



# TWO YEARS OF WAR IN UKRAINE: THE IMPACT OF SECOURS CATHOLIQUE - CARITAS FRANCE

[secours-catholique.org](https://secours-catholique.org)



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## A UNIFIED RESPONSE TO THE EMERGENCY

**In 2022, the entire Caritas network swiftly mobilized to address the urgent needs of displaced persons in Ukraine and refugees in Europe, in response to the Russian invasion on February 24.**

This invasion triggered a humanitarian crisis, affecting more than 18 million Ukrainians of all ages who were abruptly deprived of their means of subsistence, healthcare, and housing.

During the initial months, Secours Catholique - Caritas France (SCCF) provided support to the two Ukrainian Caritas organizations, Caritas Ukraine and Caritas Spes Ukraine. These organizations, well-established throughout the country,

demonstrated immediate and organized responses to the emergency, delivering first aid indiscriminately. Church doors opened wide, transforming into centers of welcome, comfort, and shelter for displaced people.

Throughout Ukraine, both Caritas organizations distributed essential items such as food, hygiene kits, clothing, and provided psychological support. Collective reception centers were established to aid those affected. In Europe, SCCF collaborated with Caritas Polska to assist thousands of Ukrainians seeking refuge in Poland, offering accommodation, food, and financial support.



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2023

## STRUCTURING ASSISTANCE WITH NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND TARGETED PROJECTS

**Between addressing the emergency and facilitating the integration of displaced persons and refugees into their new environments, SCCF adopted a diversified approach in collaboration with its partners.**

In 2023, SCCF identified two new partners: Voices of Children, focusing on aiding children, and TLU, specializing in helping isolated elderly people.

The war exacerbated pre-existing inequalities, placing marginalized groups and those in extremely precarious situations at greater risk. This included people with disabilities, often overlooked by health services, isolated elderly individuals without resources, and children facing emotional wounds leading to trauma, anxiety, and a loss of educational opportunities due to school closures.

To support children, SCCF developed various intervention methods:

- ▶ refurbishing shelters in schools so that they can host students again,
- ▶ establishing 16 "child-friendly" centers providing social, psychological, and educational assistance,
- ▶ organizing vacations in Croatia for children from the most affected regions.

Simultaneously, Secours Catholique continued supporting Ukrainian and Polish Caritas organizations in two areas:

- ▶ **Emergency projects in Ukraine:** distribution of food, water, and hygiene kits, accommodation for displaced persons
- ▶ **Integration of refugees in Poland through:** childcare, language courses, assistance in finding jobs and accommodation.





# 2024 AND BEYOND

## STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND LAUNCHING STRATEGIC PROJECTS

**After two years of war, SCCF remains committed to supporting emergency and stabilization projects.**

As the conflict persists, SCCF is developing capacity-building programs for partners, including project financial management, and the development and structuring of volunteer work.

The need to assist the most vulnerable has led to a refined strategy with four partners focusing on different priorities:

### **NORTHERN UKRAINE AND RURAL AREAS**

Special attention is given to the little-publicized border region with Russia and Belarus, which faces constant artillery fire. Access to rural areas is now a priority for the association and its partners.

In these regions, SCCF supports partners with the formation of mobile teams to intervene in remote villages, delivering essential goods and providing psychological and psychosocial support. ...



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### ... SUPPORT FOR THE THREE MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS REMAINS A PRIORITY

#### **People with disabilities: Promoting social protection and access to healthcare.**

Even before the Russian attack, people with disabilities struggled to meet their healthcare and livelihood needs. SCCF facilitated the opening of specialized rehabilitation and education centers for young people with disabilities, offering services like speech therapy and mobility assistance.

#### **Children: Access to education and respite.**

SCCF continues to support three "child-friendly centers" run by partners in the

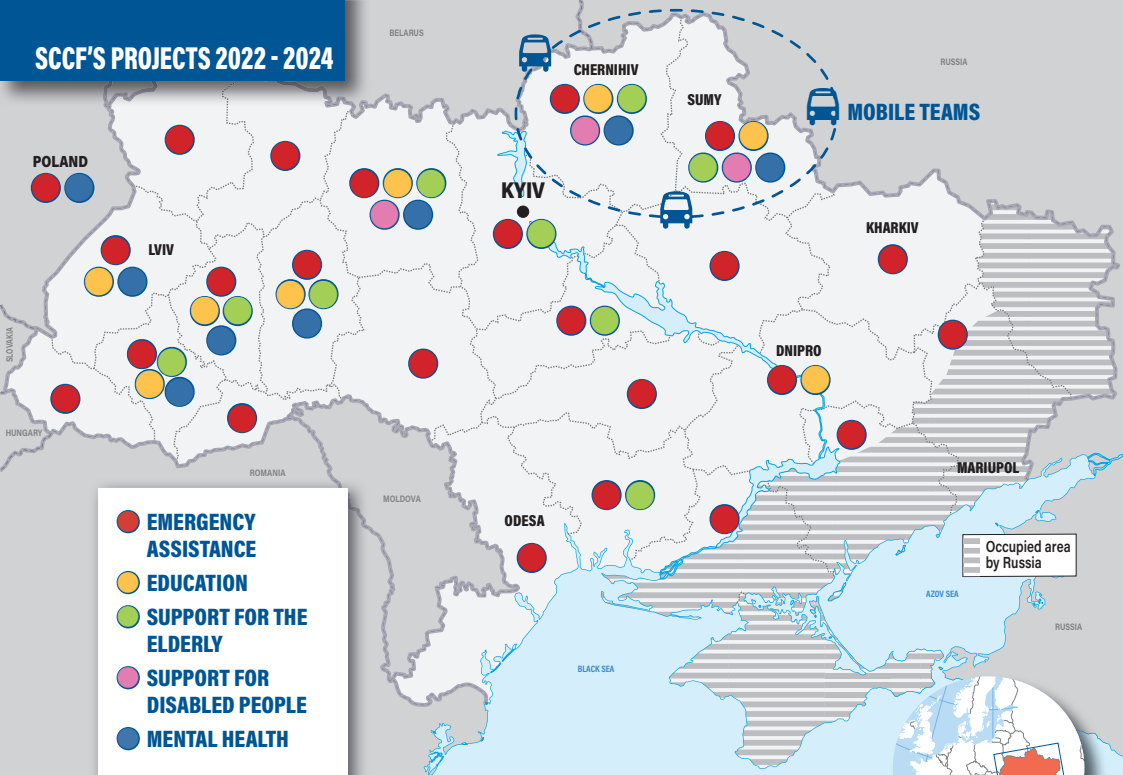
north-east of the country, enabling children to escape the daily challenges of war.

#### **The elderly: Growing and diversifying assistance.**

Distribution of blankets, warm clothing, fuel, thermos flasks, and flashlights during winter without electricity or gas; support for nursing homes housing displaced people from the east during the winter; and opening social clubs to integrate displaced people into their host environment.

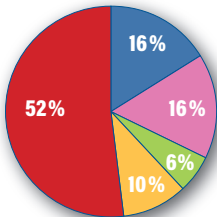
SCCF collaborates closely with local partners to address the needs of the local populations affected by the conflict.

# SCCF'S PROJECTS 2022 - 2024



- EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
- EDUCATION
- SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY
- SUPPORT FOR DISABLED PEOPLE
- MENTAL HEALTH

AMOUNT COMMITTED SINCE 2022 :  
**4 100 000 €**



## OUR PARTNERS



## KEY INFORMATION:

- ▶ Emergency aid (food, housing, financial support, water) supplied to over 100,000 people in Ukraine.
- ▶ Emergency aid and integration support provided to over 62,000 people in Poland.
- ▶ Educational projects and psychological/psychosocial support for over 10,000 children in Ukraine.
- ▶ 13 projects with 4 local partners in Ukraine and 3 projects with one local partner in Poland.
- ▶ Projects in 23 of Ukraine's 24 regions.
- ▶ 6 field missions to support partners.

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