

# GURT RESOURCE CENTER Annual Report 2022











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## **KEY RESULTS**



#### **RESTORATION OF THE HUMAN POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITIES**

The Ukrainian people are heroically fighting against russia – the last evil empire in the world. People are our main asset, forming communities' potential to resist and defeat the enemy. Our ability to act effectively is the key to victory. The enemy exhausts us physically and psychologically. There was an urgent need to quickly and effectively restore the ability of people to withstand the challenges of war.

GURT has been popularizing the methodology of self-help groups for many years. It is an effective tool for working with vulnerable categories of citizens as a means of psycho-social rehabilitation and restoration of the human potential of communities.

Today, GURT develops a network of organizations that offer group social and psychological rehabilitation to those who need it because of the war. In 2022, we focused on providing additional resources to such organizations to strengthen their resilience and reshape their operations under martial law. This work was carried out in 19 communities of eleven regions of Ukraine. As a result, assistance was provided to **more than 4,400 people**, including veterans, their families, IDPs, and volunteers.

In November 2022, GURT held the National Conference for CSO representatives from different parts of Ukraine who use self-help group methodology. Self-help practitioners presented stories of positive changes in local communities. Also, they worked in the open space format on the question "How to make self-help groups the most accessible tool of psychosocial rehabilitation in Ukraine?".



Olena, an IDP from Luhansk: "Now we live in Ivano-Frankivsk. I have three children: an older son with autism, a younger daughter who is two years old, and my husband is in a war zone. Thanks to participation in a self-help group, I stopped being afraid to leave my children with relatives and have free time every week, which I devote to personal development and adaptation to life in a new community. I think all mothers of three children understand how difficult it is and how important it is to have time for yourself - physically and psychologically. Especially since I have to be both a

mother and a father for the children and I also have to support my husband. Recently, I felt that my strength was melting; it often seemed that I had nothing more to give them but nothing to share. But participating in a self-help group encouraged me to look at what was happening, see what was wrong, and care for myself. Now I rest more, I have a place for psychological relief, and I know I will return home in a good mood, patient, positive, filled both for my loved ones and myself."

Due to the war, opportunities for developing children and youth in our country have significantly narrowed. The **European Meet and Code initiative**, annually implemented in Ukraine by GURT in partnership with TechSup Europe, allows communities to compensate for such losses at least partially. Thanks to this initiative, Ukrainian children and youth can obtain digital knowledge and skills and choose professions in technology and digitalization.

This year, in war conditions, an important task was to create the safest possible conditions for young participants of Meet and Code digital events. The GURT team selected **38 Ukrainian CSOs**, which, in

current circumstances, successfully organized **85 exciting events** involving **2,900 participants** - children, teenagers, and young people. The total amount of grants provided by GURT is about **\$50K**. According to the consolidated impact assessment report of the Meet and Code 2022 initiative, **Ukraine**, among the 21 participating countries, has **the most participants** in Meet and Code events.



Olga Yarmoliuk, Head of the Lviv Regional Public Organization "Union of Large Families of Lviv Oblast "Happy Family": "Among our participants are children of IDPs, children from low-income families and families with many children, most do not have their tablet or computer, permanent access to the Internet, and expensive robotics kits. Thanks to the Meet and Code initiative, I'm glad we implemented these events-programming, Scratch, and robotics classes."

Tetiana Kovaliova, head teacher of the VEX-robotics course, NGO "Noosphere Association", Dnipro: "Now, more than ever, the learning process is important for Ukrainian children. The team format and emphasis on achieving success increase their interest, and they focus more on performing the task."



Andriy, 7th grade student, Lviv: "I had already been involved in robotics for a while, but with the beginning of the war, the classes stopped. I enjoyed the Meet and Code event. I was able to deepen my knowledge and create demining robots and mine detectors. This is a vital topic for us. Such inventions can save the lives of many people."

These activities are enabled by financial support from Sweden (Sida), the National Endowment for Democracy, the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, and SAP.

#### **SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT**

Small business is the primary driver of democratic social transformations and a foundation of Ukrainian civil society. The Orange Revolution and the Revolution of Dignity proved this. In the conditions of war, small business covers the enormous needs of the front, which the government is currently unable to provide.

As a partner of the International Labor Organization since 2009, GURT has developed entrepreneurial skills of small businesses by offering the training program "Start and improve your business", which helps with business plan development and stimulates small businesses to apply for grants and low-rate lending programs.

In 2022, GURT helped **855 entrepreneurs** (70% women and 30% men) improve their knowledge and skills in running their businesses. More than 50% of entrepreneurs declared the creation of new jobs due to participation in GURT's trainings, and 19% took advantage of the opportunities of state lending programs for small businesses.



Oksana Pasichna, Yaremche, Ivano-Frankivsk region, co-owner of the Faina Familia confectionery: "When we learned that GURT offers the training "Start your business" in our city, we were delighted! Something is finally happening in little Yaremche! We signed up right away. The training helped us see more clearly what we want and how to achieve it. Thanks to this training and the knowledge and support we received from GURT, we applied for a grant. GURT helped us at every stage, and most importantly, they believed in our business. And when we received a call with the words: "Congratulations, you won a grant!" our coach from GURT was the first with whom we celebrated it."

GURT paid particular attention to supporting small businesses that provide critical needs of Ukrainian communities and the front. In 2022, we implemented a small grants program, as a result of which \$300K was distributed to such businesses in grants. Developing their own business, 37 grantees helped their communities with critical needs, supported our troops, and created 175 new jobs for IDPs.



Olena Kirichenko, an IDP from the Donetsk region: "We moved to Poltava oblast as a large family - 17 people, nine of them - children. I did not believe such a war could start in the 21st century. When the shelling started, realizing this reality and the need to leave was difficult, leaving everything behind. We found the Serhiiv community on the Internet. We had no relatives or acquaintances here. We were looking for a rural community and wanted it to be far from hostilities. After settling in a new place, we managed to transport the surviving livestock to Poltava Oblast. Since then, we have been looking for various funding opportunities. While looking for finance, I was lucky to

find information about the small grants program from the GURT Resource Center. We applied and received funds. Thus, we had the opportunity to purchase construction materials and managed to refurbish the premises before the winter."

These activities are enabled by financial support from the International Labor Organization through the DANIDA funded project and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Government.

#### **BUILDING CSO RESILIENCE**

Digital security and personal data protection are critical elements of CSO resilience in today's world, especially under the conditions of russian aggression, an essential component of which is powerful cyber attacks. Unfortunately, most Ukrainian CSOs do not pay enough attention to compliance with the basic rules of digital security, starting with the wide use of pirated software. According to the results of the study of compliance with digital rights in the activities of Ukrainian CSOs, conducted by GURT in early 2022, almost 80% of organizations do not complete regular risk assessments in the field of digital security, and 65% do not conduct training for staff and volunteers on compliance with digital rights and personal data protection. Today, more than ever, Ukrainian CSOs need support with digital transformation to continue their activities and work effectively for the benefit of society.

In 2022, GURT successfully continued the implementation of a range of technology capacity-building programs serving Ukrainian non-profit organizations such as TechSoup Ukraine — a member of TechSoup Global Network. Since 2016, we have created opportunities to modernize and protect the work of CSOs and provide them with access to the technology solutions they need to fulfill their missions. It's important to mention that when full-scale russian aggression started, we received the first request for software just two days later. It's unbeatable evidence that TechSoup Ukraine services are vital for Ukrainian CSOs, especially during the war. The largest Ukrainian charitable foundations raising money to support our troops and bringing the victory of Ukraine closer — Come Back Alive and the Serhiy Prytula Charity Foundation, used TechSoup Ukraine to obtain the necessary software for their activities in 2022.

The founder of Molfar NGO, Yulia Votcher, shares her thoughts on the importance of using licensed software in her volunteer and charitable activities: "We always tell our fellow volunteers about the need to use licensed software. It turns out that many volunteer organizations are not even aware of this possibility. Still, it's straightforward you need software for organizing workplaces, means communication, document management,



communication, which can be found through TechSoup Ukraine. Today, we have a war. War is not just about shooting. War is when russian propaganda creeps out of all cracks, holes, and mass media. Licensed software is critical for designers, website developers, and bloggers. In wartime, it is also a significant financial aid if it can be obtained at a discounted price."

The total **market value of software** provided by Ukrainian CSOs through the TechSoup Ukraine program in 2022 exceeds **\$500K**.

In February 2022, Tech To The Rescue - a global platform that connects non-profit organizations with technology companies, in cooperation with GURT, launched the **#TechForUkraine** campaign, which is



aimed at mobilizing IT companies around the world to support Ukrainian CSOs by providing them with digital solutions free of charge. More than **200** technology companies helped Ukraine. Ukrainian CSOs received exclusive technical capabilities and access to a database of educational materials on using technology to increase their impact, met other changemakers who are solving similar problems and benefited from their first-hand

advice.

GURT offers **free consultations and assistance** with deploying digital solutions to Ukrainian CSOs, which, in wartime, provide social and psychological rehabilitation services to those who need them.

These activities are enabled by financial support from the **National Endowment for Democracy** and the **Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation**.

TechSoup Ukraine operates as a **social entrepreneurship**, generating income by serving its customers.

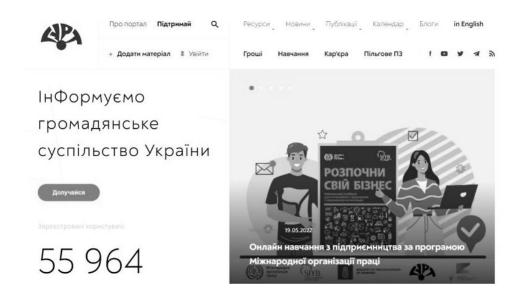
#### **DUM SPIRO, SPERO**

Since 1995, GURT has been committed to better Ukraine, developing and utilizing the potential of changemakers. GURT strives for conscious and successful Ukraine where civil society, business, and government collaboratively ensure dignity, confidence, and trust among citizens at local and national levels.

**GURT's mission** is to accelerate the Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine, being an effective implementing agency of innovative projects and serving changemakers to develop their capacity and maximize their impact. After February 24, we asked ourselves whether our mission, which we formulated back in 2020, is still relevant. In our opinion, yes. The GURT team is proud to be united around the organization's mission. Despite the vulnerability of the entire civil society, from the first days of the war, we ensured the smooth operation of the TechSoup Ukraine portal and program, continuing to inform changemakers about available opportunities. And this is not about heroism or an invisible front because there is only one front in the country - the combat zone. It is about personal responsibility, devotion to values, and effective resistance to the enemy's attempts to break Ukrainian society.

In the first months of the full-scale war, GURT launched a campaign to mobilize the potential of civil society. Community representatives, managers of public and charitable organizations, and business representatives were able to take advantage of the opportunities offered by GURT: training on entrepreneurship development for those who have lost their jobs or need to restore business in a new city, courses on cyber security and countering disinformation, setting up CSO information systems for remote works, webinars on topics relevant to the challenges of the time.

<u>GURT Changemakers Web Portal</u> – is the most significant communication platform and a robust environment for change-makers, which unites users from all corners of Ukraine. It combines information, tools, and resources to help organizations work more effectively. In 2022, registered users reached more than **57 thousand active citizens**. The GURT portal is a crucial source of information for professionals and experts in the non-profit sector.



GURT actively uses social networks to convey information about current opportunities to as many changemakers as possible. You may follow us on **Facebook, Telegram, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, and WhatsApp.** 













GURT supports socially important initiatives of civil society organizations. One of these is the **National Competition "Charity Ukraine"** held by the Association of Charitable Donors of Ukraine. For the fifth year in a row, GURT is the official information partner of this competition. In 2022, the competition theme is Charity in Defense of Ukraine.

The GURT Changemakers Web Portal operates as a **social entrepreneurship**, generating income by serving international organizations that publish their information on the portal.

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

GURT Resource Center conducts the annual audit following the international standards on auditing issued by The International Auditing and Assurances Standards Board (IAASB). Audit Firm AUDIT AND ACCOUNTING Limited Liability Company (registration number in the Register of Auditors and Audit Entities No. 4867) carried out the audit of the GURT Resource Center for the year 2022.

#### Statement of Cash Flows (in thousands of Ukrainian Hryvnias)

Cash donations received in 2022	
Sida	17 120
International Labour Organization	11 308
National Endowment for Democracy	3 684
TechSoup Foundation (Meet&Code Project)	1 554
Other funds for statutory activities	769
TechSoup Ukraine	780
Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation	731
Erasmus+ EU Program for Education, Training, Youth, and Sport	48
Total cash receipts	35 994
Cash spent in 2022  Events (conferences, workshops, etc.)	(3 823)
Information activities	(460)
Subgrants	(12 064)
Project management	(5 357)
Administrative and fundraising expenses	(3 739)
Total cash spent	(25 443)
Foreign exchange and translation differences	3 632
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	14 183
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	
cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	3 595

#### **DONORS and PARTNERS**



















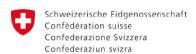
Міжнародна організація праці











Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



















A PROJECT OF THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND





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