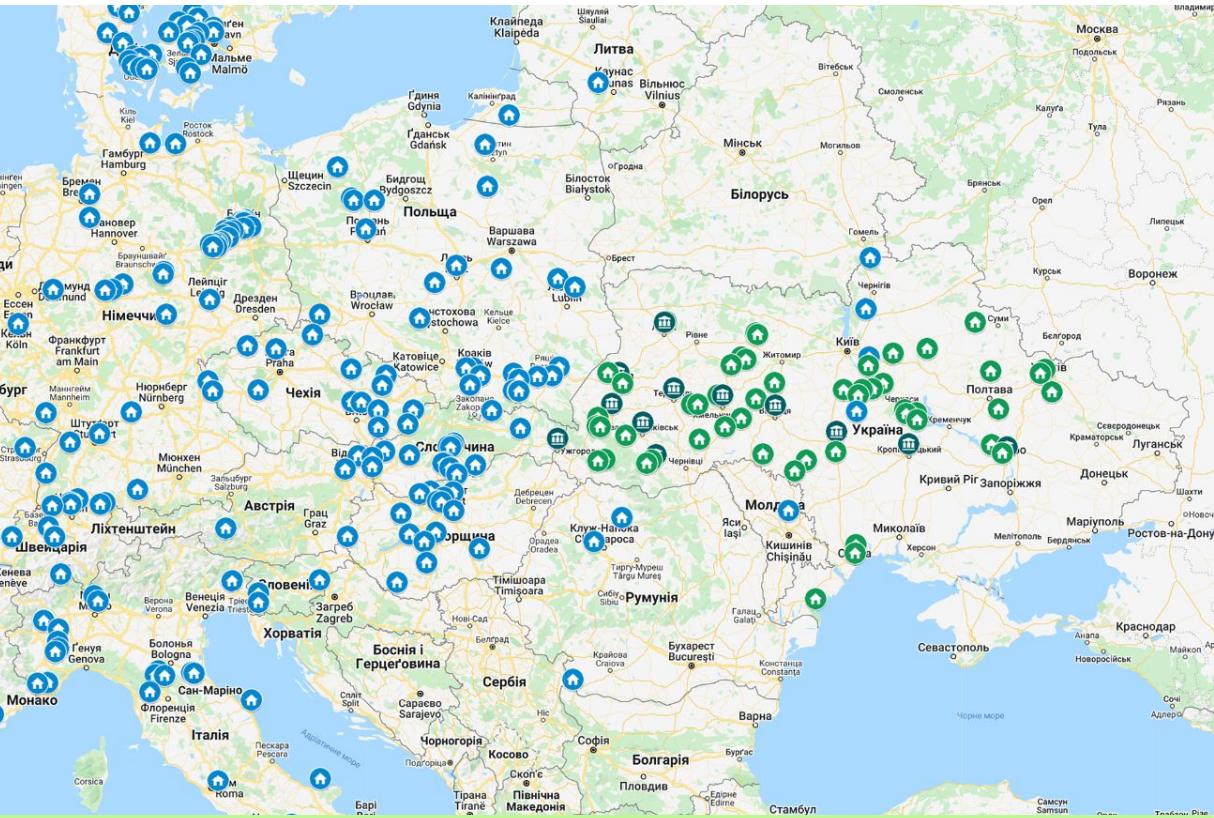




# Introduction





# What do you know about Ukraine?

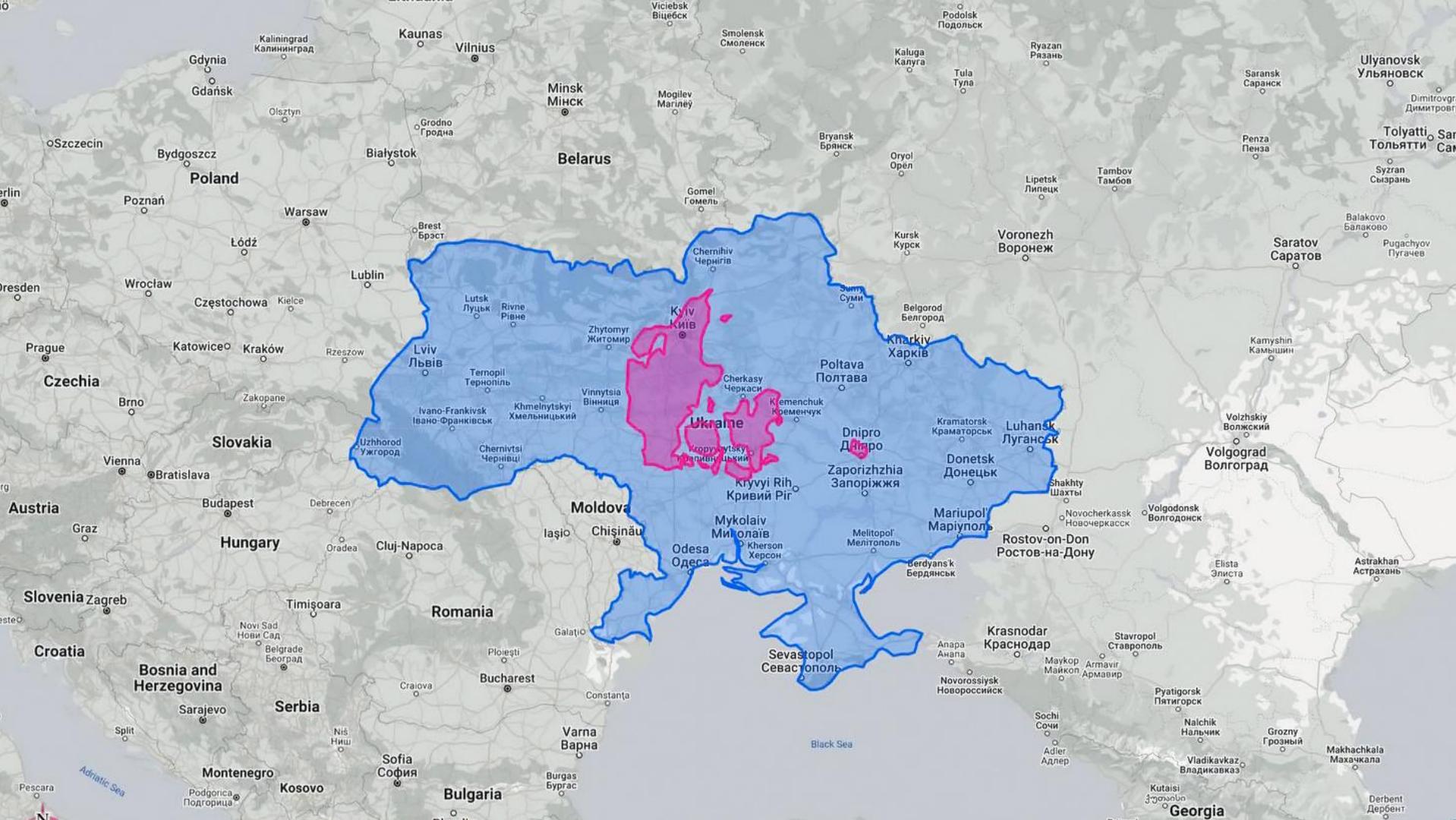
Population of Ukraine — 40 million people (Denmark — 6 million).  
Ukraine is as big as 13 x Denmark in square meters.

The biggest cities in Ukraine: Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Lviv.

Kyiv — the capital of Ukraine. The number of people living here is the same as in entire Denmark. Kyiv is as old as Lejre Kommune (founded in 980).

There are a lot of forest area, mountains and steppe in Ukraine. We also have access to the sea (the Azov and the Black seas).

We have strong connection with Denmark in history.  
Many Danish people resettled in Ukraine during the Viking times.  
3 Ukrainian princesses were married with Danish kings.





# Historical background of ecovillages in Ukraine

- The first brotherhoods in Ukraine arose at the end of the 19th century.
- Their main goal was self-sufficiency, autonomy and alternative ways of societal development.



**Prosvita**



**Nepliuiev's Orthodox brotherhood 1872-1920**





# THE GREEN ROAD PROJECT

The first month of the war in Ukraine via the ecovillage perspective



Landsforeningen for Økosamfund



GEN UKRAINE



GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



GAIA  
TRUST





# GEN Ukraine

- How everything started.
- Before the war.





# Soviet Union time

- The Soviet regime in the 1920s led to the complete collapse of the brotherhoods.
- The Great Famine in Ukraine in 1930s and deportations to Siberia undermined public confidence.
- Everyone began to survive on their own.
- 1941-1949 war and starvation again.



Holodomor 1932 - 1933



# Dacha for us is like a 'kolonihave'

Dacha helped Ukrainians survive in the era of food deficiency after the collapse of the Soviet Union (there was no food in the shops).

Dacha supplied us in the era of hyperinflation.

In 2011 dacha cooperatives (40%) and village farmers (11%) grew 51% of all food in Ukraine.

Self-sufficiency vs shops:

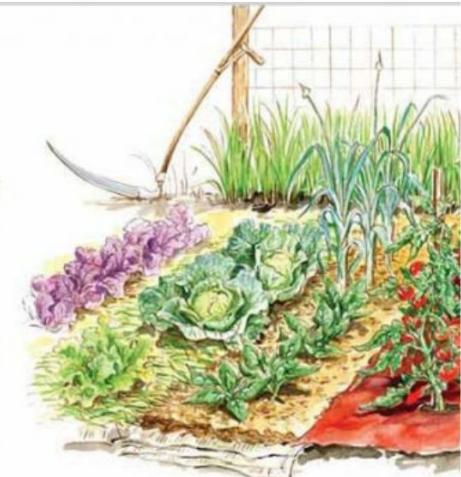
- 80% of fruit and berries,
- 66% of vegetables,
- 80 % of potatoes,
- 50% of dairy

## DACHA GARDENS PRODUCED 40% FOOD

**80%**  
of the  
fruit & berries

**80%**  
of the  
potatoes

**66%**  
of the  
vegetables

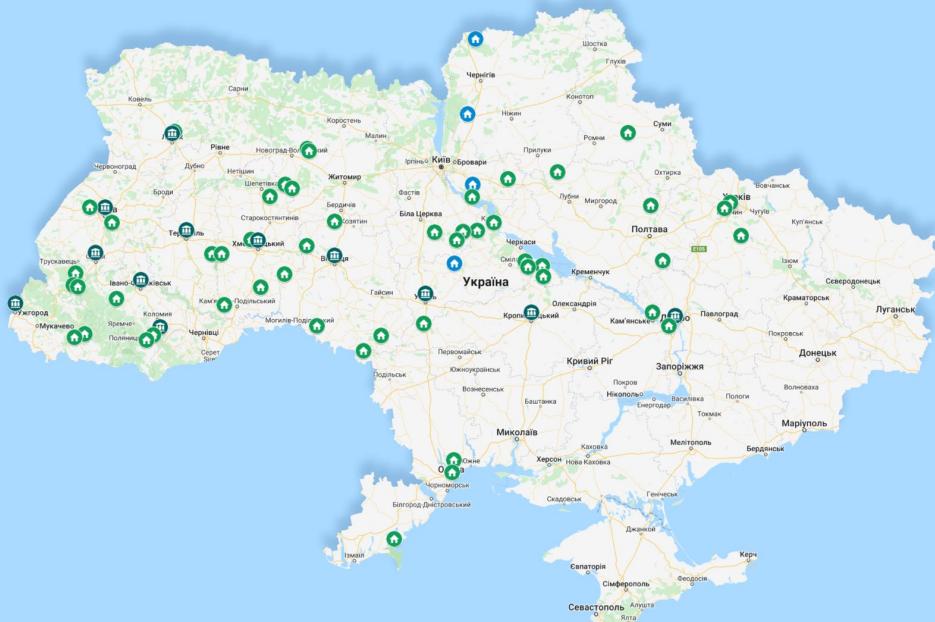






# The Green Road project

The first month of the war in Ukraine via the ecovillage perspective





# GEN Ukraine team



In Ukraine

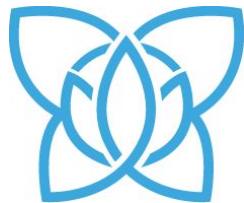


In Denmark



# Standing together. The LOES (GEN Denmark team)

Long term partnership between LØS and GEN Ukraine





# The Green Road project - in short

- On February 24, Russia attacked Ukraine.
- The next day, February 25, GEN Ukraine and the NGO 'Permaculture in Ukraine' joined forces, mobilized their networks, and created a map of locations ready to accommodate people seeking short-term or long-term shelter.
- In partnership with Global Ecovillage Network Europe and Landsforeningen for Økosamfund (LØS), we have created a map of European eco-communities ready to receive Ukrainian refugees.
- As at the end of April, we have around 60 locations in Ukraine that have hosted about 2,000 people from the beginning of the war.
- We update this map daily, coordinate people and locations, raise funds, and redirect them to the shelters.



# Ecovillages hosting people





## Statistics

**20 eco-communities** have hosted 1631 adults + 332 children in total.  
They are hosting 1178 adults + 146 children right now.

**15 individual homesteads** hosted 417 adults + 162 children in total.  
They are hosting 94 adults + 59 children right now.

In total, the Green Road numbers **60 locations** in Ukraine which are displayed on the map. The above mentioned statistics cover the 35 places that got help from GEN Ukraine. The others mostly have their own resources to host people.

- 88 houses were restored
- 33 wells were restored
- 32 stoves in houses were restored
- water was supplied to 34 houses



# Why ecovillages and permaculture centers?

- Our locations are in rural areas which are safer than cities.
- Our network covers the whole Ukraine which allows people to find locations closer to them. It is also possible to use the locations on the map as a corridor in case you are moving towards the western border. That's how the name "Green Road" came about.
- Ecovillages are quite sustainable due to social cohesion, food supplies, and the ability to grow food.
- Most ecovillages have vacant houses that are now used to shelter internally displaced persons.
- Residents of these communities are friendly and able to provide psychological support to displaced persons.
- Almost all communities have children themselves, which simplifies the stay of displaced persons with children.



# Why ecovillages and permaculture centers?





# Why ecovillages and permaculture centers?





# What do we do besides accommodating displaced persons in Ukraine?

- **We improve the living conditions of internally displaced persons.**

We are looking for ways to improve their lives: bring water into the house, install boilers, equip bathrooms and kitchens, make beds instead of mattresses on the floor, install washing machines and refrigerators.

- **We increase the number of places for people to stay.**

Most locations still have additional houses that can be equipped to receive people.

- **We arrange playgrounds and playrooms**

Internally displaced children and local children need comfortable and safe places to spend time.

This is especially important for the psychological rehabilitation of children who have had experience of being in a combat zone.

- **We help communities develop agricultural zones**

Our locations are able to grow food for themselves in an environmentally friendly way.

Given the risk of a food crisis, food security is now of particular importance. Our locations need small agricultural machinery, greenhouses, rainwater collection tanks, etc. for efficient farming.

- **We encourage communities to use green energy**

The situation with unstable access to fuel and power outages demonstrates the need to find alternative energy sources for self-sufficiency and resilience.

- **We support sustainable entrepreneurship**

The most promising in their situation are food processing, repair, and construction activities.

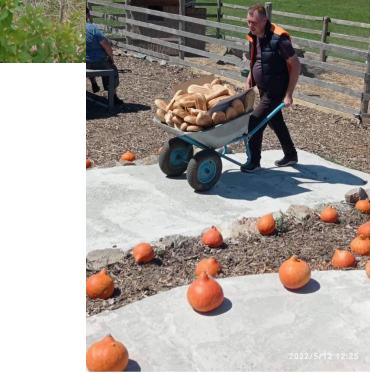


# What do we do besides accommodating displaced persons inside Ukraine?





# What do we do besides accommodating displaced persons inside Ukraine?



2022/5/12 12:25



## Two additional areas of our project:



### Rehabilitation for volunteers

A pilot project in the Tepla Gora ecovillage in Ivano-Frankivsk region has shown its effectiveness in hosting weekend reboots for volunteers working with people in Ivano-Frankivsk, who need a rest to avoid burnout. We would like to spread this experience to other locations.



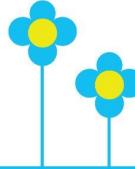
# Two additional areas of our project:

## BØRN SKAL HAVE LOV AT VÆRE BØRN

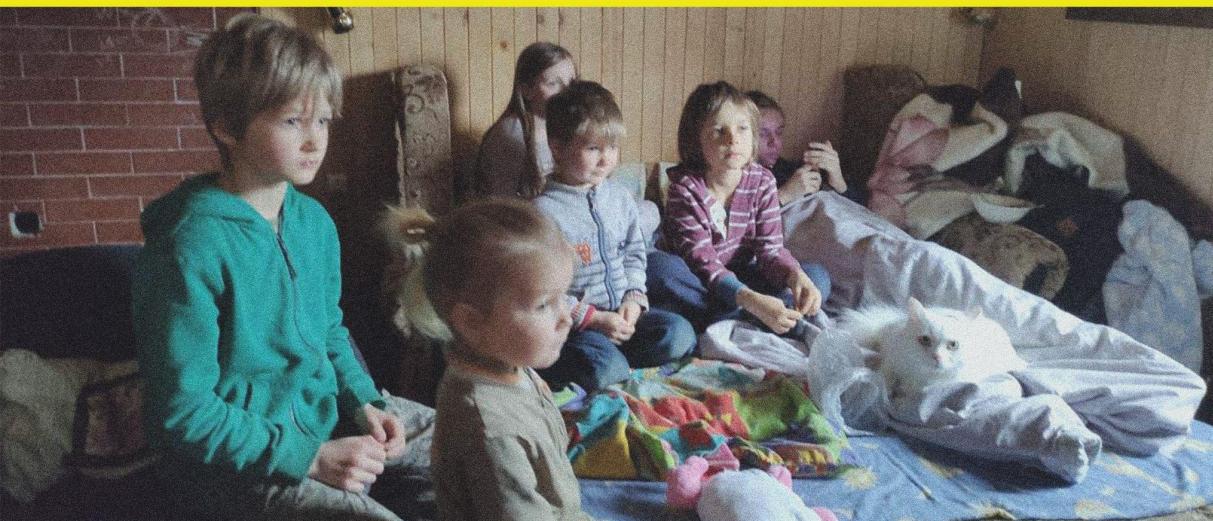
Hjælp os med at skabe trygge omgivelser for ukrainske børn – i Ukraine.



Landsforeningen for Økosamfund



## Rehabilitation for children.



"Green Grove" carbon farm in the Dnipropetrovsk region regularly receives groups of children from the Dnipro city and conducts activities with them in nature, in contact with animals. It helps children forget the horrors of war and recover psychologically.



## Two additional areas of our project:





# Eco-communities under occupation

**12 eco-communities** were under occupation (Rainbow community is still under occupation. Oleshshia region)

**5 eco-communities** with common houses were partially destroyed.

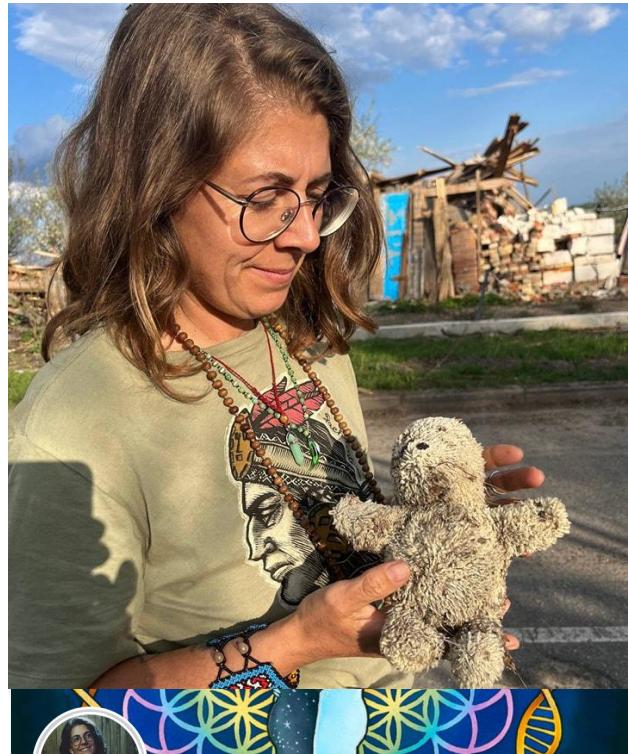
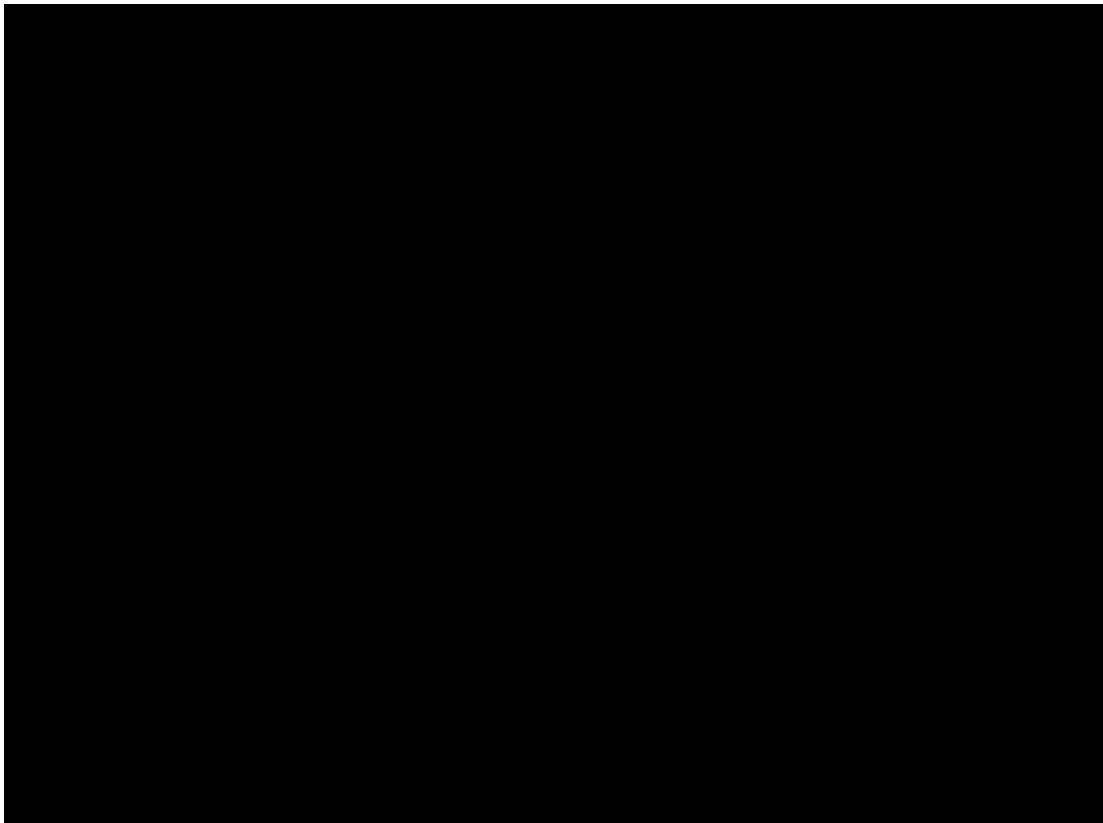
Some communities are in deep psychological depression. Kuchari is one of them ....







# Caroliva in Ukraine



Caroliva Mollie Omkari  
32 mutual friends

Friends Message



## Western Ukraine — “Plast” and “Sokil”

The alternative scout organisations already existed in Ukraine long time before the ideology of USSR and still work nowadays.



# Our own stories







# In Denmark. Collecting food and items for Ukraine

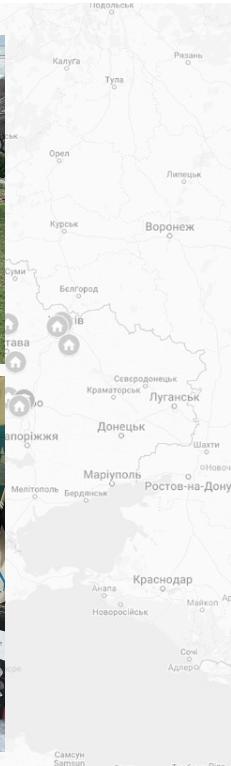
Together with the organisation Bevar Ukraine, Ukrainian and Danish volunteers collect food and other items to send to Ukrainian ecovillages.





# Sending goods to Ukraine

From the warehouse in Næstved directly to ecovillages in Ukraine







# Info work

## DEN GRØNNE VEJ

Den første måned i krig - perspektiver fra ukrainske økosamfud

Breve fra Maksim Zalevskyi



GEN  
EUROPE  
GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



Landsforeningen for  
Økosamfund



GEN UKRAINE  
GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



<https://okosamfund.dk/ukraine/>



# Info work

When the war came to Ukraine, Maksym and his team launched the Green Road project. They now make every effort to create safe and comfortable shelters for relocated people in Ukrainian ecovillages.



**Maksym Zalevskyi**

Coordinator of the national ecovillage network of Ukraine (GEN Ukraine)



# MakSYM's Letters

It is not easy to look ahead. To do it despite all the horrors of destroyed houses and shattered people's lives overcoming despair, fear and panic. We need to keep our heads cool and analyze the level of importance of each single case, each situation. Because we've taken on this mission of sheltering people.

During the lockdown, I once wrote that we spend most of our lives collecting firewood to ignite a bonfire of inspiration at some point. And in times of deep crisis, that spark can flare up and become one large flame. Four years ago, I wrote a manifesto about Ukraine as an international hub of ecovillages between Europe and Asia. We have now become the epicenter of events that ignites the hearts of the whole world.

Now many people go to the ecovillages from our map.

But it is important to realize that an ecovillage is not a comfort zone where you can fall on the couch as a banana and play the role of a victim of life's circumstances. It is also a family, a small tribe in which everyone takes an active part, morning evening circles, joint work, joint lunches, joint rest.



# Needs for further development

## HELP TO BUILD COMMON HOUSES FOR IDPs IN UKRAINE

The specifics of Ukrainian ecovillages is that most of them consist of separate houses, sometimes with huge distances between them. And some of the ecovillages that had common houses have now lost them:



GEN Ukraine wants to build 5 new common houses in the locations that are:

- **located in safe regions**
- **have a strong community**
- **host refugees for long term**



# Needs for now

DONATE TEMPORARY SHELTERS FOR IDP's IN UKRAINE



GEN UKRAINE  
GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



GEN EUROPE  
GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



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# Urgent needs

BIG TENTS, BICYCLES AND FUEL TANKS





## In Ukraine

The Green Road project is a platform, where ecovillages became real homes for IDPs, not just shelters or refugee centers.

People arrive, reconstruct old houses and become part of a community.

Building greenhouses, growing food, taking care of each other.

They are not victims but active change-makers in these hard times.

**Think globally, act locally**

We are supporting these communities with humanitarian aid  
and food but **we need your help as well.**



# How to connect and help

Find us and share, like, inform others about Green Road



Global Ecovillage Network.  
Ukraine

@globalecovillagenetwork.ua ·  
Неправительственная организация (НПО)

Отправить сообщение

Здравствуйте! Чем мы можем помочь?



gen\_ukraine

[genukraine2018@gmail.com](mailto:genukraine2018@gmail.com)

Anton (GEN Ukraine) +45 71790612

Camilla (LØS) +45 29723145

MobilePay 98365





# Future

Що ти зробиш, коли закінчиться війна? (Ukrainian)

Что ты сделаешь, когда закончится война? (Russian)

**What will you do when the war is over?**

Every night before going to bed, I mentally say, "Tomorrow the war is over."

I imagine it. Myriads of happy situations and familiar faces. And I slowly fall asleep. I sleep soundly. Again, I believe. That this night will leave me and those around me to live tomorrow. And the day after tomorrow. And for many years more. That's my mantra.

**And what will YOU do when the war is over?**

ECOVILLAGE  
2022

Ananda  
Gaorii

Denmark

GATHERING





Landsforeningen for Økosamfund and GEN Ukraine  
are both partnering in the European Ecovillage Gathering

*July 7th - 11th, Ananda Gaorii, Denmark*

<https://ecovillagegathering.org/>

- GEN Ukraine decided to be the a co-organiser of this year's Gathering together with GEN Europe, LØS and the host Ananda Gaorii to make sure that the Ukrainian voice is represented on all levels of the gathering.
- GEN Ukraine have formed a Gathering Coordination Team and are currently forming a Volunteer Team and a Delegation team.
- GAIA TRUST is supporting GEN Ukraine coordination team, volunteers and delegation in coming to Denmark and supporting/being platformed at the gathering.



# THE GREEN ROAD PROJECT

THANK YOU



Landsforeningen for Økosamfund



GLOBAL  
ECOVILLAGE  
NETWORK



GEN UKRAINE

