses in Lvivska oblast had to purchase generators and shift production to night shifts, among other measures.<sup>21</sup>

However, the Ministry of Economy predicts the stabilisation and growth of Ukraine's economy in 2023 by 15.5%, depending on the course of hostilities.<sup>22</sup> In Lvivska oblast, the proximity to the borders with the European Union and relative safety turned the oblast into an **economic hub**. Statistics on new business registrations show that 9,323 business entities were registered in Lvivska oblast in the six months following the start of escalation (the second oblast in the country after Kyivska).<sup>23</sup> In total, 207 enterprises from the south, east, north, and centre of Ukraine have relocated to the oblast since the start of the escalation. Among them, 144 are already working and have created more than 5,000 working places.<sup>24</sup> This reflects positive recovery dynamics at the oblast level.

### Households' incomes

The escalation of hostilities negatively impacted the **income level** of both IDP and non-IDP households. However, data from the HH survey indicates that **IDP households were particularly affected**. While IDP households initially earned less income on average than non-displaced households, they also suffered a greater loss in income since the escalation of hostilities. Data also highlights disparities in incomes – both before and after 24 February 2022 – between households living in Lviv city, and those living in the rest of the oblast (Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Average income before and after 24 February 2022 per HH member/month, by displacement type, in UAH**



Importantly, data indicates that **the overall decrease in incomes is less likely to affect IDP households with very low incomes**. More than half of IDP households who earned very low incomes (0- 3,000 UAH calculated in income/HH member)<sup>25</sup> before 24 February 2022 reported an **increase**, rather than a decrease, in their incomes after 24 February 2022 (Figure 7). It is likely the result of the continuity of assistance received prior to 24 February 2022, in some cases expanded after the escalation of hostilities by necessary humanitarian assistance (such as MPC), or new state monetary allocations. This 'safety net' permits to mitigate the impact of the hostilities for those with fewer capacity to access employment, rely on saving, or access friends and family's assistance.

<sup>20</sup> The World Bank, "[Russian Invasion to Shrink Ukraine Economy by 45 Percent this Year](#)", April 2022

<sup>21</sup> National Bank of Ukraine, "[Monthly macroeconomic and monetary overview](#)", December 2022

<sup>22</sup> GMK Center, "[The World Bank improved the growth forecast of Ukraine's economy in 2023 to 3.3%](#)", October 2022

<sup>23</sup> Business.dia.gov.ua, "[Ukrainian business in a full-scale war: analysis of the state for six months \(dia.gov.ua\)](#)", September 2022

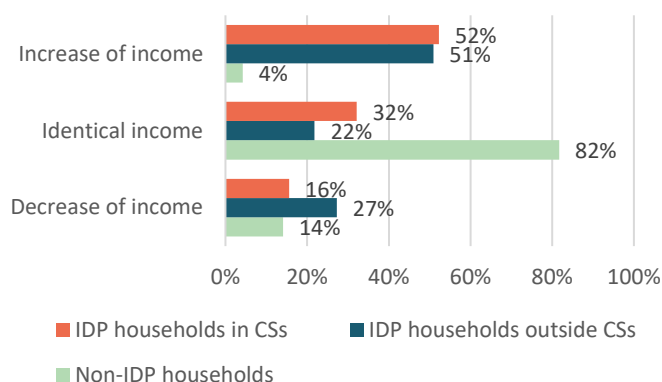
<sup>24</sup> Suspilne, "[More than 200 enterprises moved. How Ukrainian business was relocated to Lvivska oblast](#)", October 2022

<sup>25</sup> ~77 euros

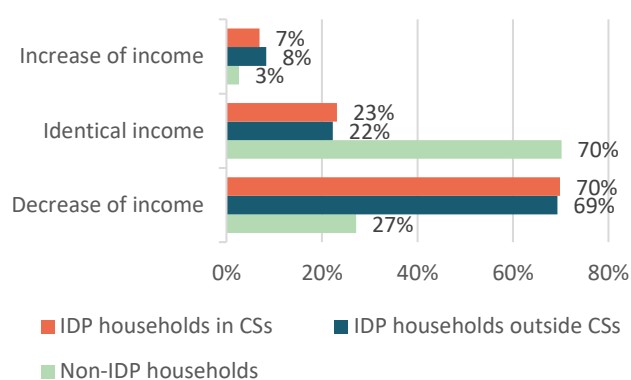


**Figure 7. Evolution of monthly incomes/households' members, by the level of income before 24 February 2022, and displacement type**

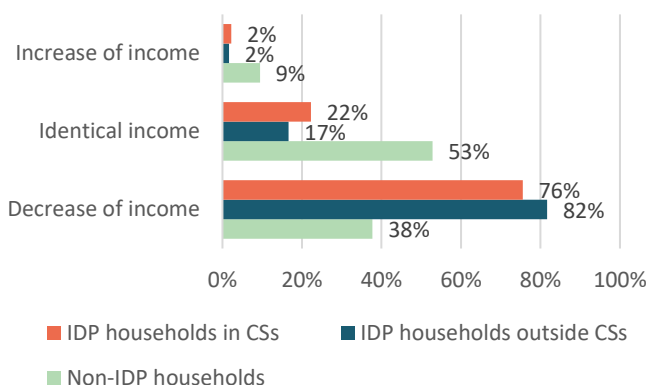
**Very low income (0-3,000 UAH<sup>26</sup>) before February 2022**



**Low income (3,001-9,000 UAH<sup>27</sup>) before February 2022**



**Medium income (9,001-15,000 UAH<sup>28</sup>) before February 2022**



**Employment and labour market**

According to the Ministry of Economy, as of December 2022, there were 2.6 million unemployed people in Ukraine, a number that is forecasted to increase to 2.8 million people in 2023.<sup>29</sup> The Government of Ukraine (GoU) further reports that high unemployment rates, a massive outflow of the workforce, and the risk of non-return of Ukrainian citizens from abroad are key challenges for the Ukrainian economy.<sup>30</sup>

Data shows that **unemployment** strongly affects IDP households. Before 24 February 2022, 59% of respondents in CSs, and 71% of respondents outside CSs, reported being employed. Among them, **around three fourth reportedly had to leave their job** since 24 February 2022 (76% IDPs in CSs; 72% IDPs outside CSs). Among them and those initially unemployed, only a small proportion was able to find a new job in Lvivska oblast: **14%** of respondents living in CSs, and **29%** of respondents living outside CSs.

<sup>26</sup> ~77 euros

<sup>27</sup> ~231 euros

<sup>28</sup> ~384 euros

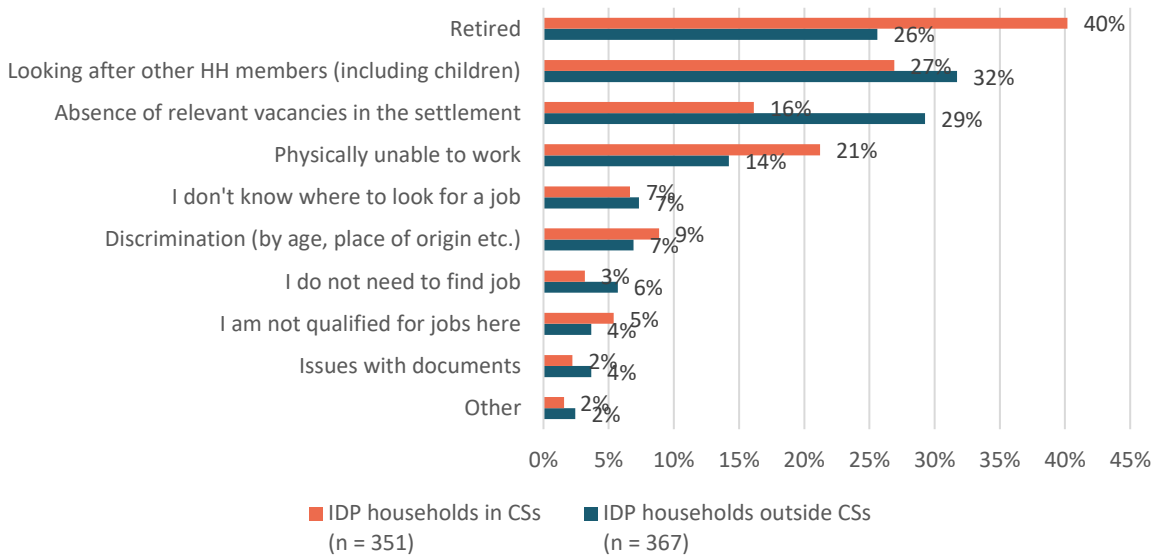
<sup>29</sup> Forbes, [How the Ukrainian economy survived the war of 2022](#), December 2022

<sup>30</sup> Government Portal, [Economic Recovery and Development.docx \(kmu.gov.ua\)](#), July 2022

Of those who have found a new job, the vast majority of respondents (81% of IDPs in CSs; 90% of IDPs outside CSs) described their salary as ‘much’ or ‘a little’ less than the salary before 24 February 2022. According to the Pension Fund of Ukraine, the nominal salary in Ukraine decreased by 5% compared to January 2022. At the current level of inflation (26.5% in November), this means a significant reduction in salaries in real terms by 21%.<sup>31</sup>

Close to **a fifth of IDP households reported a need for employment support** (19% of IDP households in CSs; 21% of IDP households outside CSs). Regarding the **barriers** to employment reported by IDP respondents for not finding a (new) job, the most cited were retirement, looking after other household members, the absence of relevant vacancies in the settlement, and physical inability to work (Figure 8).

**Figure 8. Barriers to employment, according to respondents who have not found a (new) job in Lvivska oblast, by displacement type (multiple-choice question)**



During the LA-FGDs, **the employment of IDPs was the most reported long-term need** by participants (6 out of 8 FGDs). According to some participants, it is mainly due to a lack of relevant qualifications or professional skills. Others argued that it can also be explained by an unwillingness of IDPs to work in general, which negatively impacts social cohesion in the oblast. One PSP-KI working in an employment centre also indicated on the matter that IDPs face numerous barriers to accessing retraining programs, which are highly time-consuming and can be challenging for IDPs located in the periphery of the oblast, or having to look after other households’ members.

<sup>31</sup> National Bank of Ukraine, [Monthly macroeconomic and monetary overview](#), December 2022

## 2. Humanitarian response in Lvivska oblast

Contrary to the environment it usually operates in, the international humanitarian system composes in Ukraine with a strong national presence. The GoU is overall in control at every administrative level, and the civil society is developed and proactive. Rather therefore to act as a substitute for Ukrainian actors, the objective in this context for international actors is to find how to best complement, support, and add value to national and local efforts.<sup>32</sup>

However, there were difficulties in reaching this objective. The myriad of respondents involved at the local level in Ukraine has led early on to the creation of parallel structures of coordination in the humanitarian response. In this context, international actors faced difficulties when looking for paths of collaboration with every national stakeholder.<sup>33</sup> In the meantime, the international humanitarian system has often been blamed for not putting the necessary conditions in place to meet their 'localisation' objectives since 24 February 2022. International actors have reportedly lacked the flexibility necessary to rapidly support emergent local response efforts, largely composed of fluid ad hoc networks and volunteer initiatives, unable to meet rigid compliance requirements.<sup>34</sup>

### 2.1 Main actors and coordination bodies

#### Local actors

**Local authorities have been playing a significant role in the humanitarian response at the hromada level, according to most participants of the LA-FGDs.**<sup>35</sup> They ensure coordination, distribution, and information-sharing, generally through humanitarian headquarters established since the start of the escalation of hostilities in every hromada. As a general rule, both city councils, and their departments (e.g., social protection, education, culture) are involved in the coordination and day-to-day implementation of humanitarian activities. According to one participant of the IA-FGDs, local departments play a key role in this system, as they work to ensure appropriate implementation of activities in their sector. In the meantime, public service providers continue to ensure for the most part access to basic services (e.g., education, healthcare, social security). Nearly all PSP-KIs reported that the escalation did not significantly alter their capacities to provide services.

**Oblast authorities acted quickly at the start of the escalation of hostilities, according to IA-FGDs.** The Regional State Administration has set-up a regional coordination centre that actively monitors the cooperation with external actors and coordinates the humanitarian response at the oblast level. In this context, the regional department of social services plays a predominant role, leading the activities oriented towards IDP assistance, and the management of CSs. In the meantime, oblast authorities have started implementing consultive centres in every raion, where IDPs can both be assisted, or be redirected towards the appropriate services.

**Local organisations (CSOs and NGOs) and volunteers' initiatives are also important pillars of the humanitarian response in Lvivska oblast.** Volunteers' initiatives were reported by LA-FGDs in every hromadas to be particularly vital at the start of the escalation of the hostilities, bearing a heavy burden to support and setting-up an immediate response, a pattern recognizable across the all country since 24 February 2022.<sup>36</sup> Local organisations were mentioned the most in urban hromadas (Lviv City and Chervonohrad), where the creation and registration of new organisations have reportedly surged. As participants of the IA-FGDs pointed out, local actors can also act as coordination platforms when they start operating in entire networks like at the Lviv railway station.

*"At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, people worked like "titans" to accommodate the displaced people."*

*Participant of FGD with local actors, Krasnenska hromada*

<sup>32</sup> Humanitarian Outcomes, [Enabling the local response: Emerging humanitarian priorities in Ukraine March–May 2022 | Humanitarian Outcomes](#), June 2022

<sup>33</sup> ACAPS, [Ukraine: Bridging humanitarian response](#), May 2022

<sup>34</sup> Humanitarian Outcomes, [Enabling the local response: Emerging humanitarian priorities in Ukraine March–May 2022](#), June 2022

<sup>35</sup> Beside the alleged role of public actors in the response in Lvivska oblast, this emphasis can also be partially explained by the high representation of local public institutions' actors in the LA-FGDs.

<sup>36</sup> The New Humanitarian, [Is Ukraine the next tipping point for humanitarian aid reform?](#), July 2022.

## External actors

A relative lack of preparedness among the international organisations (IOs) and the UN system delayed for a couple of months the scale-up and full activation of the international system in Ukraine.<sup>37</sup> In the context of the (re-)entry of external actors in the county, Lvivska oblast soon became a key humanitarian hub, due to a series of logistics and security factors, in addition to the high presence of IDPs in the region. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) cluster coordination began officially in mid-April, and sub-national clusters for the West macro-region of Ukraine were established in Lviv city. More recently, the General Coordination Meetings (GCMs) started gathering external actors, oblast authorities, and local organisations. According to one participant of the IA-FGDs, **the objective of external actors in Lvivska oblast is to collaborate proactively with local partners and complement their activities.** International volunteers also reportedly supplement this effort, especially in the areas that border Poland.

*"The authorities must be responsible, they are responsible for what is happening in the country, but now they need help from us because the structure was overloaded".*

*Participant of FGD with international actors, Lviv city*

## 2.2 Coordination trends

**The proactivity of oblast authorities is key in enhancing coordination between the different types of actors.**

Located at the crossroad between national and local authorities, and increasingly familiar with the international system, the Regional State Administration of Lvivska oblast plays an important role in the coordination of the humanitarian response. If they have not always been fully aligned with external actors – OCHA and the Regional State Administration were reportedly holding parallel meetings on identical issues back in the summer. Their active presence in the GCM has now become vital in connecting information flows. In the meantime, the establishment of consultation centres at the raion level supports 'decentralisation' efforts and enables standardisation of the response across the oblast. External actors are encouraged to pursue the good practice, such as formally outlining the contour of their collaboration with oblast authorities (e.g., by signing a memorandum of coordination), and giving visibility on their activity's implementation (e.g., by sharing weekly activity plans).

**International actors generally chose local authorities as the primary contact at the hromada level.** Six out of seven representatives of local authorities surveyed as part of the LA-KIIs reported working with international actors. Of those, 4 rated the communication between local actors and international actors as "very good" or "good". According to participants of LA-FGDs, overall, the communication was good, although some of them pointed out that the initial contact was often initiated unilaterally (i.e., international actors deciding whether to initiate the activity in hromada). On that matter, participants from the IA-FGDs pointed out that the quality of the collaboration was highly dependent on the willingness of local authorities to cooperate and cope with the humanitarian response in their hromada in the first place.

**International actors seek to support and complement the provision of basic services by public service providers.** Seventeen out of twenty-one representatives of public services providers participating in the PSP-KIIs and the LA-KIIs reported cooperating with international actors (Ios and/or UN agencies), for the most part in the education and healthcare sector. Of those, 14 (82%) rated the communication as "very good" or "good" (LA-KIIs) or reported that the intervention of international actors in their sector was "very good" or "satisfactory" (PSP-KIIs). Besides providing basic services to beneficiaries, international actors also support public services providers directly, with funding or provision of necessary equipment. As an illustration, UNICEF works actively with healthcare institutions by providing integrated services (healthcare, social, legal) within their facilities, but also by providing funds, or high-tech equipment (CT scans, cardiographs). They apply the same logic with educational facilities with funding or educational material.

<sup>37</sup> Humanitarian Outcomes, [Enabling the local response: Emerging humanitarian priorities in Ukraine March–May 2022](#), June 2022

*"I think the aid [from international partners] is rather timely and effective. We couldn't have coped with anything without the help of the world. We appreciate this help very much."*

*Participant of FGD with local actors, Novoyarchivska hromada*

**Coordination by local authorities appears to be fluid, but this effectiveness certainly differs across the oblast.**

Just as in the rest of the country, the local response in Lvivska oblast is characterised by the important role of informal networks, so-called 'organic fluidity', and a high reliance on modern and flexible means of communication (e.g., Telegram channels). If these factors foster for the most part rapid and effective responses, a couple of participants of the LA-FGDs acknowledged that the coordination structure was not fully in effect in their hromadas. For instance, they pointed out bad information management, the lack of common databases, or the lack of coordination efforts from local authorities. These points were far from generalised during the discussions but could be explained partly by the high representation of public actors at the FGDs, especially in the rural hromadas. On that matter, ACAPS highlighted in June 2022 that the high centralisation of the response by local authorities could in some cases lead to a decrease in collaboration between local actors.<sup>38</sup> This risk was also pointed out by REACH in its last ABA in Dnipropetrovska oblast, where some local actors were isolated from the coordination efforts in their hromadas, whether voluntary or not.<sup>39</sup>

**Collaboration is taking place between international and small local actors, but some barriers are still encountered when trying to connect with the humanitarian international system.**

Out of 48 representatives of local civil society organisations interviewed during the LA-KIIs (CSOs, NGOs, religious organisations, and volunteers' initiatives), 31 (65%) reported to have collaborated with international actors (IOs or UN agencies), of those 22 (71%) rated the communication between local and international organisations in the response as "very good" or "good". However, a series of constraints were reported by participants of the FGDs, such as compliance requirements, reporting procedures, humanitarian principles, or the language barrier. This relates to requests often made by local organisations to international partners since the start of the escalation to "cut the bureaucracy", calling for more "trust and accountability" through unrestricted rapid and flexible funding.<sup>40</sup> On that matter, a participant of the IA-FGDs pointed out that it was the responsibility of international actors to provide more support in capacity building to actors unfamiliar with humanitarian long-established procedures. Another participant argued that the significant number of local organisations and volunteers' initiatives in the oblast makes it impossible to engage with all.

*"If we require them to be familiar with our documents, therefore it is our responsibility to teach them".*

*Participant of FGD with international actors, Lviv city*

**Information sharing between the different types of actors could be further improved.** According to participants of the IA-FGDs, the most relevant data to support activities implementation were found in the hands of local authorities. However, the length of bottom-up information transfer was sometimes too slow. It pushes international actors to contact them bilaterally, through unstructured pathways, and without a common approach. A more solid reporting link between local authorities and international actors, through the intermediary of regional authorities, could further enable effective and standardised dissemination to all the partners. Another issue was the lack of targeted data accumulated by local authorities and local organisations (e.g., for a particular type of people, such as older persons), which prompts international actors to conduct their assessments in parallel to programme implementation. Other issues were also pointed out by participants of the IA-FGDs such as insufficient information management among international actors, leading to activities duplication; no standardisation of data formats, especially from local organisations; lack of awareness from beneficiaries regarding assistance opportunities.

*"Information comes from the hromadas, but when this information reaches international organisations, sometimes it has lost its relevance".*

*Participant of FGD with international actors, Lviv city*

<sup>38</sup> ACAPS, [Ukraine: context and trends analysis May – July 2022](#), September 2022

<sup>39</sup> REACH / UNHCR, [Document - Area-Based Assessment \(Dnipropetrovska Oblast\) \(unhcr.org\)](#), August 2022

<sup>40</sup> National Network of Local Philanthropy Development, [If not now, when? \(philanthropy.com.ua\)](#), 2022

## 2.3 Local actors' capacities gaps and needs

Previous assessments conducted in Ukraine since the start of the escalation of the hostilities have been alerting on the difficulties faced by local actors in sustaining their activities in the long-term. Local respondents often suffer a decrease in funds, resources, and staff, which prevents them from continuing to implement their activities fully.<sup>41</sup> Participants of the FGDs and KIs shared similar accounts in Lvivska oblast.

### Lack of funds and resources

Participants of the LA-FGDs and IA-FGDs flagged the decrease in local actors' funds. According to them, small local organisations were often unable to co-finance humanitarian projects, faced difficulties meeting compliance requirements, or were even unaware of funding opportunities in the first place. In their opinion, it has been made worse by a decrease in funding from international actors in the oblast. **Out of 48 representatives of local civil society organisations interviewed during the LA-KIIs (CSOs, NGOs, religious organisations, and volunteers' initiatives), 39 (81%) reported needing funding.**

Public actors also reported lacking the necessary funds to support all their beneficiaries comprehensively. **Out of 35 representatives of public institutions from the LA-KIIs and PSP-KIIs (local authorities, humanitarian hubs, and public service providers), 22 (63%) reported needing funding.** PSP-KIs mainly presented this issue as the consequence of a decrease in public funding, in the form of grants and subsidies. Others added that the difficulty does not necessarily come directly from the level of funding, which did increase for certain institutions, but rather from the rise of costs, impacting their purchasing power.

**Of all the actors from the LA-KIIs above (plus local businesses), 45% reported needing food supplies, 39% reported needing NFIs, and 31% reported needing equipment.** Participants of the PSP-KIIs added needing support in repairing or adapting their facilities, high-tech medical equipment, energy provision alternatives (e.g., generators), computer equipment, and transportation alternatives. Funding is much needed for service providers across Ukraine, as they are required to adapt facilities – especially in the educational and healthcare sectors – to cope with wartime constraints (e.g., arranging bomb shelters).<sup>42</sup>

### Lack of human resources

Participants of the LA-FGDs and IA-FGDs also stressed the shortage of human resources for local actors, affecting volunteers' staff. According to them, many face exhaustion, due to unpaid work, psychological burnout, and overall fatigue. However, figures from the LA-KIIs depict a reasonably manageable situation. Out of 48 representatives of local civil society organisations interviewed (CSOs, NGOs, religious organisations, and volunteers' initiatives), only 12 (25%) reported needing more personnel, with only one volunteers' initiative sharing this concern. Similarly, only 13 (27%) reported needing training for their personnel.

Figures from public actors portray a higher need in this regard. **Out of 35 representatives of public institutions surveyed during LA-KIIs and the PSP-KIIs (local authorities, humanitarian hubs, and public service providers), 13 (37%) reported needing more personnel.** This issue has significantly affected the work of public service providers in sectors such as education or healthcare, in particular in the early months of the escalation, as many specialised workers fled abroad. Nevertheless, half of the participants of the PSP-KIIs indicated that this problem had been solved ever since, either due to internal restructuration in their institutions (e.g., reorganisation of departments, extended shifts), alternative working modalities (e.g., remote teaching), or displacement dynamics (returnees or arrival of IDPs).

*"At the beginning of the hostilities, there was an insufficient number of nursing staff (employees went abroad), and many doctors were mobilised. But people replaced each other, worked in several shifts, and people from among IDPs were hired. Currently, the hospital is operating normally".*

*Representative of a healthcare institution, Chevronohrad*

<sup>41</sup> ACAPS, [Ukraine: Bridging humanitarian response](#), May 2022

<sup>42</sup> USAID, [Trends and risks of local economic development in the conditions of war](#), 2022

Nation-wide, two-thirds of employed IDPs fleeing Ukraine in the first months of the escalation of hostilities were estimated to have tertiary education, and half of them were to be employed in high-skilled jobs.<sup>43</sup> According to official figures from the Ministry of Education, almost 11,000 teachers continue to remain abroad, as of December 2022.<sup>44</sup> In the meantime, timely psychological support should be considered for the educational staff remaining behind, as they tend to work in stressful environments, and their emotional states can affect students directly.<sup>45</sup> The outflow of specialist care professionals strongly affected the healthcare sector, resulting in understaffed and a risk of burnout for the remaining staff.

## Overview

**Table 3. Reported needs by local respondents, by type of actors (multiple-choice question)**

	Local civil society organisations (n = 48)	Local public actors (n = 21)	Businesses (n = 6)	All (n = 75)
Funding	81%	63%*	17%	75%
Collaboration with partners	48%	71%	33%	53%
Food supplies for distribution	48%	43%	33%	45%
Transport	38%	52%	33%	41%
NFI supplies for distribution	44%	33%	17%	39%
Equipment	31%	29%	33%	31%
Personnel	25%	37%*	0%	24%
Training	27%	24%	0%	24%

\*Takes into account answers given by PSP-KIIs

## 2.4 Activities and coverage

**In total, 186 humanitarian actors partnering through the UN Cluster system are implementing 92 activities in the territory of Lvivska oblast, with 911,000 people reached since the start of the escalation of the hostilities,** according to the latest figures from OCHA on humanitarian activities' coverage in the region.<sup>46</sup> The map below presents the geographic coverage of local and international partners – not all partnering with OCHA – surveyed through the actors' mapping (LA-KIIs) in the context of this assessment. The map below presents assessed organisations operating throughout all raions of the oblast. The table presents assessed organisations operating throughout all raions of the oblast.

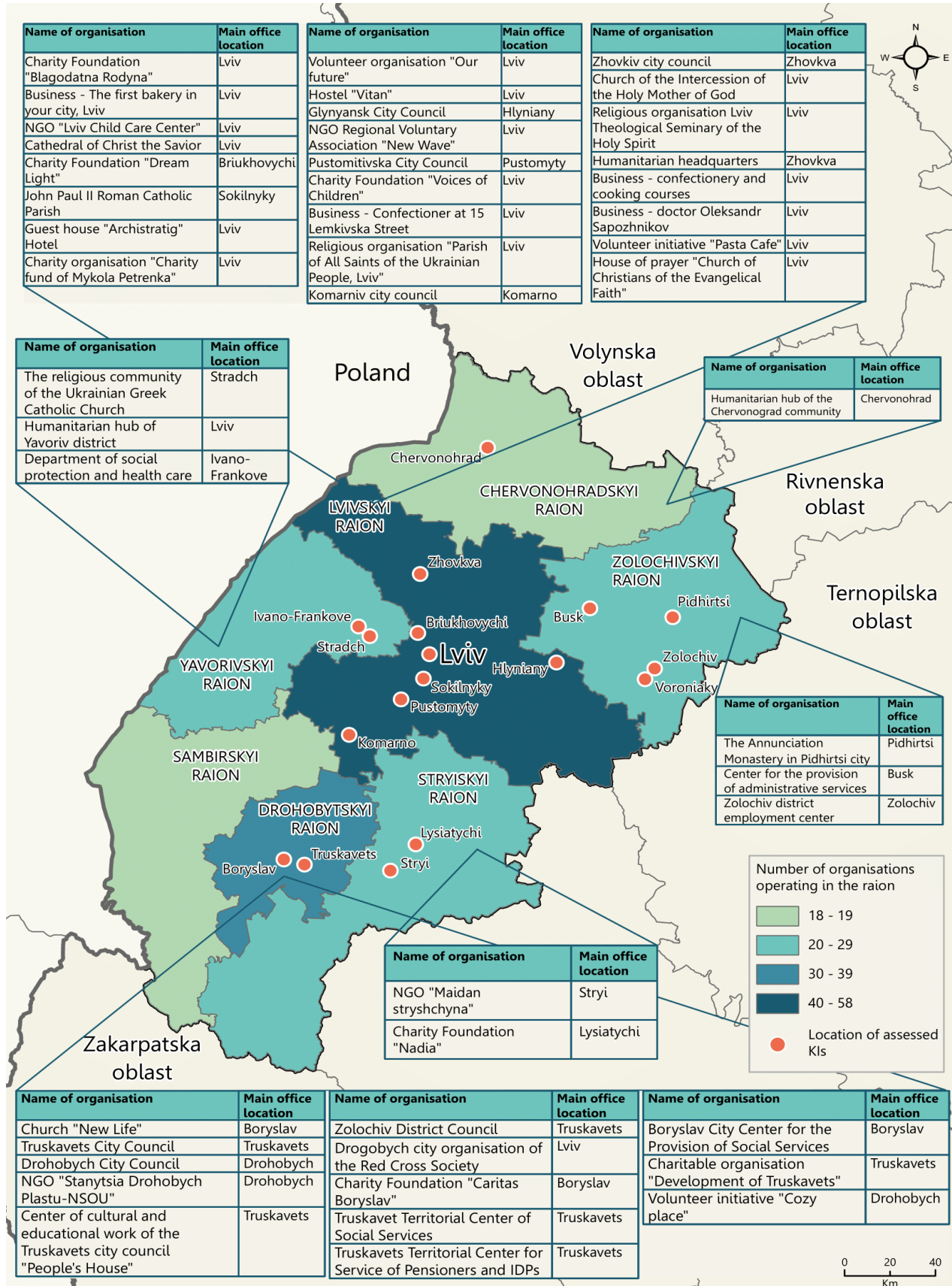
<sup>43</sup> OECD, [Social policies for an inclusive recovery in Ukraine \(oecd.org\)](https://www.oecd.org/), July 2022

<sup>44</sup> Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, [How many students and teachers are abroad](https://www.medu.gov.ua/), December 2022

<sup>45</sup> NGO «GoGlobal», [When the world was on the verge of change: adaptation strategies. Psychological support for teachers and children in times of war](https://www.goglobal.org/), 2022

<sup>46</sup> OCHA, [Ukraine: 5W Operational Presence As of 5 January 2023 | ReliefWeb Mobile](https://www.reliefweb.int/), January 2023

Map 3. Geographic coverage of local respondents surveyed through the actors' mapping





**Table 4. Local response actors operating throughout all raions of the oblast**

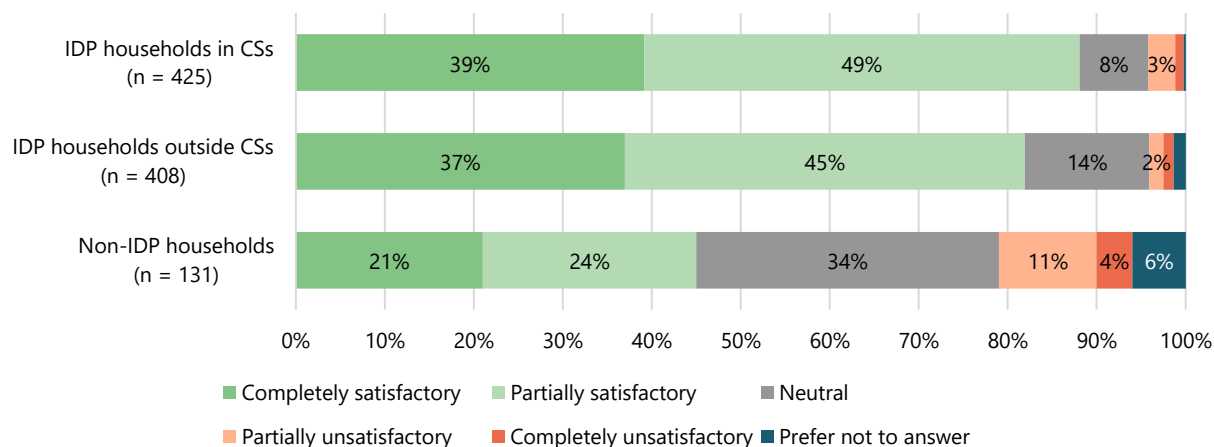
Name of organisation	Main office location
Humanitarian headquarters	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Mutual Aid"	Lviv
SpivDiya Hub Lviv	Lviv
NGO Center "Women's Perspectives"	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Where Hope Lives"	Lviv
INGO "International Solidarity Triangle Generation Humanitarian"	Lviv
Coordination centre for assisting IDPs at the Lviv arena	Lviv
NGO "Spread Wings"	Lviv
INGO "Danish Refugee Council"	Lviv
Lviv Employment Center	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Stabilization Support Services"	Lviv
NGO "Society and Law"	Lviv
NGO "Vector Help"	Lviv
NGO "Lviv Volunteer Kitchen"	Lviv
NGO "Golden Years"	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Teh Dobroty"	Drohobych

Name of organisation	Main office location
Charity Foundation "Right to Protection"	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Right to Defense"	Lviv
NGO "Eleos Lviv"	Lviv
NGO "Our Street"	Lviv
UNDP (United Nations Development Program)	Lviv
Volunteer initiative "Center for Volunteering and Protection"	Lviv
NGO "Lviv Regional Association of Employers' Organisations"	Lviv
NGO "Stryzia Hundred of Sich Riflemen"	Stryi
NGO "Women's March"	Lviv
Charity Foundation "Rokada"	Lviv
Center for the provision of administrative services	Lviv
NGO "First female veteran space "Rehab"	Lviv
Charitable organisation "Bridge"	Lviv
Lviv Open Lab volunteer point	Lviv
Children's Service of the oblast administration	Lviv

### Evaluation of the response

The **level of satisfaction** towards the response was overall considerably higher for IDP than non-IDP households. When asked to evaluate their level of satisfaction regarding the assistance received in general (by every type of actor), IDP households in CSs were only 1% reporting not having received assistance, this figure was 7% for IDP households outside CSs. Importantly, **73% of non-IDP households reported not having received assistance**. Of those who received assistance, 88% of IDP households in CSs reported being satisfied with the assistance "partially" or "completely". Eighty-two per cent of IDP households outside CSs who received assistance reported the same level of satisfaction. This number was considerably lower (45%) for non-IDP households who received assistance, meanwhile, 11% of them considered it as partially unsatisfactory, and 4% considered it as completely unsatisfactory.

**Figure 9. Satisfaction level of households who reported receiving assistance, by displacement status (single-choice question)**



Sixty-two per cent of LA-KIIs (n = 75) considered that the humanitarian response in Lvivska oblast had a “strong positive impact”, 33% considered that it had a “weak positive impact”, and 4% stated “not knowing”. When asked about the relevance of the response regarding the needs of the households, 27% considered that “all aspects of the response” were relevant, 46% considered that “most aspects” were relevant, and 17% considered that “some aspects” were relevant. Finally, 2% considered that “no aspects” were relevant.

### Local actors’ activities

**The most common form of activity implemented by local actors, according to the LA-KIIs, was food distribution, with 84% of respondents (58 out of 69 local actors – excluding businesses) reportedly active.** Local authorities, humanitarian hubs, religious organisations, and volunteers’ initiatives were the most active, with 100% of these actors reportedly distributing food. The second most common activity for local actors was the distribution of NFIs, with 71% (49 out of 69) of respondents. The following most reported activity was information provision with 55% (38 out of 69), mostly conducted by humanitarian hubs (4 out of 5) and public service providers (5 out of 7). Accommodation provision comes fourth with 42% (29 out of 69) of respondents, mostly conducted by local authorities (8 out of 9), and religious organisations (8 out of 10). Mental and psychological support has been reported by 36% of local actors (25 out of 69), with religious organisations (7 out of 10), local authorities (4 out of 9), and CSOs (6 out of 14) being the most active.

**Table 5. Reported activities of local respondents, by type of actors\* (multiple-choice question)**

	Local civil society organisations (n = 48)	Local public actors (n = 21)	All (n = 69)
Food distribution	85%	81%	84%
NFI distribution	69%	76%	71%
Information provision	50%	67%	55%
Accommodation provision	35%	57%	42%
Mental health and psychological support (MHPSS)	38%	33%	36%
Legal assistance	27%	24%	26%
Cash assistance	23%	24%	23%

*\*Does not include local businesses*

### Local actors’ beneficiaries

Most respondents of the LA-KIIs reported helping the IDP households outside CSs (88%) and in CSs (87%). 51% of them reported supporting non-IDP households as well. In addition, 23% of local respondents reported also supporting the military, with 6 out of 9 representatives of local authorities.

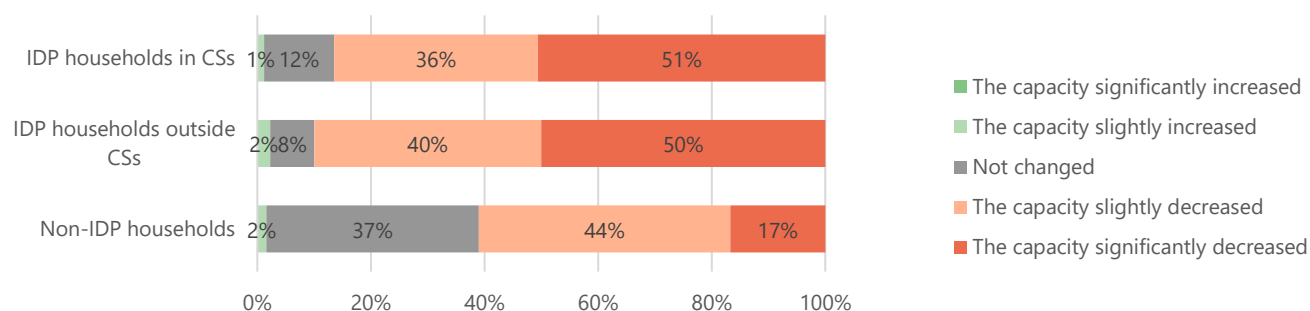
### 3. Needs and priorities of households

#### 3.1 Economic difficulties

##### Capacity to meet basic needs

The economic consequences of the escalation of hostilities have been significantly felt by Ukrainians. Due to the lack of jobs, a drop in income level, and high inflation, the **purchasing power** of households has fallen drastically. In general, inflation in the consumer market reached 26.6% in 2022.<sup>47</sup> The prices of food products have risen the most due to the increase in business costs, military actions, damages to infrastructure, and the complexity of logistics. Data from the HH survey confirms that trend. Overall, **86%** of IDP households in CSs, and **90%** of IDP households outside CSs reported that their ability to meet basic needs 'significantly' or 'slightly decreased' since 24 February 2022 (Figure 10).

**Figure 10. Households' capacity to meet basic needs since 24 February 2022, by displacement group (single-choice question)**



##### Access to food and NFIs

**Thirty-four per cent** of IDP households in CSs, and **30%** of households outside CSs, reported needs in accessing **food items**, versus 11% of non-IDP households. It was particularly reported by IDP households outside Lviv city (44% for IIDP households in CSs; 34% for IDP households outside CSs). Concerning access to **NFIs** (non-food items), clothes were the most reported need (Figure 6). The main barriers to accessing food items and NFIs were the lack of financial resources, and insufficient support (Annex 2).

**Table 6. The most commonly reported NFI needs of households, by displacement group (multiple-choice question)**

Needs	IDP Households in CSs		IDP Households out of CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
Hygiene products	23%	28%	31%	29%	5%	3%
Cleaning items	21%	29%	26%	29%	4%	7%
Baby supplies	6%	12%	11%	10%	2%	1%
Feminine products	16%	20%	20%	19%	2%	0%
Bedding	19%	27%	27%	25%	3%	1%
Clothes	49%	44%	36%	34%	10%	9%
Household furniture	7%	16%	10%	16%	7%	2%
Household appliances	20%	33%	16%	28%	13%	8%
Fuel	0%	5%	1%	7%	0%	9%
<b>None</b>	36%	30%	39%	33%	80%	75%

<sup>47</sup> State Statistic Service of Ukraine, [Special edition on price indexes](#), January 2023

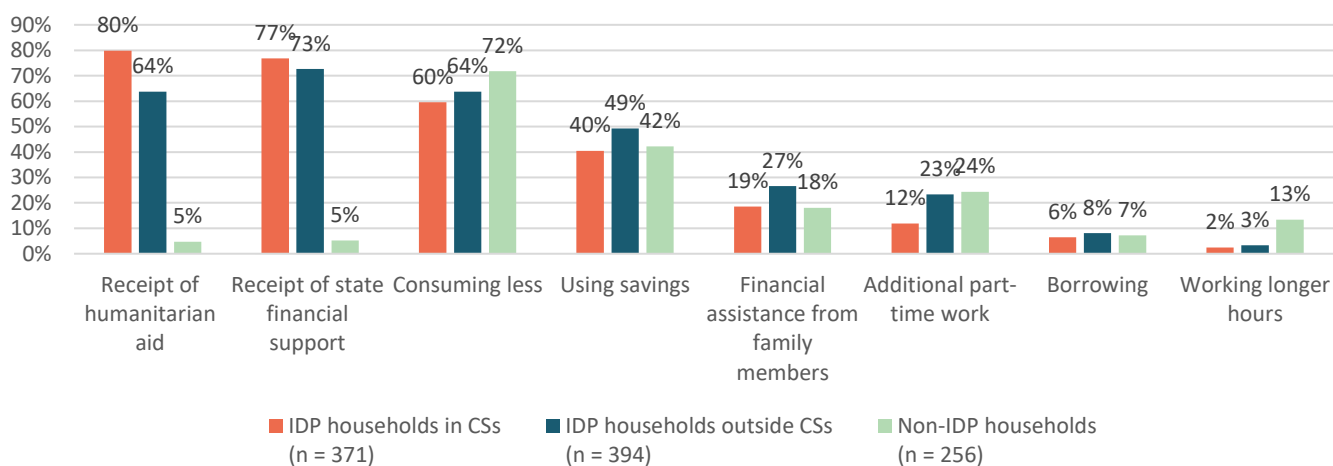
## Financial assistance

Despite ongoing efforts from the GoU to maintain and expand social benefits, and from humanitarian actors to provide multipurpose cash (MPC) assistance – 343,000 people have been assisted through this modality in Lvivska oblast as of December 2022<sup>48</sup> – **financial assistance remained one of the most reported needs from IDP households**. Almost half of the IDP households reported the need to access cash assistance (43% of households in CSs; 41% outside CSs), or social benefits related to the context of hostilities (30% of IDP households in CSs, 38% of IDP households outside CSs). Non-IDP households were 18% to report needing cash assistance. Among those, 34% presented their lack of eligibility as the main barrier to accessing this type of assistance (Annex 2).

## Coping strategies

Reduced socio-economic opportunities forced people to apply **coping strategies** to meet their basic needs. For IDP households who saw their capacity to meet basic needs decrease, the most frequent coping strategies were the reception of financial support from the state and humanitarian aid. For non-IDP households, the main strategies were related to cost reduction and overtime/additional work: consuming less (72%), using savings (42%), and additional part-time work (24%). The data reflected the general economic insecurity of IDP households, as the majority reported using at least one coping strategy.

**Figure 11. Coping mechanisms used by households who saw their capacity to meet basic needs decrease, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**



During a needs assessment by HelpAge with **older men and women** IDPs in Lvivska oblast, 66% reported problems accessing food because of its cost, and 13% reported that they had to borrow money to buy food or necessities.<sup>49</sup> However, while IDP pensioners could receive humanitarian aid from volunteers or international organisations, non-IDP pensioners might face even greater challenges due to rising prices, low benefits, and the lack of assistance. The situation is exacerbated by low pensions, delays in the payment of pensions, and the lack of vacancies for older people.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>48</sup> OCHA, Meeting minutes of the coordination meeting for Lvivska oblast, December 2022

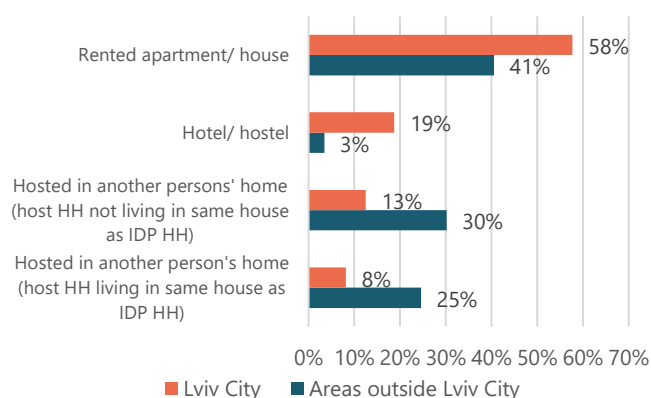
<sup>49</sup> HelpAge, [Humanitarian needs of older men and women IDPs in Lviv and Lvivska oblast](#), November 2022

<sup>50</sup> Commons, [Beyond the poverty threshold: Ukrainian pensioners' survival](#), October 2022

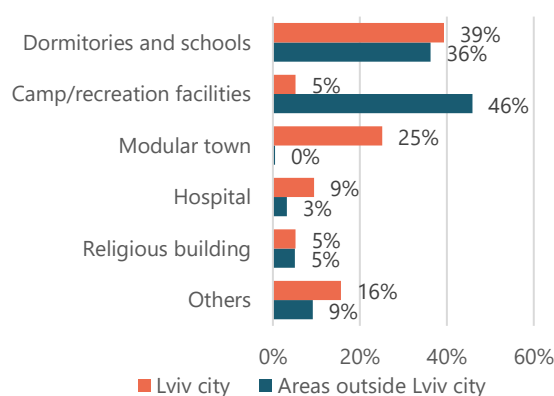
### 3.2 Accommodation needs

The large influx of IDPs in Lvivska oblast has required the deployment of extensive means by authorities, humanitarian partners, and private individuals to provide them with alternative accommodation. While most IDP households rented accommodation, stayed in a hotel, or were hosted by friends and family, a substantial share was taken in charge in CSs – facilities turned into temporary shelters, owned and/or run by public authorities, and private and civil society actors. According to the data from the CCCM cluster, as of December 2022, close to **23,000 IDPs** were hosted in the 243 active CSs mapped by cluster partners across Lvivska oblast.

**Figure 12. Reported accommodations of IDP households outside CSs**



**Figure 13. Type of facilities where IDP households in CSs were surveyed**



**Almost a fifth of IDP households reported barriers in accessing long-term accommodation solutions in Lvivska oblast.** They were twice as likely to report this issue when living in Lviv city (28% of households in CSs; 26% of households outside CSs) than when living in areas outside Lviv city (12% of households in CSs; 10% of households outside CSs). This difficulty expressed by IDP households raises important issues regarding the **sustainability** that both CSs and, to some extent, the private housing market seemingly fail to provide fully.

#### Unsustainability of collective sites

**While the collective sites offer an adequate temporary housing alternative, they do not represent a viable long-term alternative for IDP households.** The last round of the Collective Sites Monitoring (December 2022) indicates that numerous assessed collective sites in Lvivska oblast do not offer access to a kitchen (7%), washing machines (21%), or gender-separated bathing facilities (33%).<sup>51</sup> Concerns regarding the viability of collective sites were also expressed by participants of the LA-FGDs, stressing that most of these facilities were unfit for winter living conditions, or that the presence of IDPs was disturbing initial activities (e.g., schools and kindergartens). Finally, nearly a third of IDP households in CSs reported not having access to adequate standards of living (30% in Lviv city; 33% outside Lviv city).<sup>52</sup>

In addition, **beneficiaries hosted in collective sites are more likely to be vulnerable, and therefore to face disproportionately inappropriate living conditions.** Households living in CSs were characterised by higher rates of vulnerable members, such as pensioners (33% of IDPs in-site; 26% out of site), chronically ill persons (42% of IDPs in-site; 25% out of site), or persons with disabilities (22% of IDPs in-site; 16% out of site). It raises important issues such as protection concerns, as vulnerable populations face higher risks of neglect, isolation, or even abuse<sup>53</sup>, a hazard that is likely exacerbated in collective sites. Regarding space allocation, ABA data indicates that only 19% of vulnerable

<sup>51</sup> REACH, UNHCR, [Ukraine CCCM \(reach-info.org\)](https://www.reach-info.org), December 2022

<sup>52</sup> It should be noted that this number was not considerably lower for the other households (25% for IDP households outside CSs; 27% for non-IDP households).

<sup>53</sup> UNHCR, [Protection Cluster Ukraine: Older Persons, October 2015](https://www.unhcr.org/refugees/older-persons), November 2015

members have access to a dedicated area in their facility. Data also shows that nearly a third of IDP households with vulnerable members living in collective sites (Lviv city 29%; outside Lviv city 34%) consider not receiving necessary treatment for those members.<sup>54</sup> Finally, the Collective Site Monitoring (CSM, October 2022) shows that 45% of CSs in Lvivska oblast lack arrangements necessary for the mobility of vulnerable people (e.g., elevators, external ramps).<sup>55</sup>

**Long-term accommodation of IDPs in collective sites also leads to problems caused by the absence of regulations on site management.** Participants of the LA-FGDs reported lacking the “legal basis” (at the national and local level) necessary to frame rules on responsibility sharing between different types of actors, the accommodation standards, or the management of staff. This lack of common understanding and consensus is becoming more pressing as local actors’ capacities run out, and operating costs increase. Difficulties for private institutions to finance their utilities this winter, as they do not receive monetary compensation, was a stark illustration of this phenomenon.

Finally, **many IDP households were not given guarantees regarding long-time stay in the collective sites.** The need for hosting institutions to resume their initial activities, and the lack of a set of internal regulations, create uncertainty for IDP households regarding their possibility of stay. In an assessment on collective site management, Right to Protection (R2P) pointed out that, in Lvivska oblast, only 24% of collective sites (52 out of 216 assessed) elaborated written agreements to guarantee a minimum time of stay – preventing early evictions– for IDPs.<sup>56</sup> Similarly, the findings showed that only a small majority of assessed households are allowed to stay “indefinitely” in their current collective sites, a trend more alarming in Lviv city than in the areas outside Lviv (Table 8).

**Table 7. Reported length of possible stay of displaced households, by living arrangement (single-choice question)**

Duration	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs	
	Lviv city	Outside Lviv city	Lviv city	Outside Lviv city
For as long as I want to	43%	70%	64%	76%
For up to 6 months	9%	4%	6%	5%
For up to 3 months	3%	2%	3%	3%
For up to 1 month	8%	2%	2%	0%
Only a few days	0%	0%	1%	0%
Don't know	36%	22%	23%	15%

## Barriers to private housing

**A surge in demand led to a sudden increase in prices in the rental market of Lvivska oblast in the early months of the escalation of hostilities.** According to the LUN project, rent prices have almost doubled (+96%) in Lvivska oblast between October 2021 and May 2022.<sup>57</sup> This initial increase, driven by the supply and demand in a highly speculative market, generated a precarious situation for low-income households. It impacted mainly IDPs, but also residents – with examples of evictions of tenants unable to keep up the pace with the prices.<sup>58</sup> In the meantime, however, numerous displays of solidarity were also witnessed, with Lviv residents taking in IDPs, or landlords renting at pre-war prices.<sup>59</sup>

**To this day, prices have stabilised and started to decrease<sup>60</sup>, but they remain unaffordable for plenty of IDPs.** While the first wave of displacement was comprised of, in large part, IDPs with larger savings (e.g., Kyiv residents), a majority of displaced households later came from poorer Eastern oblasts of Ukraine, lacking sufficient purchasing power, or having spent most of their savings.<sup>61</sup> In addition, data from the HHs survey indicates that rent prices paid by IDPs households living outside CSs tend to be significantly higher than for non-displaced households, in particular

<sup>54</sup> This figure remains high for IDP households out-of-site (28% Lviv city; 24% outside Lviv city) and non-displaced households (19% in Lviv city; 23% outside Lviv city).

<sup>55</sup> REACH, UNHCR, [Ukraine: Collective Site Monitoring \(CSM\) - Round 4](#), November 2022

<sup>56</sup> Presentation from Right to Protection during the HLP working group in Ukraine, November 2022

<sup>57</sup> Transparent Cities Program, <https://transparentcities.in.ua/en/articles/orenda-zhytla-pid-chas-viiny-chy-mozhe-derzhava-vplyvaty-na-tsinu>.

<sup>58</sup> Commons, [52 apartments for IDPs. The gap between housing policy and the shocks of war | Снільне \(commons.com.ua\)](#), September 2022

<sup>59</sup> Lviv now, [Rental prices in Lviv have dropped to the pre-war level and keep decreasing – real estate agent \(tvoemisto.tv\)](#), May 2022

<sup>60</sup> The increase is limited to 64.5% from January to October 2022, according to official figures.

<sup>61</sup> Lviv now, [Rental prices in Lviv have dropped to the pre-war level and keep decreasing – real estate agent \(tvoemisto.tv\)](#), May 2022

in Lviv city. Out of the 130 (63%) IDP households in Lviv city who reported paying rent, 117 indicated a price, with a total average of 7,124 UAH/month (~181€/month). This price was only 5,329 UAH/month (~136€/month) for non-IDP households in Lviv city (n = 45). In accordance with these two points, the lack of financial resources was reported as the main barrier by almost half of IDP households in need of long-term accommodation in Lviv city (41% IDPs in CSs; 49% outside CSs). In addition, participants of the LA-FGDs pointed out that discrimination phenomena can threaten IDPs' search for renting a flat. As a result of all the above, many IDPs remain in CSs, with friends and relatives, or are forced to go back to their oblast of origin.

**National programmes focus mainly on providing incentives for IDPs to purchase privately-owned accommodations.** Since 2014, the GoU has been concentrating efforts on initiatives granting subsidies to IDPs for buying housing through low-rate mortgages. However, some argue that these programmes have highly overestimated the ability of IDPs to buy, or their willingness to purchase housing in a context of uncertainty – even greater now than in 2014 – and favour the interest of developers instead. Indeed, despite the implementation of such programmes, 70% of IDPs declared not to have solved their housing issue in 2020, six years after being displaced. In this vision, necessary measures to avoid a further high scale housing crisis are the creation of massive social housing programmes and, most importantly, the regulation of the housing market.<sup>62</sup>

**Tools needed to regulate the renting market are being considered.** Lviv city administration has declared its readiness for tough methods such as confiscation of property to contain excessive increases in rental prices. However, these declarations remain only instruments of moral pressure without a proper legislative framework. On that matter, draft law No. 7239 on price stability was registered in March 2022. If adopted, this law would set marginal limits on the costs of rents and expand regulatory powers for the authorities. According to the Transparent Cities Programme, this legislative framework should adopt a comprehensive approach to prevent pushing more owners toward the informal market (already 70% to 90% of the housing market in Ukraine), or non-residential real estate. This would mean introducing incentives for 'de-shadowing' the sector, such as additional taxation on housing where no one is officially registered.<sup>63</sup>

### Joint efforts and integrated approaches

A joint effort between national and international actors is much needed to provide resolutions to the housing crisis in the long run, especially in the context of scarcity of public funding. However, it should not be limited to the provision of humanitarian assistance. **Partners are invited to complement new and existent initiatives, at every level of the response, through an integrated and concerted approach with national stakeholders.**<sup>64</sup> In light of the above-mentioned elements, it would imply support of national programmes, but also various regional, local, and private initiatives that diversify the forms of tenancy and ownership, in accordance with the different needs and vulnerabilities of IDP households.<sup>65</sup>

In Lvivska oblast, the most significant initiative by the oblast administration finances the restoration of 30 abandoned institutions for long-term residence (to create 3,500 places), and the implementation of 18 social regional projects, with a budget of over 300 million UAH – including international funding.<sup>66</sup> However, such a programme, in parallel with other regional initiatives, could remain insufficient given current the IDP number estimation in the oblast, if they are not backed by complementary efforts. **Sustainable local initiatives with potential for scale-up should therefore be scrutinised by partners across the oblast.**

Participants from the IA-FGDs noted that the international response tends to overlook housing initiatives not directly related to collective sites. While assistance remains highly necessary in those facilities, **means should be deployed by partners, when possible, to avoid maintaining beneficiaries in collective sites for extensive periods, as it will unlikely solve long-term housing needs.** Moreover, this debate could be held in parallel with risks of dependence on humanitarian aid, and socio-economic isolation. Participants of the IA-FGDs also noted that IDPs should be

<sup>62</sup> Commons, [52 apartments for IDPs. The gap between housing policy and the shocks of war | Спільне \(commons.com.ua\)](https://commons.com.ua/), September 2022

<sup>63</sup> Transparent Cities Program, <https://transparentcities.in.ua/en/articles/orenda-zhytla-pid-chas-viiny-chy-mozhe-derzhava-vplyvaty-na-tsiny>.

<sup>64</sup> Responsibility to Protect, [Held a round table "Housing problems of IDPs: needs, challenges and approaches to solving" \(r2p.org.ua\)](https://www.r2p.org/ua/), December 2022

<sup>65</sup> Commons, [52 apartments for IDPs. The gap between housing policy and the shocks of war | Спільне \(commons.com.ua\)](https://commons.com.ua/), September 2022

<sup>66</sup> Golossokal, [More than 20 million hryvnias will be additionally allocated for the implementation of priority infrastructure projects in the Lviv region - Voice of Sokal - news about Sokal, Chervonohrad \(golossokal.com.ua\)](https://golossokal.com.ua/), November 2022

relocated outside of Lviv city, due to the overloaded housing capacities of the city. It echoes earlier findings indicating that the needs for long-term housing were two times higher in Lviv city than in the areas outside Lviv city. However, it should be noted that IDP households reporting needs outside Lviv city were more likely to report lacking assistance (Annex 2).

**Table 8. Reported assistance providers to HHs who declared needs in shelter/accommodation, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**

Assistance providers	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
	(n = 71)	(n = 52)	(n = 75)	(n = 38)	(n = 37)	(n = 9)
Local authorities	13%	26%	14%	21%	70%	11%
Public services providers	16%	11%	28%	31%	5%	11%
Volunteer initiatives	15%	34%	18%	12%	0%	0%
IOs & UN agencies	7%	0%	6%	19%	0%	0%
Local CSOs and NGOs	5%	3%	4%	8%	0%	0%
Religious organisations	3%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%
Businesses	1%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know	27%	18%	17%	10%	8%	22%
Other	1%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%
<b>None</b>	28%	18%	24%	27%	16%	67%

### Energy disruption and repair needs

Targeted attacks on energy infrastructure since October 2022 have caused significant damage to **public energy infrastructures** across the country, leading to repeated shortages in gas, electricity, and water provision for the citizens of Lvivska oblast. In this context, both participants of the LA-FGDs and IA-FGDs stressed the immediate need for energy provision alternatives, such as generators, fuel, heating points, convectors, pumps, etc. Some participants also reported a risk for food security and disruption in facilities deprived of electricity (collective sites, grocery chains, food establishments). Regarding the needs of beneficiaries, the findings show **that IDP households in CSs are the most affected by energy cuts, with a third of them reporting difficulty accessing constant heating (32%) and electric system (33%)**. Barriers can be found in Annex 2.

**Table 9. Reported needs of households for energy provision and damage repair, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**

Needs	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
No access to functional electric system	23%	33%	20%	18%	28%	16%
Access to functional heating system	15%	32%	14%	16%	18%	13%
Access to functional water supply	8%	15%	3%	7%	7%	3%
Need for small damage repair	18%	19%	6%	17%	9%	11%
Need for heavy damage repair	4%	4%	1%	3%	2%	1%
<b>None</b>	58%	44%	68%	60%	57%	71%



### 3.3 Access to public services

The escalation of hostilities since 24 February 2022 exacerbates **pre-existing vulnerabilities** of the population<sup>67</sup>, further increasing the reliance on public service provision. This trend was confirmed by PSP-KIs, who reported a surge in demand for their services in Lvivska oblast, due mainly to the influx of IDPs households – often characterised by a higher rate of vulnerable members. In the meantime, PSPs see their ability to conduct activities diminished due to a lack of funds and human resources (see part II), energy disruptions, or interruptions during air alarms. However, while they reported facing difficulties in providing their services fully during the first months of the escalation of hostilities, **almost all PSP-KIs affirmed that they were able to adapt and meet most of the needs to this day**. In the meantime, the HH Survey indicates that many households still face barriers to accessing those services fully. This section explores in detail the impact in each sector.

#### Administrative services

Administrative services stopped functioning in the days following the escalation of the hostilities due to the ubiquitous panic and the complete shutdown of state registers. The system was restored one month later for most services in the GCAs. It took a couple more months (at the end of June 2022) for services related to activities in the land sector or immigration (e.g., registration of the place of residence) to be restored in turn.<sup>68</sup> Therefore, according to PSP-KIs, **administrative service centres (ASCs) are now providing the full range of their services in Lvivska oblast**. This is overall confirmed by the HHs survey, according to which a majority (more than 90%) of HHs reported easily accessing administrative-related services. It should be noted, however, that administrative services appear to remain an issue for some IDPs, in particular households outside CSs (Table 10).

**Table 10. Reported needs of households for administrative services, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**

Needs	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
General administrative services	4%	2%	4%	6%	3%	3%
War-related administrative services	5%	4%	7%	4%	1%	1%
Access to information/documentation	3%	4%	6%	4%	1%	1%
<b>None</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>96%</b>

**The outburst of the crisis and the influx of IDPs in Lvivska oblast have, however, modified the nature of administrative service provision as old needs rise and new ones emerge.** PSP-KIs reported in that regard an increased demand for existent services such as IDP registration, restoration of lost documents, or registration of charitable organisations. In the meantime, new services that require the active participation of the ASCs have been launched by the government, such as financial allowances (see the section on economic needs) for which the range of beneficiaries has been expanded (IDPs, employers, families of servicemen, etc.) and the amount increased. PSP-KIs also indicated working as humanitarian respondents and linking with humanitarian headquarters, with which they share IDP registration figures to improve assistance targeting.

#### Healthcare

Despite suffering from structural deficiencies before the escalation of hostilities (e.g., frequent interruptions in medicine supply, low salaries of medical staff), **the healthcare system in Ukraine did not collapse after 24 February 2022 and remained resilient throughout the crisis, at least in the GCAs**.<sup>69</sup> This view was shared by PSP-KIs in Lvivska oblast who indicated that the capacities of their medical institutions to provide services were for the most part unaffected. For them, the initial outflow of medical staff out of the country is mainly under control (see part II), and bomb shelter capacities are sufficient. The main problem remains the power outages. While intensive care and operating units stay permanently connected to power, other departments experience intermittent blackouts, hampering full and comprehensive service provision.

<sup>67</sup> OECD, [Social policies for an inclusive recovery in Ukraine \(oecd.org\)](https://www.oecd.org/), July 2022

<sup>68</sup> SIGMA, [Administrative service delivery in Ukraine in the context of war \(sigmaweb.org\)](https://www.sigmaweb.org/), October 2022

<sup>69</sup> BMJ Global Health, [The impact of the war on the healthcare system in Ukraine - BMJ Global Health blog](https://www.bmj.com/), August 2022

**In the meantime, the workload of healthcare institutions in Lvivska oblast has drastically increased.** It is mainly due to the necessity to treat IDP patients and injured military personnel – while continuing to provide services to the host community. According to PSP-KIIs, IDPs have stronger needs due to the high rate of vulnerable individuals (such as chronic patients or older people) and the lack of treatments in their regions of origin. The workload of healthcare service providers is also impacted by the rise of pathologies specific to the context of hostilities, such as cardiac issues (strokes, heart attacks) or explosive injuries. Some respondents indicated therefore their willingness to open new units of cardiac or neurosurgical care, for which they called for support in purchasing highly specialised equipment. Finally, one respondent pointed out the bottleneck in primary care services that are constantly required to provide referrals to specialists, and the absence of the latter in rural areas.

**Table 11. Reported needs of households for healthcare services, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**

Needs	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
Medicine items	51%	49%	32%	35%	24%	29%
General medical care	24%	25%	22%	16%	13%	14%
Access to pharmacies	3%	7%	1%	6%	1%	8%
Psychological support for adults	2%	11%	5%	8%	2%	0%
Psychological support for children	1%	7%	3%	8%	1%	1%
Emergency medical care	4%	7%	1%	3%	1%	3%
At-home care services	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>None</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>57%</b>

**According to the HH survey, access to healthcare was not fully provided,** with a substantial share of respondents reporting needs, in particular, access to medicine items and general medical care. Notably, place of residence had a strong influence on access to pharmacies and psychological support (Table 12). It points to a **stark need for mental healthcare support for IDPs outside Lviv city that risk suffering from traumatic experiences and anxiety-related symptoms.** On that matter, a study by Roberts et al. conducted nationwide in Ukraine in 2016 showed that adult IDPs fleeing the east of the country suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) with a prevalence of 32%, depression with a prevalence of 22%, and anxiety with a prevalence of 17%.<sup>70</sup> Lack of support and financial resources were the main barriers reported by respondents (Annex 2).

**Table 12. Reported assistance providers to HHs who declared needs in healthcare assistance, by displacement status (multiple-choice question)**

Assistance providers	IDP households in CSs		IDP households outside CSs		Non-IDP households	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
	(n = 122)	(n = 123)	(n = 93)	(n = 105)	(n = 69)	(n = 89)
Public Healthcare institutions	61%	52%	61%	53%	55%	56%
IOs & UN agencies	12%	10%	19%	28%	0%	6%
Local CSOs & NGOs	6%	11%	13%	24%	3%	4%
Volunteer initiatives	5%	7%	16%	11%	4%	1%
Local authorities	4%	7%	10%	13%	0%	6%
Religious organisations	3%	1%	5%	8%	1%	3%
Businesses	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	2%
Don't know	8%	13%	5%	4%	20%	12%
<b>None</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>21%</b>

<sup>70</sup> Roberts et al, [Mental health care utilisation among internally displaced persons in Ukraine: results from a nation-wide survey | Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences | Cambridge Core](#), 2017

## Education

The escalation of hostilities since 24 February 2022 further exacerbates the difficulties faced by the Ukrainian educational system, already impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and more than eight years of hostilities in the eastern part of the country. The situation is alarming, as reminded by UNICEF, pointing out that schools and early childhood education provide “a crucial sense of structure and safety for children”.<sup>71</sup> In the meantime, despite a relative return to normality in western Ukraine, the new school year (September 2022) still poses challenges for educational institutions coping with an increasing number of students, in an anxiety-inducing context, through various learning modalities – only 51% of the schools have re-opened for in-person learning due to the lack of bomb shelters.<sup>72</sup> Despite these factors, **PSP-KIIs in the educational sector indicated that they were able for the most part to provide services comprehensively to local and IDP children in Lvivska oblast.**

**However, respondents did acknowledge facing various difficulties.** First, educational institutions in Lvivska oblast need to handle a stark increase in students. It is explained by the enrolment of IDP children, but also by the fact that numerous students who fled the country continue to study remotely, or simply return. On that matter, a nationwide assessment survey (NAS) conducted by the GoU showed that close to 10 thousand IDP students had been welcomed by educational institutions in Lvivska oblast by June 2022, a figure that has very likely increased since the new academic year.<sup>73</sup> In the meantime, some educational institutions lack capacities and resources. Next to human resources and funding, certain schools also suffer from a deficit of bomb shelter capacities – either in terms of size or arrangement – and equipment for remote learning (laptops and tablets)<sup>74</sup>, according to PSP-KIIs. Importantly, discussions with KIIs revealed strong disparities on the matter, pointing towards the relative isolation of these institutions, further justifying the need for external assistance.

*"In terms of security, there are problems with the availability and equipping of shelters that would protect the required number of children and teachers. This is the number one problem today".*

*Participant of KI interview, Chervonohrad*

**Lack of capacities such as bomb shelters and school sizes, concomitant with the increase of students, pushed most of the institutions to move towards semi-online classes (with class rotations).** The fact that most educational institutions interviewed reported not opting for full remote learning is encouraging. Despite meeting clear security objectives, online classes present numerous disadvantages, in particular for the psychosocial development of children, and the interruptions in learning due to internet and power outages.<sup>75</sup> Similarly, remote learning often forces parents to stay at home for supervision, potentially increasing stress and domestic violence.<sup>76</sup> Importantly, distance learning is likely to impact mainly children living in CSs, as only 26% of IDP households with children living in CSs reported having a dedicated room for studying, according to the HH survey. Finally, the presence of children at school and the contact with their teachers also play a role in coping with war-related anxiety. On that matter, PSP-KIIs indicated that teachers were given advanced training on psychological assistance, organised by the regional department of education.

Despite the capacity of educational institutions to provide services, the HHs survey indicates that school attendance is not a generality for children in the oblast, in particular for IDPs. Out of the households who reported having children between 3 and 18 years, **16% of IDP households outside CSs reported that their children were not enrolled in an education program (18% in Lviv city; 14% outside Lviv city).** This number falls to 10% for IDP households in CSs (12% in Lviv city; 8% outside Lviv city), and to 7% for non-IDP households (3% in Lviv city; 8% outside Lviv city). Discrepancies between IDP and non-IDP appear even more striking regarding the modalities of education<sup>77</sup>. According

<sup>71</sup> UNICEF, [11 months of war in Ukraine have disrupted education for more than five million children \(unicef.org\)](https://www.unicef.org/ukraine/stories/11-months-of-war-in-ukraine-have-disrupted-education-for-more-than-five-million-children), January 2023

<sup>72</sup> News for kids, [New School Year Starts in Ukraine \(newsforkids.net\)](https://www.newsforkids.net/news/new-school-year-starts-in-ukraine), September 2022

<sup>73</sup> IEA, UEC, MESU, [Pidszvityi. Otsin.potreb.Ukr.u.sferi.osvity-EN-6.05-24.06.22.pdf \(mon.gov.ua\)](https://mon.gov.ua/pidszvityi-otsin-potreb-ukr-u-sferi-osvity-EN-6.05-24.06.22.pdf), May-June 2022

<sup>74</sup> On that matter, the NAS indicated a shortage of close to 20,000 laptops and tablets in the oblast, one of the highest in the county.

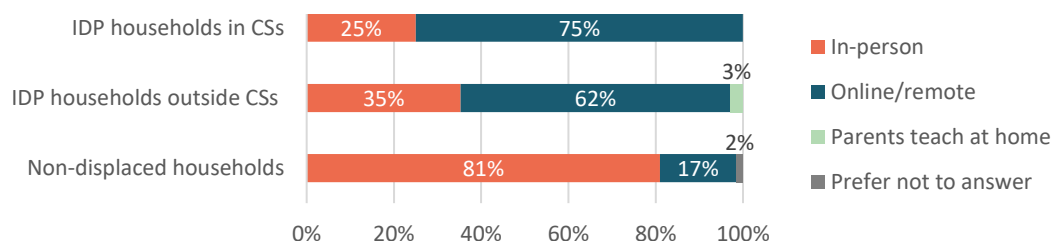
<sup>75</sup> Znayshov, Where and how Ukrainian children study during the war: problems, suggestions, recommendations - News (znayshov.com), November 2022

<sup>76</sup> Left Bank Analytics, Adjusting to the school year, September 2022

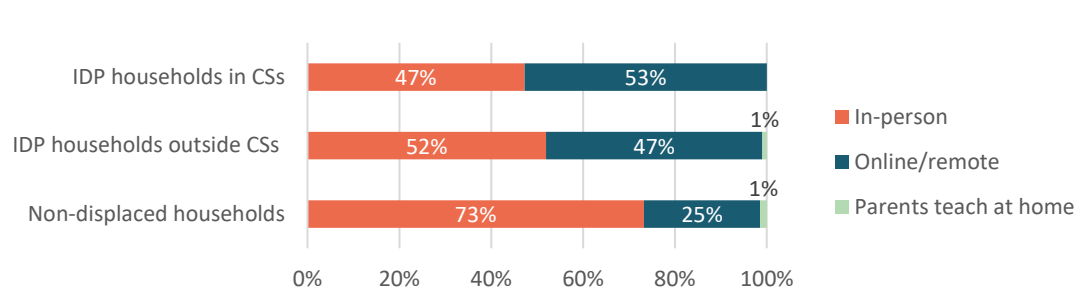
<sup>77</sup> The option “mix-method learning” was unfortunately not proposed in the questionnaire. It most certainly inserted a bias, due to the strong generalisation of this practice across the oblast. However, the strong discrepancies found in the results most likely points towards a tendency felt by the households.

to these figures, non-IDP children are much more likely to be attending in-person schooling than IDP children, in particular in Lviv city.<sup>78</sup> It raises important questions regarding the access of IDP children to education, and the risks of marginalisation associated, given the multiple points outlined above.

**Figure 14. Reported modalities of education for HHs in Lviv city, by displacement status (single-choice question)**



**Figure 15. Reported modalities of education for HHs outside Lviv city, by displacement status (single-choice question)**



### Other public services

This section briefly outlines the needs reported by households regarding other public services, such as bank services, public transport, or internet. Marginal results are found in several categories. Figures indicate, for instance, considerable difficulties for non-IDP households and IDP households outside CSs to access bank services in the areas outside Lviv city; or barriers for non-IDP households to use public transportation outside Lviv city. Most importantly, internet connection appears to be an important need for IDP households in CSs, further highlighting their risk of isolation from socio-economic opportunities, and lack of access to education. Barriers are found in Annex 1.

**Table 13. Reported needs of households for other public services, by displacement status and location (multiple choice question)**

Needs	IDP Households in CSs		IDP Households outside CSs		Non-IDP HHs	
	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City	Lviv City	Outside Lviv City
None	82%	75%	85%	81%	86%	84%
Internet connection	11%	17%	4%	7%	7%	2%
Bank services	3%	3%	1%	8%	1%	9%
Public transportation	3%	5%	3%	5%	1%	7%

<sup>78</sup> Most IDPs households in which children attend school online did not give an explanation for it (43% in-site; 53% out-of-site). The most reported barriers was the fear for the children safety (31% in-site; 29% out-of-site).

## CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

### Humanitarian response and coordination trends

**Local respondents are for the most part capable of ensuring access to assistance and basic services in Lvivska oblast but lack the resources.** Discussions with local and international respondents indicate effective management of the humanitarian crisis in Lvivska oblast overall, enabled in part by the proactive role of oblast authorities, the resilience of public service providers, and the flexibility of local organisations. In this context, international actors generally appear to be successfully complementing and adding value to local efforts, in particular in their collaboration with public actors. However, findings indicate that collaboration and information sharing between the different types of actors could be further improved. Finally, the report also highlights gaps in the capacities of local actors, both in terms of funds and human resources.

#### Recommendations<sup>79</sup>:

- All actors are encouraged to pursue ongoing efforts to formally establish the contour of their collaboration with oblast authorities, and to provide comprehensive visibility regarding activities implementation, through the signing of memorandums of coordination, and sharing activity plans.
- Humanitarian actors and local authorities are encouraged to strengthen, systematize, and standardize existing information canals and reporting links between them. This could be done under a common approach, potentially through the active intermediary role of oblast authorities.
- International actors are encouraged to further reduce barriers faced by small local organisations seeking to link with the International humanitarian system, for instance by lowering compliance requirements. In the meantime, international actors should ensure that local actors are assisted with the necessary resources to continue providing their assistance in the long run.

### Demographics, vulnerabilities, and socioeconomic needs

**IDP households living in CSs are overall characterised by additional vulnerabilities and socioeconomic fragilities, further reinforced by the context of the hostilities.** However, data shows that those households are more likely to receive assistance from the GoU and humanitarian actors, providing a combination of pre-existing social benefits, new state monetary allocations, MPC, and humanitarian assistance. This 'safety net' permits to mitigate the impact of the hostilities on these households, having fewer capacity to access employment, rely on saving, or access friends and family's assistance.

**In the meantime, IDP households outside CSs often reported similar – if not higher – levels of needs in some sectors.** Despite lower levels of vulnerabilities, and higher employability potential, findings indicate that these households remain fragile and face barriers meeting many of their basic needs, receiving overall slightly less assistance than their counterparts in-site. Pointing towards their challenges and priorities, these households self-reported for instance needs for employment support, or state monetary compensation.

**Non-IDP households reported consistently fewer needs than IDP households.** However, it doesn't indicate a lack of difficulties. Non-displaced households suffered from the economic impact of the conflict, and more than half of them reported a decrease in their capacities to meet basic needs. Importantly, data shows that they are much less likely to benefit from assistance from the GoU and the humanitarian actors. This trend disproportionately affects households located in the areas outside Lviv city, often reporting not having access to necessary support, or not knowing where to access them. Finally, the overall level of satisfaction with the response was considerably lower for non-displaced than for displaced households.

<sup>79</sup> Conclusions and recommendations have been validated by the CCCM Cluster

**Recommendations:**

- Humanitarian actors and authorities are encouraged to continue delivering financial and in-kind assistance to vulnerable individuals, either displaced or non-displaced. In the meantime, ongoing efforts to merge MPC programming into existing social protection programmes have the potential to further cover the needs comprehensively, avoiding gaps and duplications.
- All actors are encouraged to incentivize IDPs to be active within their host community. Working with local employment centres, and promoting requalification and retraining initiatives could further enable IDPs to access rewarding job opportunities, and meet existing needs in the labour market. For IDPs most vulnerable, or with lower employability potential, active participation could take the form of volunteer initiatives, compensated for instance by additional monetary benefits.

**Housing, CCCM, and Shelter**

**Nearly a fifth of IDP households (both in and outside CSs) reported barriers in accessing long-term accommodation solutions in Lvivska oblast.** They were twice as likely to report this issue when living in Lviv city than when living in the areas outside Lviv city. Findings indicate that these difficulties faced by displaced households result from the lack of sustainability that both CSs and, to some extent, the private housing market seemingly fail to provide fully.

**This issue is further complexified by the uncertainty that characterised displacement dynamics in Lvivska oblast.** While most IDP households do not intend to move in the next months, an overall majority reported an intention to leave for their settlement of origin when the security context allows it. In this context, relying solely on traditional emergency programming within CSs poses the risk to maintain beneficiaries for an extensive period in bad living conditions and in a state of dependence on external aid. In the meantime, long-term housing solutions, if too rigid, might be rejected by those unwilling to consider their stay as more than temporary.

**Recommendations:**

- All actors are invited to prioritize the sustainability of housing solutions. In this logic, collective sites should be considered as one of the last resorts for IDP households, and exit strategies start to be elaborated.
- International actors are encouraged to support the scale-up of new and existent local initiatives that provide more durable and secure forms of tenancy and ownership such as social housing programmes, offering a higher potential to meet different needs and vulnerabilities of displaced households.
- All actors are encouraged to include the implementation of sustainable housing alternatives into a broader inter-cluster discussion, looking to meet simultaneously the socioeconomic and social integration needs of displaced households.
- When necessary, all actors should seek to improve the living conditions of displaced households in their current accommodation when no alternatives for re-housing are possible and/or the accommodation holds the potential to provide a sustainable solution.
- International actors are encouraged to continue ongoing efforts to provide local actors, public service providers, and collective sites with necessary energy provision alternatives such as generators, or heating systems.

## Public service provision

**Despite the increased workload, capacity gaps, and external barriers, public service providers in Lvivska oblast are overall able to meet the needs of beneficiaries.** Public service providers saw a surge in demand due to the influx of IDP households in the oblast, the apparition of hostilities-related needs, and the exacerbation of pre-existing vulnerabilities. In the meantime, abilities to conduct activities have decreased due to a combination of internal (funds, human resources) and external barriers (energy disruptions, air alarms). However, discussions with representatives of public service providers indicate general resilience and adaptation. In the meantime, many households still reported barriers to accessing those services fully, in particular in areas outside Lviv city.

### Recommendations:

- International actors are encouraged to support healthcare institutions in purchasing highly specialised medical equipment, in particular for hospitals opening new units (e.g., cardiac or neurosurgical care) to cope with the rise of hostilities-related pathologies.
- All actors are encouraged to provide necessary medicine items to economically and physically vulnerable populations (elderly, disabled, chronically ill), in particular in collective sites. In the meantime, all actors should seek to set up additional facilities in which these populations could receive complementary social and medical support, to ease the burden on public service providers.
- All actors are encouraged to assist in the installation and accommodation of bomb shelters in educational facilities lacking necessary capacities, improving possibilities to provide in-person education to children.
- In the case of online classes as a primary learning modality, international actors are encouraged to support educational facilities' capacities in terms of equipment and arrangements for remote learning (e.g., laptops, tablets, strong internet connection).
- All actors are encouraged to give enhanced MHPSS attention to displaced households in remote areas of the oblast, the latter facing difficulties in accessing necessary psychological support.

## ANNEX 1. General methodology

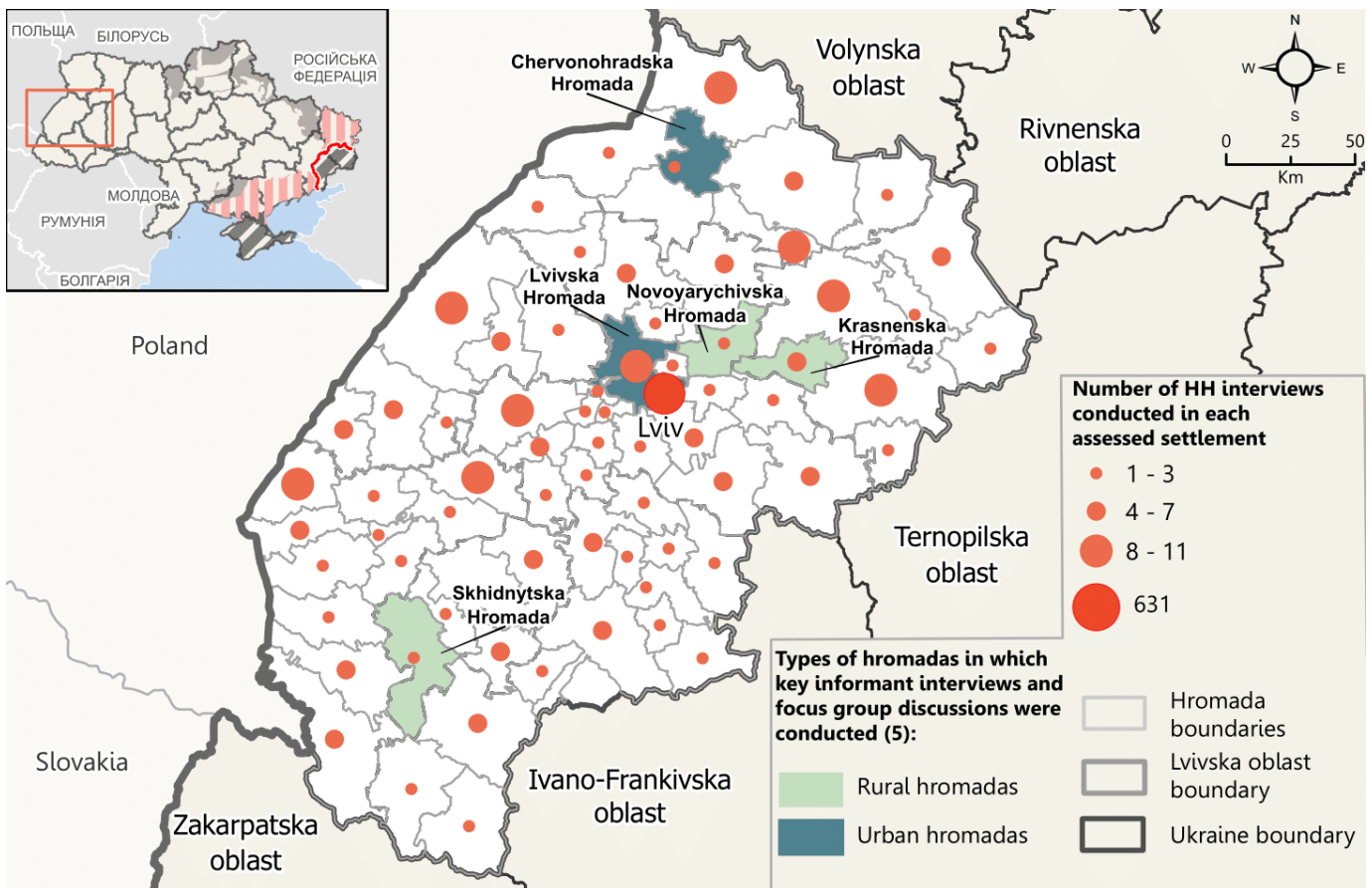
This ABA follows a mixed-methods approach, consisting of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Before the start of primary data collection, REACH conducted a secondary data review (SDR) to build contextual knowledge to identify information gaps and inform tool design and the data collection plan. It was later used to triangulate findings. Finally, the assessment had a participative component: preliminary interviews were conducted with local authorities and international partners to identify information gaps and needs and integrate them into the research design process, to ensure that the final product was usable at the local level and will be beneficial for international actors.

### Geographical scope

The geographical scope of the assessment encompasses:

- 184 settlements across the oblast (Lviv city and 183 settlements outside Lviv City): these settlements have been determined randomly to be representative at the oblast level.
- Five priority hromadas (urban hromadas – Lvivska, Chervonohradska; rural hromadas – Skhidnytska, Novoyarychivska, Krasnenska): purposely selected based on two criteria: hromadas represent a variety of localities (urban/rural types) and hromadas are priority areas for the local response (in particular, heavily impacted by displacement).

Map 4. Map of assessed areas





## Data collection methods and Sampling strategy

### Quantitative component

This ABA provides a series of findings that are representative of three displacement groups in Lvivska oblast: non-IDP households, IDP households in collective sites, and IDP households out of collective sites. To that end, REACH conducted a total of 1,287 face-to-face household interviews across the oblast from 8 November to 2 December 2022.

Households were selected through two-stage random sampling in six strata, producing results that are generalisable and comparable – with a 95% level of confidence and 7% margin of error – between displacement status (displaced in collective sites, displaced out of collective sites, and not displaced) and areas of settlement (inside and outside Lviv City). To ensure the safety of the field staff, no face-to-face interviews were conducted in areas of localization of critical infrastructure and military facilities identified by the country security team as potentially dangerous.

Additionally, an actor mapping including **82 local response actors' key informant interviews (LA-KIIs)** across the oblast was conducted to obtain general information on their role and capacities in crisis response. Response actors (NGOs, volunteers, local authorities, religious organisations, charitable foundations etc.) were identified via REACH Ukraine's network of informants, followed by snowballing. They were interviewed remotely through telephone calls from 24 – 31 October 2022. Contrary to the household survey, this data was not representative of local response actors at the oblast level and should therefore be considered indicative. It however allows to discern trends concerning the activities, capacities, and needs of local response actors in the oblast.

### Qualitative component

Qualitative data collection took place between 1 November 2022 and 2 December 2022 in four priority hromadas (Lvivska, Chervonohradska, Skhydnytska, and Novoyarychivska hromadas). A total of **14 public service providers' key informant interviews (PSP-KIIs)** were conducted in the priority hromadas to understand the impact of the escalation of hostilities on major service providers in three main sectors (education, healthcare, and social/administrative services). REACH also conducted **8 local actors' focus group discussions (LA-FGDs)** and **2 international response actors' focus group discussions (IA-FGDs)** to understand the priorities and opportunities for both local and international responses.

Priority hromadas for qualitative data collection were chosen for their particular interest in the humanitarian response, partly due to their high influx of IDPs. Unlike oblast-level quantitative methods described above, these data collection methods aim to draw local-based conclusions and inform the response in specific hromadas. Therefore, findings that emerge in priority hromadas assessed do not aim to be representative at the oblast level. Instead, they illustrate trends taking place at the local level, provide local expertise and knowledge on these trends, and inform differences between urban and rural areas. Some findings, however – in particular concerning economic analysis – properly balanced, can indicate generalizable dynamics in Lvivska oblast.

Key informants for PSP-KIIs were selected purposively and interviewed remotely through telephone calls. Three interviews were conducted with representatives from each sector in 2 urban and 2 rural priority hromadas. In addition, 2 representatives of oblast authorities departments were interviewed to collect relevant data on service delivery issues at the oblast level. Two LA-FGDs were conducted in each priority hromada with a purposive sample of local response actors (local authorities, local actors, and representatives of key communities). Two IA-FGDs were conducted in Lviv City with a purposive sample of international response actors (UN agencies, international charitable foundations, and international non-governmental organisations).

## Overview

**Table 14. Collection methods and samples**

	Nature of data	Collection method	Respondents	Sample size	Geographical scope	Distinction
<b>HH survey</b>	Quantitative	Survey	Households	1287	All across the oblast	Inside/outside Lviv City
<b>LA-KIIs</b>	Quantitative	Key informant interviews	Local response actors	82	All across the oblast	Inside/outside Lviv City
<b>PSP-KIIs</b>	Qualitative	Key informant interviews	Public service providers	14	Priority hromadas	Urban/rural
<b>LA-FGDs</b>	Qualitative	Focus group discussions	Response actors	8	Priority hromadas	Urban/rural
<b>IA-FGDs</b>	Qualitative	Focus group discussions	International actors	2	Priority hromadas	Urban/rural

## Analysis

Quantitative component: analysis for two strata – non-displaced households in the centre (Lviv city) and non-displaced households in the periphery (areas outside Lviv city) were weighted based on the estimations of general population figures from Ukraine State Statistic Service. This was done based on the logic that, though absolute population numbers have changed, those changes for the oblast centre and all other cities should be proportional. Meanwhile, another stratum – displaced households (in and out of collective sites) – were generated without weights due to the lack of reliable data sources on the overall quantity of displaced households in Lvivska oblast.

Qualitative KIIs and FGDs were recorded, and interviewers took notes. Enumerators transcribed the notes, using recordings to consolidate, as soon as possible after the discussions. In each FGD, at least one enumerator was dedicated to taking notes while another moderated the discussion. Qualitative data was analysed and coded using a data saturation grid (DSAG). As data was collected, the grid was completed daily, monitoring all new discussion topics and adding new rows using an inductive and iterative method.

## Challenges and Limitations

As exposed above, quantitative, and qualitative components are various and span across different geographic scopes. While it allows for different types of analysis, the reader should keep in mind that only the household survey was statistically representative at the oblast level and that most findings of qualitative components rather inform localized trends. In addition, quantitative and qualitative tools are designed to expose different variations. While quantitative tools are designed to expose variations between displacement status and areas of settlement (in and out of Lviv City), qualitative tools are designed to highlight variations between urban and rural hromadas. Taking this into account, one exception was made when conducting an FGD in a rural hromada, when instead of conducting two FGDs in Novoyarychivska hromada, the field team conducted one FGD in Novoyarychivsk and one FGD in the neighbouring rural Krasnenska hromada due to the lack of a sufficient number of active local response actors in Novoyarychivska hromada who could participate in the discussion.

Secondly, limitations of face-to-face data collection include conducting HH surveys and FGDs in face of such challenges as power outages and lack of mobile network, as well as repetitive air alarms that interrupted the field team's operations and delayed the completion of data collection.

## ANNEX 2. Barriers of households to accessing needs fully

Table 15. Barriers of households to access the needs of specific sectors, per sector and displacement type

	IDP Households in CSs					
	Food	NFI	Economic assistance	Shelter	Admin assistance	Building renovation & Winterisation
No support exists where we are	6%	14%	7%	29%	11%	26%
Support exists but was irrelevant or insufficient	54%	51%	56%	29%	39%	44%
We do not know how/ where to access support	9%	15%	16%	17%	24%	15%
We lack the financial resources	43%	45%	27%	33%	9%	27%
We are not eligible	1%	2%	5%	2%	4%	0%
We don't want to ask for support	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
No barriers	12%	4%	7%	6%	17%	5%
	IDP Households outside CSs					
	Food	NFI	Economic assistance	Shelter	Admin assistance	Building renovation & winterisation
No support exists where we are	11%	13%	7%	27%	15%	14%
Support exists but was irrelevant or insufficient	45%	39%	44%	22%	19%	16%
We do not know how/ where to access support	20%	27%	22%	23%	32%	21%
We lack the financial resources	50%	57%	22%	41%	6%	55%
We are not eligible	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	0%
We don't want to ask for support	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%
No barriers	11%	5%	13%	5%	15%	8%
	Non-IDP HHs					
	Food	NFI	Economic assistance	Shelter	Admin assistance	Building renovation & winterisation
No support exists where we are	1%	15%	9%	32%	31%	9%
Support exists but was irrelevant or insufficient	3%	6%	20%	29%	22%	16%
We do not know how/ where to access support	7%	15%	26%	8%	0%	22%
We lack the financial resources	52%	73%	16%	19%	13%	55%
We are not eligible	32%	9%	34%	5%	3%	6%
We don't want to ask for support	3%	7%	6%	2%	3%	5%
No barriers	16%	0%	10%	10%	25%	7%