



Community-Based Approach to Local Development Project



# ROOM FOR HOPE

Housing assistance  
to the displaced  
population in Ukraine



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### **Community-Based Approach to Local Development (CBA) Project**

20 Esplanadna Str., office 704-708, Kyiv 01601

Tel.: +38 (044) 253 5975, Fax: +38 (044) 253 5973

Web-site: [www.cba.org.ua](http://www.cba.org.ua)

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/cbaproject](http://www.facebook.com/cbaproject)

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/CBAPROJECT>

**Texts by:** Inna Kosyanchuk, Iryna Polishchuk, Olga Prokopenko

**English translation:** Tetyana Kononenko

**Design:** Pavlo Shevchenko

**Cover illustration by:** Bohdan Mazyar, a third-grade student, Korets school, Rivne region

**Community-Based Approach to Local Development (CBA) Project.** The main objective is to promote sustainable socio-economic development at the local level by strengthening participatory governance and fostering community-led initiatives across Ukraine. Since 2008, the CBA Project has been working throughout Ukraine. Its third phase is being implemented during the period of 2014-2017. In this phase, the CBA Project is strengthening capacities of regional and local authorities to practice participatory governance, as well as is intensifying community-based approach. The CBA activities focus on rehabilitating social and communal infrastructure in the priority areas of energy efficiency, health, environment and water management in rural and urban territories. It also promotes small farm and non-farm businesses in rural areas. In terms of urban development, the CBA Project offers opportunities for municipalities to implement energy efficiency measures in multi-apartment buildings in 25 small towns and supports introduction of the smart cities principles and e-governance into urban management. Besides, the CBA Project supports the Ukrainian Government in developing policies in the area of decentralization and shares innovative approaches and good practices on participatory governance and community-led local sustainable development through the knowledge hub and the curriculum of 39 regional universities. From the outbreak of the conflict on the East of Ukraine, the CBA also provided housing support to the displaced population refurbishing 26 objects for temporary accommodation of about 3,500 IDPs. The Project is financed by the EU and co-financed and implemented by UNDP.

**The European Union** is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** is UN's global network development, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP cooperates with more than 170 countries and territories, helping them find their own solutions to global and national development challenges.

## INTRODUCTION

Dear partners and friends,

When I arrived in Kiev in June 2015, the conflict in Eastern Ukraine was in full swing, forcing out of their homes what is estimated today at an appalling 1.7 million people. For the first time in its modern history, Ukraine was faced with displacement and the serious economic and social hardships it entails, putting human dignity and millions of lives under threat.

Far too often, internally displaced persons (IDPs) end up living in dilapidated buildings without any basic facilities, conducive to dire sanitary and safety conditions. Addressing this pressing issue therefore clearly emerged as a top priority.

One year and quite a number of field trips to Donbas later, it is with relief and pride that I can count the full refurbishing of the “Slovianskyi” Health Resort to shelter IDPs with disabilities, as a compelling success of the Community-Based Approach to local development (CBA), jointly undertaken by the UNDP in Ukraine and the European Union.

Today, hot water supply systems, bathrooms, sanatorium and re-education facilities run smoothly, and special elevators for wheelchairs, wall hand rails and ramps have been installed to help mobility impaired people get around the building.

This is a significant step towards the full professional rehabilitation of displaced persons with special needs, and just one of the 34 community-based projects to repair buildings used as accommodation centers for IDPs that received support from the UNDP's CBA programme during the last year.

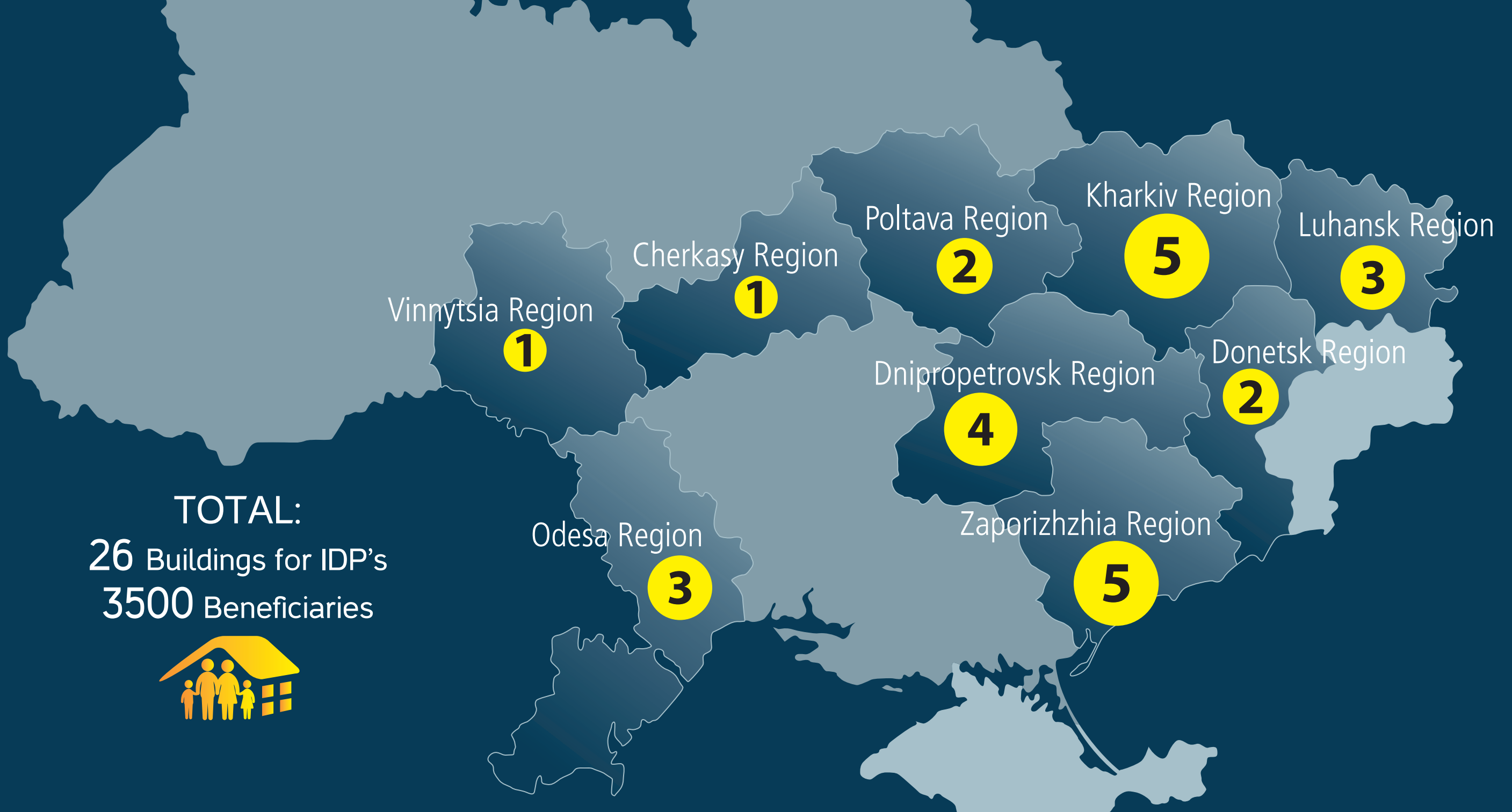
Supporting Ukraine in its transition to a stable, democratically governed, sustainable country is at the core of the UNDP's work. A swift, concerted and informed response to the latest developments in the Donbas region is instrumental to effectively reduce poverty, enhance democratic governance, preserve the environment, promote energy-efficient solutions and support local development.

Today more than ever, the impacted communities play a central role in helping authorities, assisted by the UN and its donors, design the most appropriate legal and operational frameworks that will empower them to keep a steady development pace, on the long run and on their own terms, once the international community has withdrawn.

This compendium of success stories champions these resilient communities across nine regions in Ukraine and showcases how their irreplaceable cooperation with the international community has made a real difference in the lives of displaced populations and paved the way to the country's long-term recovery.

We are proud to contribute to the early recovery of Ukrainian social institutions and to provide the necessary assistance to address the manifold humanitarian and development challenges. We stand ready to engage even further with the Ukrainian people, its government and any goodwill partner in building a stronger Ukraine for tomorrow.

*Janthomas Hiemstra, UNDP Ukraine Country Director*



**TOTAL:**  
26 Buildings for IDP's  
3500 Beneficiaries



Kateryna Dontsova, a Chief Physician of Luhansk Children's Home No 2, cannot hold back her tears telling the tragic story of the small kid in her arms who lost her parents in the war on the East of Ukraine. Small fosterlings of the children's home have found their new home in Severodonetsk.



## LUHANSK REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 4**



**OBJECTS: 3**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 3,531,704**  
Sponsors and local budgets contribution: UAH 608,397  
UNDP contribution: UAH 2,923,307

### WORK DONE

**LYSYCHANSK:** Major repairs in the building of Lysychansk Children's Center of Social and Psychological Rehabilitation: all windows (61.5 m<sup>2</sup>) replaced; window sills and water bars, slopes (58 m<sup>2</sup>), and a door installed; repair of rolled roofing (30 m<sup>2</sup>); facade of the building (285 m<sup>2</sup>) insulated.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 78 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Agency for sustainable development of Luhansk region", CO Head Oleg Mykhaliov

**KREMINNA:** Major repairs in the building belonging to the recreation facility "Countryside institution for rehabilitation and recreation Mriya": 30 windows and 46 doors replaced; approx. 347 m<sup>2</sup> of the roof covered with slate; foundation for modular boiler station installed; modular boiler station (equipped with pellet boiler (55 kW) and gasoline generator (3.5 kW) purchased and installed; repair of the chimney; installation of lightning protection and fire alarm. In addition, 35 meters of heating main (D = 50mm) were laid. All rooms and toilets, sewage system, heating, hot and cold water supply, and electricity were renovated. As a follow-up, there was an additional renovation of 370 m<sup>2</sup> of facade, insulation of facade and 346 m<sup>2</sup> of an attic; restoration of two porches, etc.

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 200 persons

**STATUS:** completed

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Kreminska business association", CO Head Andriy Simonov

**SEVERODONETSK:** Repair of the building of Luhansk regional children's home No 2 is being finalized. The list of works includes replacement of 35 windows and 13 doors; repair of rooms (513 m<sup>2</sup>) and 9 toilets; 256.3 m<sup>2</sup> of flat roof and ventilation shafts; sewerage system; heating; hot and cold water, electricity; porch restoration.

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 300 persons

**STATUS:** completed

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Nachalo", CO Head Roman Kuzmin

### CHILDREN FIND A NEW FAMILY

A particular category of IDPs are children from the occupied territories of Donbass, children of war. They happen to be disadvantaged in several ways. At first, the armed conflict casted gloom over their childhood forcing them to get older sooner at the sounds of shelling and bombing. They also lost their homes and had to look for a safe place. The rebels who occupied these territories cannot care less about proper conditions for normal childhood, happy and care-free, spreading fear and uncertainty instead.

Among all the horrors of war, the story of misfortunes of small inhabitants of Luhansk Oblast Children's Home No 2 still strikes with cynicism and lack of humanistic attitude. The living conditions on the children's home deteriorated day by day: starting from July 2014 there was neither electricity, nor water, nor gas. Food was cooked on a portable kerosene stove. The staff was trying to cope the best they could so that the kids – at the time there were 69 children under 4 living in Luhansk children's home – don't feel inconveniences; some of them were too small to understand what is going on.

However, the worst was to come. The representatives the self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic (LPR) have tried to forcefully transport the kids to Russia in violation of all human rights instruments. The kids had to survive a long and tiresome ride on the bus that is not fit for transportation of such small children. There were no conditions to feed them properly and no proper place to sleep during the travel. On top of all this, it was a peak of the summer with 40 degrees heat. The staff who

were trying to protest received threats from the LPR rebels... Eventually, thanks to bravery of the head of children's home Kateryna Dontsova and the intervention of Ukraine's MFA, children have been returned to Ukraine. After return, the kids were first sent to Kharkiv and then to Severodonetsk where an abandoned building has been repaired with the CBA support in order to house this child care institution. The rooms are all ready to accommodate the little ones, the repair works in adjoining premises are almost completed. This refurbishment initiative was co-financed from the regional budget and community contributions. For some children this story of multiple relocations had a happy ending and they found their new families. For instance, a farmer woman from Luhansk oblast adopted three kids from the children's home after hearing their story in the news. Staff of Luhansk oblast administration explain that there are different ways to place children in the families: it could be guardianship, adoption, or placement in family-type homes where kids feel happy and comfortable. On a separate note, with support of UNDP and the EU more than 70 boys and girls from the conflict-affected region have found safety and homely atmosphere in a renovated Social and Psychological Rehabilitation Center for children in Lysychansk. For the past 10 years, its premises were not repaired. It was only with the CBA support that the living conditions in the center improved and the building became warm and comfortable. In addition to UNDP financial contribution, some funds were provided by sponsors, while Lysychansk City Council acted as a guarantor. Dima, 14, from Pervomaisk city, Luhansk region, said: "Conditions in the center before and after

repair are poles apart. Now it's so much better. Me and other kids are very fond of this place. I plan to finish school and continue with my studies to become a policeman and protect people." The staff of the Center, directed by Tatiana Klimova, surrounded the children with the most cordial care. "They have many problems and worries, but they study, they make friends and it certainly makes their lives a bit better," Tatiana says. Another institution renovated with the CBA project's support is a summer camp Mriya in Kreminna. Among those who moved to Mriya there are families with many children and people who lived in dire conditions in overcrowded apartments (in some cases, 18 people shared a one-room apartment!). Before they could move in into the camp, its premises had to be renovated because camp facilities were envisaged for accommodation during the summer period only. After major repairs (which were carried out with financial support of the CBA Project, allocations from the local budgets of Kreminna and Luhansk oblast administrations) were completed, the building is able to host IDPs throughout the whole year. The total cost of this microproject is more than UAH 1.5 mln. It is a temporary accommodation where people who have nowhere to live can find shelter, get used to their new situation after forced relocation, calm down and decide what to do next. Usually people are looking for employment and permanent housing. Those who stay here over a longer period are those who were not able to find some acceptable option. Thanks to international organizations, premises are repaired and equipped with furniture, kitchen appliances. There are already families living here.

## OLGA LISHYK, Deputy Head of Luhansk Oblast State Administration



The project "Community-based approach to local development" in Luhansk region was launched long before the armed conflict. UNDP proved to be a very good and reliable partner not only in terms of community development but also in terms of shelter projects for IDPs. We have several IDP focused projects implemented in our region and two of them are targeting children. One of the projects is accommodation centre for the orphaned and abandoned children who lived in Luhansk Oblast Children's Home. We've identified premises that have

not been used for 20 years. They were reconstructed basically from scratch. The CBA Project supported our request for assistance. The repair works have been performed in accordance with the European standards, and it sets a good example for us. We do not know when the conflict is going to end; therefore, it is good that the children have a warm and cozy home to live in. The second children-focused project is about major repairs in the rehabilitation center where children from Lysychansk and the neighboring area used to live. This project is highly nec-

essary and very interesting: people learn from it, they can see that cooperation with the CBA Project allows us to introduce the European standards of living. We managed to provide shelter to children who are going through a difficult period, who lost their family, until we find some durable solution for them. We appreciate these social projects very much.





Doctors of the "Slovianskyi" Health Resort joined the celebration of the 70th UN anniversary. After the major repairs, the health resort changed beyond recognition. The premises are not only warmer and comfortable but also disabled-friendly.

## DONETSK REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 3**



**OBJECTS: 2**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 2,795,210**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 2,436,096**

## WORK DONE

### KRAMATORSK:

A five-storey building of Donbas interregional center of vocational rehabilitation for disabled people has been repaired, including repair of the rooms and lavatories on the first and second floors; installation of an elevator; repair of a section of hot water supply system; installation of hot water production equipment; renovation of a porch.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 205 persons

### SLOVYANSK:

Repair works in a three-storey building of the health resort "Sloviansky" have been carried out, including repair of rooms and lavatories on the first floor and repair of 20 rooms and 20 lavatories on the third floor. 212 m<sup>2</sup> of roofing have been replaced, 28 windows, 23 inside doors and 8 balcony doors have been replaced as well; heating system, hot and cold water supply systems and power supply system have been repaired.

In addition, 739 m<sup>2</sup> of the roof covering have been replaced with metal shingles; rainwater drainage system has been installed; the porch and two flights of stairs have been repaired.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 450 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization of disabled women of the Northern Donbas, CO Head Nadiya Polamarchuk

## HOW TO BECOME A USEFUL COMMUNITY MEMBER

For almost 200 days Oleksandr, a blind lawyer, and his mother Olga Ivanivna who suffers with severe back pain, have been living at the frontline in Debaltseve. A few years ago Oleksandr, a well-known lawyer in Debaltseve, having years of state service and private law practice behind him, could not even imagine that the life of his family would be so dramatically changed by the war, the town would be at the frontline, and his house would be ruined by a missile. At the end of January, power supply and heating were cut off in Debaltseve. Those were hard times. Apart from cold – the temperature in Oleksandr's house hardly reached +8°C – there was also a lack of food, it was not possible to cook any meal, even to make a cup of tea. The shops were closed, people were even afraid to go outside. They survived with what they had in stock, until people ran out of everything...

Oleksandr and Olga Ivanivna were surviving in such conditions, hoping that this nightmare would soon be over. However, the expected improvement in security situation would not happen, and it was harder and harder for the disabled people to survive in such a cold time of the year. When they could not bear all these hardships any longer, Oleksandr got in touch with the volunteers asking to help them. In early February the volunteers helped the family to leave Debaltseve and relocate to Kramatorsk. During the evacuation, more than a dozen of desperate people joined them too. In Kramatorsk, Oleksandr and his mother received shelter and food in a volunteer center. It was so comforting to finally have some hot meals and drink a cup of tea after many weeks on short commons.

Later on Oleksandr and Olga Ivanivna were accommodated in Donbas Interregional Center of Vocational Rehabilitation for disabled people. With support of the EU/UNDP Project “Community based approach to local development”, the disabled people can enjoy comfort and feel protected in the center. “We are very grateful that we have been accepted here, we do appreciate the help we have been given,” Oleksandr says. “For the time being we would like to stay in the Center. I pray for the restoration of peace. I would like to go back home and get into professional activities.” Yet Oleksandr wants to be of help as a lawyer here, in Kramatorsk, as well. He consults the residents of the center on the legal matters, because he understands it well that people driven away by the war need all kind of assistance, including legal assistance. For those disabled IDPs who have no competitive profession in the labour market or who consider it necessary to change a profession, there are training courses available in Donbas interregional centre of vocational rehabilitation for disabled people. Here they can get a new profession of an accountant, a driver, a PC operator. People can stay in the Centre during their study, for example, if they get accounting training they can stay for 9 months. After that they are trying to find their place in life. For some people those training courses gave a fresh start as they managed to get a job after completion of this training. “Slovyansky” Health Resort is a specialized medical facility, the only recreation center for the patients with spine problems, situated at the government-controlled territory (two

other medical facilities are at the territory of annexed Crimea). Disabled IDPs from Donbas know this health resort very well. They know that they could improve their health here, and they would not miss such opportunity. However, the repair works in the building were carried out back in 1979; for this reason, the conditions for spinal patients were uncomfortable and often below the standard. Even Oleksandr Kravchenko, First Deputy Director General of “Slovyansky” Health Resort, admits that some rooms even lacked basic bathroom equipment. Now the situation is completely different: when the repair works under the CBA project have been completed, the health resort could offer to its patients cozy rooms, comfortable living conditions, convenient furniture... Natalia Osypenko, CBA Project Coordinator in Donetsk region, explains that it was not an ordinary renovation, but creation of barrier-free environment for the disabled people – the building was equipped with wheelchair ramps and other required facilities. Kateryna Tkachuk, a displaced person from Pisky village, had visited several places before she settled down in “Slovyansky”. She says that it is here where the best conditions for her and her little grandson are provided. Apart from the EU/UNDP financial contribution, “Slovyansky” Health Resort also allocated some costs for the repair works, since the resort administration wanted since a long time to create better conditions for the disabled people. Now, with support of the CBA Project, they mostly managed to achieve what they had been striving for.

## NADIYA POLAMARCHUK, Head of Civic organization of disabled women of the Northern Donbas



When we joined the project, we decided to focus on the most vulnerable group of IDPs - people in need of special care. Participation in this project turned out to be a real blessing for us, as if God have chosen those places in Kramatorsk and Slovyansk where the disabled people who had abandoned their homes on the occupied territory could feel secure and protected. Here we are talking about the people deprived of everything because of military operations - deprived of shelter, their property, their families - and they have to start a new life in a new

place. Sometimes we had to evacuate three-four train carriages with disabled people from the occupied territories and we had to accommodate somewhere those large groups. It was very complicated. We tried to settle them in another region; however, we were shocked to discover that there were absolutely no conditions and facilities for disabled people there. Therefore we kept on looking for the acceptable options. At first, we had not much success. There was a time when these people were living in the premises without heating... Now they live in good comfortable condi-

tions. At the same time, they can receive professional training, like here, in Kramatorsk. People, who moved to the premises reconstructed with support from UNDP/EU project, say that they are really happy to live there. The disabled people say that even at home they have not been living like this - thanks to UNDP the space is not just well-arranged, it is disabled-friendly, reconstructed in accordance with the European standards, with care and attention to people with special needs.



Larysa, an IDP from Pervomaisk, Luhansk region, with her two daughters have found a temporary shelter in Balakliya. Having to start their life from scratch, the family was relieved to receive a comfortable room in a newly refurbished accommodation center.



## KHARKIV REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 6**



**OBJECTS: 5**  
**ASSISTANCE COVERAGE: 368 IDPs**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
**To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population**



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 6,824,696**  
**Contribution from the local budget: UAH 1,296,460**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 5,528,236**



## WORK DONE

### BALAKLIYA CITY:

Reconstruction of Balakliya Child and Youth Sport School building, including installation of a 98 kW solid fuel boiler, replacement of 35 windows with plastic steel ones, replacement of 34 doors, refurbishment of an entrance hall, 4 additional internal toilets, 4 showers and a school kitchen, repair of an external electricity supply system. Some additional funds were allocated to repair the roof with insulation, purchase necessary equipment, etc.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 56 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Balakliya District Charitable Foundation "Turbota", Head Ivan Rozumnyi

### BALAKLIYA CITY:

Repair of the 3rd floor of "Yuvileinyi" social hotel: renovation of 21 rooms and 21 toilets, heating, hot and cold water supply, electricity supply; replacement of approx. 212 m<sup>2</sup> of the roof, 33 windows, 73 internal and 3 external doors.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 52 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Balakliya District NGO "Hromadskyi Kontrol", NGO Head Oksana Suprun

### KHOROSHEVE VILLAGE:

For accommodation of disabled and wheel-chaired persons, a geriatric home has been refurbished, including renovation of inner premises; installation of the handrails in the hallways, elevator platforms, bathrooms, lobby and hall; construction of ramps for smooth transition between the passages with different floor height; 3 hoists in the bathrooms; widening 7 doorways in the bathrooms; partial replacement of bathroom equipment.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 69 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Center of Spiritual and Psychosocial Rehabilitation "Emmanuil", Head Andriy Honcharenko

### BARVINKOVE CITY:

Major repair of a municipal building at Moskovska Str., including replacement of windows and doors; remodeling of the inner premises; construction of a porch; replacement of heating, water supply, sewerage systems; interior finishing works.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 56 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** NGO "Patrioty Barvinkivshchyny", NGO Head Valeriy Budytskyi

### CHERVONYI OSKIL VILLAGE, IZYUMSKYI RAYON:

As a part of the refurbishment of the block No 6 of Neuropsychiatric boarding house for accommodation of IDPs with special needs, there are renovation works in 13 rooms some of which are being remodeled. In addition, the following works are being performed: replacement of 19 doors; installation of ramps; insulation of 540 m<sup>2</sup> of facade; installation of 300 m of electrical wires and 15 lamps; repair of heating and water supply networks; replacement of 392 m<sup>2</sup> of the floor; installation of fire alarms; finishing works on 967 m<sup>2</sup> of the walls and 450 m<sup>2</sup> of the ceilings.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 135 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** NGO "Vidrodzhennia-1", NGO Head Roman Chumak



## THE UNDP/CBA PROJECT HELPS IDPS TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR SPECIAL NEEDS

The life of disabled people is full of struggle. However, their situation becomes truly tragic when hostilities break out and bring uncertainty in the lives of these people who are already vulnerable. In the midst of shelling and explosions, the disabled persons who resided in various specialized medical institutions situated in conflict areas had to leave the usual places. Many of them have found a shelter in Kharkiv region. In response to this, a geriatric home in Khorosheve village has been refurbished with financial support of UNDP and the EU to accommodate the disabled and wheel-chaired IDPs. The history of this institution was, from the very beginning, marked with well-doing and benevolence: it was opened in 1924 in a two-story building built back in 1880 that used to be a convent. In 1985, additional five-story block has been constructed. Until August 2014, there were over 200 people living in this geriatric home. After the outbreak of the conflict, the geriatric home accommodated 40 more disabled people from Donetsk boarding house. However, the special needs require special conditions and adjustment, and even hospitality cannot compensate for their absence. The UNDP/EU project “Community Based Approach to Local Development” stepped in and allocated 687,583 UAH for the refurbishment of the geriatric home. In addition, 171,455 UAH were contributed by Kharkiv Regional State Administration. The premises for disabled IDPs were arranged on the second floor. After the reconstruction, there are proper conditions created for them: the doorways have been widened so that the wheelchairs could pass, special lifts, hand-

rails, ramps and hoisting equipment were installed. Most importantly, people were relocated from the rooms with 3-4 beds into two-bed rooms. Yuliana Yakovleva from Donetsk region who together with her husband arrived to Khorosheve fleeing from the war, tells that they were well accommodated here; however, at first they shared a room with two strangers. Receiving a double room is a real joy for them. In a short while, the disabled IDPs will be also able to take up residence in the block No 6 of the Neuropsychiatric boarding house in Chervonyi Oskil village. Since May 2014, NGO “Vidrodzhennya-1”, the CBA Project partner, helps on a volunteer basis the people affected by the armed conflict to relocate from Donbas to the safe territories. With assistance from the volunteers, the IDPs from Slovyansk, Kramatorsk and Debaltseve have moved to Kharkiv region. The management of neuropsychiatric boarding house in Chervonyi Oskil also helped a lot. From October 2014 to March 2015, the volunteers, with support of the authorities of Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv regions, have evacuated 135 people with neuropsychiatric illnesses and those who cannot move around unaided from the specialized medical institutions in Donbass. They were accommodated in the main building together with the permanent residents of dispensary, therefore the place became a bit overcrowded. However, the situation is going to improve. With support of the CBA Project, the block No 6 of the dispensary is under reconstruction to offer these people better living conditions. Besides, with handrails and ramps installed in the premises they can freely move around in wheelchairs. People with

**MARGARYTA KAMASA,**  
Head of Department for international  
and interregional relations, monitoring of  
the projects and programs implemented by  
executive branch of Kharkiv Regional Council



Kharkiv region cooperates with the Project “Community Based Approach to Local Development” starting from the first phase of the CBA in Ukraine, and we are very grateful to UNDP/EU for their support. We enjoyed working with the project staff who were really responsive to our needs, eager to offer advice, and invested a lot of efforts into the projects’ implementation. It so happened that among all the regions of Ukraine Kharkiv region received the highest number of IDPs. In total, there are about 300,000 IDPs in our region, but only about 203,000 have registered so far. I would like to mention that the locals treat the IDPs with understanding and compassion, supporting them as much as they can. IDPs feel this support.

However, without support of the international community, we would have had difficulties handling all kinds of problems we face. Thanks to support provided by the UNDP/EU Project, we are able to solve the top-priority problems promptly and effectively, particularly the problems related to accommodation of IDPs. The residential objects for IDPs refurbished with the project’s support are very different. For instance, Khorosheve hosts people who are unable to take care of themselves. The peculiarity of this project is that it was necessary to create disabled-friendly conditions for this category of people. Initially, this building was envisaged for accommodation of the elderly, therefore it was necessary to take into account

both the needs of the elderly people and the needs of newcomers. In Balakliya, temporary accommodation for the IDPs was organized at the second floor of the Youth Sport School. This is a completely different type of project. In Chervonyi Oskil, there are repair works in a building for disabled people. Here we deal with different needs and different expenses. Many IDPs dream about going back, but most of them have nowhere to return to. Every week, every month their number increases. Therefore, cooperation with the CBA Project continues. Both the population of Kharkiv region and the IDPs from Donbass staying in our region are grateful for support.

specific disabilities will also feel more comfortable. The CBA Project also takes care about the other vulnerable categories of IDPs, including poor families and families with many children, pensioners. To this end, it helped to repair the building of the Youth Sport School in Balakliya. According to Jemile Umerova, CBA Project Coordinator in Kharkiv region, “part of the school building served as a training camp for young athletes. However, the premises were in a particularly dilapidated state, and without the repair works families would not be able to live there. Today the building is insulated, it has a well-functioning heating system, comfortable conditions, a kitchen, etc. The total cost of works is 1,096,588 UAH, contributed by the CBA Project (80%) and from Balakliya district budget (20%). We visited the Youth Sport School on the UN day. We saw that pensioners were receiving their pensions, the people able to work were looking for a job, worked as cleaners, salespersons, etc. The IDPs are supported both by the international community and by the local residents. The Balakliya district administration committed to pay for utilities used by IDPs”. One of the IDPs accommodated in the Youth Sport School is Larysa from Pervomaisk, Luhansk region, with her family. Having been exposed to constant shelling, the family with two kids aged 4 and 5 had to hide in the basement for 10 days. Under such conditions, the children were getting sick. However, the worst was still to come. Larysa’s husband went to buy bread and never returned. He was killed by shelling... When the shells began to explode near Larysa’s house and the situation became unbearable, soldiers and volunteers helped the family to leave Pervomaisk. They came to Balakliya practically without any belongings. Here the family received psycho-

logical support, food and clothing, and a room in the newly refurbished Youth Sport School. “I am grateful to the UNDP/EU Project for help. It means everything to us,” Larysa says. It is warm and cozy in her temporary accommodation after the repair and installation of new windows. There are no more worries for the safety of her children. It is good to stay in Balakliya; however, Larysa wants to return home when there is no danger. In Barvinkove city, Territorial center building at Moskovska Street will become a shelter for IDP families with the children of preschool and school age. There are many children with disabilities among them. The volunteers of the NGO “Patrioty Barvinkivshchyny” helped them to leave dangerous Donbass. For those who had nowhere to live, the volunteers have found a building at Moskovska Street. However, the building badly needed a refurbishment. The cost of repair works (UAH 994,363) was too high to be covered by rayon authorities. The EU/UNDP Project really helped by contributing 79 % of the necessary amount (UAH 782,320). Barvinkove City Council allocated additional UAH 212,043. As soon as the building is renovated, it will become comfortable and energy efficient. “We send our utmost gratitude to the CBA Project in general and to the entire project team that works in Kharkiv region and helps to address the enormous challenges with regard to IDP support,” Liudmyla Nemykina, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Kharkiv Regional Council’s budget, says. “Our region did not have sufficient resources to cope with the influx of IDPs. We can handle it only with external support. We hope for further cooperation with the CBA Project since there are still many issues to solve.”





Unused premises of the former dormitory in Verkhniodniprovsk were turned into a comfortable living space. The first IDP children arriving with their parents immediately ran to explore the building and were excited to find a newly-repaired shining bathroom.

## DNIPROPETROVSK REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 6**



**OBJECTS: 4**  
**ASSISTANCE COVERAGE: 246 IDPs**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
**To improve housing conditions for the displaced population**



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 4,320,804**  
**Contribution from the local budget: UAH 998,461**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 3,322,434**

## WORK DONE

### ILARIONOVO VILLAGE, SYNELNYKIVSKY RAYON:

Major repair of the building of Ilarionivska ambulance station "Synelnykivsky centre of primary medical and sanitary aid": replacement of windows and doors, installation of 55,08 m<sup>2</sup> of plastic-steel windows and 38,93 m<sup>2</sup> of doors; 400 m<sup>2</sup> of roof covered with metal tile sheets; inner wiring repair works; internal water supply and drainage system installed.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 50 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Ilarionivska village civic organization "Local development fund 'Vasyliok'", CO Head Volodymyr Kotsupei

### SOFIYIVKA VILLAGE:

Energy-saving measures at a social hostel in Sofiyivka have been implemented. 69.8 m<sup>2</sup> of windows and 6,78 m<sup>2</sup> doors were replaced with plastic-steel ones. In addition, heaters were replaced with bimetallic and tubes with polyethylene one in the inner heating system. Heat metering station was installed, industrial electric cookers were purchased and installed, inner water supply system and drainage was installed. Other inner repair works were carried out.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 75 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Sofiyivska charitable organization "Development of the village and support to community initiative", Director Sergiy Kondratiuk

### PAVLOHRAD:

Major repair of a social dormitory at 9/1 Promyslova str. was carried out. In addition, major repair of roll roofing was completed and porch was renovated.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** up to 50 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Municipal civic organization "Agency for the economic development of Pavlohrad"

### VERKHNIODNIPROVSK:

Major repair of a two-story dormitory No 1 of Verkhniodniprovsk college of Dnipropetrovsk State Agricultural and Economic University was carried out. 24 windows were replaced with plastic-steel ones; new door sets were installed; sanitary facilities, floor and inner engineering networks were repaired. Electric heating is now available in the whole building.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 71 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Rayon organization of Ukrainian union of Afghan veterans, Director Anatolii Leyko

## NEW HOME FOR THE DISPLACED

When the bullets are going over your head, and a mine detonates several meters from you and leaves your home in ruins, the only thought you can have is how to save your own life and lives of your family. Escaping from the shelling, many displaced persons relocated to government-controlled territories, often having nothing more than a small suitcase. To support them the locals provided IDPs with food and clothes. However, accommodation remained an issue: some people were received by the relatives, others rented a flat. Many IDPs from the conflict-affected East relocated to the neighboring regions, including Dnipropetrovsk region. Some were lucky to find a job in Dnipropetrovsk which is a big city. However, many of them still need to solve an accommodation problem. Therefore, the project “Community-based approach to local development” took up to assist in solving this problem. At first, some buildings that could be quickly renovated and host IDPs were identified in Dnipropetrovsk region. For instance, in Synelnykivsky rayon, in Ilarionovo village there was a building of an ambulance station “Synelnykivsky centre of primary medical and sanitary aid”. It required refurbishment and it was eventually repaired with UNDP support. In the former ambulance station, old wooden windows were replaced with the modern, plastic-steel ones, inner water supply system and drainage were installed as well. In addition, an old roof that was leaking was reinforced with metal tile sheets. Now this building can host several families. The building was converted from uninhabitable one into a cozy home. One of the advantages of this building is its location. Ilarionovo village is not far

from Dnipropetrovsk, so even those IDPs who found a job or arranged for their children to attend a kindergarten or a school in Dnipropetrovsk could live here. There is a convenient connection with the city and it takes just several minutes by suburban train or bus to get to Dnipropetrovsk. In Sofiyivka, with UNDP support repair works were carried out in the building that now could host 75 IDPs. Before this building was never used as a residential house, even though it was initially constructed as a dormitory. Later the building was used as a sanitary station. However, three years ago the sanitary station relocated to bigger premises and this building sat empty. At this object, two micro-projects have been implemented. The first stage of renovation works included replacement of windows, adjustment of heating system, installation of boilers, repair of sewage system, sanitary facilities, and installation of showers. Kitchens were also equipped with all necessary appliances. Before this building was used for administrative purposes, therefore all these facilities were missing. At the moment, the second stage of repair works is coming to its close. The porch and roof were repaired, doors between the rooms were installed, repair works inside the building are in progress. Soon this two-story dormitory would be able to receive the first inhabitants. They will be accommodated depending on the size of household since there are rooms of different size available here. At each floor there is also a big hall where people could gather and communicate. However, if necessary this room could be converted into a living room.

## NADIYA SHEVTSOVA, Head of Sofiyivsky rayon council



In Dnipropetrovsk region, the joint EU/UNDP project “Community-based approach to local development” has been implemented since 2008. It is one of the first and important projects aimed at engagement and consolidation of the local communities to resolve the first-priority problems at their territories. Now it is already the third phase of the project. Cooperation with the project was really beneficial for us. Our rayon is endowment-dependent meaning that we do not have sufficient funds to cover all our needs, therefore we are interested in this cooperation like no other. With UNDP support we showed the community how to participate in joint problem-solving. In this case, it is not a village head or some other authority who decides at

their sole discretion what need to be done in the first place but the local people. The main aspect in project implementation is cooperation with community. It is of top importance. Personally, I am very pleased to see that our communities “wake up” and engage in the problem-solving process. At the same time, the community should know the project requirements and financing capacities. Mandatory requirement for participation in the Project is co-funding (5% of community funds and 95% allocated by the Project). I think it’s fair. When each of us allocates some portion of his profit, this person will be interested in project implementation and continuity. Therefore, the Project teaches us to correctly measure our needs against the UNDP capac-

ities. On the whole, project requirements are realistic and people should know about it. What is important for me is that we all participate in the project and, step by step, we teach our communities to improve the quality of life at their territory with their own efforts. I am glad that people start understanding that much depends on them since they are the immediate participants of the process. I also appreciate the professionalism of the CBA project team. Working with them was stress-free and, what is more, they taught our community to take the right approach to important things.

Now this building could host 75 IDPs. Among its new inhabitants will be a mother with four kids. For the time being, the family lives with the relatives in the village nearby, in a private house with toilet outside which is not convenient for the children. Therefore, it was decided that this family should be prioritized for the accommodation in the hostel repaired with UNDP support. Some 70 persons also could be accommodated in Verkhniodniprovsk hostel No1. The two stories of the building were re-

paired with UNDP support, including repair of sanitary facilities, floor and replacement of old and worn-out windows. In Pavlohrad, the local community together with the CBA Project has funded a major repair of a social hostel. Now this building can host up till 50 internally displaced persons. These projects were co-funded by Dnipropetrovsk oblast council, Sofiyivska village council and joint EU/UNDP project “Community-based approach to local development”.



Kotovsk Boarding School received orphaned children from Luhansk region. Their life gradually gets back to normal thanks to new friends, attentive school staff and cozy rooms. Local volunteers and NGOs also support this boarding school and the young IDPs.

## ODESA REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 4**



**OBJECTS: 3**  
**ASSISTANCE COVERAGE: 398 IDPs**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
**To improve housing conditions for the displaced population**



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 4,678,842**  
**Contribution from the local budget: UAH 1,545,281**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 3,133,561**

## WORK DONE

### KOTOVSK:

Major repair of the third floor of Kotovsk boarding school for orphaned children.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** up to 158 children

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Hlobalna hromadska initsiatyva", CO Head Volodymyr Chobotar

### KAROLINO-BUGAZ, OVIDIOPOLSKY RAYON:

Major repairs of the Karolino-Bugaz boarding school have been completed: 164 windows and 22 doors were replaced in a teaching block, canteen and connecting passage; 382.4 m<sup>2</sup> of window jambs and side jambs have been repaired. In addition, 540 lin m of pipeline was repaired and insulated; 39.8 m<sup>2</sup> of windows were replaced and window slopes were repaired.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 205 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Hlobalna hromadska initsiatyva", CO Head Volodymyr Chobotar

### VYNOHRADIVKA VILLAGE, BOLGRADSKY RAYON:

Reconstruction of a district hospital building is in progress. Repair works are being carried out in office facilities that are to be converted into living premises: according to the work plan, 585 m<sup>2</sup> of roof, 35.8 m<sup>2</sup> windows and 33.5 m<sup>2</sup> doors will be replaced, heating system, water supply system, drainage and electricity supply will be repaired, and inner premises will be renovated.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 35 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Population self-organization body "Nashe maibutnie", Head Oleksandryna Popova

## WINDOW TO A NEW LIFE

Sometimes in order to understand that you really love your homeland, your life has to change drastically. This is exactly what happened to 88 children from the conflict-hit east of Ukraine. At the end of August 2014, they were forced to relocate from the boarding schools in Stakhonovo, Rubizhne and Severodonetsk to Kotovsk boarding school in Odesa region. The boarding schools where they used to stay were destroyed and the children had to start not just a new academic year in a new place, they also had to learn to perceive the world around them differently.

Odesa region gave a warm welcome to the new schoolchildren: the teachers did everything they could so that the children could get used and adapt to a new place in the shortest possible terms.

A helping hand at a new place was also offered by the EU/UNDP project "Community-based approach to local development". With the project's support, the third floor of the building underwent complete refurbishment. Before this, it was almost falling apart as the building was built back in 1961. When the project backed this initiative, the reconstruction was completed speedily: the premises were refurbish according to the European standards, and, in addition to this, a hygiene facility for girls was established.

"Before the UNDP project engagement, there was no substantial repair works conducted at school for a long time. The only repair was in 1986 when 20-person sleeping rooms were converted into the small ones for one-two children maximum," Liudmyla Khomenko, Director of Kotovsk boarding school, tells. "Even in those days it was clear that children need some personal space. Now the children enjoy cozy newly-renovated rooms."

When the boarding schools in the Eastern Ukraine have been renovated, some children decided to stay in Odesa region. Last year half of those children who decided to stay in Kotovsk boarding school entered some top-ranked vocational schools and colleges of the region.

“We are proud of our students and of the fact that many of our school-leavers entered the high-rate vocational schools in Odesa and Izmail. Some of our children from the East are studying in Kakhovsky lyceum. At the moment, we have 21 children from Luhansk region studying here. They start thinking what profession they would like to master and what they would like to do in the future,” Liudmyla Khomenko tells. “We are very grateful to the project, without its support we would not manage to renovate the third floor. We would be happy to continue our cooperation.”

UNDP project also brought some positive changes to Karolino-Bugaz boarding school.

“Cooperation with the CBA Project was nothing less than successful. The school will celebrate its 51th anniversary this year meaning there are a lot of things to improve here. For instance, before the repair works the windows in some premises looked pretty miserable: our school is not far from the sea, therefore, due to the winds and high humidity, the wooden frames were literally falling apart. After the windows haven been replaced in the sleeping rooms and partially in the medical premises, a canteen and a kitchen, the children and teachers immediately noticed that the rooms became warmer and more comfortable. The quality of repair works is also worth to mention. The new windows delight the eye, Alisa Veris, Director of Karolino-Bugaz boarding school, comments. “With the project’s support, we also insulated a heat pipeline. All works were performed using

the contemporary technologies. Children like how their home looks now. In addition, it gives a very positive example that would encourage the local businessmen to support a good cause. After the new windows have been installed with UNDP support, the initiative was also supported by the local philanthropists and volunteers. Together they carried out redecoration of our old sleeping and teaching premises. What we liked about cooperation with the UNDP is that it was really effective and result-oriented, therefore we are highly interested to continue this cooperation.”

The third object in Vynohradivka village is still at the initial stage. The funding has been approved and the selection of a contractor that would turn the office premises of district hospital into cozy flats for IDP families is in progress. It is expected that after the repair works are completed, 13 families could be accommodated here. The flats will be of different size so the building would be able to host both the families with many children and the families with one child.

Since Vynohradivka is not far from the rayon centre, Bolhrad, the IDPs living in this township and having a job there could also be accommodated in this village. At the moment, six flats are being refurbished with the project’s support. Vynohradivka village council also contributed to funding the repair works.

Apart from the EU/UNDP project “Community-based approach to local development”, Department for property relation of Odesa Oblast Council as well as local charities and volunteers, including many foreign companies, also allocated some funds for the renovation works in the boarding schools in Kotovsk and Karolino-Bugaz.

## VOLODYMYR CHOBOTAR, Head of civic organization “Hlobalna hromadska initsiatyva”



Our cooperation with the EU/UNDP project “Community based approach to local development” was, by all means, a very positive experience. The evidence to this is that we have managed to complete all the works planned. For instance, the third floor of Kotovsk boarding school for the orphaned children has been refurbished. This floor used to be uninhabitable and now all these premises are completely renovated. The rooms are very comfortable. Children enjoy living there and they feel taken good care of.

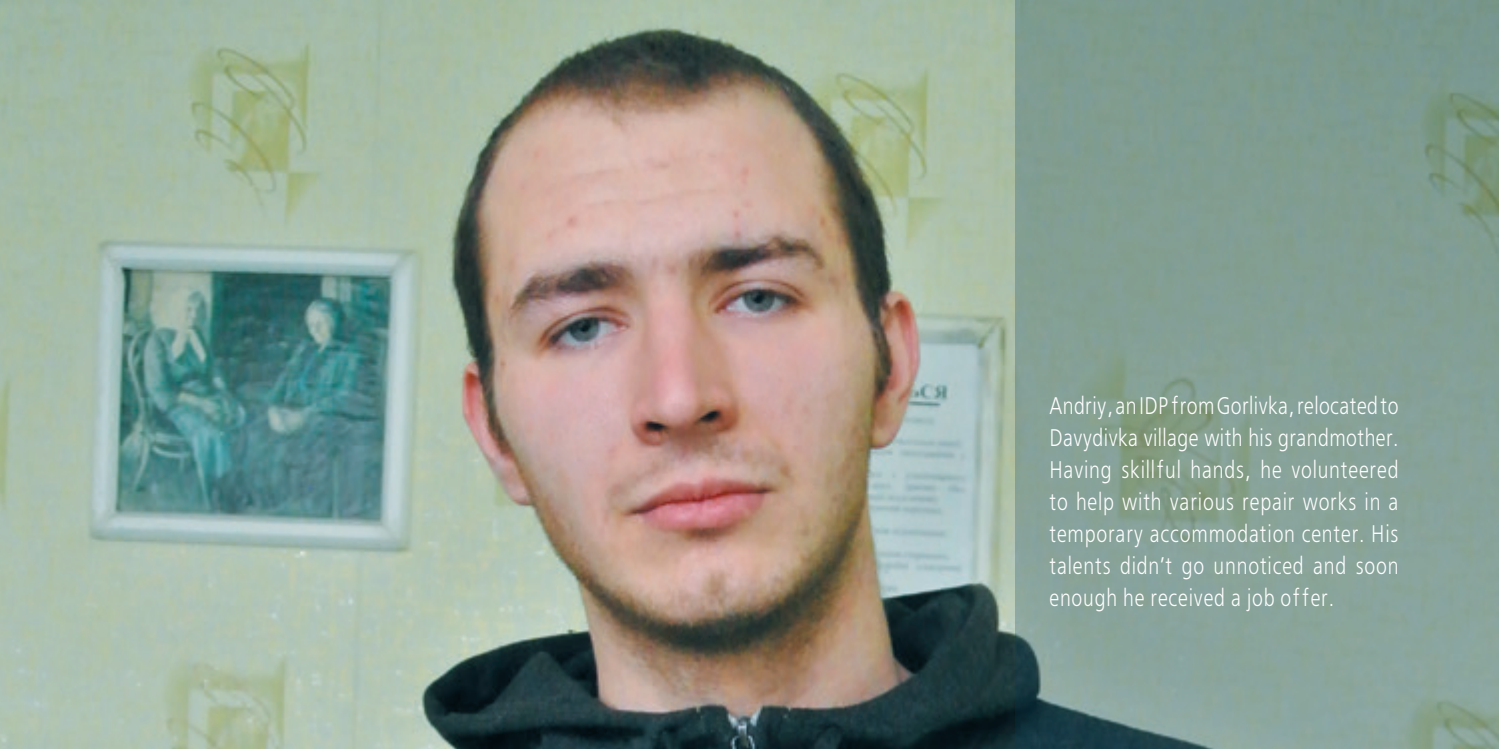
Thanks to the project, old windows in the boarding school in Karolino-Bugaz were replaced with plastic-steel windows. Thermal insulation was also applied. Thanks to these energy saving measures, cold

draughts of air are no longer blowing in the rooms and, as a result, children do not get colds so often as before. The premises also became much warmer: before the repair the heat was literally leaking from the rooms. We were visiting this boarding school before the works has started and after their completion and I can confirm that changes are really noticeable.

On the whole, our cooperation with the project team run smoothly and without delays. Thanks to this, the renovation was carried out very quickly: we organized a tender to identify a local contractor, we collected the necessary documents, signed agreements and did the work what was really necessary. We identify those who need assistance

by different means, including though the Internet. We also get a word of mouth from the people who approach us. In the future, we plan to continue our cooperation with EU/UNDP project “Community-based approach to local development”. We stay in touch so that we know how we can engage our civic organization in the work with the EU/UNDP and implement some additional projects for the benefit of local community. In the nearest future we plan to cooperate in the areas of energy saving and extend water supply to some distant settlements in our oblast.





Andriy, an IDP from Gorlivka, relocated to Davydivka village with his grandmother. Having skillful hands, he volunteered to help with various repair works in a temporary accommodation center. His talents didn't go unnoticed and soon enough he received a job offer.

## ZAPORIZHZHIA REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 6**



**OBJECTS: 5**  
**ASSISTANCE COVERAGE: 472 IDPs**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
**To improve housing conditions for the displaced population**



**TOTAL BUDGET: 4,770,674**  
**Contribution from the local budget: UAH 1,308,931**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 3,459,743**

## WORK DONE

### DAVYDIVKA VILLAGE, YAKYMIIVSKY RAYON:

Upgrading facilities of inpatient department of Social services territorial center for accommodation of IDPs: installation of 7 metal doors, 44 reinforced-plastic windows; slopes. Repair and replacement of 1206 m<sup>2</sup> of roof, adding drainage gullies.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 58 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic organization "Dzherelo" of Yakymivsky rayon, Zaporizhia region, CO Head Oleksandr Chekir

### NOVOVASYLIVKA VILLAGE, PRYAZOVSKY RAYON:

Reconstruction of the part of Novovasylivka regional hospital for permanent or temporary accommodation of IDPs: repair of the heating system; replacement of doors; repair of internal water supply and drainage networks; finishing works.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 146 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** CO "Vidrodzhennia", Girsivka village, CO Head Olesya Bykhkalo

### ZAPORIZHZHIA CITY:

Upgrading premises of dormitories at 8 Stalevariv Str and Tsentralny boulevard. 48 windows (136.15 m<sup>2</sup>) and 2 doors were replaced with reinforced-plastic ones; slopes.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 86 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** CO "Dzherelo", Yakymivsky rayon, Zaporizhia region, CO Head Oleksandr Chekir

### BOTIEVO VILLAGE, PRYAZOVSKY RAYON:

Major repairs in the hospital: replacement of roof, adding drainage gullies; windows and doors replacement; installation of electric heating; internal and external water supply and drainage system; internal finishing works; landscaping.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 92 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** CO "Sotsialny rozvytok", CO Head Volodymyr Tyshchenko

### NOVOMYKOLAIVKA VILLAGE:

Major repairs of living premises of a boarding school: 730,704 m<sup>2</sup> of slated roof replaced with metal one; 24 doors and 51 windows (157.68 m<sup>2</sup>) replaced with reinforced-plastic ones, interior renovation, repair of heating system, water supply and sewage.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 100 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Pidhirne village civic organization "Vidrodzhennia", CO Head Natalya Beidyk

## THE RESULT GOES BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

Sometimes fate brings changes we never expected to happen. As hostilities broke out, inhabitants of Donbas experienced drastic changes. At one point, thousands of residents of Luhansk and Donetsk regions had to leave their homes. According to official data, over 113,000 IDPs are now living in Zaporizhia region. People were fleeing from war wherever they could, especially during the first months of the conflict. Naturally, young people wanted to settle in the cities, while older generation did not care that much where to live as long as there is no shelling and explosions.

One of those places where IDPs have found temporary shelter is Territorial Center for Social Assistance in Davydivka village. Until recently, part of the premises was left unused. There were no sufficient funds to maintain the whole building. The heating costs sky-rocketed. The EU/UNDP Project took up to repairing the building and here are the results. The cost of windows and doors replacement (the works were carried out in November 2014) made up UAH 178,340. UAH 33 668 were allocated from the rayon budget, UAH 2 000 were contributed by CO "Dzherelo", and UAH 142,672 by UNDP. The cost of roof replacement (the works were carried out in August-September 2015) was UAH 472,779. UAH 94,556 were allocated from the rayon budget, and the lion's share of funds (UAH 378,223) was contributed by the CBA project.

With this substantial support from the EU/UNDP, the results went beyond all expectations! During the first heating season, after windows and doors have been replaced, it was really warm inside the building because the draughts did not «blow out» the heat anymore. In addition to this, they saved UAH 16,000, while the total annual budget for the

maintenance of this institution is less than 40,000. The local community expected to save 25% on heating costs, and they ended up saving 40%!

At first, the IDPs could not believe that a social facility can be so warm and cozy. Some people even said that their homes were not always that warm. After the repair supported by the project "Community-based approach to local development", the temperature inside rose by three-four degrees and reached 21-22°C. Owing to replacement of windows and doors, it was possible to expand the living space and accommodate the IDPs in good conditions.

On 13 October 2015, repair of the roof has been completed. Now the village council, that is responsible for the maintenance of this object, hopes to save 60% on energy consumption by the end of the heating season. The head of the village says that if the building were additionally insulated from the outside, it would function over a long period of time.

The villagers from Davydivka have never seen such a influx of new-comers. With support of the EU/UNDP project, the IDPs have found a locality where they can recuperate after the conflict. Some people decided that they would never go back and started their life from scratch. Children went to kindergarten or school. Parents set up house, found a job, getting used to their new homes. Others are eager to return home.

The number of people staying in the Territorial Center is changing all the time. Out of 37 IDPs, only 16 still stay here. Despite the fact that the time of their stay in the center is not limited, people are obviously looking for other options. Most of them are older people and it is quite difficult for them to get used to a new place. They

## OLEKSANDR PRAVOSUD, Head of Yakymivsky Rayon State Administration



Our district is considered to be an agricultural and resort area. We have two main areas of development. The first one is agricultural business since there are tens of thousands agricultural lands in the region. They are cultivated both by some big enterprises, and by those who have just launched their activities. The second area is recreation. At the moment, Kyrylivka village is one of the largest seaside resorts in Ukraine. Therefore, we plan to focus on tourism development. Wherever you go here, you will meet hardworking people. For the time being, the available work is mostly seasonal, but we are gradually expanding the seasonal frame-

works. Kyrylivka hosts visitors not only from July till September, but also from April till October. The rest of the time is dedicated to preparation for a holiday season. Preparation means repair works, arrangement of the territory, landscaping, maintaining buildings and recreation facilities in proper condition, protection of recreation areas. Therefore, the local population and the displaced persons, should they wish so, could always find work here.

Zaporizhia region is one of those regions that received high number of people escaping from the conflict. Many of them settled in Yakymivsky rayon. Conditions in our rayon are improving owing

to assistance of the EU/UNDP project "Community based approach to local development". With the project's support, our rayon has already got reconstructed waterpipes, energy efficient solar-powered street lightning, new windows and doors in the social facilities.

I believe our rayon can offer the most comfortable living conditions. We plan to continue cooperation with the EU/UNDP. For us it means development and revival of the village.

are impatiently waiting for the news about liberation of the East so that they could returned. Villagers will keep telling a story of a young man from Horlivka. Andriy is an orphan. He arrived to Davydivka together with his grandmother. She was raising him from the early childhood, all by her own. Andriy's parents were killed in an accident. His grandmother could not stay far from her native land for long and returned to the east. Last autumn, when replacement of windows was carried out under the EU/UNDP project, Andriy, a professional carpenter, volunteered to help. When the locals saw his skills and enthusiasm for manual

work, they offered him a permanent job at the territorial center. In late December 2014, at the session of a local village council it was decided to allocate for Andriy an abandoned house where he could settle down. He repaired the house. He met a local girl. They lived together until spring. And then suddenly he collected his stuff and, like his grandmother before, returned to Donetsk region. Probably, this is what they call home-sickness...

In any case, people know that in hospitable Zaporizhia region there are accommodation centers, renovated with the CBA assistance, where people who lost their homes to war can find temporary shelter.



Borys Lytvynenko, an IDP from Makiyivka, is happily holding the keys from his room in an accommodation center in Nova Galeshchyna village. He didn't sit and wait for the center to be ready but helped the construction works as well as he could. He is also happy to return to his work as massage therapist.



## WORK DONE

### KOMSOMOLSK, KREMENCHUTSKYI DISTRICT:

Refurbishment of "Slavutych" hotel building, including replacement of 42 windows and 34 doors; renovation of 900 m<sup>2</sup> of flat roof; replacement of 467 linear meters of sewer pipes, and the pipes from vertical pipes to plumbing appliances in 17 rooms. In addition, interior and entrance doors have been replaced in 5 rooms, interior finishing works have been completed on the 2nd and 5th floors.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 108 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Municipal Development Center, Head Lyubov Khyh

### NOVA GALESHCHYNA VILLAGE, KOZELSHCHYNSKYI DISTRICT:

Transformation of a residential building into an accommodation center for IDPs, including renovation of 820 m<sup>2</sup> of the roof; replacement of 65 windows; replacement of water supply and sewerage systems; installation of bathroom equipment: 10 sinks, 13 toilets, 13 showers. Additional works: installation of electric heating and boilers for heating water; finishing works (walls, ceilings, and floors on the first floor); an entrance equipped with a ramp.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 118 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** NGO "Spadshchyna" ("Heritage"), NGO Head Iryna Trotsko

# POLTAVA REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS:** 3



**OBJECTS:** 2  
**ASSISTANCE COVERAGE:** 226 IDPs



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population



**TOTAL BUDGET:** 2,230,704  
**Contribution from the local budget:** UAH 530,040  
**UNDP contribution:** UAH 1,699,072

**PETRO VORONA,**  
Head of Poltava Regional Council



We are happy to know that, together with the Community Based Approach to Local Development Project, we give the IDPs a chance to resolve an accommodation issue, meaning a chance for normal life. In the present circumstances, these people need help really badly. With regard to the regional authorities, we will put every effort to alleviate the life to those in need. In this respect, cooperation

with the EU/UNDP Community Based Approach to Local Development Project gave us a valuable experience both in terms of co-financing of the implementation of sustainable local initiatives and joint project management.

## THE KEY TO A NEW LIFE

Borys Lytvynenko, a native of Makiyivka, Donetsk region, used to work as massage therapist. However, the war forced him and his three sons to leave their hometown. He has found a safe haven in Nova Galeshchyna village, Poltava region. Poltava authorities, with substantial financial support from the EU/UNDP Project, helped Borys and other IDPs to resolve the burning issue of temporary accommodation. When reconstruction of an accommodation center has just started, Borys volunteered to help the construction workers. He was helping them with the finishing works in the rooms for IDPs. This two-story building, that used to be a base camp for geologists, was out of use for almost 20 years. In the 1990s, the building was cut from heating. When it was suggested to open here an accommodation center for IDPs, the idea received unanimous support. In addition to substantial funding provided by the CBA (UAH 1,085,000), there were contributions from the regional authorities (UAH 376,359) and the community organization (UAH 1,592). The center is envisaged for people with disabilities and their caregivers, elderly people, families with small children. Therefore, it was reconstructed to meet the special needs of these people: ramps were added and thresholds smoothed out, children's playground was constructed nearby. During the official opening of the center on 31 July 2015, Borys Lytvynenko got not only a room. In recognition of his active assistance, he was handed with a symbolic key to a renovated building. "It's a miracle. I cannot believe my happiness. My room is so cozy, and all other rooms too," Borys says. Fleeing Makiyivka, he took a massage table with him to be able to continue his work as a massage

therapist in a new place. IDPs who have no self-employment option, like Borys, still can find a job. According to Oleksandr Perepelytsia, the Chairman of Kozelshchynskyi Rayon State Administration, there is a machine manufacturing plant in this area. Other options are to work in Kremenchuh or Komsomolsk, as many locals do. However, the most promising option is Bilanivskyi mining and processing plant. One more initiative in Poltava region supported by the CBA Project was reconstruction of "Slavutych" Hotel in Komsomolsk city, including roof repair, windows replacement, and sewage system renovation. The biggest contribution was made by the CBA (UAH 614,072), and UAH 153,681 were allocated from the local budget. A communal enterprise "Slavutych" Hotel has additionally allocated 200,000 UAH to procure the boilers and wardrobes for the rooms where IDPs will stay. After the reconstruction, the hotel can accommodate 78 IDPs; there are options both for single IDPs and families with children. The living conditions are good: hot water in all rooms, kitchen with cooking appliances at each floor. The IDPs received bed linens. They also receive fresh bread every day for free. Accommodation is free of charge, the IDPs only need to pay running costs. However, in winter time these costs increase significantly, especially in comparison with the rates paid by people living in the flats or private houses. This is due to the gaps in Ukrainian legislation regarding the housing sector. As a result, the hotel administration had no other choice but to charge IDPs for running expenses according to the rates applicable to other groups of consumers instead of the rates applied to population.





IDPs kids in Cherkasy region benefit from art-therapy organized for them by the volunteers. Soon enough gloomy pictures turned into bright ones, picturing their new happy homes.

## CHERKASY REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 1**



**OBJECTS: 1**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 1,966,724**

## WORK DONE

### RODNYKIVKA VILLAGE, UMANSKY RAYON:

Major repair in a social dormitory in Rodnykivka village to be located in the premises of the former village school, including repair works in the premises with corridor-type planning (23 rooms); adding dividing walls; renovating ceilings (909 m<sup>2</sup>) and walls (1226 m<sup>2</sup>); arranging water supply system (306 m PE of tubes) and sewage (53 m of tubes); replacing windows (50) and doors (34). The floor to be also replaced with a modern one, with heating (691 m<sup>2</sup>). The additional sanitary facilities will be also created (19 wash-basins, 8 shower rooms, 14 lavatory bowls, 4 urinal units) and kitchen (7 sinks), hot water boilers (8), repair of heating system: installation of pyrolysis boiler (60 kW) and binder, 867 m PE of tubes, and 53 steel radiator.

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 80 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** Civic Organization "Aqua vita", CO Head Petro Karachun

**VITA VDOVYCHENKO,**  
Head of Department for international  
cooperation and European integration at  
Cherkasy Oblast Administration



We work with the EU/UNDP project "Community-based approach to local development" since 2008. This experience was truly beneficial for us. Last summer, our region participated in the contest announced by the EU/UNDP. We submitted an application and we were really eager to receive this grant. Funds allocated by the project are important for the region. The CBA Project decided to support our initiative on providing temporary accommodation to IDPs in Umansky rayon. Rayon administration offered to select among three objects. Oleg Baranetsky, CBA project engineer, has visited these objects and suggested to focus

on the renovation of a building of the former school in Rodnykivka village. The reasons for such choice were quite clear: the distance from the village to rayon center is 5 km. There is a good transport connection; every 30 minutes buses run to and fro. The building is situated in the centre of the village, therefore, all the social facilities are close by: school, kindergarten, culture center, health post, shops, and church. It is also possible to get employment at a local agricultural firm "Rodnykivka" or in other business structures.

IDPs would be able to live here until the situation on the east of Ukraine is improved or until they settle down in their own house.

Any IDP is eligible to be accommodated in a social dormitory. Of course, priority will be given to the most vulnerable, e.g. families with children, disabled persons. Later this social dormitory will keep its profile. It will host other vulnerable groups of population of Umansky rayon. The plan is that the first inhabitants will be accommodated here in March. Apart from repair works, we are also looking for a sponsor who would help to buy furniture, bed linens, household appliances for the social dormitory.

## NEW HOME BY SPRING

Buildings, like people, have destiny. Teachers and pupils of Rodnykivska village school moved to the new modern premises two years ago. Children's noise died down, doors are not bumping any more. Only a wind is a master here. Built during the Revolution times, the building would get modernized from time to time. In 1950-60s it has been enlarged: since the number of schoolchildren increased, it was necessary to add a side wing. "During two years, after village school has been relocated to a new location, the old school building stood empty and it started deteriorating before our very eyes. Children broke some window-glass just for fun, and local graffiti fans painted the doors and walls. A bit later, practical villagers would get to dismantle the old school for construction materials. What would be the end to this story is easy to guess, if we didn't get the project assistance," Ruslan Yarenchuk, Head of Rodnykivka village council, tells. He tells that, from the beginning of massive internal displacement, some 2,000 people from the east have relocated to Umansky rayon. On the whole, Cherkasy region received 14,000 IDPs. Organizing a social dormitory is a first step for providing temporary accommodation and minimum package of services. It is a "bridge", a temporary solution before a long-term accommodation for the displaced population could be provided. While the dormitory is being repaired, the IDPs are advised to settle in a rural area. This is where they can find inexpensive accommodation as well as find a job. The village council head supported an initiative to renovate the school premises when he learnt

that this good cause got support from the EU/ UNDP project. 80% of the repair costs are covered by UNDP, that's almost USD 80,000. The remaining 20% were covered from rayon and village budgets. UNDP project supports accommodation of vulnerable groups: pensioners, women with children and persons with disabilities. "I accepted this proposal right away when I've learnt about the project's plans to renovate the building in order to support our compatriots," Ruslan Yaremchuk tells. "Let people have an opportunity to live in normal conditions during these hard times. One important thing we can give them is a fresh start. Once they have a temporary accommodation, they can invest their efforts into solving other issues. The CBA project helped to renovate the building and now we count on support from the local enterprise and authorities. I really hope that both those who have already settled down in Cherkasy region and those who will come here in the future will eventually call it their new home. Those who came up with an idea to participate in this project hope that people will feel comfortable and cozy in the dormitory. The IDPs from the East could see hospitality and empathic attitude of Cherkasy population from the very beginning of the active phase of the armed conflict. From that time on, many families have bought their own houses here, mostly in rural area. Fifty families have settled down at the same time in one of the villages of Chyhyrsky rayon. Several families are still living in Uman city hospital. Most probably, they will be accommodated in the dormitory as soon as it is opened.



Together with other IDPs, Maria came to an official opening of an accommodation center in Yampil. Two years ago, Maria fled conflict-torn Yenakievo, Donetsk region, together with her mother, grandmother and two children, and relocated to Vinnytsia region. With assistance of Yampil employment service, she has recently opened a tiny pizzeria. Maria rejoices at the prospects of living in the renovated center: "Opening of this center is very timely for the people like us, who are desperate to live somewhere. We are grateful to all those people taking care of us."



## VINNYTSIA REGION



**NUMBER OF MICRO-PROJECTS: 1**



**OBJECTS: 1**



**MICRO-PROJECTS GOAL:**  
To improve housing conditions  
for the displaced population



**TOTAL BUDGET: UAH 1,340,464**  
**Contribution from the local budget: UAH 268,000**  
**UNDP contribution: UAH 1,072,464**



Yampil

## WORK DONE

### YAMPIL TOWN:

The premises of Dnister Hotel have been partially reconstructed, including repair of the heating system, installation of new boilers, replacement of windows and doors, internal water supply and drainage, and interior finishing work

**STATUS:** completed

**IDP RECEPTION CAPACITY:** 40 persons

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:** CO "Mriyi Galzhbiyivky", CO Head Alyona Umanets

**LIUDMYLA MAYOROVA,**  
First Deputy Head of Yampil Rayon State  
Administration



We have only positive experience from our cooperation with the EU/UNDP project "Community-based approach to local development". After all, we have already had an experience of joint work. For instance, last year street lightning was installed in four settlements with support of the project. Now we are strongly interested to receive support from the project in order to help IDPs to cope with accommodation problems. The rooms in the restored hotel premises are assigned, in the first place, to accommodate the families with many children or small children and the persons with disabilities. We update the population of the rayon about the progress of repair

works via Yampil TV broadcast and a local newspaper. People have access to information, and the IDPs could approach the Department of labor and social protection at the city council, as well as village heads. Closer to completion of the works we will make the list of potential beneficiaries. By the way, this is not the only area for cooperation with UNDP project. Along with renovation of the hotel, we also work with Dovzhotska village community that received a grant from the CBA project in the amount of USD 15,000 for the reconstruction of the village kindergarten. The works, including repair of a playroom, are

at the planning stage. What is even more important is that solar collectors will be installed at the roof of the kindergarten and this is how warm water will be produced for the kindergarten. Children will be able to wash their small hands without any discomfort and, what is more, solar heating will allow to have a warm floor in the playroom. We are grateful to the project "Community based approach to local development" for such great assistance. Without it, we would hardly be able to implement these initiatives.

## GRATEFUL FOR HOSPITALITY AND CARE

As the popular wisdom goes, “in a foreign land even spring is not that beautiful as in the native land”. True enough, the word ‘evacuation’ has appalling meaning. Military operations ruin homes, ruin the people’s lives and force the families to leave their native land, everything that was close to their heart and soul and look for a safe place on a foreign land. Yampil sky rayon, Vinnytsia region, has sheltered 286 displaced persons from the Eastern Ukraine. As chance would have it, there were many families with many children who arrived here. Hospitable population of Yampil welcomed the displaced newcomers with compassion and shared with them what they could: clothes, food, during the winter period they also assisted with firewood... Apart from material assistance, the locals, known for their generosity, were looking for the ways to put their guests at ease so that they do not feel themselves disadvantaged, and create an atmosphere where they would feel at home. To this end, many communities were organizing cultural events. IDP school-children, in addition to their school studies, could also attend the sports clubs and musical school...

Understanding that one of the biggest challenges in Yampil sky rayon is employment – since it is an agricultural area and availability of work depends on the season – many IDP families are looking for the opportunities to be self-reliant and create working places for themselves. For instance, one family decided to open a pizzeria. They approached with this proposal the local employment center, developed a business plan, they subsequently received a one-time assistance to organize their own business. The family rented a building and opened a small pizzeria. Now it is a family business where parents and children work together and they achieved the desired result: their family is now capable to provide for themselves. Some other escapees from the war, who found shelter in the villages, started raising livestock, for instance, chickens and ducks, grow-

ing vegetables and harvesting crop. They are trying to provide for their families by running small farms. Apart from that, rayon authorities do their best to provide the IDP families with proper accommodation to the extent possible. However, it is not an easy task since most accommodation facilities are situated in the villages that have no gas supply. Some other inconveniences typical for Ukrainian villages are an absence of central water supply and drainage. Therefore, the people need to get used to minimal living comfort and organize their daily life, for example, bring water from the well, learn how to fire a furnace... Despite all these difficulties, the IDPs feel friendly attitude from the locals and are grateful to their hosts for support and hospitality. However, the families who have to live in such harsh conditions with small children are having a hard time. It is a poor rural region, and local authorities have only scarce means to cover the accommodation needs of the displaced population. This is where the UNDP project got engaged and supported the idea to reconstruct the abandoned premises of Dnister Hotel in the rayon center. The EU/UNDP project “Community based approach to local development” has allocated UAH 1,072,464. Yampil city council has contributed another UAH 268,000. On the basis of tender results, a local construction company IVANHOE-TRANSBUD was selected as a contractor and the works started. This old building has not been refurbished for a very long time. Therefore, in addition to repair works, there are also some energy efficiency measures applied: plastic-steel windows are being installed, walls are insulated with plasterboard, façade is being renovated. With regard to heating, it was decided to install two boilers that consume different types of fuel to ensure that there is always an alternative. The IDPs are eager to move in into the new premises. The city council has already been approached by several families who would like to be accommodated in the refurbished hotel.



## **Community-Based Approach to Local Development Project**

20 Esplanadna Str., office 704-708, Kyiv 01601  
Tel.: +38 (044) 253 5975, Fax: +38 (044) 253 5973

Web-site: [cba.org.ua](http://cba.org.ua)

Facebook: [facebook.com/cbaproject](https://facebook.com/cbaproject)

Twitter: [twitter.com/CBAProject](https://twitter.com/CBAProject)