IREX Ukraine Rapid Reaction Support Fund

Since February 2022, Russian forces have mercilessly attacked Ukraine with no end in sight. In recent weeks, Russia has become even more brutal by attacking Ukrainian cities with missiles, killing innocent civilians and destroying shopping centers and electrical infrastructure. Prior to the recent missile attacks, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights verified that the war has resulted in the death of 6,221 civilians. Of them, 396 were children. An additional 9,371 people have been injured and tens of thousands have been displaced. The war has ravaged the Ukrainian economy, with the International Labor Organization estimating that 4.8 million jobs have been lost. Student learning loss from the pandemic is compounded as students continue virtual learning due to lack of safe access to in-person learning. The education infrastructure has been severely impacted with more than 2,477 schools and universities damaged through shelling and over 280 destroyed.

Despite the extraordinary efforts of the Ukrainian people, Ukrainians will need assistance for the foreseeable future. IREX will continue to engage with our network of over 35 trusted Ukrainian partners to meet the urgent needs of civilians, vulnerable populations, and internally displaced persons. Examples of recent needs identified by our partners include heaters, fuel vouchers, and first-aid kits. The following estimates are inclusive of procurement and delivery costs, and staff time needed to identify and vet recipients.

- $2,000 will provide heat to approximately 40 people living in temporary shelters.
- $5,000 will provide first-aid kits to 50 families in need.
- $4,000 in fuel vouchers will provide transport to approximately 120 civilians or will provide 30 trips totaling 22,500 kilometers to distribute humanitarian aid.

Continued Support for Ukraine Needed

Since we established the fund in March, IREX has provided critical aid to the Ukrainian people. We worked with our partner network to provide much needed aid, such as food, first aid kits, hygiene products, transportation, and fuel across Ukraine. We supported the relocation of teachers and journalists to safer parts of Ukraine, and enabled media outlets and journalists to provide critical reporting to Ukrainians in occupied areas. However, as the war continues in Ukraine, so will the Ukrainians need for support.

We at IREX are unwavering in our commitment to positively impact the lives of the people of Ukraine. For decades, we have administered programs that empower youth, cultivate leaders, strengthen institutions, and extend access to quality education and information. Even if the war were to end today, Ukraine faces a long road ahead to reclaim all that it has lost. Your contributions remain essential to our current and future work to support and restore Ukraine.

If you would like to help, please donate to our Rapid Reaction Support Fund.

IREX is a global development and education organization. We strive for a more just, prosperous, and inclusive world—where individuals reach their full potential, governments serve their people, and communities thrive. With a projected annual portfolio of more than $100 million and more than 600 staff worldwide, we work with partners in more than 100 countries in four areas essential to progress: cultivating leaders, empowering youth, strengthening institutions, and increasing access to quality education and information.