

Ukraine | Local Responder Area Profile: Sumy

January 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Local Responder Area Profile aims to collect actionable, area-based information on local non-governmental actors' (LNGAs)¹ needs, capacities, ways of working, and preferences for international support, to give international organisations (IOs) data they can use to **avoid duplication, support LNGAs directly, and improve international integration with local systems on local terms**. This research covers LNGAs operating out of Sumy city. **See p. 5 for full methodology.**

ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW ²

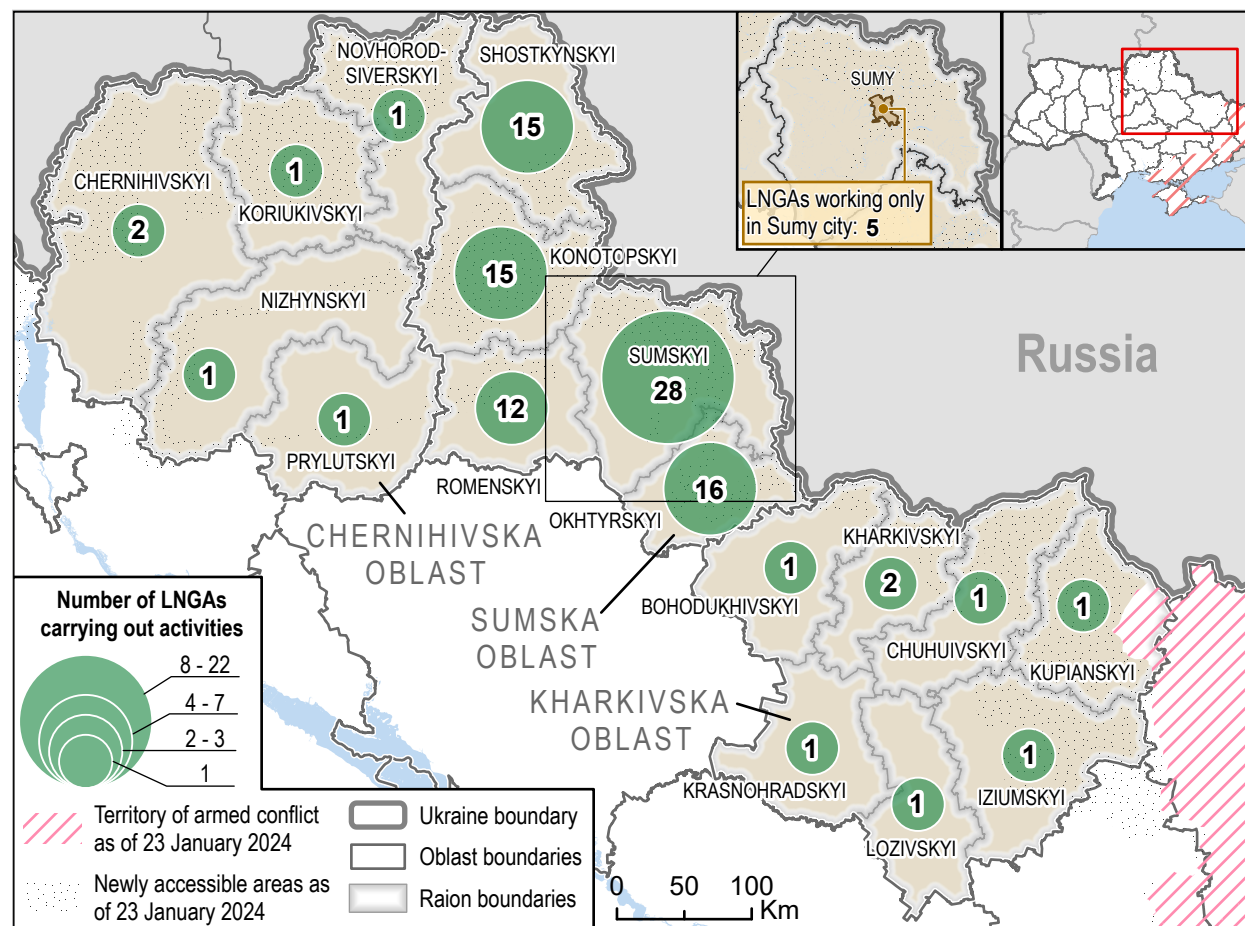
Distribution of in-kind goods

Any items asked (no specific items)	10
Food	10
General hygiene supplies	7
Clothing	6
Medicines	4
Items for older adults	3
Items for babies/children	2
Education items	1
Assistive devices for those with limited mobility	2
Electricity substitutes (solar lamps, etc.)	2
Water	1
Fuel	1
Cooking supplies	1
Bedding/blankets	1
Agricultural inputs	1

LNGAs involved in distribution 23

RAION-LEVEL ACTIVITIES COVERAGE OF LNGAS

Areas where LNGAs are reportedly conducting activities, by number of LNGAs reporting:



Frontline and first response

Evacuation	3
First responder (EMS, fire brigade, S&R, etc.)	1
Animal rescue	1

Information and coordination

Coordination	3
Assessing/monitoring needs	2
Awareness-raising/sharing information	1

Cash assistance

Bank transfer modality	3
Paper voucher modality	2
LNGAs involved in multi-purpose cash assistance	4

LNGAs reporting heavy shelter repair activities:

1

Services for general population

MHPSS services	13
Legal assistance	8
Assistance for survivors of domestic violence	8
Education for <18 children	5
Services for children (other than education)	4
Support with finding/applying for assistance	4
Healthcare services	4
Housing assistance	3
Livelihoods support	2
Home-based care for those w/ limited mobility	1
Light shelter repair	1

LNGAs involved in services for the general population 19

Services for IDPs and returnees

Support with finding/applying for assistance	6
MHPSS services	5
Legal assistance	3
Assistance for survivors of domestic violence	3
Livelihoods support	3
Housing assistance	2
Other ³	4

LNGAs involved in services for IDPs/returnees 7

¹ Throughout this factsheet, "LNGA" refers to Ukrainian non-governmental actors including national NGOs operating out of Sumy, registered civil society organisations (CSOs), and volunteer groups that met inclusion criteria (see p. 4).

² Displayed by number of LNGAs reporting participation in each activity. LNGA respondents could select more than one option.

³ 1 LNGA each reported supporting IDPs/returnees with services of light shelter repair, healthcare, education for children <18, or other services for <18 children.

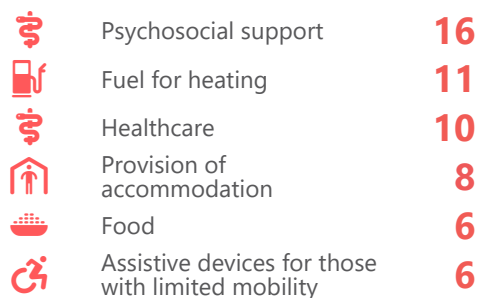
SECTORAL RESPONSE CAPACITY

Perception of assessed LNGAs on how well local capacity is able to address sectoral needs, by number of LNGAs reporting:

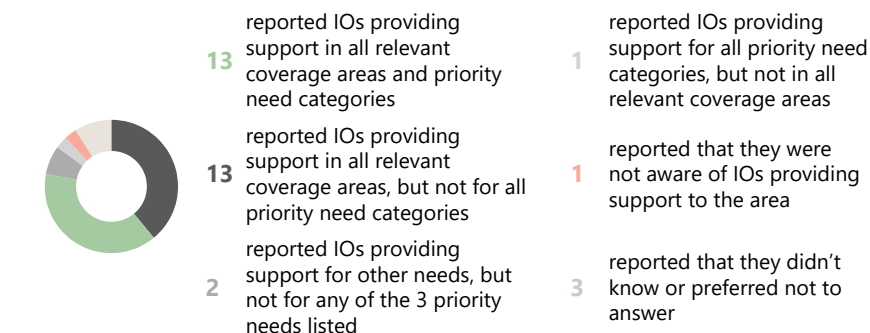


LOCAL PERCEPTION OF PRIORITY NEEDS

Top 3 priority needs in their area of coverage, by number of LNGAs reporting:⁴



Targeting of international organisations' support, by number of LNGAs reporting:



4 LNGA respondents could select up to 3 options.

5 LNGA respondents could select more than one option.

6 Including groups or channels on WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, etc.

7 Including groups or channels on facebook, Instagram, etc.

LOCAL COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION

Among assessed LNGAs,



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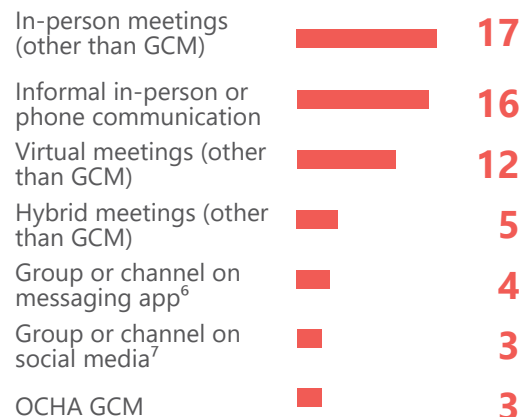
reported that they had some kind of local mechanism for coordinating the emergency response



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assessed LNGAs reported being aware of General Coordination Meetings (GCMs) run by OCHA.

Coordination mechanisms used among LNGAs reporting any coordination efforts, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=25):⁵



Main means by which LNGAs communicate with their target population, by number of LNGAs reporting:⁴



Priorities vs. coverage and capacity

MHPSS was the most-reported priority need among local actors, but even though it was the single most-reported activity after distribution, some KIs reported concerns about local capacity for this sector. Among the CSOs that provide MHPSS, funding and labor/human resources were the two most frequently noted operational resource gaps.

Fuel and assistive devices for people with limited mobility were also among the top priority needs, but only 1-2 organisations each reported activities distributing these items, suggesting a possible need for international support. Both were among the specific in-kind items listed as resource gaps.

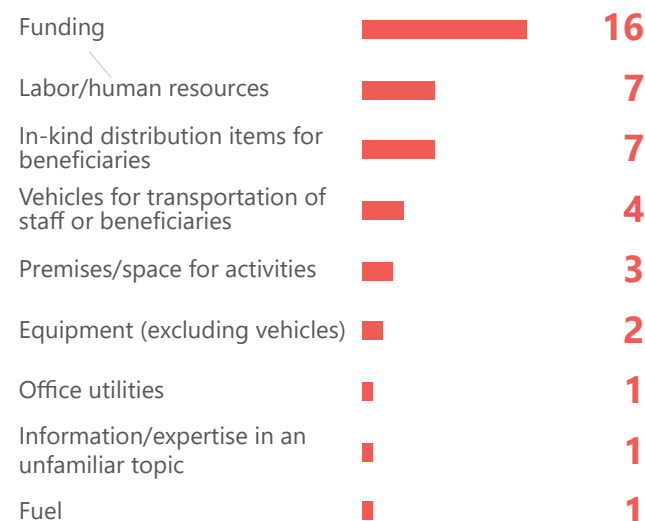
OPERATIONAL RESOURCE GAPS AND EFFECTS

Ability of LNGAs to meet beneficiary needs with their own resources, by number of LNGAs reporting:



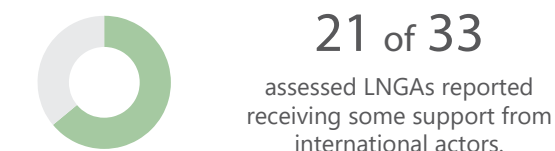
TOP REPORTED OPERATIONAL NEEDS

Most reported operational needs across all assessed LNGAs facing resource gaps, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=20):⁸



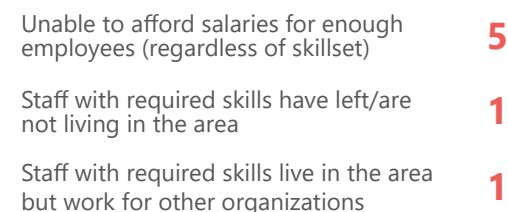
INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Provision of support to LNGAs by international organisations, by number of LNGAs reporting:



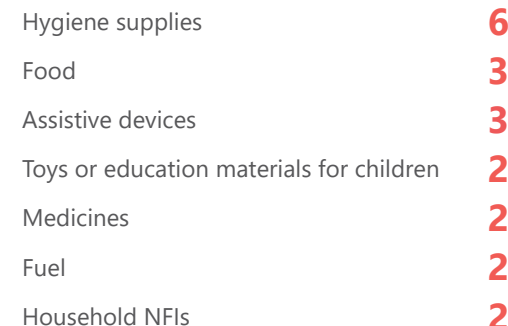
OPERATIONAL NEEDS ZOOM-IN

Main barrier to accessing enough staff among LNGAs reporting labor/human resources as a resource gap, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=7):

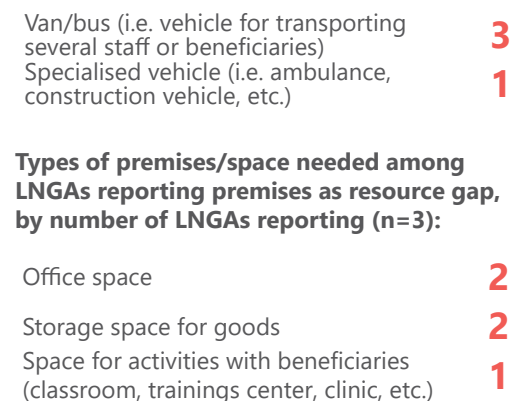


Among LNGAs reporting labor as a resource gap, 5 were missing 1-2 staff, and 2 were missing less than 25% of their normal operating capacity. Most reported that they would be able to independently recruit staff if they had the funds.

Most reported in-kind distribution items for beneficiaries needed among LNGAs reporting in-kind items as a resource gap, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=7):⁸



Types of vehicles needed among LNGAs reporting equipment as resource gap, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=4):⁸



Amount of funding reportedly needed to meet resource gaps, by number of LNGAs reporting (n=16):



METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The Local Responder Area Profile (LRAP) assessment aims to collect actionable, area-based information on local non-governmental actors' (LNGAs) needs, capacities, ways of working, and preferences for international support, in order to give international actors information that they can use to **avoid duplication, support LNGAs directly, and improve international integration with local systems on local terms.**

Sumy city in Sumska Oblast was chosen for this assessment based on their relevance as a "coordination hub" from which local non-governmental actors conduct activities both within each city and outside of it, primarily throughout Sumska. Initial field information about Sumy city was confirmed by informal discussion with key stakeholders during virtual scoping that took place December 18 and January 9-11. These scoping interviews also confirmed the existence of possible information gaps particularly around LNGAs in the area not clearly connected to Kyiv-based international organisations, demonstrating the value of an LRAP to international organizations that carry out activities in Sumska oblast in particular.

Due to time constraints, REACH used a **quantitative-only** approach for this assessment instead of the mixed methods approach used in past rounds. A quantitative phone-based survey was conducted with as many LNGAs based in Sumska as could be identified.

Quantitative data collection was conducted between 16-23 January. REACH field teams attempted to contact all LNGAs that were identified as operating out of (i.e. had an office or consistent presence in) Sumy city and whose activities included humanitarian support for civilians; the threshold of inclusion for more informal volunteer groups was a group with a minimum of 3-4 members, a clear focal point who could be contacted, and sustained support activities. Ultimately Key Informants (KIs) representing **33 LNGAs** completed the quantitative survey, consistent with scoping estimates from key stakeholders stating that approximately 20-35 civil society organisations (CSOs) were operating out of Sumy city. The quantitative survey focused on LNGAs' activities, coverage, operational needs, coordination awareness and perception of local capacity by sector.

LIMITATIONS

REACH cannot guarantee that their field department was able to identify all relevant LNGAs operating out of Sumy city. Additionally, although REACH contacted as many LNGAs as they were able to identify that met the inclusion criteria, a small number did not answer or chose not to participate in the survey. As such, there are likely LNGAs in Sumy whose perspective has not been included in this study. Results also cannot be assumed to be statistically representative of this group, given that the baseline population total of Sumy-based LNGAs is not clearly known. As such all findings are indicative only. Furthermore, the area-based approach is not generalisable to the broader context, and these findings may not be relevant for LNGAs in other areas.

ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).