Dorcas Ukraine

Country profile

Dorcas

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Quality assurance and accountability

Dorcas Ukraine adheres to internationally recognised quality and accountability standards, applied across programmes, operations, and partnerships as part of the wider Dorcas organisation:

- ISO 9001:2015
- Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)
- Partos FPA - Principles for Fundraising & Accountability
- Dorcas Integrity Framework

Maintaining dignity

"Restoring life begins with restoring dignity."

Viktoriia Kvas
Dorcas Ukraine
Protection manager

Who is Dorcas?

Dorcas is a Christian organisation working in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa. We have worked in Ukraine since 1998. Dorcas supports people facing poverty, exclusion and crisis. We stand beside people in vulnerable situations. We support them to unlock their potential and restore their dignity. We work with partners to strengthen resilience, expand access to services and promote social inclusion. Our mission is rooted in compassion and action. We follow Jesus' example by standing with those who are left behind.

Discover more in the We are Dorcas brochure.

Dorcas Ukraine
at a glance

Who we are

Dorcas Ukraine works across eastern and western Ukraine, supporting communities affected by conflict, displacement and long-term economic strain. We operate from offices in Transcarpathia and Zaporizhzhia enabling flexible responses in volatile contexts. Our work has evolved from humanitarian assistance to integrated recovery programming that strengthens community safety nets, supports psychosocial well-being, and enables locally led development. We collaborate with grassroots organisations, churches, local authorities and international partners. Our long-term presence and trusted relationships allow us to support communities as they transition from crisis to recovery, ensuring that people in vulnerable situations can rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience.

Our expertise

We work across four themes: Crisis Response, Protection, Economic Development, and Community Development. Our programmes combine humanitarian assistance with long-term recovery approaches. We apply community-led methodologies, strengthen local safety nets, and support inclusive economic participation. Our MEAL systems are being standardised to align with Dorcas quality standards, ensuring evidence-based decision-making and continuous programme improvement. All positions are filled locally, strengthening national leadership and contextual expertise.

Our geographic focus and reach

Where we work:
West: Transcarpathia
East: Zaporizhzhia.
National hubs: Kyiv.
Potential expansion:
Areas within 250 km east of Zaporizhzhia.

Regional priorities

Transcarpathia:
Strengthen community safety nets and inclusive recovery.

Zaporizhzhia: Support conflict-affected populations with integrated recovery assistance.

Kyiv: Serve as a strategic hub for coordination, partnerships and national influence.

Current reach

14,929 participants reached

59 communities served

10 partners strengthened

Our strategic ambition

Dorcas Ukraine aims to grow its reach, enhance programme quality and strengthen its position as a leading community-based recovery and resilience actor. We will diversify funding from two to four sources, expand local partnerships, and integrate humanitarian assistance with long-term recovery programming.

Dorcas vision for Ukraine

By 2030, we envision a Ukraine where:

Communities in both eastern and western regions lead their own recovery and build long-term resilience.

People in vulnerable situations — including older persons, displaced families and marginalised children — thrive with dignity and social inclusion.

Local systems and community safety nets are strengthened to provide sustainable support beyond the humanitarian phase.

How Dorcas contributes to this vision

Dorcas Ukraine bridges humanitarian assistance with community-driven recovery. Our programmes strengthen community safety nets, support psychosocial well-being, and enable inclusive economic participation. We work with grassroots organisations, churches and local authorities to build sustainable local capacity. Our approach integrates crisis response, protection, economic development and community development, ensuring that interventions address both immediate needs and long-term resilience. By 2030, we will expand our partner network, diversify funding, and strengthen national staff leadership. Through evidence-based programming, community facilitation and strategic partnerships, we support communities transition from crisis to recovery and build a foundation for lasting transformation.

The challenges we address with our partners

Economic strain and chronic poverty
Inflation, rising utility costs and disrupted livelihoods undermine recovery and deepen vulnerability.

Ongoing conflict and infrastructure destruction
Missile attacks, damaged homes and disrupted services create persistent humanitarian needs.

Social exclusion and weakened community ties
Older persons, displaced families and marginalised children face isolation, instability and limited access to services.

Over 6 million people remain internally displaced in Ukraine, requiring sustained support for recovery and reintegration.

How Dorcas makes a difference in Ukraine

Dorcas Ukraine works through four programmatic themes that advance our 2030 vision. We ensure that interventions address both immediate needs and long-term resilience.

Crisis Response

What we do We provide life-saving assistance and support communities recovering from conflict-related damage.

Impact example In the Zaporizhzhia region, homes are frequently damaged by missile and drone attacks. Dorcas Ukraine repairs doors, windows and roofs, ensuring families can remain safe, warm and protected.

Contribution to vision Strengthens safety, stability and the foundations for long-term recovery.

Key metric 271 households receive emergency shelter repairs and support each year to get through the winter.

Economic Development

What we do We support people gain job skills, start small businesses and access inclusive markets.

Impact example The conflict has caused widespread job loss. Dorcas Ukraine provides grants for people to learn new skills aligned with local labour market needs, enabling them to secure income and rebuild livelihoods.

Contribution to vision Supports economic resilience and reduces long-term vulnerability.

Key metric 1,072 people received grants to learn new skills.

Protection

What we do We protect people vulnerable to poverty, exclusion and crisis through integrated support and prevention.

Impact example Older persons face isolation and hardship. Dorcas Ukraine provides weekly home visits, pastoral care and practical support to ensure their well-being and dignity.

Contribution to vision Promotes safety, inclusion and psychosocial well-being.

Key metric 2,185 individuals in vulnerable situations receive regular protection and psychosocial support services.

National Folk Artist inspires others to live

A renewed desire to live

Lyudmila Ihorivna, a National Folk Artist of Ukraine from Zaporizhzhia, devoted 45 years to teaching art. After losing her husband and seeing her son Yurii suffer a stroke, her own health declined. A heart condition and breathing difficulties made it hard for her to leave her home.

"My whole life, I took children to exhibitions and competitions. But when hardships and health problems forced me to stop, I felt completely discouraged," she says.

Through Dorcas's home-based care programme for people with reduced mobility, Lyudmila attended doctors' lectures that helped her change daily habits and understand stroke recovery.

Inspired by her story, the Dorcas team invited her to lead art therapy workshops for volunteers who visit older person with reduced mobility. "I am very happy to be part of this project, because by returning to activities and art therapy, I feel a renewed desire to live and create!" exclaims Lyudmila.

"Our home visits remind older adults they are not forgotten and give them a sense of security, care and hope."

Hanna Prghozhyna
Volunteer Home Visit programme

Community Development

What we do We strengthen community structures and safety nets through collaborative, locally led approaches.

Impact example Dorcas Ukraine partners with local church organisations to support vulnerable situations and develop income-generating activities that sustain community initiatives in the long term.

Contribution to vision Builds resilient, inclusive communities capable of leading their own recovery.

Key metric 59 community groups strengthened and actively implementing locally led initiatives annually.

Our track record and capacity

Our contribution to Ukraine's development (2020–2025)

Dorcas Ukraine supported communities across eastern and western regions through humanitarian assistance, community safety nets, psychosocial support and recovery initiatives. We strengthened local partnerships, expanded community-led programming and laid the foundation for integrated recovery approaches.

People and communities

167,471 people reached

59 communities served

10 partners strengthened

Results per theme

120,647 Crisis Reponse

1,072 Economic Development

22,486 Protection

23,266 Community Development

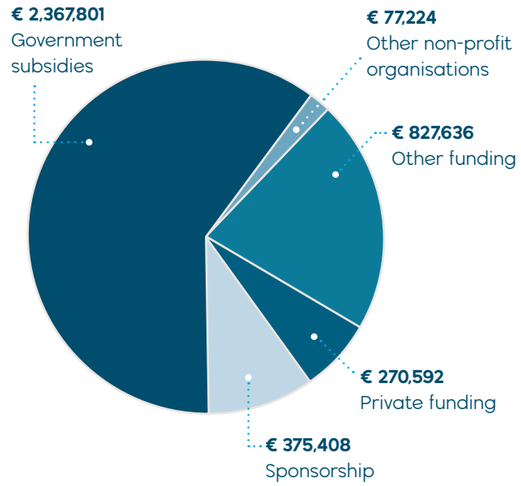
Year	Total participants covered
2020	18,588
2021	10,481
2022	40,215
2023	49,269
2024	33,989
2025	14,929
Total	167,471

Independent external evaluations andpost-distribution monitoring consistentlydemonstrate strong programme effectiveness. Project participant satisfaction rates are high andmeasurable improvements in householdresilience and self-reliance occur six monthsafter support was received. These results affirm the sustainability of our community-based approach and inform continuous programme improvement.

Financial capacity

Annual income (2026): € 3,918,661
Largest project implemented: WVI BHA
€ 4,255,465 (4,980,000 USD)

Funding partners include: UN OCHA, EOM and Dorcas Aid International (Climate and Other funds).



Looking ahead (2026–2030)

Dorcas Ukraine will expand recovery programming, diversify funding, strengthen national leadership and deepen partnerships with local organisations to build sustainable, community-led systems of support.

Join our vision

Why partnerships matter

Dorcas Ukraine works with local, national and international partners to strengthen community resilience and recovery. Our partnerships with grassroots organisations, churches, local authorities and international donors are built on trust, shared values and long-term commitment. Together, we create opportunities for communities to flourish.

What partners say

"We express our sincere gratitude to Dorcas Ukraine for the financial assistance provided to vulnerable categories of our community's population."

Local government representative of the Pavlivska rural community

"We are grateful that IDP children can gain psychosocial support through creative art therapy and outdoor play thanks to funding from Dorcas Ukraine."

Village council committee in the Transcarpathia region

"The Executive Committee of the Vilniansk City Council sincerely thanks you for your care and support of the community in preparing for the winter season."

Natalia Musienko *(the head of the Vilniansk City Council)*

Network memberships

- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) coordination system – cluster participation (Cash Working Group, Protection, Shelter/NFI)
- Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) partner network
- Relevant regional and oblast-level humanitarian coordination forums

Partnership principles

- Shared values and mutual respect
- Complementary strengths
- Transparent communication
- Long-term commitment
- Local leadership
- Joint learning and adaptation

An invitation from our director

As Country Director of Dorcas Ukraine, I warmly invite you to join us in strengthening resilient, self-reliant communities across Ukraine. Our vision is to see people affected by conflict and economic hardship have their dignity restored, be equipped with opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, and be supported through community-based safety nets that foster long-term recovery.

Achieving this vision requires strong and trusted partnerships. No single organisation can address the scale and complexity of Ukraine's challenges alone. By combining expertise, resources, and local presence, we can deliver higher-quality programmes, expand our reach, and ensure lasting impact for the communities we serve.

I invite you to explore how we can collaborate strategically and meaningfully.

Together, we can realise our vision for Ukraine.

Ferenc Katko
Country Director Dorcas Ukraine

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We take action in the face of poverty, exclusion and crises. We come alongside marginalised people and communities and jointly create opportunities for them to flourish. This is how we follow Jesus' example.

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