



The Tenth of April
Civic organization



OXFAM



ASSESSING THE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES

IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN REGION
OF UKRAINE TO LOCALISE HUMANITARIAN
RESPONSE DURING THE CRISIS

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

LSG – local self-government bodies

TC – territorial community (communities)

CSO – civil society organisation(s)

IDP – internally displaced persons

NGO – non-governmental organisation(s)

VO – voluntary organisations

INTRODUCTION

The localisation of humanitarian response in times of crisis is a key issue in donor and humanitarian policy and practice, which is reflected in the desire to make the humanitarian response "as local as possible" by transferring management and resources from international humanitarian actors to local and national organisations involved in crisis response¹. The localisation of humanitarian response is, first and foremost, a recognition that local communities and organisations are usually the first to respond to crises and have the unique knowledge and resources necessary to respond to people's needs.

The capacity of local communities to localise humanitarian response is determined by the experience of developing and implementing humanitarian projects on the ground, as well as by the prior knowledge of the context and the ongoing receipt by local experts of up-to-date data on needs and problems directly from the affected population and community members². It is at the level of local organisations that work in the same field and understand the immediate needs of the affected population that effective and efficient coordination between humanitarian aid providers at different levels can be ensured.

The coordination effectiveness of a community in the field of humanitarian response and the level of progress in localisation is the basis for determining its capacity to localise humanitarian response in times of crisis and its involvement in a particular Humanitarian Cluster, which makes it *relevant* to conduct an expert study to assess the capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response in times of crisis, particularly in Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Odesa regions.

The research methodology is based on the Methodology for Assessing the Capacity of Communities to Localise Humanitarian Response in Crisis, developed by the NGO "The Tenth of April".

The research's purpose is to provide expert analysis and assessment of the capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis.

Following the Methodology for Assessing the Capacity of Communities to Localise Humanitarian Response, which is based on the integrated use of several evidence-based approaches and consists of three consecutive stages, an expert study was conducted to assess the results of the assessment:

- *Institutional capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to implement projects and programmes for the humanitarian response plan.* The assessment of the institutional capacity of communities to implement the projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan was carried out using an integral indicator, which is the sum of the scores for three independent indicators. Based on the results of the assessment, communities were grouped according to their capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- *The capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response.* Based on the analysis of the evidence of localisation practices in different areas, the localisation of local organisations at the community level was assessed in seven areas that are particularly important for improving local leadership in the humanitarian response: Partnerships, Leadership, Coordination and Complementarity, Financing, Capacity, Influence on policy-making, and Engagement. The assessment identified the levels of evidence of actions taken by communities in the South-Eastern

¹ Harrison L., Kondratenko D., Korenkova K. Options for supporting and strengthening local humanitarian action in Ukraine: a scoping exercise report. Commissioned by the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC). November 2022. URL: <https://www.dec.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/document/2023-01/DEC%20Ukraine%20Appeal%20localisation%20scoping%20paper%20UKR.pdf>

² Assessment of the baseline for localisation of humanitarian response in Ukraine. *NGO Resource Centre (NGORC), InfoSapiens, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), Humanitarian Advisory Group(HAG)*. 2023. URL: <https://www.icvanetwork.org/uploads/2023/09/Humanitarian-Localization-Baseline-for-Ukraine-Ukraine.pdf>

region of Ukraine to apply localisation practices in 7 areas and determined the degree of their capacity to localise humanitarian response during the crisis;

- *The capacity of communities to coordinate humanitarian response in specific sectors / clusters at the local level.* The coordination capacity of communities was assessed using indicators that reflect the capacity of local organisations to implement response measures within humanitarian clusters. The capacity of local organisations to implement local coordination mechanisms for the effective and coordinated implementation of response measures within humanitarian clusters was assessed. The level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors / humanitarian clusters at the local level was established for each community.

The expert assessment of the capacity of communities to localise humanitarian response was carried out sequentially at each stage based on the criteria characterising the main indicators that affect the readiness of the respective capable territorial community to localise humanitarian response.

*According to the results of the 1st stage of the assessment, out of **269** territorial communities:*

- **32** territorial communities received a level of **high** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **61** territorial communities received the level of **optimal** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **133** territorial communities received a level of **satisfactory** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **43** territorial communities received a **low** level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **No communities** have been identified with a **critical level** of institutional capacity to implement the humanitarian response plan's projects and programmes.

*According to the results of the 2nd stage of the assessment, it was determined that out of **42** territorial communities where the survey was conducted:*

- **17** territorial communities received a **high** level of capacity and demonstrated a high level of ability to localise humanitarian response based on the results of the localisation progress study;

- **11** territorial communities received an **optimal** level of capacity and demonstrated progress in improving local leadership in the field of humanitarian response;

- **11** territorial communities received a **sufficient** level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices;

- **3** territorial communities (Kherson region) have a **low** level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices.

*According to the results of the 3rd stage of the assessment, it was determined that out of **37** communities where interviews were conducted:*

- **7** territorial communities received a **high** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response with the potential for intersectoral coordination;

- **9** territorial communities have an **optimal** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response;

- **17** territorial communities have a **sufficient** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in a particular sector / humanitarian cluster;

- **4** territorial communities (2 in the Kherson region and 2 in the Zaporizhzhia region) were assessed as having a **low** capacity level for coordinated humanitarian response.

1. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN REGION OF UKRAINE TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES OF THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

Following the Methodology for Assessing the Capacity of Communities in the South-Eastern Region of Ukraine to Localise Humanitarian Response in Crisis (hereinafter - the Methodology), *the research to determine the level of institutional capacity of communities to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan* was the first of three consecutive stages of a comprehensive assessment, based on the results of which, according to the rating received by the community, the expediency of further evaluation of the capacity of communities to localise humanitarian response is evidently justified.

The research methodology for determining the level of institutional capacity³ of communities to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan (1st stage of the assessment) includes the following steps:

- interviewing local government officials at the community level;
- desk research⁴ of the collected and analysed primary data (survey results) on the level of community capacity⁵ for project activities and secondary data on the levels of financial and institutional capacity of communities;
- expert analysis of the assessment results (based on an integral indicator) of the community's institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan.

The assessment was based on a comprehensive set of data, including primary (survey results) and secondary data (desk analysis results), obtained from the institutional capacity assessment of **269** communities within five administrative regions that make up the South-Eastern region of Ukraine:

Region	Area, km ²	Number of districts (rayons)	Number of territorial communities	Number of settlements
Dnipropetrovsk	31914	7	86	1501
Zaporizhzhia*	27180	5 / 2	67 / 19	953 / 311
Kherson*	28461	5 / 2	49 / 21	698 / 257
Mykolaiv*	24598	4	52	911
Odesa	33310	7	91	1173

**The research is limited to the territories of communities within the regions controlled by Ukraine at the time of the study⁶:*

- Zaporizhzhia region – 19 communities out of 67: 17 within Zaporizhzhia district, two within Polohivskiy district;
- Kherson region – 21 communities out of 49: 11 within Beryslavskiy district, 10 within Khersonskiy district.

³ Success indicators and their tools in the system of local community management. *Ukrainian Institute for the Future*. 2024 URL: https://decentralization.ua/uploads/library/file/610/indykatory_cmprsd_.pdf

⁴ On Approval of the Methodology for the Formation of Capable Territorial Communities : Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 214 of 08.04.2015 as amended on 21.02.2024. URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/214-2015-n#Text>

⁵ Methodological recommendations for assessing the level of community capacity. Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine. 2019 URL: <https://decentralization.ua/uploads/attachment/document/478/Рекомендації.pdf>

⁶ On Approval of the List of the Territories in which Military Actions are (were) Conducted or Temporarily Occupied by the Russian Federation : Order of the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine of 22.12.2022 No. 309 (as amended). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z1668-22#n15>

- Mykolaiv region – settlements from one community: Pokrovske, Vasylivka, Pokrovka on the territory of the Kinburn Spit of the Ochakivska city territorial community within the Mykolaiv district.

The assessment of the institutional capacity of communities to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan was carried out based on an integral indicator (I_i), which is the sum of the scores for three independent indicators (X_i):

$$I_i = X_1 + X_2 + X_3, \text{ where}$$

- X_1 – level of financial capacity of communities – based on the analysis of secondary data obtained from the results of the assessment of the financial capacity of territorial communities in 2023, conducted using the methodological approach developed and presented within the framework of the U-LEAD with Europe Programme⁷;
- X_2 – level of institutional capacity of the community – based on the analysis of secondary data obtained from the results of the All-Ukrainian ranking of institutional capacity and sustainable development of communities as of 01.01.2022, formed by the Regional Centre for Economic Research and Business Support Foundation;
- X_3 – level of community capacity for project activities – based on the analysis of primary data obtained from a survey of local government officials at the community level.

The generalised results of the assessment of the level of institutional capacity of communities to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan were calculated based on the following indicators:

Total score by integral indicator	Level of capability
from 13 to 15	high
from 10 to 12	optimal
from 7 to 9	satisfactory
from 4 to 6	low
3	critical

According to the results of the 1st stage of the assessment, out of 269 territorial communities:

- **32** territorial communities received a high level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan: 12 – Odesa region, 11 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 6 – Mykolaiv region, 2 – Zaporizhzhia region, 1 – Kherson region;
- **61** territorial communities received the optimal level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan: 28 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 24 – Odesa region, 7 – Mykolaiv region, 2 – Zaporizhzhia region;
- **133** territorial communities received a satisfactory level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan: 47 – Odesa region, 37 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 31 – Mykolaiv region, 10 – Zaporizhzhia region, 8 – Kherson region;
- **43** territorial communities received a low level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan: 12 – Kherson region, 10 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 8 – Odesa region, 8 – Mykolaiv region, 5 – Zaporizhzhia region;
- Communities with a critical level of institutional capacity to implement the humanitarian response plan's projects and programmes have not been identified.

⁷ Assessment of the financial capacity of territorial communities by the end of 2023. *Decentralisation portal*. 2024. URL: <https://decentralization.ua/news/17881>

Table 1.1. Levels of institutional capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan

Region	Number of territorial communities	High level	Optimal level	Satisfactory level	Low level
Dnipropetrovsk	86	11	28	37	10
Zaporizhzhia	19	2	2	10	5
Kherson	21	1	-	8	12
Mykolaiv	52	6	7	31	8
Odesa	91	12	24	47	8
Total	269	32	61	133	43

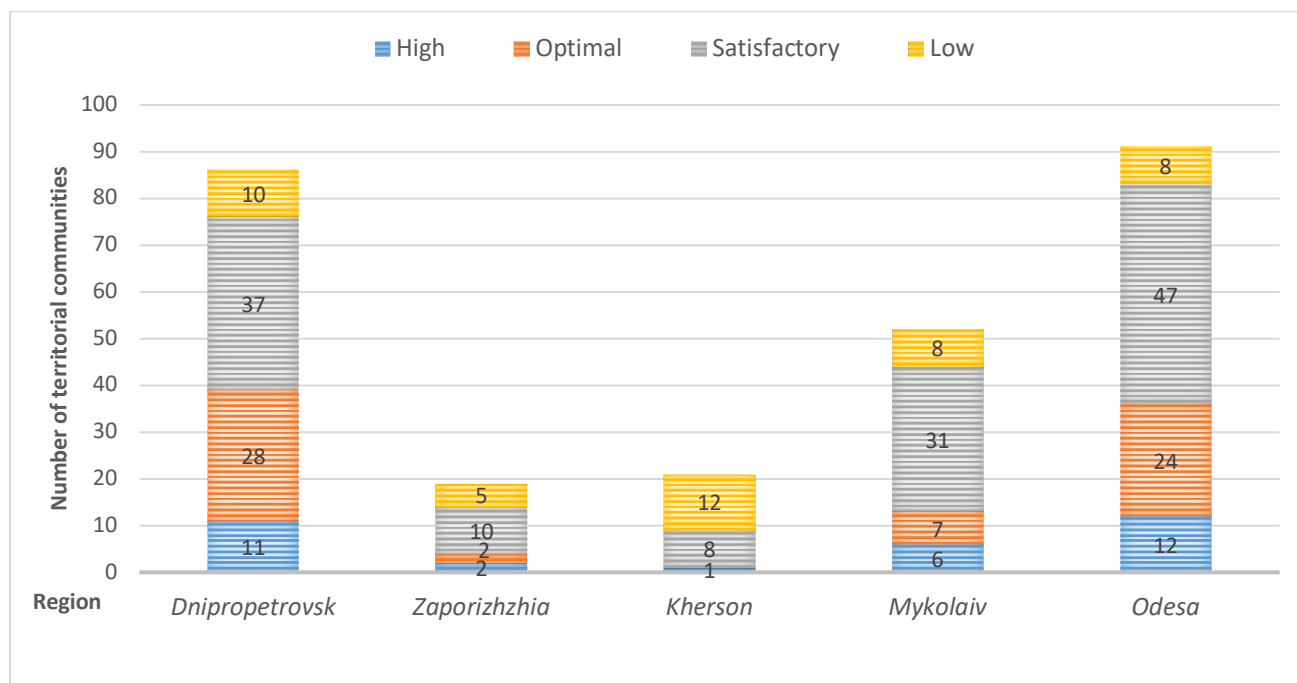


Figure 1.1. Number of communities within the regions of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan

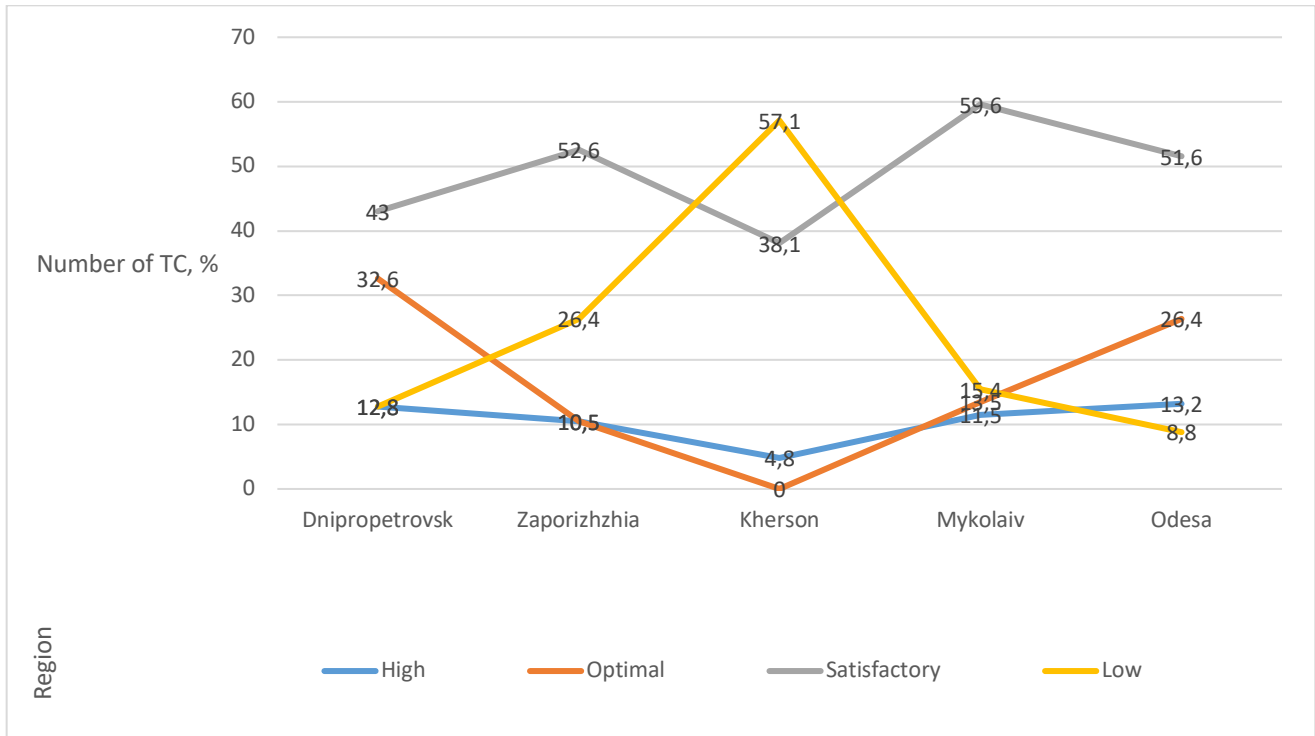


Figure 1.2. Diagram of the ratio of different levels of institutional capacity of communities within the regions of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine, in per cent

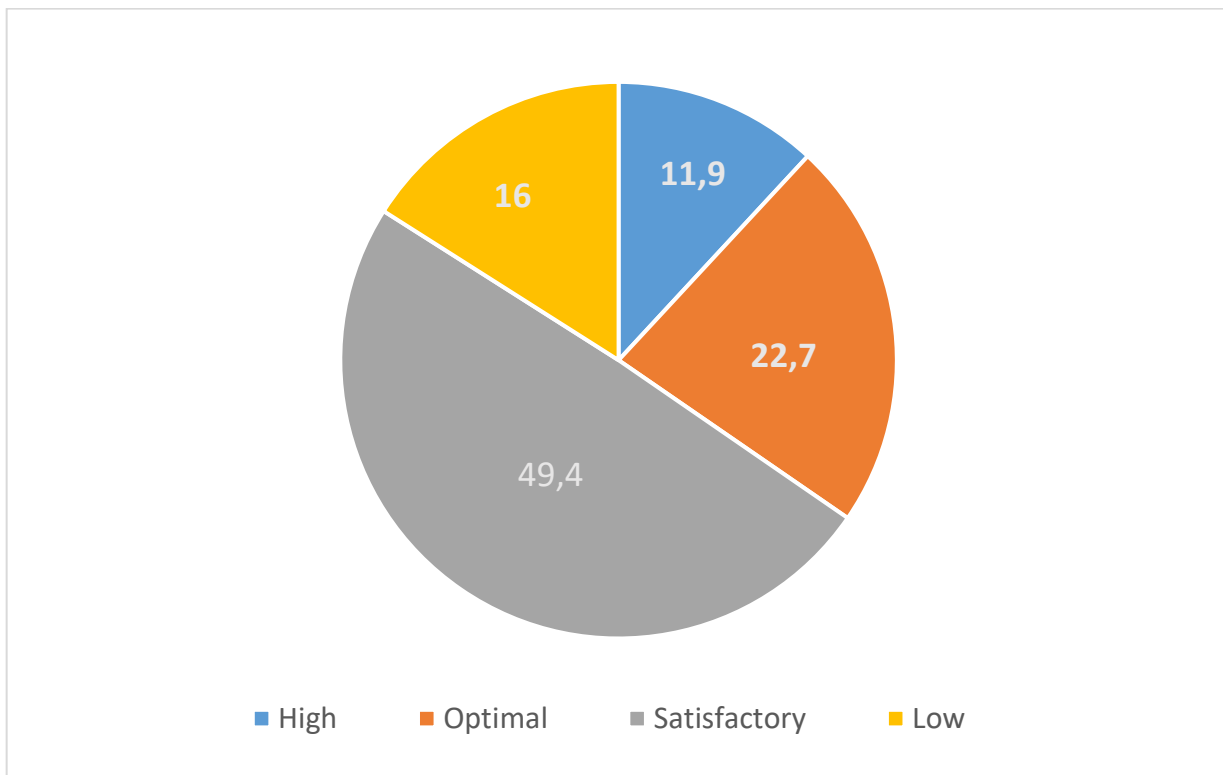


Figure 1.3. Diagram of the ratio of territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by different levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan, in percentage

93 territorial communities of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine, which is **34.6%** of the total, have received high and optimal levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan, which indicates the following:

- members of the territorial community are capable of carrying out project activities and have successful previous experience in implementing humanitarian projects and participating in international projects and programmes;
- the territorial community has the necessary powers and resources, which indicates a high level of institutional and organisational support for project activities; in particular, there are separate organisational structures in the authorities that ensure the coordination and implementation of project activities in the community;
- adequate technological support, which includes a material and technical base, coordination, and feedback from the authority to volunteers, CSOs, and international donors; all conditions for professional project activities, including ongoing training, have been created.

Table 1.2. Territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine that are able to successfully implement project activities in the field of humanitarian response

<i>Region</i>	<i>High level (of community)</i>	<i>Optimal level (of community)</i>
Dnipropetrovsk	11 – Dniprovska city, Slobozhanska settlement, Solonianska settlement, Tsarychanska settlement, Kryvorizka city, Novomoskovska city, Nikopolska city, Tomakivska settlement, Pavlohradska city, Mezhyvska settlement, Pokrovska settlement	28 – Novooleksandrivska village, Novopokrovska settlement, Pidhorodnenska city, Verkhnodniprovska city, Zhovtovodska city, Kamianska city, Piatykhatska city, Hrechanopodivska village, Zelenodolska city, Karpivska village, Sofiivska settlement, Shyrokivska settlement, Mahdalynivska settlement, Pishchanska village, Cherkaska settlement, Marhanetska city, Pokrovska village, Pokrovska city, Bohdanivska village, Verbkiivska village, Ternivska city, Troitska village, Yurivska settlement, Vasylkivska settlement, Velykomykhailivska village, Mykolaivska village, Pershotravenska city, Petropavlivska settlement
Zaporizhzhia	2 – Zaporizka city, Shyrokivska village	2 – Vilnianska city, Komyshevaska settlement
Kherson	1 – Khersonska city	-
Mykolaiv	6 – Bashtanska city, Voznesenska city, Koblevska village, Mykolaivska city, Pervomaiska city, Yuzhnoukrainska city	7 – Arbuzyvska settlement, Berezanska settlement, Vradiivska settlement, Domanivska settlement, Kazankivska settlement, Novobuzka city, Novoodeska city
Odesa	12 – Avanhardivska settlement, Baltska city, Bolhradska city, Bilhorod-Dnistrovska city, Vyzyrska village, Dobroslavska settlement, Izmailska city, Krasnosilska village, Odeska city, Podilska city, Rozdilnianska city, Tairovska settlement	24 – Berezivska city, Biliaivska city, Velykodolynska settlement, Vylkivska city, Dalnytska village, Zatyshanska settlement, Zakharivska settlement, Zelenohirska settlement, Karolino-Buhazka village, Kodymska city, Konoplianska village, Kuialnytska village, Liubashivska settlement, Maiakivska village, Nerubaiska village, Ovidiopska settlement, Oknianska settlement, Reniiska city, Rozkvitivska village, Stepanivska village, Tarutynska settlement, Chornomorska settlement, Chornomorska city, Yuzhenska city
Total	32	61

Thus, **93** territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine are likely to be able to carry out project activities successfully in the field of humanitarian response.

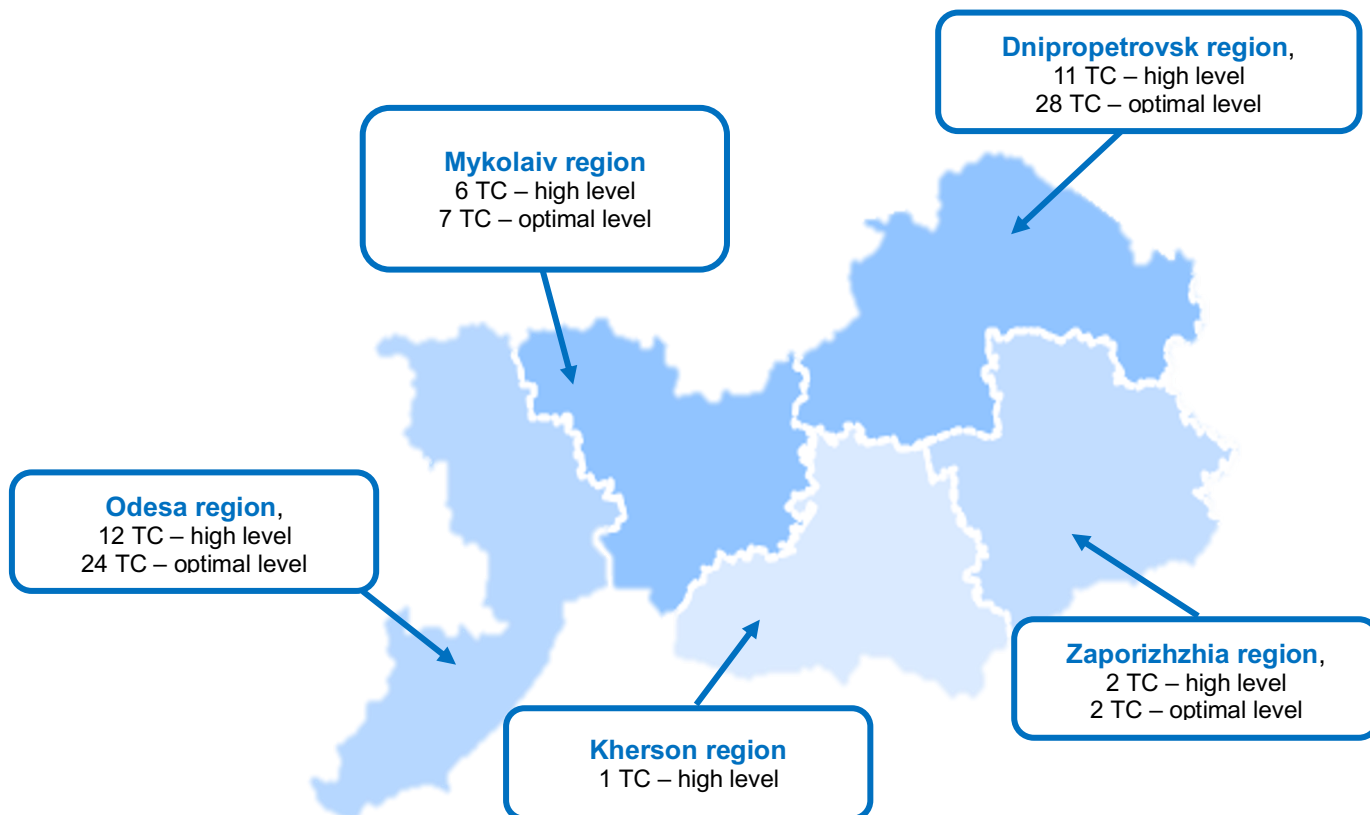


Figure 1.4. Number of TCs by regions of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine that are able to implement project activities in the field of humanitarian response successfully

The **32** territorial communities of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine, which received a *high level* of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan, are characterised by the highest potential for implementing response measures, according to the Ukraine 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan:

- *competence potential* – the effectiveness of local governments and volunteer and civil society organisations in the field of humanitarian response, primarily: regular collection of information on needs; search and engagement of humanitarian aid donors; coordination; transport and warehouse logistics; writing grant applications and implementing humanitarian projects; ensuring openness and feedback. In particular, each territorial community has a humanitarian headquarters;

- *resource potential* – the effectiveness of the local government's use of the potential of the territorial community (material, technical, natural, information resources, etc.) to ensure prompt humanitarian response and provide necessary social services to the population and IDPs;

- *capacity to organise humanitarian assistance processes in the community* – experience in developing and implementing humanitarian projects on the ground, as well as previous knowledge of the context of the Core Humanitarian Standard⁸ and the current receipt by local specialists of up-to-date data on needs and problems directly from the affected population and local communities.

⁸ The Sphere Manual. The Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards for Humanitarian Assistance, 4th edition, Geneva, Switzerland, 2018. URL: <https://spherestandards.org/wp-content/uploads/Sphere-Handbook-2018-Ukrainian.pdf>

2. CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN REGION OF UKRAINE TO LOCALISE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

By the Methodology, the study to *determine the level of community capacity to localise humanitarian response* was the second of three consecutive stages of a comprehensive assessment, based on the results of which, depending on the level of progress in localisation - the level of organisation of processes related to the provision of humanitarian assistance in the community, the feasibility of further assessment of communities as capable of being involved in a particular humanitarian cluster is substantiated.

In the second stage of the study, the state and experience of organising humanitarian assistance processes in the community were assessed using the HAG and PIANGO methodology "Localisation Measurement System and Methods"⁹, which is adapted to the context of Ukraine and allows for a comprehensive measurement of progress in localisation. Based on an analysis of the evidence of localisation practices in different areas, the basic process of localisation of humanitarian organisations at the community level was assessed in seven areas that are particularly important for improving local leadership in humanitarian response: Partnerships, Leadership, Coordination and Complementarity; Financing; Capacity; Influence on policy-making; Engagement.

The Methodology of the study to determine the level of community capacity to localise humanitarian response included the following steps:

- survey of respondents who have been working in the humanitarian sphere for more than six months and hold senior positions in NGOs in the field;
- desk research of the collected and analysed primary data (survey results) on the level of community capacity to localise humanitarian response assessment of the levels of evidence of actions by indicators in each of the seven measurement areas;
- expert analysis of the results of the assessment of community capacity by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices.

The assessment was based on primary data obtained from a survey of **42** representatives of local organisations who have been working in the humanitarian field for more than six months and hold senior positions in NGOs in the field to assess the capacity of communities to localise humanitarian response. The respondents answered questions grouped into seven thematic blocks based on areas of particular importance for improving local leadership in humanitarian response.

The respondents were selected from the territorial communities that, according to the results of the first stage of the study, received:

- a high level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan in the Odesa (12), Dnipropetrovsk (11) and Mykolaiv (6) regions – 29 respondents;
- high (2) and optimal (2) levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan in the Zaporizhzhia region – 4 respondents;
- high (1) and satisfactory (8) levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan in the Kherson region – 9 respondents.

One of the main challenges identified by respondents during the data collection was the difficulty of defining how they understood localisation and what it should look like in practice in Ukraine:

⁹ Assessment of the baseline of humanitarian response in Ukraine (explanation of the methodology and examples of indicators). *Info Sapiens*. 2023. URL <https://www.sapiens.com.ua/ua/publication-single-page?id=284>

- each of the interviewed respondents provided their own definition of the concept of "localisation";
- only 9 respondents (1 – Zaporizhzhia region, Shyroktivska TC; 4 – Odesa region: Odeska, Avanhardivska, Vyzyrska, Izmailska TCs; 3 – Dnipropetrovsk region: Dniprovska, Pokrovska settlement, Slobozhanska TC; 1 – Mykolaiv region, Mykolaivska TC) when were asked about the essence of localisation, they mentioned the commitment to provide more direct funding to civil society and volunteer organisations working with humanitarian aid on the ground;
- more than 50% of respondents explained the essence of localisation through the principles of partnership and engagement of local NGOs;
- no respondent could name at least two commitments of the Grand Bargain;
- almost all respondents said that, in practice, localisation should look like ensuring better coordination and partnership.

Based on the desk analysis of the results of the survey of respondents on the state and experience of organising humanitarian assistance processes in 42 communities, the levels of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in seven areas were determined for each of the five regions, which were assessed by progress indicators in each of the measurement areas.

Key progress indicators and criteria for applying localisation practices in seven primary areas



PARTNERSHIPS

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
Partnerships are built on the principles of fairness and ethics	Being involved in the decision-making process in joint projects	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)
	Sharing ideas within the partnership		
	Getting feedback		
Long-term strategic partnerships are built to create systems and processes that reflect the aspirations and goals of the local partner	Formality of the partnership	Number of signed agreements	2.0 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Prioritising new partnerships	Number of documents where this issue is formalised	
	Partnership funding	Financing of operating / overhead costs	
Increasing the overall authority within the partnership and the decision-making power of local actors	The format of the partnership	Strategic; Local initiatives	1.7 (interval between a limited and certain amount of testimonies)
	Bureaucracy: involvement of "intermediary" organisations; comprehensive inspections	Extreme; Moderate	



LEADERSHIP

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
International actors support and strengthen local leadership	Direct contact between local partners and donors	Number of meetings of NGOs with international/foreign donors	1.3 (limited number of testimonies)
	Meeting format	Number of online communication platforms	
	Interpretation of the concept of "donor"	Which organisations are considered as "donors"	
Local actors play a leadership role in humanitarian response and decision-making	Managing the decision-making process (leadership role of the organisation)	Local authorities, Central authorities, Local communities, Ukrainian NGOs	1.8 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Management structure	More international staff joined the management team; More Ukrainian specialists have been appointed to senior positions; No changes	
International actors respect and cooperate with local leadership structures	Increased influence of local organisations in local decision-making	More powers; Fewer powers; No change	2.8 (significant amount of testimonies)
	Respect for the country's leadership (cooperation with leadership structures)	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
National representation and participation in coordination forums and meetings	Participation in coordination meetings	Personal participation; Organisational participation; No participation	1.8 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Level of forums/coordination meetings	National; International	1.8 (a certain number of testimonies)

	Obstacles that hinder active participation in international forums	Working language; Terminological and methodological barriers; Lack of time	2.0 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Consideration of proposals from Ukrainian NGOs at international forums	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	2.0 (a certain number of testimonies)



FINANCING

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
Local and national actors have access to direct funding without or with limited obstacles	Number of funding sources	0 1-2 3-4 5+	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)
	Obstacles for NGOs to receive direct funding	Lack of processes and mechanisms for providing funds; Comprehensive inspections; Language barriers	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)
	Financing of indirect costs	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)
Increase the amount of humanitarian funding for local and national actors	Changes in funding	Significant improvement; Some improvement; Some deterioration; Severe deterioration; No change	1.6 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Financial stability	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.6 (a certain number of testimonies)
Local and national actors have more power in financial decision-making	International organisations provide access to financial documents to partners	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)



CAPACITY

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
Using local, national and regional potential is more important than using international experience	Identifying capacity-building needs	International organisations; Local / national organisations; Collaboratively	2.8 (significant amount of testimonies)
	International partners' efforts to strengthen local capacity-	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	
International actors do not sideline national actors in emergency response	Strengthening capacity / capability	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.9 (a certain number of testimonies)
	Areas for strengthening the organisation's capacity through international support	Financial; Organisational; Procedural; Human resources	



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
Policies are developed taking into account the opinions of the local and national population, including the views of communities	Participation in policy-making	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	0.0 (no testimonies)
National actors are recognised as key stakeholders in national discussions on policies and standards that can have a significant impact on their lives	Availability/sufficiency of resources to influence policy and targeting of programmes	Financial; Human; Time-based; Informational	1.0 (limited number of testimonies)
Local and national actors influence donor priorities in the country, including programme design and implementation	Taking into account the context of local humanitarian needs in existing humanitarian instruments	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	0.0 (no testimonies)



ENGAGEMENT

Progress indicators	Criterion	Indicator	Level of evidence
Community standards are applied to all actors working in the same context	Consideration of the needs of the affected population	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	3.0 (significant amount of testimonies)
	Flexibility of humanitarian projects and programmes	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.9 (a certain number of testimonies)
Communities have more opportunities to shape programmes, including evaluating programmes of international actors	Involvement and participation of Ukrainian actors at all stages of the humanitarian programme cycle	Always; Mostly; Sometimes; Never	1.9 (a certain number of testimonies)

According to the research methodology, there are four levels of evidence: "no testimonies" means up to 30% of positive answers to the indicative question; "a limited number of testimonies" means 31-50% of positive answers; "a certain number of testimonies" means 51-75% of positive answers; "a significant amount of testimonies" means more than 75% of positive answers. Levels of evidence are determined on a 4-point scale, where 0 = no testimonies; 1 = a limited number of testimonies; 2 = a certain number of testimonies; and 3 = a significant amount of testimonies. The overall localisation score for each area is calculated using the average scores for limited and specific localisation testimonies.

For each area, the levels of evidence of humanitarian localisation practices in different areas are established, which determine the capacity for local leadership in humanitarian response:

- a high level of evidence – the average score for the number of testimonies > 2;
- an optimal level of evidence – the average score for the number of testimonies > 1.5;
- a sufficient level of evidence – the average score for the number of testimonies > 0.9;
- a low level of evidence – the average score for the number of testimonies up to 0.8.

ASSESSING THE CAPACITY OF 12 COMMUNITIES IN THE ODESA REGION TO APPLY LOCALISATION PRACTICES BY THE LEVEL OF EVIDENCE OF ACTIONS

Table 2.1. Summary of results by seven areas of evidence-based action for the application of localisation practices in the Odesa region

Areas	Level of evidence (average score)
Partnerships	Optimal – 1.6
Leadership	Optimal – 1.9
Coordination and complementarity	Optimal – 1.9

Financing	Sufficient – 1.4
Capacity	High – 2.3
Influencing policy-making	Low – 0.5
Engagement	High – 2.1

Each of these areas is discussed separately below.



PARTNERSHIPS

The overall score for localisation in the area of partnerships is **1.6** (the interval between limited and specific evidence).

The survey found that NGOs from the Odesa community are "always" involved in decision-making, three communities in the Odesa region – Avanhardivska, Vyzyrskā, Dobroslavskā – are "mostly" involved, six communities are "sometimes" involved, and two communities – Baltska and Bolhradskā – are "never" involved. The answers showed that the more partnership agreements NGOs have, the more actively they participate in decision-making processes. Thus, there is a clear link between the number of partnerships and the level of cooperation with foreign partners.

Respondents noted that one of the reasons for the lack of partnership development is bureaucracy – the involvement of "intermediary" organisations increases the degree of bureaucracy compared to direct funding.

All respondents emphasised that partnerships with international organisations do not cover operational costs like fuel, staff or rent. NGOs from Odeska, Avanhardivska and Dobroslavskā communities, which have a large number of partners, noted that they have the opportunity to be more flexible with indirect costs, as they can distribute them between projects.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *four communities of the Odesa region – Odeska, Avanhardivskā, Vyzyrskā, and Dobroslavskā – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in partnerships.*



LEADERSHIP

The overall score for localisation in leadership is **1.9** (a certain amount of evidence).

There is some evidence of localisation in the area of leadership. However, the scores for different indicators vary: there is limited evidence that international actors are directing their efforts towards increasing support and strengthening national leadership, and there is a significant amount of evidence that international actors respect and cooperate with leadership structures in the country.

Respondents from Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bilhorod-Dnistrovskā, Vyzyrskā and Dobroslavskā TCs noted that local organisations have become more influential in local decision-making processes in Ukraine and that there are more Ukrainian professionals in leadership positions. In addition, the number of meetings with donors has increased.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities in the Odesa region – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bilhorod-Dnistrovskā, Vyzyrskā, and Dobroslavskā – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of leadership.*



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

The overall localisation score in the area of coordination and complementarity is **1.9** (a certain amount of evidence).

The study found some evidence of localisation in approaches to coordination and complementarity. In this area, both indicators of progress – participation in forums and role allocation – have similar levels of evidence. Coordination in humanitarian response is critical to humanitarian action's efficiency, effectiveness and overall success.

The survey data shows a high level of participation in coordination structures in all 12 communities in the Odesa region. The respondents noted that five communities most often participate in international forums – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bilhorod-Dnistrovska, Vyzyrskya and Dobroslavska TCs, while the rest join in national ones. The main obstacles to active participation in international coordination meetings / forums were language and terminology. To the question "Do you think that local, national and international actors have the same understanding of the complementarity of roles when using coordination mechanisms (e.g. cluster system)?", respondents from four TCs – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Vyzyrskya and Dobroslavska – answered positively, noting that their ideas and proposals were mostly heard at coordination forums.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities of the Odesa region – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Vyzyrskya, and Dobroslavska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of coordination.*



FINANCING

The overall localisation score in the area of financing is **1.4** (a limited number of testimonies).

The study found limited localisation evidence in this area, with an average score of 1.4. Only two communities – Avanhardivska and Odeska – have more than three sources of funding, three communities – two sources – Bilhorod-Dnistrovska, Vyzyrskya and Dobroslavska, and the rest – no more than one. All respondents answered negatively to the question about financing direct costs. The respondents noted that the organisations from the five communities are mostly financially stable – they always have an operating budget for at least three months. In terms of joint decision-making, there is a certain amount of testimony that "local and national actors have increased decision-making capacity on financial issues": organisations from two TCs – Avanhardivska and Odeska – international organisations always provide access to financial documents (budgets and reports) to their local partners.

The respondents also noted that funding is an obvious obstacle to effective localisation, as they mostly work with short-term grants at the project level, and it is important to move to multi-year flexible grants at the programme level.

The assessment concludes that *two communities in the Odesa region – Odeska and Avanhardivska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of financing, and Bilhorod-Dnistrovska, Vyzyrskya and Dobroslavska – a sufficient level. Other communities have a low level.*



CAPACITY

The overall localisation score in the area of capacity is **2.3** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study showed a high score of 2.3 for localisation in the area of capacity, which means that this is one of the areas where the greatest progress has been made. This is primarily due to the fact that NGOs have been working in the humanitarian sector since 2014 and have gained a lot of experience.

All respondents to the questions "Do international actors focus their efforts on capacity building in areas where local actors need them (sharing of experience in processes, procedures, policies)?" and "Is the capacity of local and national actors strengthened by the support of international actors?" answered "mostly".

The respondents also noted that international support for their organisations has strengthened their capacity in financial and human resources.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all 12 communities in the Odesa region have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of capacity. It is also important to note that, according to the results of the first stage of the assessment, these communities also have a high level of financial and institutional capacity.*



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

The overall score for localisation in the area of policy influence is **0.5** (a limited number of testimonies).

The study found limited evidence of progress in the area of policy influence, with an average score of 0.5 (the lowest compared to other areas). Local NGOs and VOs make up the majority of all organisations working in the field of humanitarian assistance. However, respondents noted that the humanitarian aid system is currently dominated by international actors, and local NGOs do not have sufficient influence on policy decisions, including on the targeting of programmes. All respondents stated that they sometimes have the opportunity to influence humanitarian policy but do not have sufficient resources to do so.

Regarding the question "Do existing humanitarian instruments and policies consider local needs for humanitarian assistance?" only five respondents answered mostly, while all others answered sometimes.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities in the Odesa region – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bilhorod-Dnistrovska, Vyzyrskya and Dobroslavska – have a low level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the area of policy influence, while others – have no evidence of actions at all.*



ENGAGEMENT

The overall localisation score in the engagement area is **2.1** (a certain amount of testimonies).

Participation in the Ukrainian humanitarian response provided some evidence of localisation. The average score of 2.1 indicates significant progress in this area compared to other areas.

All respondents believe that the needs of the affected population are taken into account in the design and implementation of humanitarian programmes, and humanitarian organisations mainly adjust their projects and programmes if the circumstances / needs of the affected population change.

Five respondents answered that their organisations are sometimes involved in all stages of the humanitarian programme cycle (analysis, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation), while others said they are never involved.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities in the Odesa region – Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bilhorod-Dnistrovska, Vyzyrsk, and Dobroslavska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the area of engagement, while the rest have an optimal level.*

Overall assessment of the capacity of 12 communities in the Odesa region by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices

The summary results of the assessment (Table 2.2) show the following:

- 5 communities of the Odesa region: Odeska City, Avanhardivska Settlement, Bilhorod-Dnistrovska City, Vyzyrsk Village, Dobroslavska Settlement *were identified as the most capable of localising humanitarian response based on the results of the localisation progress study;*

- 3 communities of the Odesa region: Izmailska City, Rozdilnianska City, and Tairovska Settlement *showed significant progress in improving local leadership in the field of humanitarian response;*

- 4 communities of the Odesa region: Baltska City, Bolhradska City, Krasnosilkska Village, and Podilkska City, *have a sufficient level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices.*

Table 2.2. Levels of evidence of actions regarding the application of localisation practices in 7 areas by communities of the Odesa region

Community	Areas						
	Partnerships	Leadership	Coordination	Financing	Capacity	Influence on policies	Engagement
Avanhardivska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Baltska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	-	optimal
Bolhradska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	-	optimal
Bilhorod-Dnistrovska	optimal	high	optimal	sufficient	high	low	high
Vyzrska	high	high	high	sufficient	high	low	high
Dobroslavska	high	high	high	sufficient	high	low	high
Izmailska	optimal	optimal	optimal	low	high	-	optimal
Krasnosilska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	-	optimal
Odeska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Podilska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	-	optimal
Rozdilnianska	sufficient	optimal	optimal	low	high	-	optimal
Tairovska	optimal	optimal	optimal	low	high	-	optimal

ASSESSMENT OF THE CAPACITY OF SIX COMMUNITIES IN THE MYKOLAIV REGION TO APPLY LOCALISATION PRACTICES BY THE LEVEL OF EVIDENCE OF ACTIONS

Table 2.3. Summary of results by seven areas of evidence-based action for the application of localisation practices in the Mykolaiv region

Areas	Level of evidence (average score)
Partnerships	Optimal – 1.9
Leadership	Optimal – 1.7
Coordination and complementarity	Optimal – 1.9
Financing	Optimal – 1.9
Capacity	High – 2.2
Influencing policy-making	Sufficient – 1.0
Engagement	High – 2.1

Each of these areas is discussed separately below.



PARTNERSHIPS

The overall score for localisation in the area of partnerships is **1.9** (a certain number of testimonies).

The survey revealed that NGOs from the Mykolaiv region mostly have a strategic partnership format. Respondents noted that the process of signing partnership agreements with international actors has improved, with the number of agreements increasing over the past two years. Mykolaivska and Yuzhnoukrainska TCs have 4 agreements each, Pervomaiska has 3, and others have 2. The responses showed a direct link between the number of partnership agreements that NGOs have and active participation in decision-making processes.

The main reason for the insufficient development of partnerships was the excessive level of bureaucracy, in particular, the problems of due diligence. To the question, "Has your international / foreign partner organisation ever formally assessed your potential within your partnership?" all respondents answered negatively. Also, the lack of funding for operational costs has a negative impact on building long-term strategic partnerships. In addition, the partnership development process was complicated by using different reporting formats and the various requirements for supporting documentation set by donors / NGO grantors.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *three communities of the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, and Koblevska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in partnerships.*



LEADERSHIP

The overall score for localisation in the area of leadership is **1.7** (the interval between limited and specific evidence).

Respondents provided varying evidence that international actors are directing their efforts towards increasing support and strengthening national leadership – only in 2 communities – Mykolaivska and Yuzhnoukrainska – organisations regularly participate in meetings with international partners. NGOs from 4 communities emphasised that international organisations do not limit local leadership in any way and respect and cooperate with leadership structures.

Respondents from Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska and Koblevska TCs noted that local organisations have become more influential in local decision-making processes in Ukraine and that there are more Ukrainian specialists in leadership positions.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska, and Koblevska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of leadership.*



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

The overall localisation score in coordination and complementarity is **1.9** (a certain amount of evidence).

The study found some evidence of localisation in approaches to coordination and complementarity. The survey data indicate a high level of participation in coordination structures by all NGOs from six communities in the Mykolaiv region. The respondents noted that four communities most often participate in international forums – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska and Koblevska, while the rest join in national forums. The main obstacles to active participation in international coordination meetings / forums were language and terminology. To the question, "Do you think that local, national and international actors have the same understanding of the complementarity of roles when using coordination mechanisms (e.g. cluster system)?", respondents from four TCs answered positively, noting that their ideas and proposals mainly were heard at coordination forums.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska, and Koblevska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of coordination.*



FINANCING

The overall localisation score in the finance area is **1.9** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study found a certain amount of evidence of localisation in financing. Four communities – Mykolayivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska and Koblevska – have 2-3 funding sources; the rest – no more than 1. All respondents answered negatively to the question about financing direct costs. Respondents indicated that organisations from four

communities are mostly financially stable – always have an operating budget for at least three months. The respondents pointed to limited funding opportunities, short duration of grants and insufficient focus on the sustainability of partnerships as the main challenges inherent in the available funding sources.

For organisations from the 4 TCs, international organisations mostly provide access to their local partners' financial documents (budgets and reports).

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska, and Koblevska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of financing, while Bashtanska and Voznesenska have a sufficient level.*



CAPACITY

The overall localisation score in the area of capacity is **2.2** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study has shown that this is one of the areas where the most significant progress has been made. All respondents to the questions "Do international actors focus their efforts on capacity building in areas where local actors need them (exchange of experience on processes, procedures, policies)?" and "Is the capacity of local and national actors strengthened by the support of international actors?" answered "mostly".

The respondents also noted that international support in their organisations has strengthened their financial, procedural and human resources capacity. However, respondents believe that the capacity-building needs of local actors are identified exclusively at the local level without the involvement of international partners.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all six communities in the Mykolaiv region have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the area of capacity.*



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

The overall localisation score in influencing policy-making is **1.0** (a limited number of testimonies).

All respondents indicated that their organisations are rarely involved in humanitarian policy development and planning processes in Ukraine and that they sometimes have the opportunity to influence humanitarian policy but lack sufficient resources to do so. To the question "Do existing humanitarian instruments and policies consider local humanitarian needs?" four respondents answered "mostly", while all others answered "sometimes".

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska, and Koblevska – have a low level of evidence of actions on the application of localisation practices in the field of policy influence, while others have no evidence of actions at all.*



ENGAGEMENT

The overall localisation score in the engagement area is **2.1** (a certain amount of testimonies).

All respondents believe that the needs of the affected population are taken into account in the development and implementation of humanitarian programmes, and humanitarian organisations mainly adjust their projects and programmes if the circumstances/needs of the affected population change. Four respondents answered that their organisations are sometimes involved in all stages of the humanitarian programme cycle (analysis, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation), while others said they are never involved.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska, Yuzhnoukrainska, Pervomaiska, and Koblevska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the area of engagement, while the rest have an optimal level.*

Overall assessment of the capacity of 6 communities in the Mykolaiv region by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices

The summary results of the assessment (Table 2.4) show the following:

- 3 communities of the Mykolaiv region – Mykolaivska City, Yuzhnoukrainska City and Koblevska – *were identified as the most capable of localising the humanitarian response based on the results of the localisation progress study;*
- 1 community in Mykolaiv region – Pervomaiska City – *showed significant progress in improving local leadership in humanitarian response;*
- 2 communities in the Mykolaiv region – Voznesenska City and Bashtanska City – *have a sufficient level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices.*

Table 2.4. Levels of evidence of actions regarding the application of localisation practices in 7 areas by communities of the Mykolaiv region

Community	Areas						
	<i>Partnerships</i>	<i>Leadership</i>	<i>Coordination</i>	<i>Financing</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Influence on policies</i>	<i>Engagement</i>
Mykolaivska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Bashtanska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	high	-	optimal
Voznesenska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	high	-	optimal
Pervomaiska	optimal	high	high	sufficient	high	low	high
Koblevska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Yuzhnoukrainska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high

ASSESSMENT OF THE CAPACITY OF 9 COMMUNITIES IN THE KHERSON REGION TO APPLY LOCALISATION PRACTICES BY THE LEVEL OF EVIDENCE OF ACTIONS

Table 2.5. Summary of results by seven areas of evidence-based action for the application of localisation practices in the Kherson region

Areas	Level of evidence (average score)
Partnerships	Sufficient – 1.0
Leadership	Sufficient – 1.3
Coordination and complementarity	Optimal – 1.8
Financing	Sufficient – 1.3
Capacity	Optimal – 1.8
Influencing policy-making	Low – 0.5
Engagement	Optimal – 1.5

Each of these areas is discussed separately below.



PARTNERSHIPS

The overall localisation score in the area of partnerships is **1.0** (a limited number of testimonies).

During the survey, it was found that NGOs from only 1 TC – Khersonska – have more than four international partnership agreements, 4 TCs – Beryslavska, Velykooleksandrivska, Vysokopilska, Bilozerska – have two agreements each, and the rest – one. In the decision-making process in joint projects with international/foreign participants, CSOs from Khersonka TC, sometimes from Kochubeivska and Bilozerska TCs, mainly participate in the decision-making process, and feedback is provided within the partnership when exchanging views. Respondents from these communities also noted the predominantly strategic format of the partnership. Some respondents indicated a reluctance to cooperate with institutional funding mechanisms due to the complex responsibilities and associated financial and legal obligations arising from partnerships with donors.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *one community in the Kherson region – Khersonska – has a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of partnerships, four communities – Beryslavska, Velykooleksandrivska, Vysokopilska, and Bilozerska – have a sufficient level, and the rest have a low level.*



LEADERSHIP

The overall localisation score in leadership is **1.3** (a limited number of testimonies).

The respondents' answers showed a significant difference between communities regarding leadership capacity: in four communities, organisations participated relatively regularly in meetings with international partners, while in other communities, they rarely

or never participated. At the same time, NGOs from the same four communities emphasised that international organisations do not limit local leadership in any way, respect and cooperate with leadership structures, while others noted that they do. Respondents also provided various testimonies to the fact that international actors are directing their efforts to increase support and strengthen national leadership. Respondents from Khersonska, Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska communities indicated that local organisations have become more influential in local decision-making processes in Ukraine and that more Ukrainian professionals are in leadership positions.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *one community in the Kherson region – Khersonska – has a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of leadership, three communities – Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska – have a sufficient level of evidence, and the rest—a low level.*



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

The overall localisation score in coordination and complementarity is **1.8** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study found some evidence of localisation in approaches to coordination and complementarity. The survey data indicate a high level of participation in coordination structures of all NGOs from 9 communities in the Kherson region. The respondents noted that CSOs from four communities most often participate in international forums – Khersonska, Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska and Bilozerska, and the rest – in national ones. The main obstacles to active participation in international coordination meetings / forums were language and terminology. To the question, "Do you think that local, national and international actors have the same understanding of the complementarity of roles when using coordination mechanisms (e.g., the cluster system)?" respondents from four TCs answered positively, noting that their ideas and suggestions were mostly heard at coordination forums.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Kherson region – Khersonska, Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of coordination.*



FINANCING

The overall localisation score in the area of financing is **1.3** (a limited number of testimonies).

Four communities – Khersonska, Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska and Bilozerska – have 2-3 funding sources, and the rest – have no more than 1. All respondents answered negatively to the question about financing direct costs. Respondents indicated that organisations from four communities are mostly financially stable – and always have an operating budget for at least three months. Respondents indicated limited funding opportunities. Respondents noted that NGOs established after the start of the full-scale invasion, due to a lack of experience in this area, did not know what expenses were considered eligible for funding and, in an attempt to submit cost-effective and competitive budgets, often did not include key support costs. For organisations from four TCs, international organisations mostly provide their local partners access to financial documents (budgets and reports).

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *one community in the Kherson region – Khersonska – has an optimal level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of financing, three communities – Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska – have a sufficient level of evidence, and the rest have a low level.*



CAPACITY

The overall localisation score in the area of capacity is **1.8** (a certain amount of evidence).

The study showed that this is one of the areas where the most significant progress has been made. All respondents to the questions "Do international actors focus their efforts on capacity building in areas where local actors need them (exchange of experience on processes, procedures, policies)?" and "Is the capacity of local and national actors strengthened by the support of international actors?" answered "mostly".

The respondents also noted that international support strengthens their organisations' financial, procedural, and human resources capacity. However, the respondents believe that the need to enhance the capacity of local actors is determined exclusively at the local level without the involvement of international partners.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all nine communities in the Kherson region have an optimal level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the capacity field.*



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

The overall localisation score in the area of influencing policy-making is **0.5** (a limited number of testimonies).

All respondents indicated that their organisations are very rarely involved in developing humanitarian policy and planning processes in Ukraine and sometimes have the opportunity to influence humanitarian policy but do not have sufficient resources to do so. Regarding the question, "Do existing humanitarian instruments and policies take into account local humanitarian needs?" four respondents answered "mostly", and all the rest answered "sometimes".

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *three communities of the Kherson region – Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska – have a low level of evidence of actions on the application of localisation practices in the field of policy influence, Kherson has a sufficient level, and the rest have no evidence of actions at all.*



ENGAGEMENT

The overall localisation score in the area of engagement is **1.5** (a certain amount of evidence).

All respondents believe that the needs of the affected population are taken into account in the development and implementation of humanitarian programs, and humanitarian organisations mainly adjust their projects and programs if the circumstances / needs of the affected population change. Four respondents answered that their organisations are sometimes involved in all stages of the humanitarian program cycle (analysis, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation), while others said they are never involved.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *one community in the Kherson region – Khersonska – has a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of engagement, three communities – Vysokopilska, Kochubeivska, and Bilozerska – have a sufficient level of evidence, and the rest—a low level.*

Overall assessment of the capacity of 9 communities in the Kherson region by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices

The summarised results of the assessment (Table 2.6) show the following:

- 1 community of Kherson region – Khersonska City – *was identified as the most capable of localising the humanitarian response* based on the results of the localisation progress study;

- 3 communities of the Kherson region – Vysokopilska Settlement, Kochubeivska Village and Bilozerska Settlement – *showed progress in improving local leadership in the humanitarian response;*

- 2 communities of the Kherson region – Beryslavska City, Velykooleksandrivska Settlement – *have a sufficient level of evidence of actions on the application of localisation practices;*

- 3 communities of the Kherson region – Kalynivska Settlement, Muzykivska Village, Chornobaivska Village – *have a low level of evidence of actions on applying localisation practices.*

Table 2.6. Levels of evidence of actions regarding the application of localisation practices in 7 areas by communities of the Kherson region

Community	Areas						
	<i>Partnerships</i>	<i>Leadership</i>	<i>Coordination</i>	<i>Financing</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Influence on policies</i>	<i>Engagement</i>
Khersonska	high	high	high	optimal	high	sufficient	high
Beryslavska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	optimal	low	sufficient
Velykooleksandrivska	sufficient	low	sufficient	low	optimal	low	low
Vysokopil'ska	sufficient	sufficient	high	sufficient	optimal	low	sufficient
Kochubeivska	low	sufficient	high	sufficient	optimal	low	sufficient
Bilozerska	sufficient	sufficient	high	sufficient	optimal	low	sufficient
Kalynivska	low	low	low	low	optimal	-	low
Muzykivska	low	low	low	low	optimal	-	low
Chornobaiivska	low	low	low	low	optimal	-	low

ASSESSMENT OF THE CAPACITY OF 4 COMMUNITIES IN THE ZAPORIZHZHIA REGION TO APPLY LOCALISATION PRACTICES BY THE LEVEL OF EVIDENCE OF ACTIONS

Table 2.7. Summary of results by seven areas of evidence-based action for the application of localisation practices in the Zaporizhzhia region

Areas	Level of evidence (average score)
Partnerships	High – 2.1
Leadership	Optimal – 1.9
Coordination and complementarity	High – 2.4
Financing	Optimal – 1.5
Capacity	High – 2.6
Influencing policy-making	Sufficient – 1.0
Engagement	High – 2.1

Each of these areas is discussed separately below.



PARTNERSHIPS

The overall localisation score in the area of partnerships is **2.1** (a certain number of testimonies).

Our survey revealed that all the interviewed NGO respondents stated that their organisations have a strategic format of partnerships, with respondents emphasising that the process of signing partnership agreements with international actors has improved over the past year. Shyroktivska TC has five agreements, Zaporizka TC – has four agreements, and others – have 2. The responses showed that there is mostly a direct link between the number of partnership agreements (that NGOs have) and active participation in decision-making processes. Shyroktivska TC always participates in decision-making processes, and their proposals are considered within the partnership. Also, international partners mostly provide feedback.

The main reason for the insufficient partnership development was that the requirement for CSOs / VOs to provide the necessary documentation in paper form during the verification, reporting and monitoring processes is an excessive burden that could be easily eliminated by digitising the documentation. To the question, "Has your international / foreign partner organisation ever formally assessed your capacity within the framework of your partnership?" all respondents answered negatively. In addition, the lack of funding for operational costs negatively affects building long-term strategic partnerships.

All respondents noted that establishing new partnerships is a priority for their organisation, and this issue is formalised in the community documents.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities of the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka, Shyroktivska, Vilnianska, and Komyshuvaska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in partnerships.*



LEADERSHIP

The overall score for localisation in leadership is **1.9** (a certain number of testimonies).

All respondents indicated that their organisations participated in meetings with international partners. NGOs from four communities emphasised that international organisations do not limit local leadership in any way, respect and cooperate with leadership structures. All respondents also noted that local organisations have become more influential in local decision-making processes in Ukraine and that there are more Ukrainian specialists in leadership positions.

Based on the assessment results, *four communities in the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka, Shyrokivska, Vilnianska, and Komyshuvaska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in leadership.*



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

The overall localisation score in coordination and complementarity is **2.4** (a certain amount of evidence).

The study found some localisation evidence in coordination and complementarity approaches, indicating significant progress in this area. The survey data suggests a high level of participation in coordination structures by all NGOs from the four communities in the Zaporizhzhia region. The respondents noted that three communities most often participate in international forums, and only Vilnianska – in national ones. Language and terminology were the main obstacles to active participation in international coordination meetings / forums. To the question "Do you think that local, national and international actors have the same understanding of the complementarity of roles when using coordination mechanisms (e.g. cluster system)?", respondents from three TCs answered positively, noting that their ideas and proposals were mostly heard at coordination forums.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *three communities of the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka, Shyrokivska, and Komyshuvaska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of coordination, while the Vilnianska TC has a sufficient level.*



FINANCING

The overall localisation score in financing is **1.5** (a certain amount of testimonies).

Three communities have 2-3 sources of funding, Vilnianska – 1. All respondents answered negatively to the question about financing direct costs. The respondents noted that organisations from three communities are mostly financially stable – always have an operating budget for at least three months. International organisations mostly provide their local partners with access to financial documents (budgets and reports). Lack of sufficient coverage of administrative / operational costs was identified as a key issue due to the lack of donor capacity to support such costs.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *three communities of the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka, Shyrokivska, and Komyshuvaska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of financing, while the Vilnianska TC has a sufficient level.*



CAPACITY

The overall localisation score in the area of capacity is **2.6** (a significant amount of evidence).

The study has shown that this is one of the areas where the most significant progress has been made. All respondents to the questions "Do international actors focus their efforts on capacity building in areas where local actors need them (exchange of experience on processes, procedures, policies)?" and "Is the capacity of local and national actors strengthened by the support of international actors?" answered "mostly". The respondents also noted that international support in their organisations has strengthened their financial, procedural and human resources capacity. However, respondents believe that the capacity-building needs of local actors are identified exclusively at the local level without the involvement of international partners.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all four communities of the Zaporizhzhia region have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the capacity field.*



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

The overall localisation score in the area of influencing policy-making is **1.0** (a limited number of testimonies).

All respondents indicated that their organisations are rarely involved in humanitarian policy development and planning processes in Ukraine and that they sometimes have the opportunity to influence humanitarian policy but lack sufficient resources to do so. To the question 'Do existing humanitarian instruments and policies consider local humanitarian needs?' three respondents answered 'mostly', and one answered "sometimes".

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all four communities of the Zaporizhzhia region have a low level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of influencing policy-making.*



ENGAGEMENT

The overall localisation score in the area of engagement is **2.1** (a certain amount of evidence).

All respondents believe that the needs of the affected population are taken into account in the development and implementation of humanitarian programmes, and humanitarian organisations mainly adjust their projects and programmes if the circumstances / needs of the affected population change. Three respondents answered that their organisations are sometimes involved in all stages of the humanitarian programme cycle (analysis, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation), and one respondent said they are never involved.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *three communities of the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka, Shyroktivska, Komyshevaska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of engagement, Vilnianska TC – the optimal level.*

Overall assessment of the capacity of four communities in the Zaporizhzhia region by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices

The summary results of the assessment (Table 2.8) show the following:

- 3 communities of the Zaporizhzhia region – Zaporizka City, Shyroktivska Village and Komyshevaska Settlement – *were identified as the most capable of localising the humanitarian response based on the results of the localisation progress study;*

- 1 community in the Zaporizhzhia region – Vilnianska City – *demonstrated significant progress in improving local leadership in humanitarian response.*

Table 2.8. Levels of evidence of actions regarding the application of localisation practices in 7 areas by communities of the Zaporizhzhia region

Community	Areas						
	Partnerships	Leadership	Coordination	Financing	Capacity	Influence on policies	Engagement
Zaporizka	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Shyroktivska	high	high	high	high	high	low	high
Vilnianska	high	high	optimal	sufficient	high	low	optimal
Komyshevaska	high	high	high	optimal	high	low	high

ASSESSMENT OF THE CAPACITY OF 11 COMMUNITIES IN THE DNIPROPETROVSK REGION TO APPLY LOCALISATION PRACTICES BY THE LEVEL OF EVIDENCE OF ACTIONS

Table 2.9. Summary of results by seven areas of evidence-based action for the application of localisation practices in the Dnipropetrovsk region

Areas	Level of evidence (average score)
Partnerships	Optimal – 1.6
Leadership	Optimal – 1.9
Coordination and complementarity	Optimal – 1.9
Financing	Sufficient – 1.4
Capacity	High – 2.3
Influencing policy-making	Low – 0.5
Engagement	High – 2.1

Each of these areas is discussed separately below.



PARTNERSHIPS

The overall localisation score in the area of partnerships is **1.6** (the interval between limited and a certain number of testimonies).

The survey found that NGOs from four communities – Dniprovska, Tsarychanska, Tomakivska, and Pokrovska – have more than three partnership agreements. NGOs from the Pokrovska community are "always" involved in decision-making, three communities in the Dnipropetrovska region – Dniprovska, Tsarychanska, and Novomoskovska – are "mostly" involved, and the other communities are "sometimes" involved.

The responses showed that the more partnership agreements NGOs have, the more actively they participate in decision-making processes. Thus, there is a clear link between the number of partnerships and the level of cooperation with foreign partners. Respondents noted that one of the reasons for the lack of partnership development is bureaucracy – the involvement of "intermediary" organisations increases the degree of bureaucracy compared to direct funding. All respondents emphasised that partnerships with international organisations do not cover operational costs like fuel, staff or rent. NGOs from the Dniprovska and Pokrovska communities, which have a significant number of partners, noted that they have the opportunity to be more flexible with indirect costs, as they can distribute them between projects.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *four communities of the Dnipropetrovska region – Dniprovska, Tsarychanska, Tomakivska, and Pokrovska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of partnerships, three communities – Nikopolska, Tomakivska, and Kryvorizka – have an optimal level, and the rest have a sufficient level.*



LEADERSHIP

The overall localisation score for leadership is **1.9** (a certain amount of testimonies).

Respondents from communities responded positively regarding the testimonies that international actors are directing their efforts towards increasing support and strengthening national leadership, international actors respect and cooperate with leadership structures in the country. Respondents from Dniprovaska, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska and Pokrovska TCs also noted that local organisations regularly met with international donors, their NGOs became more influential in local decision-making processes in Ukraine, and more Ukrainian specialists were appointed to senior positions. In addition, the number of meetings with donors has increased over the past two years.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region – Dniprovaska, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska, and Pokrovska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of leadership, while other communities have a sufficient level.*



COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

The overall localisation score in coordination and complementarity is **1.9** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study found some testimonies of localisation in approaches to coordination and complementarity. In this area, both indicators of progress – participation in forums and role allocation – have similar levels of evidence. Coordination in humanitarian response is critical to humanitarian action's efficiency, effectiveness, and overall success.

The survey data indicates a high level of participation in coordination structures by all NGOs from 11 communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region. The respondents noted that five communities most often participate in international forums – Dniprovaska, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska, Pokrovska, and the rest – in national ones. Language and terminology were the main obstacles to active participation in international coordination meetings / forums. To the question "Do you think that local, national and international actors have the same understanding of the complementarity of roles when using coordination mechanisms (e.g. cluster system)?" respondents from the above 5 CTs answered positively, noting that their ideas and proposals mainly were heard at coordination forums.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Dniprovaska, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska, and Pokrovska – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of coordination, three communities – Nikopolska, Novomoskovska, and Solonyanska – have an optimal level, and the rest – a sufficient level.*



FINANCING

The overall localisation score in the area of finance is **1.4** (a limited amount of testimonies).

The study found a limited amount of testimonies of localisation in this area, with an average score of 1.4. Only two communities – Dniprovsk and Pokrovsk – have more than three sources of funding, three communities – 2 sources – Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Novomoskovsk, and the rest – no more than 1. All respondents answered negatively to the question about financing direct costs. The respondents noted that the organisations from 5 communities are mostly financially stable – they always have an operating budget for at least three months. In terms of joint decision-making, there is a certain amount of testimonies that "local and national actors have increased decision-making capacity on financial issues": in two TCs – Dniprovsk and Pokrovsk – international organisations always provide access to financial documents (budgets and reports) to their local partners.

The respondents also noted that funding is an obvious obstacle to effective localisation, as they mostly work with short-term grants at the project level, and it is essential to move to multi-year flexible grants at the programme level.

According to the results of the assessment, it can be concluded *that two communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region - Dniprovsk and Pokrovsk – have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of financing, and Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, and Tomakivsk – a sufficient level. Other communities have a low level.*



CAPACITY

The overall score for localisation in the area of capacity is **2.3** (a certain amount of testimonies).

The study shows a high assessment of localisation in the area of capacity, i.e. this is one of the areas where the most significant progress has been made. This is primarily due to the fact that NGOs have been working in the humanitarian sector since 2014 and have gained a lot of experience.

All respondents to the questions "Do international actors focus their efforts on capacity building in areas where local actors need them (exchange of experience on processes, procedures, policies)?" and "Is the capacity of local and national actors strengthened by the support of international actors?" answered that it is mostly. The respondents also noted that international support in their organisations has strengthened their financial and human resources capacity. Five communities added that their capacity was strengthened in the procedural area.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *all 11 communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region have a high level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the capacity field. It is also important to note that, according to the study's results at the 1st stage of the assessment, these communities also received a high level of financial and institutional capacity.*



INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

The overall score for localisation in the area of policy influence is **0.5** (a limited amount of testimonies).

The study found a limited amount of testimonies of progress in the area of policy influence, with an average score of 0.5 (the lowest compared to other areas). Local CSOs and VOs make up the majority of all organisations working in the field of humanitarian assistance. However, respondents noted that the humanitarian aid system is currently dominated by international actors, and local NGOs do not have sufficient influence on policy decisions, including the targeting of programmes. All respondents stated that they sometimes have the opportunity to influence humanitarian policy but need more resources to do so.

Only five respondents answered "mostly" to the question, "Do existing humanitarian instruments and policies consider local needs for humanitarian assistance?" All the others answered "sometimes".

The assessment results suggest that *five communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Dniprovsk, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska, and Pokrovsk – have sufficient evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the field of policy influence, while others have a low level or no evidence of actions at all.*



ENGAGEMENT

The overall localisation score in the engagement area is **2.1** (a certain amount of testimonies).

Participation in the Ukrainian humanitarian response provided a certain amount of testimonies of localisation. The average score of 2.1 indicates significant progress compared to other areas. All respondents believe that the needs of the affected population are taken into account in the design and implementation of humanitarian programmes and that humanitarian organisations mainly adjust their projects and programmes if the circumstances / needs of the affected population change. Five respondents answered that their organisations were sometimes involved in all stages of the humanitarian programme cycle (analysis, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation). In contrast, others said they were never involved.

Based on the assessment results, it can be concluded that *five communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Dniprovsk, Tsarychanska, Kryvorizka, Tomakivska, and Pokrovsk – have sufficient evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in the area of engagement, while the rest have an optimal level.*

Overall assessment of the capacity of 11 communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region by the level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices

The summary results of the assessment (Table 2.10) show the following:

- 5 communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Dniprovska City, Tsarychanska Settlement, Kryvorizka City, Tomakivska Settlement, and Pokrovska Settlement – *were identified as the most capable of localising humanitarian response based on the results of the localisation progress study;*

- 3 communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Nikopolska City, Solonianska settlement, and Novomoskovska City – *showed significant progress in improving local leadership in the field of humanitarian response;*

- 3 communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region – Slobozhanska Settlement, Mezhyvska Settlement, and Pavlohradska City – *have a sufficient level of evidence of actions on applying localisation practices.*

Table 2.10. Levels of evidence of actions regarding the application of localisation practices in 7 areas by communities of the Dnipropetrovsk region

Community	Areas						
	Partnerships	Leadership	Coordination	Financing	Capacity	Influence on policies	Engagement
Dniprovska	high	high	high	high	high	sufficient	high
Slobozhanska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	low	optimal
Solonianska	sufficient	sufficient	optimal	sufficient	high	low	optimal
Tsarychanska	high	high	high	sufficient	high	sufficient	high
Kryworizka	optimal	high	high	sufficient	high	sufficient	high
Novomoskovska	optimal	optimal	optimal	low	high	low	optimal
Nikopolska	optimal	optimal	optimal	sufficient	high	low	optimal
Tomakivska	high	high	high	sufficient	high	sufficient	high
Pokrovska	high	high	high	high	high	sufficient	high
Pavlohradska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	low	optimal
Mezhivska	sufficient	sufficient	sufficient	low	high	low	optimal

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Through a comprehensive study of the state and experience of organising humanitarian assistance processes in 42 communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine using the HAG and PIANGO methodology "Localisation Measurement System and Methods", and based on an analysis of the evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in various areas, the capacity of communities in seven areas to localise humanitarian response was assessed. The study found that out of the **42** communities surveyed:

- **17 communities** have been identified as **the most capable of localising humanitarian response** (5 – Odesa region, 5 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 3 – Mykolaiv region, 3 – Zaporizhzhia region, 1 – Kherson region), *which is 40.5% of the total*;

- **11 communities** have demonstrated **progress in improving local leadership in the field of humanitarian response** (3 – Odesa region, 3 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 1 – Mykolaiv region, 1 – Zaporizhzhia region, 3 – Kherson region);

- **11 communities** have a **sufficient level of evidence of actions on applying localisation practices** (4 – Odesa region, 3 – Dnipropetrovsk region, 2 – Mykolaiv region, 2 – Kherson region);

- **3 communities** have a **low level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices** (Kherson region).

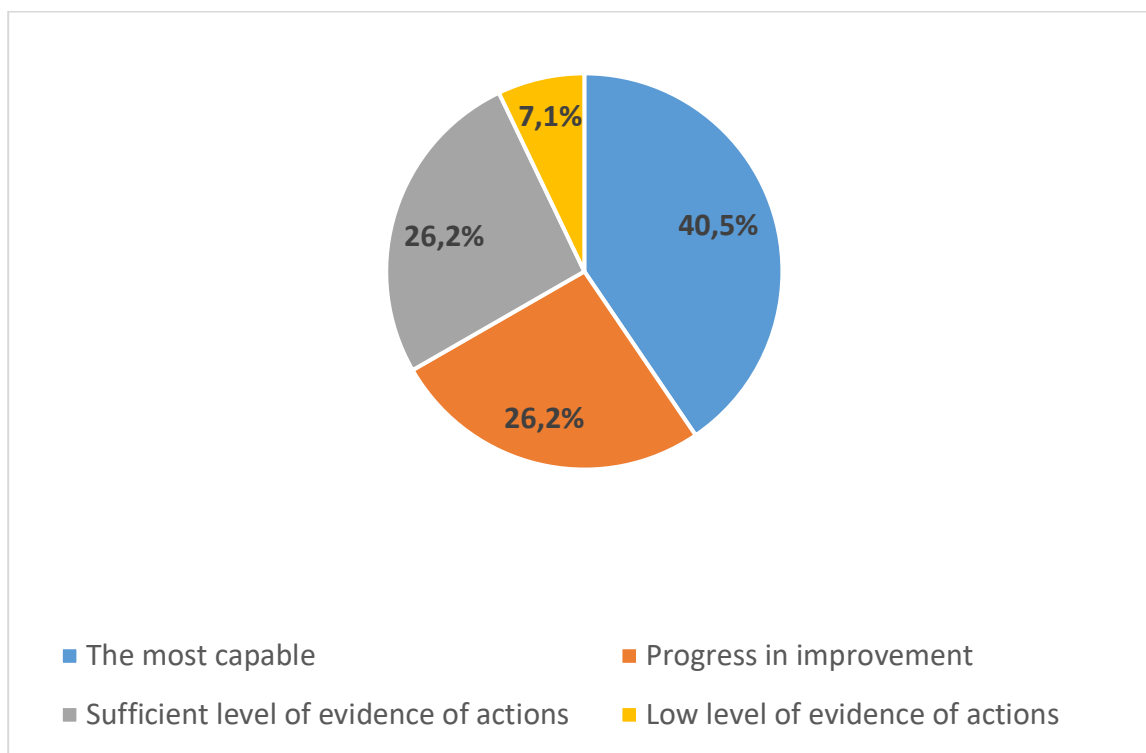


Figure 2.1. Diagram of the ratio of territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by different levels of capacity to localise humanitarian response, in percentage

3. CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN REGION OF UKRAINE FOR COORDINATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN SPECIFIC SECTORS / CLUSTERS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

According to the Methodology, the study to determine the level of community capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors / clusters at the local level was the last of three consecutive stages of the comprehensive assessment, based on the results of which the capacity of local organisations to implement local coordination mechanisms for effective and coordinated implementation of response measures within humanitarian clusters¹⁰ is assessed, in accordance with the Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024¹¹.

The methodological basis for the third stage of the assessment is an in-depth interview to determine the coordination capacity of communities based on indicators reflecting the capacity of local organisations (local self-government bodies and NGOs) to provide a coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/humanitarian clusters at the local level.

The methodology of the study to determine the level of community capacity for coordinated humanitarian response (Stage 3 of the assessment) includes the following steps:

- in-depth interviews with respondents working in the humanitarian sector;
- desk research of the collected and analysed primary data (interview results) on the level of community coordination capacity;
- expert analysis of the interview results.

Based on the results of the analysis of the collected and analysed quantitative and qualitative data (interview results), the level of its capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/humanitarian clusters at the local level is determined for each community:

- high level – capacity for cross-sectoral coordination – coordination of response measures in > 2 sectors / clusters;
- optimal level – capacity for intersectoral coordination – coordination of response measures in 1-2 sectors / clusters;
- sufficient level – capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in a specific sector / humanitarian cluster.

The assessment is based on primary data obtained from in-depth interviews with 37 representatives of local authorities, NGOs working in humanitarian assistance, municipal enterprises, institutions and local community facilities from 5 regions of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine.

To determine the level of community capacity for a coordinated humanitarian response, the capacity of local organisations (local self-government bodies and NGOs) was assessed within each humanitarian cluster (Tables 3.2-3.6).

¹⁰ 2024 HNRP Monitoring Guidance & Resources. *ReliefWeb*. 2024. URL: <https://response.reliefweb.int/ukraine/2024-hnrrp-monitoring-guidance-resources>

¹¹ Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan: Ukraine, 2024. Humanitarian programme cycle. URL: <https://www.unhcr.org/ua/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2024/01/Ukraine-HNRP-2024-Humanitarian-Needs-and-Response-Plan-EN-20240110.pdf>

The generalised results of the assessment of the level of community capacity are based on the following:

Capacity Level	Criteria		
	Number of clusters joined by local organisations	Number of coordination forums, and councils of different levels in which local organisations are represented	Number of humanitarian sectors in which local organisations operate
high	> 2	> 3	> 7
optimal	1-2	2-3	> 5
sufficient	1 or 0	1-2	3-4

Table 3.1. Summary results of the assessment of the capacity level of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Region / number of communities assessed	Level		
	<i>High</i>	<i>Optimal</i>	<i>Sufficient</i>
Odesa / 12	3 Odeska, Avanhardivska, Bolhradaska	3 Bilhorod- Dnistrovska, Vyzyrska, Izmailska	6 Dobroslavska, Podilska, Rozdilnianska, Krasnosilska, Tairovska, Baltska
Mykolaiv / 6	-	1 Mykolaivska	5 Bashtanska, Voznesenska, Koblevska, Pervomaiska, Yuzhnoukrainska
Kherson / 4	-	1 Khersonska	1 Beryslavska
Zaporizhzhia / 4	1 Zaporizka	1 Shyrokivska	-
Dnipropetrovsk / 11	3 Dniprovska, Pokrovska, Tomakivska	3 Mezhivska, Nikopolska, Kryvorizka	5 Pavlohradaska, Novomoskovska, Tsarychanska, Solonianska, Slobozhanska

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the results of in-depth interviews with 37 respondents to determine the coordination capacity of communities based on indicators reflecting the capacity of local organisations (local self-government bodies and NGOs) to provide a coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/humanitarian clusters at the local level, a comprehensive assessment of the level of capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to provide a coordinated humanitarian response was conducted. According to the results of the study, it was determined that out of **37** communities interviewed:

- **7 communities** have a high level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response with the potential for cross-sectoral coordination;
- **9 communities** have an optimal level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response;

- **17 communities** have a sufficient level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in a particular sector / humanitarian cluster;
- **4 communities** (2 – Kherson region and 2 – Zaporizhzhia region) were assessed as having a low capacity level for coordinated humanitarian response.

Each of the regions is discussed separately below.

Figure 3.1.

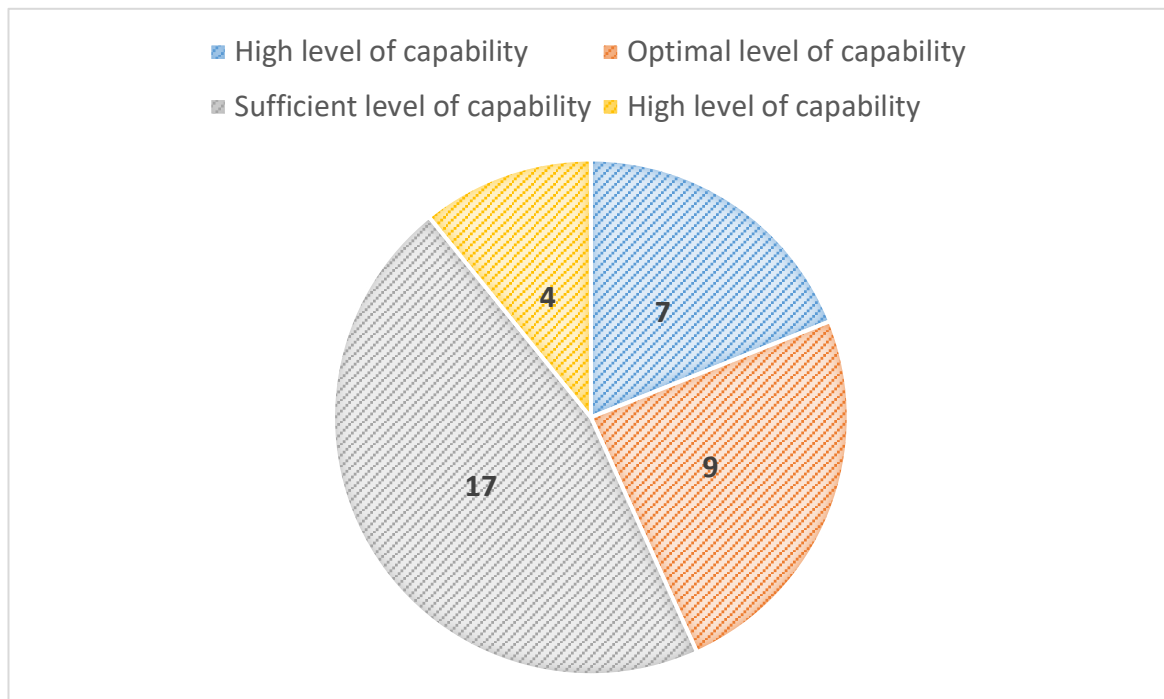


Diagram of the ratio of the number of territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by different levels of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response

Table 3.2. The capacity of communities in the Odessa region to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Assessment criterion	Humanitarian clusters									
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)	Education	Food Security and Livelihoods	Health	Logistics	Protection	Shelter and NFI	Sanitation and Hygiene	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Emergency Telecommunications
<i>Odeska city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	8	6	10	7	5	5	5	6	3	3
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	5	2	5	2	3	2	3	2	1	1
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	3	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Avanhardivska settlement TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	4	2	5	3	3	1	4	2	1	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Bolhradaska city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	4	2	2	1	3	2	-	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<i>Bilhorod-Dnistrovska city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	4	3	2	1	3	2	-	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Vyzyraska village TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	-	-

Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Dobroslavaska village TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	3	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Izmailska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	5	3	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Krasnosiiska village TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Podilska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rozdilnianska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	1	1	-	2	1	2	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-

Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tairovska settlement TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Baltska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3.3. The capacity of communities in the Mykolaiv region to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Assessment criterion	Humanitarian clusters											
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)	Education	Food Security and Livelihoods	Health	Logistics	Protection	Shelter and NFI	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Emergency Telecommunications			
<i>Bashanska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	4	2	5	3	1	2	3	2	1	3	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	2	1	2	2	-	1	2	-	-	2	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Voznesenska city TC</i>												
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	5	4	2	2	6	2	1	6	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	2	1	-	2	1	-

Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Koblevska village TC</i>													
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Mykolaiivska city TC</i>													
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	5	5	6	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	2
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Pervomaivska city TC</i>													
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	1	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Yuzhnoukrainska city TC</i>													
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	5	3	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3.4. The capacity of communities in the Kherson region to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Assessment criterion	Humanitarian clusters									
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)	Education	Food Security and Livelihoods	Health	Logistics	Protection	Shelter and NFI	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Emergency Telecommunications	
<i>Khersonska city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	4	3	5	3	3	4	4	2	1	
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	2	1	2	2	-	1	2	-	-	
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Beryslavska city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	5	4	2	2	6	2	1	
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	2	1	-	
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Bilozerska settlement TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	1	2	3	2	2	1	3	1	-	
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Kalynivska settlement TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	-	
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Table 3.5. The capacity of communities in the Zaporizhzhia region to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Assessment criterion	Humanitarian clusters									
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)	Education	Food Security and Livelihoods	Health	Logistics	Protection	Shelter and NFI	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Emergency Telecommunications	
<i>Zaporizka city TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	8	6	8	5	4	3	5	2	2	2
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	8	3	5	2	2	1	3	2	1	1
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	2	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<i>Shyrokiivska village TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	Humanitarian hub	2	Humanitarian hub	2	Humanitarian hub	2	3	1	1	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	2	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Vilnianska village TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	1	1	3	1	-	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Komyshuvaska village TC</i>										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	-	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-

needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)														
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3.6. The capacity of communities in the Dnipropetrovsk region to provide a coordinated humanitarian response

Assessment criterion	Humanitarian clusters													
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)	Education	Food Security and Livelihoods	Health	Logistics	Protection	Shelter and NFI	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Emergency Telecommunications					
<i>Dniprovskaya city TC</i>														
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	8	6	10	7	5	5	5	6						3
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	5	2	5	2	3	2	3	2						1
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	3	1	3	2	-	-	-	-						-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-						-
<i>Pokrovskaya settlement TC</i>														
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	Humanitarian logistics centre	2	Humanitarian logistics centre	3	Humanitarian logistics centre	1	Humanitarian logistics centre	2						1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	1						-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-						-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-						-
<i>Tomakivskaya settlement TC</i>														
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	Humanitarian hub	2	Humanitarian hub	2	Humanitarian hub	1	Humanitarian hub	2						-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1						-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-						-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-						-
<i>Mezhivskaya settlement TC</i>														

Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	1
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Pavlohradaska city TC</i>									
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	3	4	2	1	1	3	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Nikopolska city TC</i>									
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	5	3	2	1	3	2	2
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	--
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Kryvorizka city TC</i>									
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	3	3	4	3	2	1	3	2	2
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	--
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Novomoskovska city TC</i>									
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	2	1	-	-	3	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tsarychanska settlement TC										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	4	3	1	1	1	3	2	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Solonianska settlement TC										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	2	1	-	-	2	2	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slobozhanska settlement TC										
Number of local organisations engaged in sector-related activities	2	2	3	1	-	-	-	2	1	-
Number of local organisations involved in or providing assessments of the situation and needs in the field of humanitarian assistance (by sector)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations represented in coordination forums and councils at various levels	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of local organisations that joined the cluster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

4. SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN REGION OF UKRAINE TO LOCALISE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE DURING THE CRISIS

Following the Methodology for Assessing the Capacity of Communities to Localise Humanitarian Response, which is based on the integrated use of several evidence-based approaches and consists of three consecutive stages, an expert study was conducted to assess the results of the assessment:

- *Institutional capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to implement projects and programmes for the humanitarian response plan.* The assessment of the institutional capacity of communities to implement the projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan was carried out using an integral indicator, which is the sum of the scores for three independent indicators. Based on the results of the assessment, communities were grouped according to their capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- *The capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response.* Based on the analysis of the evidence of localisation practices in different areas, the localisation of local organisations at the community level was assessed in seven areas that are particularly important for improving local leadership in the humanitarian response: Partnerships, Leadership, Coordination and Complementarity, Financing, Capacity, Influence on policy-making, and Engagement. The assessment identified the levels of evidence of actions taken by communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to apply localisation practices in 7 areas and determined the degree of their capacity to localise humanitarian response during the crisis;

- *The capacity of communities to coordinate humanitarian response in specific sectors/clusters at the local level.* The coordination capacity of communities was assessed using indicators that reflect the capacity of local organisations to implement response measures within humanitarian clusters. The capacity of local organisations to implement local coordination mechanisms for the effective and coordinated implementation of response measures within humanitarian clusters was assessed. The level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/humanitarian clusters at the local level was established for each community.

The expert assessment of the capacity of communities to localise humanitarian response was carried out sequentially at each stage based on the criteria characterising the main indicators that affect the readiness of the respective capable territorial community to localise humanitarian response.

Results of the assessment of the *institutional capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan*

According to the results of the 1st stage of the assessment, out of 269 territorial communities:

- **32** territorial communities received a level of **high** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **61** territorial communities received the level of **optimal** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **133** territorial communities received a level of **satisfactory** institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **43** territorial communities received a **low** level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan;

- **No communities** have been identified with **a critical level** of institutional capacity to implement the humanitarian response plan's projects and programmes.

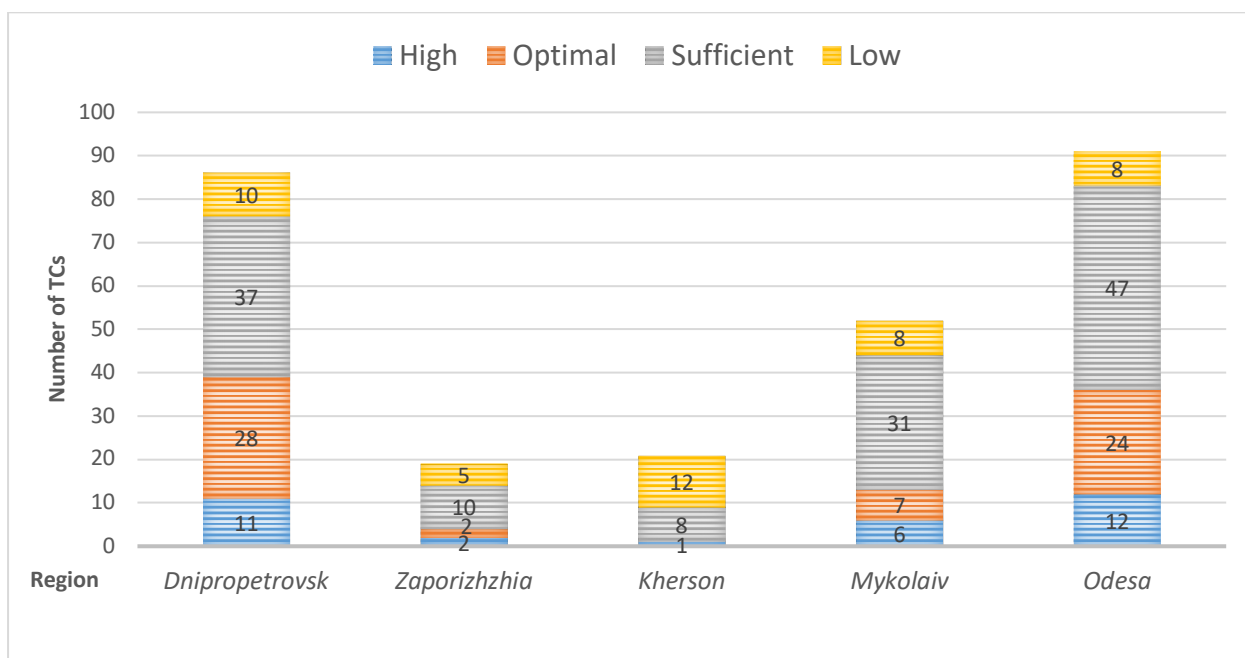


Figure 4.1. Number of communities within regions of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan

93 territorial communities of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine, which is **34.6%** of the total, received *high and optimal* levels of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the Humanitarian Response Plan, which indicates a high probability of successful implementation of project activities in the field of humanitarian response.

According to the assessment, the **32** territorial communities of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine that received a *high* level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the Humanitarian Response Plan have the highest potential to implement response measures, according to the Ukraine 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan.

Results of the community capacity assessment of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response

A comprehensive study of the state and experience of organising humanitarian assistance processes in 42 communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine using the HAG and PIANGO methodology 'Localisation Measurement System and Methods', and based on the analysis of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices in various areas, assessed the capacity of communities to localise humanitarian response in seven areas. The study found that out of the **42** communities surveyed:

- **17 territorial communities** received a **high** level of capacity and demonstrated a *high level of ability to localise humanitarian response* based on the results of the localisation progress study;
- **11 territorial communities** received an **optimal** level of capacity and demonstrated *progress in improving local leadership in the field of humanitarian response*;
- **11 territorial communities** received a **sufficient** level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices;
- **3 territorial communities** (Kherson region) have a **low** level of evidence of actions to apply localisation practices.

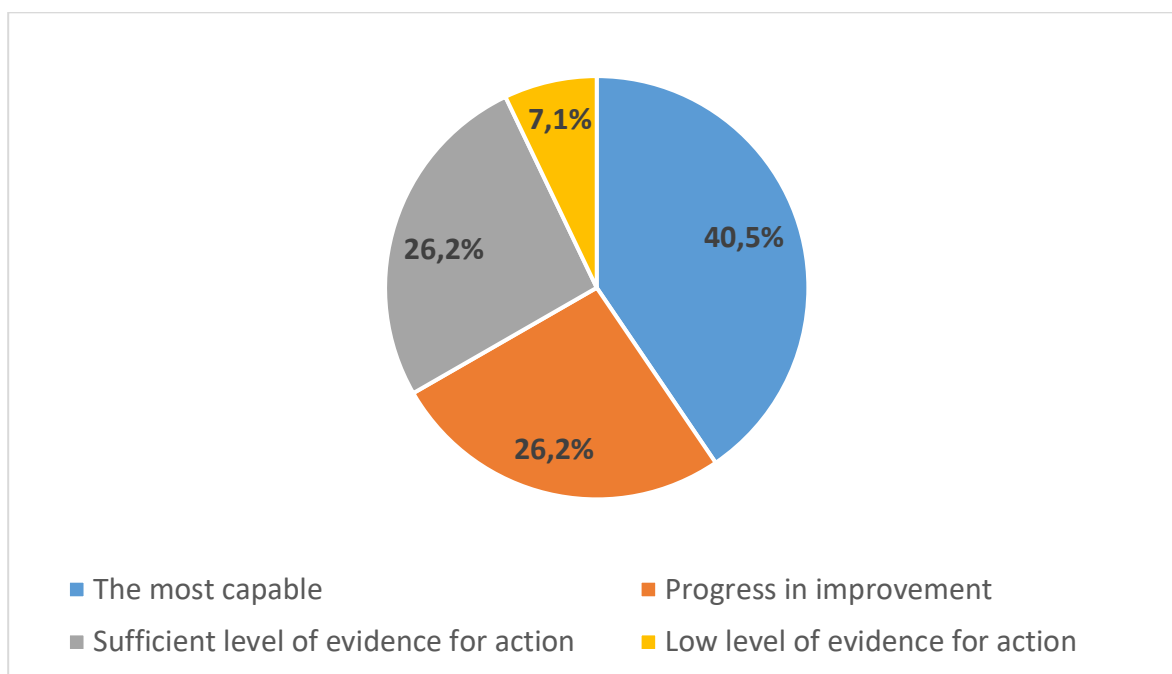


Figure 4.2. Diagram of the ratio of territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by different levels of capacity to localise humanitarian response, in per cent

Results of the assessment of *community capacity* in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors / clusters at the local level

Based on the analysis of the results of in-depth interviews with **37** respondents to determine the coordination capacity of communities based on indicators reflecting the capacity of local organisations (local self-government bodies and NGOs) to provide a coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/humanitarian clusters at the local level, a comprehensive assessment of the level of capacity of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to provide a coordinated humanitarian response was conducted. According to the results of the study, it was determined that out of **37** communities where interviews were conducted:

- **7 territorial communities** received a **high** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response with the potential for intersectoral coordination;
- **9 territorial communities** have an **optimal** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response;
- **17 territorial communities** have a **sufficient** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in a particular sector / humanitarian cluster;
- **4 territorial communities** (2 in the Kherson region and 2 in the Zaporizhzhia region) were assessed as having a **low** level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response.

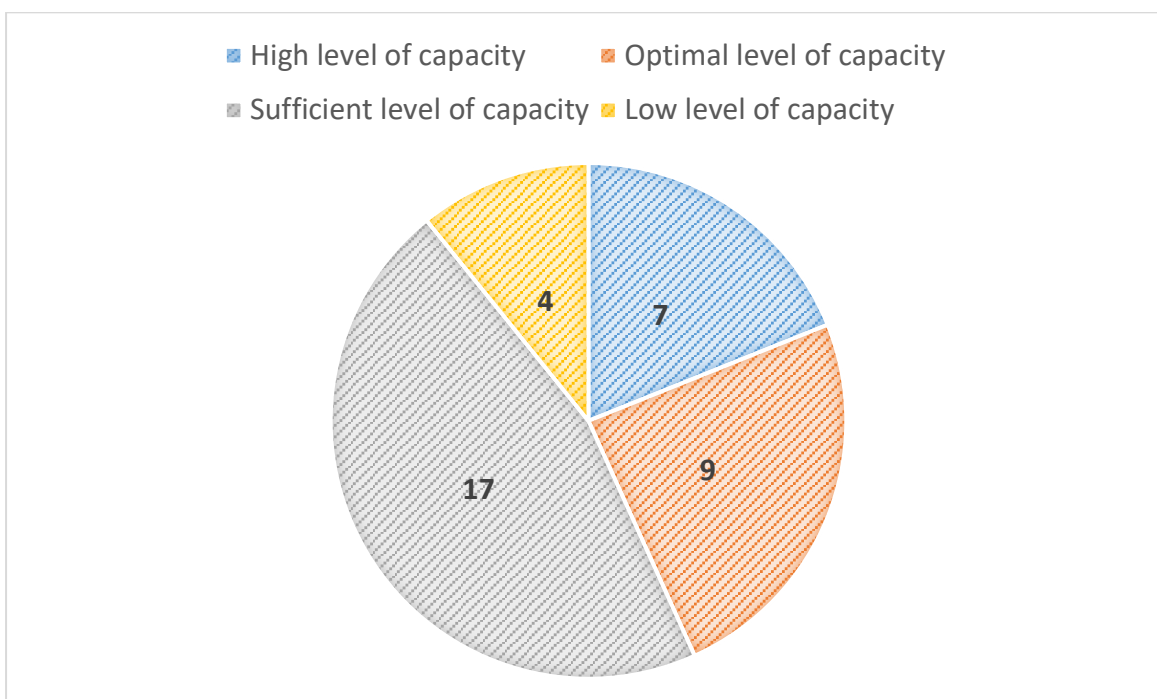


Figure 4.3. Diagram of the ratio of the number of territorial communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine by different levels of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response

Generalised results of the assessment of the *capacity of communities of the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis*

Based on the synthesis of data on the three indicators of community capacity to localise humanitarian response, the assessment results were summarised based on the following approach.

For each independent indicator: 5 points – high level; 4 points – optimal; 3 points – sufficient; 2 points – satisfactory.

Summarised results of the assessment of community capacity to localise humanitarian response

Total score by integral indicator	Level of capability
from 14 to 15	high
from 11 to 13	optimal
from 8 to 10	sufficient

The integral indicator of the level of community capacity to localise humanitarian response is determined by the formula:

$$I_i = X_1 + X_2 + X_3, \text{ where}$$

X_1 – an indicator of the level of institutional capacity of the community to implement projects in the field of humanitarian response

X_2 – an indicator of the level of evidence of actions that reflect the community's capacity to localise humanitarian response

X_3 – an indicator of the level of community capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors / clusters at the local level.

Table 4.1. Summary results of the assessment of the capacity level of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis*

Region / number of communities assessed	Level			
	<i>High</i> (14-15 points)	<i>Optimal</i> (11-13 points)	<i>Sufficient</i> (8-10 points)	<i>Low</i> (5-7 points)
Odesa / 12	4 Odeska, Avanhardivska Bilhorod- Dnistrovska, Vyzyrska	8 Izmailska, Bolhradaska, Dobroslavaska, Podilaska, Rozdilnianska, Krasnosilaska, Tairovska, Baltaska	-	-
Mykolaiv / 6	1 Mykolaivska	5 Bashtanska, Voznesenska, Koblevska, Pervomaiska, Yuzhnoukrainska	-	-
Kherson / 9	1 Khersonska	-	5 Beryslavska, Vysokopilaska, Kochubeivska, Bilozerska, Velykooleksandrivska	3 Kalynivska, Muzykivska, Chornobaivska
Zaporizhzhia / 4	2 Zaporizka, Shyrokivska	1 Komyshuvaska	1 Vilnianska	-
Dnipropetrovsk / 11	4 Dniprovska, Pokrovska, Tomakivska, Kryvorizka	7 Mezhivska, Nikopolska, Pavlohradaska, Novomoskovska, , Tsarychanska, Solonianska, Slobozhanska	-	-
42	12	21	6	3

*A summary table of the assessment by integral indicator is presented below

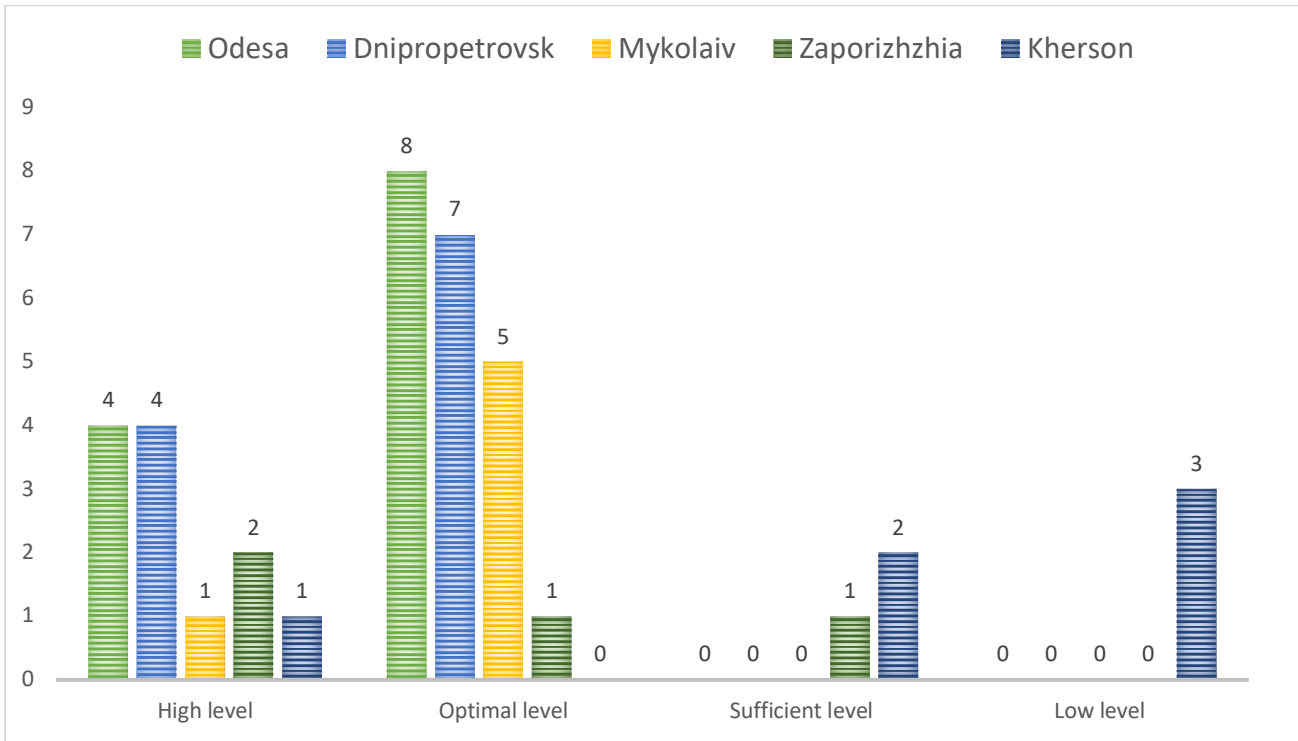


Figure 4.4. Summary results of the assessment of the capacity level of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis

The results of the comprehensive assessment of the capacity of **42 communities** in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis showed the following.

33 communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine that received *high and optimal levels of capacity to localise humanitarian response during the crisis* demonstrated the effectiveness of local actors (NGOs and authorities) in applying localisation practices in various areas, effectively using project management, partnership, leadership and coordination mechanisms.

Local NGOs have been able to quickly scale up and expand their activities to respond to the rapidly growing needs of affected populations due to the following key characteristics:

- use of various sources of funding: in addition to funds provided by donors, resources are also raised from individuals and businesses;
- rapid adaptation to constantly changing requirements, needs and situations;
- combining different types of humanitarian activities;
- overcoming significant bureaucratic barriers.

6 communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine that have gained a sufficient level of capacity to localise humanitarian response during the crisis have demonstrated their readiness to more actively use the potential of local NGOs through partnership development to provide timely assistance within their own communities. For these communities, coordination remains one of the main challenges in ensuring an effective humanitarian response. Large NGOs are represented in coordination forums, while the representation of smaller, more flexible local groups or volunteer networks is still limited. Humanitarian clusters are complex and difficult for local NGOs to understand. However, local organisations participate in working coordination groups at a very local level, which include national and local organisations working in the regions. These organisations coordinate with each other at the operational level but are not linked to international mechanisms. NGOs from these communities develop their capacity through participation in trainings and seminars on technical issues, including how to obtain grants from donors.

Map 1. The capacity levels of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis

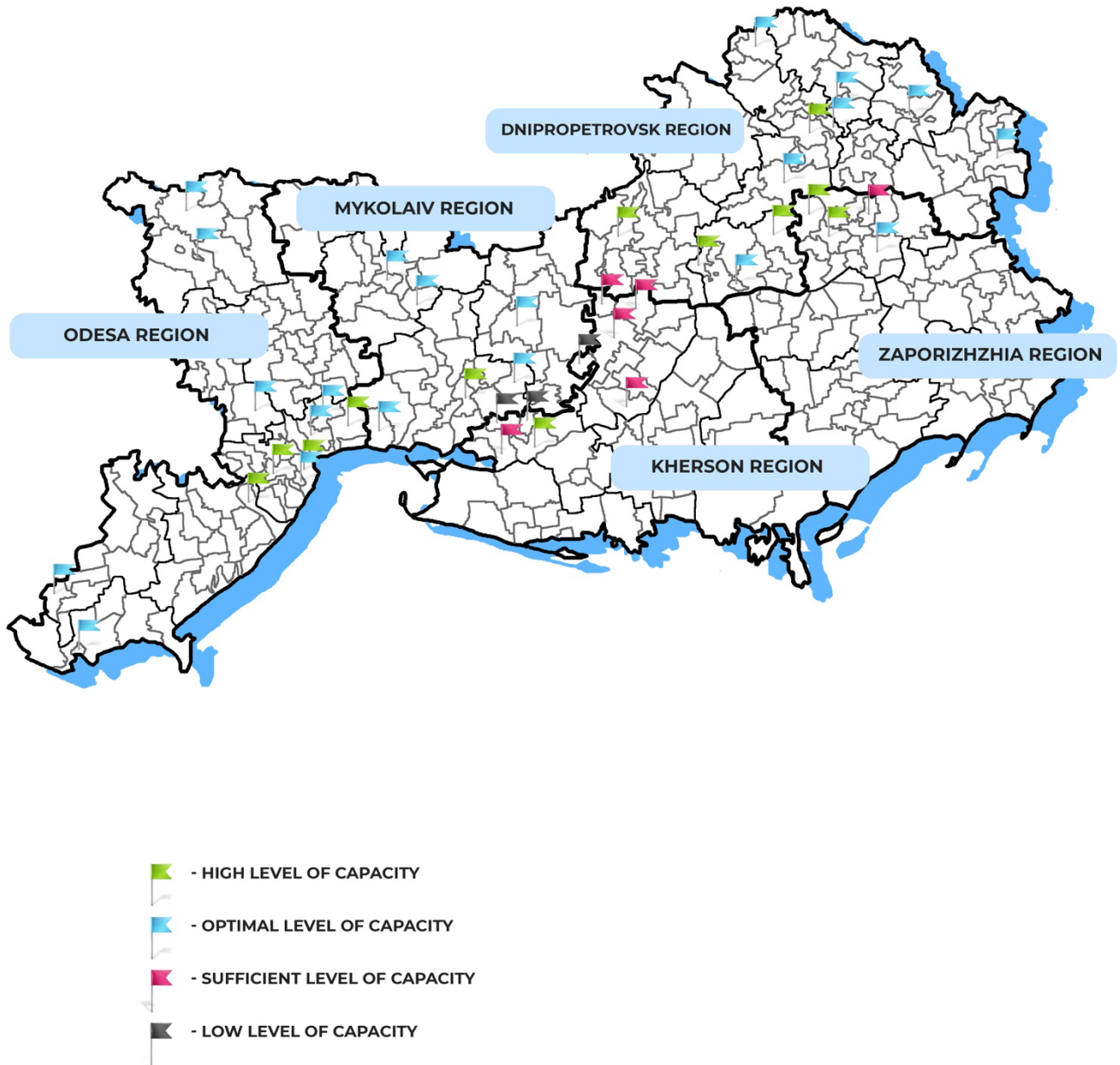


Table 4.2. Summary of the assessment results by the integral indicator of the capacity level of communities in the South-Eastern region of Ukraine to localise humanitarian response during the crisis

Community	Level of institutional capacity to implement projects and programmes of the humanitarian response plan/score	Level of capacity to localise humanitarian response/score	Level of capacity for coordinated humanitarian response in specific sectors/clusters at the local level/score	Summarised results/score
<i>Odesa region</i>				
1. Avanhardivska	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
2. Baltska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
3. Bolhradska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	high / 5	13 – optimal
4. Bilhorod-Dnistrovska	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
5. Vyzyrska	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
6. Dobroslavska	high / 5	high / 5	sufficient / 3	13 – optimal
7. Izmailska	high / 5	optimal / 4	optimal / 4	13 – optimal
8. Krasnosilska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
9. Odeska	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
10. Podilska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
11. Rozdilnianska	high / 5	optimal / 4	sufficient / 3	12 – optimal
12. Tairovska	high / 5	optimal / 4	sufficient / 3	12 – optimal
<i>Mykolaiv region</i>				
13. Mykolaivska	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
14. Bashtanska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
15. Voznesenska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
16. Pervomaiska	high / 5	optimal / 4	sufficient / 3	12 – optimal
17. Koblevska	high / 5	high / 5	sufficient / 3	13 – optimal
18. Yuzhnoukrainska	high / 5	high / 5	sufficient / 3	13 – optimal
<i>Kherson region</i>				
19. Khersonska	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
20. Vysokopilska	sufficient / 3	optimal / 4	low / 2	9 – sufficient

21. Kochubeivska	sufficient / 3	optimal / 4	low / 2	9 – sufficient
22. Bilozerska	sufficient / 3	optimal / 4	low / 2	9 – sufficient
23. Beryslavska	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	9 – sufficient
24. Velykooleksandrivska	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	low / 2	8 – sufficient
25. Kalynivska	sufficient / 3	low / 2	low / 2	7 – low
26. Muzykivska	sufficient / 3	low / 2	low / 2	7 – low
27. Chornobaivska	sufficient / 3	low / 2	low / 2	7 – low
<i>Zaporizhzhia region</i>				
28. Zaporizka	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
29. Shyrokiivska	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
30. Vilnianska	optimal / 4	optimal / 4	low / 2	10 – sufficient
31. Komyshuvaska	optimal / 4	high / 5	low / 2	11 – optimal
<i>Dnipropetrovsk region</i>				
32. Dniprovska	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
33. Slobozhanska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
34. Solonianska	high / 5	optimal / 4	sufficient / 3	12 – optimal
35. Tsarychanska	high / 5	high / 5	sufficient / 3	13 – optimal
36. Kryvorizka	high / 5	high / 5	optimal / 4	14 – high
37. Novomoskovska	high / 5	optimal / 4	sufficient / 3	12 – optimal
38. Nikopolska	high / 5	optimal / 4	optimal / 4	13 – optimal
39. Tomakivska	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
40. Pokrovska	high / 5	high / 5	high / 5	15 – high
41. Pavlohradska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	sufficient / 3	11 – optimal
42. Mezhyvska	high / 5	sufficient / 3	optimal / 4	12 – optimal

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NGO "THE TENTH OF APRIL" PROVIDES SUPPORT AND PROTECTION TO

- internally displaced persons and the affected population
- refugees and asylum seekers
- stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness

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If you would like to leave feedback/suggestion/complaint regarding the work of our organization, please contact to the helpline of the NGO "The Tenth of April" - **0800 33 28 58** or by e-mail - **info@dk.od.ua**



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