# Ukraine

PROJECT NO: 102834

### Preserving Bible Work



#### Overview

This project is aimed at supporting Bible Society Ukraine as they continue supporting their people as they go through one of the darkest times in its history. The full-fledged war with Russia is ongoing and the outlook isn't optimistic — both Ukrainian and international experts forecast it might last until the end of 2023 or even longer. Ukrainians need God's word now and will need it after the war is over.

#### The Need

As the military actions continue, the Ukrainian people are facing unspeakable amounts of pain, stress and practical challenges. Therefore, the need for spiritual support and healing remains huge and urgent. Even when this war is over, the depth of trauma is so great that it would take many years for Ukrainians to deal with it and find peace and comfort. Whatever 2023 may bring for Ukraine, it is absolutely crucial that Bible Society remains active and continues bringing the word of God to every soul in need. The team at Bible Society Ukraine are also in need of continued support as they experience immense financial pressures - sales have declined while the need for free or subsidised Scriptures is multiplying. There is also a need to preserve their most valuable resource, their staff, some of whom were forced to leave their homes due to the threat to their lives and families.

>7,000

<u>deaths of civilians</u> during the war as of February 2023.

68%

identify themselves as Christian
'believers' (2022 Razumkov study).

**435**%

of Ukraine's real  $\underline{\mathsf{GDP}}$  in  $\underline{\mathsf{2022}}$  as forecasted by The World Bank.

±8.08m

people have fled Ukraine to
neighbouring countries as of Feb 2023.

#### Goals

This project's goal is to maintain the Bible Society presence and operations while the country goes through an unprecedented period of war, when the Bible is needed most of all by those who seek comfort, hope and encouragement.

This project will be implemented day-to-day, aimed at maintaining Bible Society operations at a level required to meet the existing Scripture needs in Ukraine amidst the war and in the post-war period.

### **Impact**

# With God's help and incredible support from the United Bible Societies fellowship, Bible Society Ukraine was able to maintain its presence during the first months of the war and it became a huge blessing to the local churches, relief organisations, military chaplains and individual Ukrainians.

Bible Society Ukraine has been blessed with wide and efficient network of contacts with churches and other organisations. Bible Society Ukraine facilitates cooperation between various organisations having resources and needing resources (e.g., group of Christian counsellors, relief organisations, etc.).

In some cases, with the support of Bible Societies around the world, they are also uniquely positioned to provide humanitarian aid to those in need, and therefore, continue to include this aspect in their activities.

#### **Testimonies**

"We all see people's incredible openness to the Bible across the whole country and, again and again, this means that we will need many more Bibles to meet the existing needs of millions who were affected with this war."

Rostyslav, Bible Society Ukraine

## Prayer Needs

- Please pray for the physical safety of the Bible Society staff and their families, for God's protection as they serve churches and individuals with the word of God.
- Pray for wisdom of the Bible Society leadership on how to carry out the Bible work under very complicated circumstances in the best possible way.
- Pray that every Bible distributed brings the best possible result and leads its reader to God and his truth.

