

## **The Decade Appeal:**

### **Recovery and Regeneration Fund for Ukrainian Young People**

#### **Helping young people tomorrow and today**

Young people affected by the crisis in Ukraine will need support for years to come. EMpower has supported sister organisations with first wave emergency response. We must also look forward so that young people who have fled their homes or remain in now devastated cities have the opportunity to recover from trauma, to continue learning and to secure decent livelihoods.

#### **10 years of support for young people**

As with many crises, the world's attention and humanitarian emergency relief funding will dwindle and move on – but the needs of young people will remain just as acute. EMpower intends to build on our deep ties in Eastern Europe and a proven philanthropic approach, investing in local partner organisations for up to 10 years. Our focus will be on the most marginalized young people, including young women and girls who face additional barriers and are amongst those most at risk. We aim to foster enduring improvements in the lives of young people affected by war.

#### **Strengthening Civil Society**

EMpower invests directly in local organisations that are able to make a difference for young people amidst changing circumstances, with the ability to pivot to meet evolving needs. We will use our proven model of not only funding direct services for young people but also support the organisations to help them strengthen their capacity and resilience, working within a volatile environment. To accelerate sharing and adoption of approaches needed for displaced and vulnerable youth, we provide connections and cross-learning amongst our partners in the region and across our international network.

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## **Your donations will enable:**

#### **Support for education and inclusive learning**

Young people's education has been completely disrupted as they have left their lives behind to flee the conflict or schools are shut down. We will help local partners to ensure that Ukrainian young people are able to return to learning (many lessons learned from remote learning due to COVID) and receive quality teaching support.

#### **Mental health support**

The trauma of the war in Ukraine will have longer term impact on the mental health of young people. We will work with local NGOs to ensure that young people are listened to and supported as they deal with their distress, and given tools to help cope and build resilience.

## **Rebuilding incomes and economic opportunities**

Young people who were looking towards their futures are now having to rely on others for food and shelter, and many girls and young women will face the additional risk of being trafficked or trading sex for cash. Working through local partners, we will help young people to rebuild the opportunities to earn their own safe, dignified economic opportunities and job pathways.

## **Youth Voice, Engagement and Leadership**

Young people need to be included in any recovery effort in a central way, especially as they form a large part of the exodus and will be critical to any change efforts. EMpower has deep expertise in engaging young people, especially girls, in meaningful input on priorities they face, and as problem-solvers and changemakers.

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## **Our offer to you:**

The rebuilding of communities and support for a generation of Ukrainian youth will take years, which is why we are planning a long term investment. But it must start now. We will ensure:

### **Direct investment in local organisations and networks**

We do extensive due diligence to source best in class local organisations with strong expertise in working with young people, as well as select regional and youth-focused networks catalyze their collective impact

### **Cash and capacity strengthening**

Your money will make a difference for Ukrainian young people now - and we will help partner organisations to adapt, scale and maximise the impact they achieve. In addition to financial grants, we link them to peers for cross-referrals, learning and solidarity, and are a trusted thought partner as they navigate challenging times.

### **A decade of support**

We support partner organisations for 10 years, giving us the trust and relationships needed to make a long term impact for young people, and for a horizon beyond this immediate crisis. Counting on long term support gives partners enormous security and ability to plan.

### **Learning and Monitoring of results and impact**

We are in frequent communication with all our grantee partners. We understand their challenges, achievements and learnings and we can pivot quickly when needed. Board of Directors involvement in EMpower's grantmaking investments, annual priorities and budgets provides an additional layer of effective oversight.

### **Efficient and joined up approach**






To maximize the effectiveness of local organizations on the ground, already stretched and coping with crushing needs and challenges, we will seek to minimize administrative requirements, co-fund or otherwise ensure that partner time is spent on direct work with young people.

### **Opportunity to stand in solidarity with other EM countries**

Optionally, we will utilize 20% of money donated through this appeal to help young people affected by crises across our 15 emerging market countries.

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## Why EMpower for Ukrainians?

-  We take a strategic and long-term approach, rather than go in and out of countries or relationships with local partners. This builds trust and planning capacity for beyond the crisis moment.
-  We have 22 years of experience and know-how, including in Eastern Europe, in youth development and how to most effectively serve and engage marginalised young people. Caught between childhood and adulthood, adolescents and youth are at a particularly vulnerable moment in crisis situations and need targeted programming to keep them on track and with a sense of hope for their futures.
-  Our focus and expertise on girls, young women and gender is vital as they are the most at-risk in any crisis (of leaving school, becoming trafficked or subject to violence, falling pregnant) and must be prioritized.
-  Our links to the EM finance sector, with its strong roots in and ties to Ukraine, and our strong connections to sister funders in the region mean that we can access a deep pool of knowledge and connectivity to make the smartest and most needed investments.
-  EMpower has strong expertise, policies and commitment to safeguarding children and young people, who become increasingly vulnerable in crisis/humanitarian situations. We will prioritize safeguarding and wellbeing in any work undertaken or supported.

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