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1. Persons Who Renovated Damaged Housing at Their Own Expense are Eligible for Compensation

Background: On 21 April 2023, the Cabinet adopted [Decree №381](#) introducing the Procedure for claiming compensation for the restoration of certain categories of housing damaged as a result of war. One of the prerequisites for receiving compensation was that the damaged housing had not been repaired.¹

Recent developments: On 5 October 2023, the Verkhovna Rada approved [Law №3410-IX](#), eliminating the discriminatory provisions. Accordingly, monetary compensation will also be provided for construction items that were purchased and/or repair works that were performed at the expense of the compensation applicant.

The newly amended provisions will come into force from 1 January 2024.

2. Remote Sensing of the Earth Makes Compensation for Destroyed Housing in NGCA Possible

On 27 October 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted [Decree №1185](#), launching the Procedure for implementing a Pilot Project to conduct surveys of certain categories of destroyed housing through the use of technology for remote sensing of the Earth.

Purpose	To establish through a survey using remote sensing the fact of the destruction of housings to determine compensation eligibility. ²
Coordinator	Ministry of Development of Communities, Territories, and Infrastructure of Ukraine.
Location	Melitopol city ³
Decision-makers	The commission created by the Melitopol City Council. Decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of votes. In case of equal distribution of votes, the final decision is made by the Chairman of the Commission.

¹ For more information, please, see [DRC Legal Alert Issue 93](#).

² In accordance with the Procedure for Providing Compensation for Destroyed Real Estate, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 30 May 2023. For more information, please, see [DRC Legal Alert Issue 95](#).

³ The city is in the NGCA since 1 March 2022.

How to apply for a survey	To initiate a survey a person with a compensation claim has to submit an application in accordance with the Procedure for Providing Compensation for Destroyed Real Estate Objects ⁴
Results	The results of the survey are reflected in an Act drawn up by the Commission for each facility. The Act provides a conclusion on whether assessment of damage or destruction was possible through the survey.
Data sharing	All the data is communicated to the applicants through the DIIA app.

3. The Minimum Amount of Unemployment Benefit has been Increased

On 20 October 2023, the [Decree №60](#) of the Fund of State Social Insurance for Unemployment entered into force. According to the Decree, the minimum amount of unemployment benefits has been increased for the first time since 2020.

Category	Minimum Amount of Benefits	Increase (% compared to old norms) ⁵	Adequacy Level (% compared to Statutory Subsistence Minimum for able-body person ⁶)
Youth who have recently graduated and need assistance in finding the first job.	UAH 1,500	150%	56%
Insured persons who have made insurance contributions for less than seven months or have been dismissed ⁷ from their last job.			
Insured persons who have made insurance contribution at least seven months.	UAH 2,500	250%	93%
Employees and gig specialists ⁸ of legal entities that are residents of the Diia City.			
IDPs or persons who are in the NGCA or areas experiencing active hostilities, who do not have documents confirming insurance contribution, employment, or salary.			

⁴ For more information, please, see [DRC Legal Alert Issue 95](#)

⁵ Previously, the minimum amount of Unemployment benefits was fixed at the level of UAH 1,000.

⁶ UAH 2,684 as of 1 January 2023.

⁷ There is list of relevant reasons for dismissal that are applicable:

- the entry into force of a court decision sentencing an employee to imprisonment
- systematic failure to perform work duties without valid reasons or absenteeism
- appearing at work in a state of alcohol, narcotic, or toxic intoxication
- impossibility of providing the employee with work because of hostilities
- termination of an employment agreement with a manager at the request of an elected body of a primary trade union organisation

⁸ Gig specialist – a person working under a gig contract. The gig contract is an agreement for IT specialists combining freelance features and social guarantees for IT workers. For more information, please, see [DRC Legal Alert, Issue 89](#).

IDPs who do not have the documents required for claiming unemployed status.

NB: This Decree is retroactive and is applicable from 31 July 2023.

4. The Cabinet Launches a Pilot Project to Build up Resilience

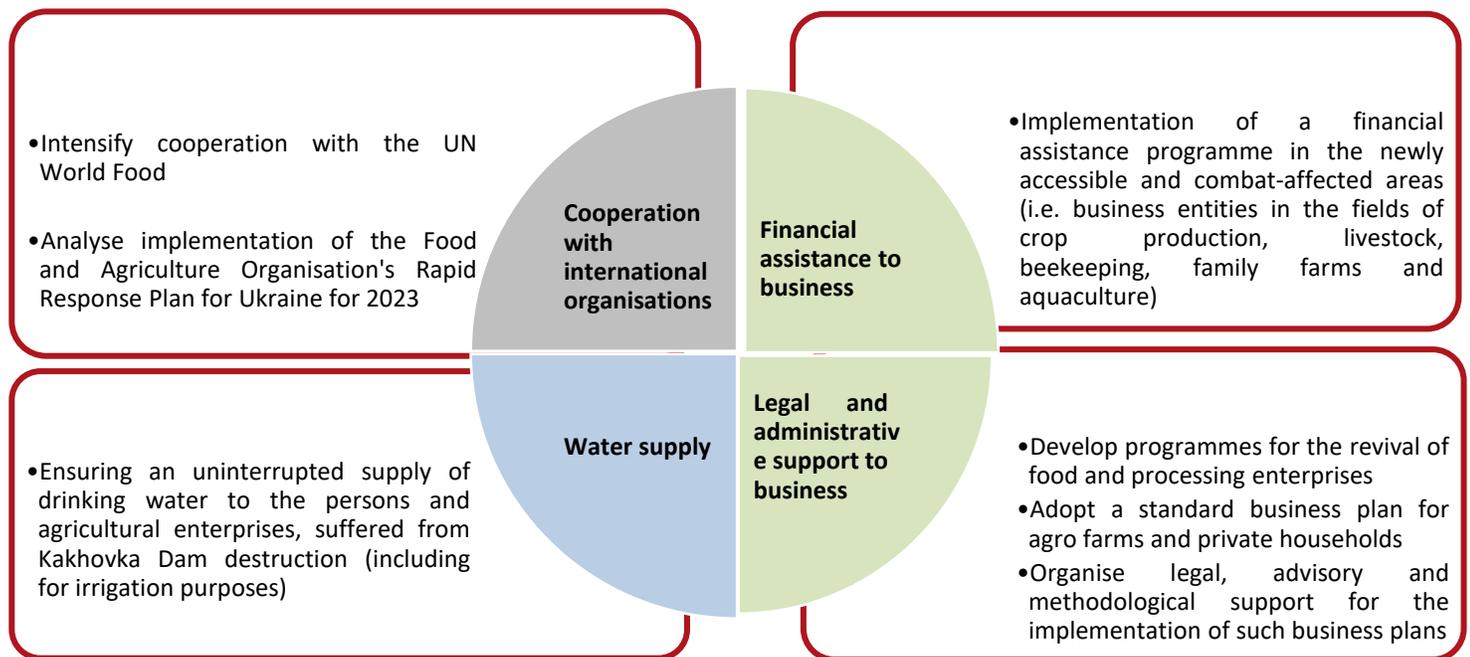
On 3 October 2023 the Cabinet of Ministers adopted [Decree №1049](#), launching a Pilot Project on comprehensive social services to build resilience.

Implementation level	Several hromadas are to be selected for this Pilot.
Timeframe	7 October 2023 - 31 December 2024
Coordinator	Ministry of Social Policy
Source of finance	State budget
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the mental health of the population • Adaptation of persons (including IDPs) to crisis situations • Provision of social services to persons in difficult life circumstances • Strengthening family and kinship ties and developing parenting competences • Strengthening and coordination of the volunteer movement • Increasing social cohesion within the hromadas
Service-provider	<p>A legal entity or private entrepreneur, providing specialists in social work (social pedagogy) and psychology.</p> <p>Service providers are chosen on a competitive basis.</p>
Grounds for the provision of services	<p>Services are provided based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an application (oral or written) from the recipient • notification (oral or written) from a third person • identification of the need for services by a specialist • the need to respond to crisis (i.e., state of emergency, Martial Law, etc).
Service Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual • family (together with persons who are related to each other or live in the same family) • group (in a group of persons with other recipients of integrated services).

Terms and duration	The terms and frequency/duration of the comprehensive social service are determined individually in each case, considering the individual/family/group needs of the recipient.
Location	The integrated service is provided at the premises of the service provider, on the street, or via the Internet using mobile/fixed-line communication.

5. The National Security and Defence Council Steps Forward to Ensure Food Security During Wartime

On 9 October 2023, the National Security and Defence Council adopted a Decision (reinforced by the [Presidential Decree №681/2023](#)), on addressing, among other matters, food security issues during war. The core provisions are aimed at counteracting the challenges caused by the war, as well as restoring and developing agricultural businesses, in particular in combat-affected areas.



6. Ukraine and Croatia Signed Agreement on Demining

Background: On 6 October 2023 the Cabinet of Ministers approved [Order №905-p](#), approving an intergovernmental Agreement⁹ on cooperation in the sphere of demining between Ukraine and Croatia and authorising the First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine - Minister of Economy to sign it.

⁹ The Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on Cooperation in Mine Action.

Recent developments: On 10 October 2023, Ukraine and the Republic of Croatia signed the Agreement. The Agreement is aimed at cooperating for the purpose of clearing explosive ordnance from Ukraine.

The areas of cooperation envisaged by the Agreement are part of the Mine Action Strategy that Ukraine is currently working on the following steps are considered:

Theoretical Input	Practical Input
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explosive ordnance risk education and assistance to mine victimsDevelopment of a regulatory framework and standard procedures in the field of mine actionExchange of knowledge and experience on the development of capacities to produce protective equipment, mine detection and demining equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Non-technical and technical surveys, demining, and clean-upTrainings for specialists, and training and certification of mine detection dogsExchange of experience in the practical use of equipment used in demining, etc.

7. Terms for the Provision of Certain Social Services are Revised

On 27 October 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers introduced [Decree №1124](#), slightly amending the current legislation based on the provision of social services. Following are the major changes introduced by the Decree:

- Persons with a disability get the opportunity to re-apply for services if life circumstances have changed (i.e., death of a family member, change in their financial or social status).
- Individuals/families in difficult life circumstances will have access to social services on an urgent basis - bureaucratic procedures will be relaxed.
- Persons who suffered from deprivation of personal liberty because of war will be treated equally to persons in difficult life circumstances.
- The fee for the provision of social services¹⁰ for persons in the areas experiencing active hostilities or NGCA will not be revised during the Martial Law and one month after its termination/ cancellation.

¹⁰ Differentiated fee for the provision of social services - part of the cost of social services paid to the social service provider by the recipient of such services.

8. Generation of New Employment is Made a Condition for Business Receiving Certain Grants from the Government

On 27 October 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted [Decree №1125](#), introducing amendments to the Procedures for the Provision of Grants for the Establishment or Development of Horticulture, Berry and Viticulture and Development of Greenhouse Farming.

The amended provisions create an obligation for the businesses, that are applying for a grant, to create jobs under the following conditions:

- employ persons for full-time work
- wages to such persons should not be less than the national minimum wage
- level of wage shall be confirmed by the payment of a single contribution to the obligatory State Social Insurance Fund.

Other Developments

1. **All information on Invincibility Points¹¹ becomes accessible through DIIA app ([Decree №1095](#) of 13 October 2023)**
2. **The Cabinet approves attracting of USD 1.2 billion loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the implementation of the project "Investing in Social Protection for Improved Coverage, Resilience and Efficiency (INSPIRE)". ([Order №972-p](#) of 27 October 2023)**

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¹¹ For more information, please, see [DRC Legal Alert, Issue 88](#)