

Ukraine

2022 - 2025



Humanitarian assistance

Context

After more than three years of war, the **humanitarian situation** in Ukraine remains critical. Civilian infrastructure (hospitals, schools, energy networks, etc.) continues to be targeted, leading to severe shortages of essential goods.

UNHCR and OCHA estimate that **in 2025, 12.7 million people, around one-third of the population will be in urgent need of assistance.** Nearly 70% of Ukrainians lack access to basic resources such as water, food, and medicine, while more than 65% are affected by frequent power outages impacting water, heating, and electricity.

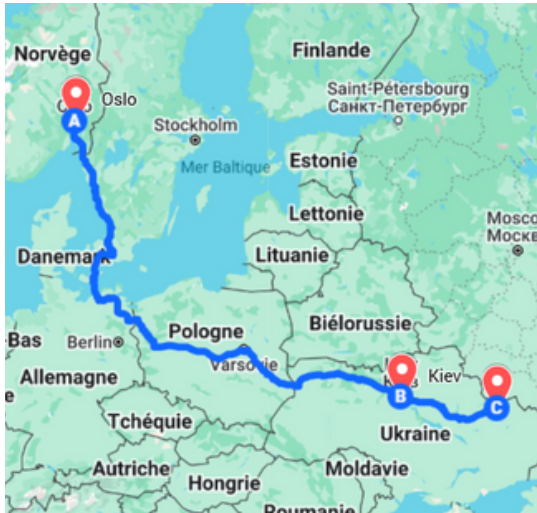
Finally, the most recent data indicate around 3.7 million internally displaced people within Ukraine and 6.4 million outside the country.

Since March 2022, Van For Life has been delivering emergency humanitarian aid, mainly food and medical supplies, and carrying out **evacuations of people in high-risk areas.** Thanks to various international and local partnerships, our volunteer teams, and our own fleet of vehicles, **aid is distributed in a targeted and efficient way, reaching the most isolated regions** of the country where needs are greatest.



Our activities

Supply chain



Frequency : **1x** per month

📍 NORWAY

- Partnership with a **group of associations and government institutions.**
- **Donation and loading of humanitarian supplies:**
 - 70% medical equipment
 - 30% food and other supplies

📍 KYIV / KHARKIV / DNI PRO

- Sorting by **field teams** in **Van For Life warehouses.**
- **Direct distribution**, supervised and coordinated by a **Ukrainian doctor who took refuge in Geneva.**
- A total of **4 vans and 1 truck** were used to deliver aid to hospitals, rural clinics, and medical stabilization centers.

Humanitarian assistance in Ukraine



Emergency aid delivered to victims



Support for **hospitals & rural clinics**



Evacuation & civilian support in conflict areas



Demining & risk prevention



Our activities

Humanitarian assistance in Switzerland



Evacuation & transport of refugees to Switzerland (2022), support for return to Ukraine (current)



Administrative assistance & integration (housing, education...)



Connection with **local structures & NGOs**



Demining operations

Context

Since the outbreak of the conflict, contaminated areas (mines, cluster bombs, explosive remnants, etc.) have increased dramatically, posing a **direct threat** to the civilian population. Today, **Ukraine is considered the most heavily mined country in the world**, with one-third of its territory contaminated. Every month, **hundreds of incidents involving explosive devices, many of them fatal**, are recorded. In response to this situation, Switzerland has **decided to commit to humanitarian demining**, allocating 100 million Swiss francs to this effort.

Choice of Partner

The **Digger Foundation**, under its registered brand **Digger DTR**, is a Swiss organization that **designs, manufactures, and markets demining machines**. These machines significantly increase the efficiency of deminers, reduce risks, and make this technology accessible. They have already been deployed in more than **16 countries across 4 continents**, with recognized humanitarian impact and worldwide efficiency. We collaborate on demining projects in isolated rural areas in order to **improve civilian safety**.



Our collaboration

1

SFDD / The Swiss Confederation

The support provided included, in addition to the **demining machine**, a **trailer truck** as well as a **set of spare parts** for three years, for a total amount of **CHF 1.2 million**. It also supported the **training of civil authorities** in humanitarian demining.

2

The Digger Foundation

Digger's **longstanding expertise** in manufacturing demining machines helps accelerate the process thanks to **cutting-edge technologies**, while ensuring **safety**. This work is part of Switzerland's long humanitarian tradition.

3

Van For Life

The Van For Life teams handled the essential aspects of **equipment delivery and logistics**. Our permanent presence, network, and operational experience have made us a **recognized and trusted partner**



2024 Results



5 vehicles in **Ukraine**
2 vehicles in **Switzerland**



Over **150.000 km**
travelled by our vans



12 humanitarian **convoys**



Over **50 volunteers**
directly involved



Over **CHF 150'000**
dedicated to fieldwork



Over **20.000** direct
beneficiaries



Over **400 tonnes** of
equipment distributed



1 mine clearance machine
delivered



Upcoming project

Rural Resettlement of Displaced Populations

As part of the Ukraine **Reconstruction Program supported by Switzerland**, Van For Life is implementing a pilot project aimed at providing sustainable **rural housing** for displaced populations in **central** and **western** Ukraine.

Assessment

The issue of resettlement has become **central** for internally displaced people. Cities are **overcrowded**, while rural populations are often reluctant to relocate, despite the risks of remaining near conflict zones. The reason is simple: they cannot imagine leaving their land without an **equivalent alternative**.

Van For Life has therefore conducted a study to **develop sustainable strategies** specifically addressing the needs of rural populations.

Principle

This project aims to identify and rehabilitate vacant houses in villages located in safe regions away from the front line, areas affected by rural exodus, and to **repopulate them through internal migration**. Each home is accompanied by a plot of agricultural land, allowing for **self-sufficiency** through the cultivation of essential crops.

The project targets displaced families originally from rural areas and also includes **community initiatives** designed to encourage integration and revitalize **local social and economic life**.



Next steps

Rural Housing Rehabilitation



Identification & acquisition (**local** sales)



Renovation & upgrading (**local** companies)

Access to land & self-sufficiency

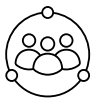


Agricultural plots **included with each property**



Support & community initiative

Strengthening local communities



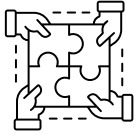
Promoting social and economic **integration**
Direct positive impact on the local economy



Implementation cost: **75% lower** than standard prefabricated housing with land access included



Next steps



Collaboration with local authorities :

- **Identification** of vacant housing
- **Promotion of the initiative within local communities**
- **Facilitation of administrative procedures**



Mobilization of Swiss NGOs and companies:

- **Transfer of knowledge** in renovation, sustainable agriculture, and rural development
- Establishing **connections** with Swiss companies



Partnerships with the agri-industrial sector :

- **Training programs** for beneficiaries
- **Professional integration** within companies
- **Facilitation of access** to agricultural products (seeds, equipment, organic inputs, etc.)



Funding from various sources :

- **Reconstruction Program supported by Switzerland**
- **National and international aid**
- Corporate **sponsorship**

This project combines **reconstruction and the revitalization** of rural areas, offering a **sustainable solution** to the challenges of internal displacement.

By relying on existing structures, it quickly provides **decent and lasting housing** to thousands of families, while ensuring **autonomy** and **restoring social and economic dignity**.

Preliminary assessments pave the way for the **rapid implementation** of a pilot project aimed at **resettling 10 families** in the short term.

The **cost** of our solution is approximately **four times lower** than current alternatives, such as temporary prefabricated housing, which do not include cultivable land or infrastructure upgrades.

Objectives 2025

Sustain

Our **distribution network** and the **regularity** of our operations, while continuing to **support internally displaced populations** and **local aid organizations**.

Develop

Long-term solutions such as **sustainable resettlement** and **demining operations** in rural areas.

Optimize

Financial support and **communication** around our activities.



Our needs



Funding for emergency operations

To **continue our activities and meet needs** in the field, we rely on support for:

- The **delivery and distribution** of aid
- **Targeted evacuations** of people to safe areas

Funding for long-term projects

- **Sustainable resettlement** solutions
- **Risk prevention and demining** in rural areas

Field priorities

Support for the displaced civilian population

There are currently nearly 4 million internally displaced people in Ukraine. The conflict shows no sign of easing, uncertainty is growing, and the lack of resources is worsening:

- Provide **basic emergency assistance** to displaced civilians
- Support **medical infrastructures**
- Prevent a new **wave of forced displacement**

