



People for development

## “Emergency Response to the Ukraine crisis”

**Support to the internally displaced and most vulnerable groups  
within the host community in Sumska oblast**



## Report

## Context

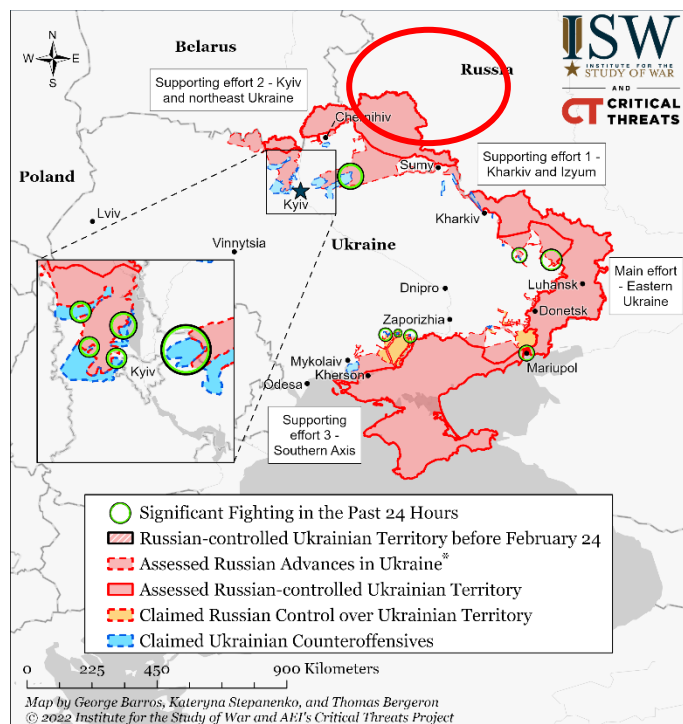
In February 2022, Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine following months long military buildup. Although the original objectives seem to have been the capital of Kiev and Ukraine's second largest city in the northeast, Kharkiv, heavy attacks were reported throughout the country, spreading panic among the population and forcing many people to seek refuge in other parts of the country or flee entirely. Since the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, Russia started bombing Ukraine's critical civilian infrastructure, including energy facilities, with the clear intent to undermine industrial production, disrupt transportation and deprive civilians in Ukraine of heat, electricity and water. More than 40% of Ukraine's power supplies has been damaged or destroyed<sup>1</sup>. Despite efforts to repair the damage caused as quickly as possible, the arrival of the winter season, with fewer hours of light and extremely cold temperatures, has further exacerbated situations of vulnerable persons.

## Objective of the intervention

Support lifesaving assistance to vulnerable households in Sumy through the provision of core relief items specific to winter, including thermal blankets, winter clothing, heating appliances.

## Local of the intervention

The intervention has supported areas with concentration of damaged houses and apartments as suggested by the Shelter Cluster<sup>2</sup> for the winterization activities. AVSI Foundation has thus had a meeting with the Department of Social Service of the Sumy Oblast explaining the purpose, the activity and the beneficiaries of the project. Data obtained from Local government has thus been useful to identify areas with concentration of damaged houses and apartments. Konotop Rayon and particularly, Popivka Hramada, were thus the identified area of intervention being firstly military occupied by Russian forces from the 25<sup>th</sup> of February until the 4<sup>th</sup> of April as showed on the map<sup>3</sup>. Secondly, the occupation and the continuous bombing have caused 361 damaged or destroyed building in Konotop Rayon<sup>4</sup> while, in



<sup>1</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/uk-funding-help-repair-ukraines-damaged-energy-systems-and-get-power-back-ukrainian-people>

<sup>2</sup> <https://sheltercluster.s3.eu-central-1.amazonaws.com/public/docs/Winterization%20Recommendations%2022-23%20v07f.pdf?VersionId=Q1e7ufT5wIM07JsILdDKL16PCf9RWQzx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-april-1>

<sup>4</sup> Data collected from the Department of Social Service/Protection of Sumy Oblast – 12/10/2022.

Popivka Hramada a total of 144 building were damaged or destroyed during the occupation<sup>5</sup>.

## Beneficiaries

Popivka Hromada is a community of almost 44 villages. AVSI and the local authorities have thus collaborated to identify those families most in need of immediate assistance given their current and likely situation going into winter. Indeed, priority has been given not only to internally displaced persons (IDPs) but also to non-displaced families with socio-economic vulnerabilities such as: families with one or more person/s with special needs, families with low-income, families taking care of an orphan and/or abandoned child, families that are referred to the social services etc. Below, a comprehensive table about the beneficiaries.

Socio-economic vulnerability	Number of families benefitting of the intervention
Families with one or more persons with special needs	10
Families with low income	5
Families taking care of an orphan and/or an abandoned child	3
Internally displaced families	10
Families referred to the social services	14
Families referred to the social services and with one or more persons with special needs	4
Large families	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>

## Activity

The activity aimed at providing access to warm, safe and dignified living conditions, for both internally displaced people and host communities. The intervention has supported local authorities to deliver winterization assistance ahead of the start of the cold season in Popivka Hramada. All the 56 families has indeed received a kit composed of 2 plaid and 1 quilt as per picture below. The distribution has been organized in a blended way namely, those families who could have reached a distribution point were called upon to get the winterization kits while those who had also low mobility, the kits were provided with a door-to-door distribution.

In addition, 38 families out of the 56 has also received a 4,7 cubic meters of chopped firewood as solid fuel to heat their houses that is an estimate of the amount needed for a family to cover the winter season from January to April. In this case, the distribution was necessarily organized delivering the items door-to-door. Below, some pictures of beneficiaries receiving winterization kits.

<sup>5</sup> Data collected from the Deputy of Head of Popivka Hramada in December 2023.



## Budget

See the attached document.