ENHANCING DIASPORA HUMANITARIAN ENGAGEMENT IN UKRAINE

Since 2020, DEMAC has mapped and interacted with 91 Ukrainian Diaspora Organizations globally. After the launch of the Russian offensive in Ukraine on February 24, 2022, DEMAC scaled-up its operational response with a Diaspora Liaison Officer in Ukraine and an Emergency Response Officer in Denmark. The goal: To support Ukrainian diaspora organizations in coordinating aid assistance with local NGOs and institutional humanitarian actors and creating a network for collaboration.

Currently, DEMAC engages closely with 20 Ukrainian diaspora organizations in Europe, Canada and the U.S., 15 local NGOs, as well as the Food Security, Health, Shelter & Protection Cluster in Ukraine.

DEMAC RESPONSE

01
Conducting research & advocacy
Real-Time Review, Snapshot, Panel discussions

02
Facilitating operational support
by finding lost goods, clearing customs, etc.

03
Strengthening DOs capacities
through workshops, trainings, networking

04
Improving coordination
regular cluster & DO meetings, Sitreps, Telegram

THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA

DIASPORA > 12 MIO. GLOBALLY
8 MIO. REFUGEES IN EUROPE (01/2023, UNHCR)

55% PREFER SOCIAL MEDIA AS INFORMATION CHANNEL

FIRST RESPONDERS
AGILE STRUCTURE

EARLY PREPAREDNESS
ACCESS TO FRONT-LINE AREAS

RAISE & DISPERSE FUNDS QUICKLY: $10.8 MIO COLLECTED IN THE FIRST 5 DAYS

HIGHLY SKILLED (47% UNIVERSITY LEVEL)

URAL ADVOCACY

USE TELEGRAM (31%), FACEBOOK (30%) & VIBER (24%) FOR SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION

USAID
DENISH REFUGEE COUNCIL
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
AREAS OF INTERVENTION

- Health
- Food Security
- Shelter & NFI
- Logistics
- Advocacy

IMPACT OF RESPONSE IN 2022

DEMAC’s localized response to the Ukraine crisis, including a Diaspora Liaison Officer in Ukraine, led to increased coordination and communication between diaspora organizations, local NGOs and the institutional humanitarian system. Diaspora networks are often volunteer-based and lack resources to participate actively in humanitarian response meetings. DEMAC fills this gap and provides tailored support such as linking diasporas to local authorities & clarifying the Cluster procedures, while remaining agile in responding to the needs of the diaspora.

“DEMAC is a brilliant platform. We are very satisfied with the activities we get involved in. We get good reports on the situation on the ground in Ukraine. And we got connected with local organizations, which brings a lot of trust.”

Success Story United Help Ukraine, USA

United Help Ukraine is a volunteer-based Ukrainian diaspora organization in Maryland. Through DEMAC’s weekly online coordination meetings they connected with the diaspora network 4myUkraine, who implements on the ground. United Help Ukraine issued a USD 22k grant to 4myUkraine. Since August 2022, their volunteers distributed food items for residents in the region of Kyiv, as well as 3,100 food sets for residents in Bucha, Irpin and Gostomel. Read more here.

Success Story Bevar Ukraine, Denmark

Bevar Ukraine, the largest Ukrainian diaspora organization in Denmark, expanded to 8 offices with 400 volunteers in Denmark since February 2022. Through the DEMAC workshop in Poland, and the DEMAC Telegram channel, they started collaborations with several local NGOs, e.g. Tvoya Opora – shipping 300 thermal clothes sets, and the ‘Cluster of Industrial and Craft Producers of Ukraine’ – shipping 1 truck with humanitarian aid and 1 generator to Ukraine.