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ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS OF STATE PROGRAMMES SUPPORTING INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Abstract. *This article provides a comprehensive analysis of the implementation results of state programmes supporting internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine over the period 2022–2024. The study focuses on the monthly targeted financial assistance programme, which allocates 2,000 UAH per month for adults and 3,000 UAH for children and persons with disabilities, revealing its central role in the national IDP support system. The analysis demonstrates a steady utilisation of allocated funds during 2022 and 2023, with a sharp decline in 2024, where only 66.8% of the planned funding was utilised. This trend highlights the evolving challenges in managing financial assistance within the IDP support framework. The research identifies key factors contributing to underutilisation, including return migration of IDPs to their home regions, secondary displacement abroad leading to the loss of IDP status, integration into local labour markets reducing eligibility for assistance, and administrative barriers in the renewal of documentation and distribution of funds. Additionally, changes in household structures and complexities in regional registration practices are shown to influence the funding absorption rates. The findings underscore the significant role of state financial support in ensuring the resilience of displaced populations during periods of prolonged displacement while revealing the limitations of the current system in adapting to dynamic socio-demographic realities.*

Keywords: *internally displaced persons, state support, social assistance, demographic changes, budget utilisation, social integration.*

АНАЛІЗ РЕЗУЛЬТАТІВ ВИКОНАННЯ ДЕРЖАВНОЇ ПРОГРАМИ ПІДТРИМКИ ВНУТРІШНЬО ПЕРЕМІЩЕНИХ ОСІБ

Анотація. *У статті здійснено комплексний аналіз результатів реалізації державних програм підтримки внутрішньо переміщених осіб (ВПО) в Україні протягом 2022–2024 років. Основну увагу зосереджено на найбільш масштабній програмі – щомісячній цільовій фінансовій допомозі у розмірі 2000 грн для дорослих та 3000 грн для дітей та осіб з інвалідністю. Дослідження проводилось із застосуванням кількісного аналізу офіційних даних щодо обсягів фінансування, рівня використання запланованих коштів, а також порівняння динаміки фінансування за роками. Результати дослідження показали, що у 2022 та 2023 роках рівень використання фінансування залишався стабільно високим, однак у 2024 році спостерігалось різке зниження використання коштів до 66,8% від запланованого обсягу, що свідчить про наявність структурних проблем у системі підтримки ВПО.*

У дослідженні виокремлено основні причини неповного використання виділених коштів, серед яких: повернення ВПО до місць постійного проживання, вторинна міграція за кордон з втратою статусу ВПО, інтеграція частини переселенців у місцеві ринки праці, що зменшує потребу у допомозі, труднощі з оновленням та верифікацією документів, а також адміністративні затримки у процесі виплат. Результати дослідження демонструють ключову роль фінансової підтримки ВПО у забезпеченні їхньої соціальної стійкості в умовах вимушеного переміщення, водночас виявляючи недоліки у гнучкості системи державної допомоги до змін у демографічній структурі та міграційних

процесах. У статті підкреслюється необхідність посилення моніторингу руху ВПО, адаптації механізмів надання допомоги до регіональних відмінностей та забезпечення ефективної міжвідомчої взаємодії для належного використання бюджетних ресурсів.

Практична цінність дослідження полягає у формулюванні рекомендацій для органів влади щодо підвищення прозорості, адресності та гнучкості програм підтримки ВПО, що дозволить адаптувати механізми допомоги відповідно до реальних потреб населення та забезпечить стабільність соціально-економічного розвитку в умовах затяжних кризових явищ. Стаття сприяє розширенню наукової дискусії щодо ефективності використання державних фінансів у сфері гуманітарної підтримки, відкриваючи напрями для подальших досліджень впливу державних програм допомоги на соціальну інтеграцію та довгострокову стійкість громад.

Ключові слова: внутрішньо переміщені особи, державна підтримка, соціальна допомога, демографічні зміни, використання бюджетних коштів, соціальна інтеграція.

Formulation of the problem. The large-scale internal displacement in Ukraine since 2022 has posed unprecedented challenges for the state, host communities, and the internally displaced persons (IDPs) themselves, demanding the urgent implementation of systematic support mechanisms. The sudden demographic shifts, with significant portions of the population relocating from eastern and central regions to western Ukraine or abroad, have disrupted local labour markets, burdened housing and social infrastructure, and generated new layers of socio-economic vulnerability. In this context, the state's commitment to safeguarding human dignity and ensuring social stability materialised in the form of targeted financial support programmes for IDPs. Among these initiatives, the monthly targeted financial assistance programme, offering 2,000 UAH per adult and 3,000 UAH per child or person with disabilities, stands as the most extensive in terms of both beneficiaries and allocated resources.

Understanding the dynamics and implications of this demographic transition is essential for designing evidence-based policies that can effectively address the evolving needs of displaced populations while supporting the sustainable development of host regions. In this context, the implementation of targeted financial assistance programmes for IDPs emerged as a cornerstone of the state's response, reflecting a commitment to social protection and inclusive economic development under conditions of heightened internal migration.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Ukrainian researchers have actively examined the multidimensional challenges of supporting internally displaced persons, focusing on social assistance systems, legal frameworks, and administrative practices. Pavliuk T. and Serednytska L. [1] alongside Podluzhna N., Lyziunova O., and Tarasenko D. [2] have analysed the functioning of social support and migration regulation mechanisms for IDPs under crisis conditions, highlighting systemic limitations and regional disparities. Seliikhov D. [3], Prokopchuk N. [4], and Zabrodina O. [5] have explored the legal aspects of IDP assistance, addressing the need for legislative improvements, the protection of labour rights, and the challenges of pension payment procedures. Shaposhnikova I. and Prystai I. [6] have investigated integration strategies and barriers for IDPs within local communities, while Vatamaniuk-Zelinska U., Kilocho O., and Zelinskyi M.-P. [7] have studied state financial support during wartime, providing insights into funding mechanisms relevant for vulnerable groups.

Despite extensive research on various facets of IDP support, there remains a gap concerning empirical evaluation of the efficiency of targeted financial assistance programmes, particularly regarding funding utilisation and the socio-economic effects of support measures under conditions of prolonged displacement, which this study seeks to address.

The purposes of the article is to systematically assess the implementation results of targeted state programmes supporting internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine, with a specific focus on the monthly targeted financial assistance provided during 2022–2024. The study aims to evaluate the scale and efficiency of allocated and utilised funding, investigating the factors that influenced the discrepancy between planned and actual expenditures. This research further seeks to identify the structural and administrative barriers affecting the accessibility and continuity of financial assistance for IDPs, while exploring the socio-economic consequences of incomplete funding utilisation on the integration of displaced persons into host communities. By analysing statistical data and policy documents, the article aims to generate evidence-based insights to enhance the effectiveness of current and future support programmes for IDPs.

The main material presentation. In 2022, Ukraine faced a profound demographic shift, as substantial

segments of the population from the eastern and central regions left their homes and relocated either to the western regions of the country or abroad. This large-scale internal displacement has reshaped the demographic landscape, generating unprecedented challenges for local communities and state institutions responsible for ensuring social stability and economic resilience. The rapid influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) into host communities created significant pressures on regional infrastructures, social services, and local labour markets. At the same time, it has underscored the critical role of state-led support mechanisms in safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable populations and maintaining social cohesion amid demographic disruptions.

During this period of profound demographic transformation, the official status of internally displaced persons (IDPs) was introduced as a legal and administrative instrument to structure and manage state support effectively. This status enables the state to identify, record, and provide targeted assistance to individuals who have been compelled to leave their habitual places of residence and relocate within the country due to circumstances beyond their control.

To qualify for IDP status, an individual must meet several criteria, including permanent residence in a territory where circumstances necessitate displacement, the actual relocation to another region within Ukraine, and registration with local authorities or social protection offices in the host community. Additionally, individuals seeking this status are required to provide documentation confirming their previous residence, as well as evidence of their displacement and current place of stay. The introduction of the IDP status has played a pivotal role in ensuring systematic, accountable, and transparent delivery of assistance, enabling displaced persons to access financial support, social services, and employment opportunities while contributing to the socio-economic stability of host communities. Moreover, this legal framework aligns with Ukraine's broader commitment to protecting human dignity and fostering social inclusion amid internal demographic challenges.

A range of targeted programmes was launched to support IDPs during their resettlement and adaptation within host communities, reflecting the state's commitment to safeguarding human security and promoting socio-economic stability amid internal displacement. Among these, the one-time financial assistance programme of 6,500 UAH, implemented in the spring of 2022, played a crucial role in addressing the urgent needs of displaced individuals. This programme provided immediate liquidity to cover essential expenses, such as temporary accommodation, food, transportation, and medical needs, thereby reducing the economic shock associated with sudden displacement.

In addition to direct cash transfers, the utility compensation programme for private homeowners who sheltered IDPs emerged as an innovative mechanism for community-based support. Under this programme, individuals who voluntarily offered housing to displaced persons received compensation for the additional utility expenses incurred, including heating, electricity, and water supply costs. This approach not only alleviated the financial burden on host families but also fostered solidarity and social cohesion within local communities, encouraging the active participation of citizens in addressing the displacement crisis. In 2024, this programme will be discontinued.

Furthermore, the eOselya concessional lending programme was extended to IDPs, facilitating their access to housing through low-interest, long-term mortgage loans. This programme aimed to enhance the housing stability of displaced families by enabling them to purchase apartments or houses in safer regions, thereby supporting long-term integration into host communities and reducing their vulnerability to poverty and social exclusion. Preferential loans for IDPs are provided at a rate of 7%. The inclusion of IDPs in the eOselya programme represents a strategic move towards transforming emergency assistance into sustainable development interventions, aligning immediate humanitarian support with broader goals of socio-economic resilience and inclusive growth.

Collectively, these programmes reflect the multifaceted approach adopted by the Ukrainian government to address the complex challenges faced by internally displaced persons, blending immediate humanitarian assistance with mechanisms for long-term adaptation and socio-economic inclusion.

Among the state interventions designed to support internally displaced persons, the monthly targeted financial assistance programme stands out as the most extensive, both in terms of the number of beneficiaries and the scale of funding allocated. This programme provides monthly payments of 2,000 UAH for adults and 3,000 UAH for children and persons with disabilities, addressing the essential subsistence needs of displaced families and reducing their exposure to economic hardship.

The targeted assistance was designed to ensure that IDPs could meet their basic needs for food, hygiene, clothing, and medical care during their displacement while enabling them to maintain a minimum level of autonomy in managing their household expenditures. The differentiated payment structure acknowledges the higher vulnerability of children and persons with disabilities, aligning the programme with social equity

principles and the state's commitment to human dignity in crisis response.

Moreover, this assistance plays a critical stabilising role in local economies of the host regions, as the funds provided to IDPs are spent within local communities, thus supporting small businesses and service providers. The scale of the programme is reflected in the substantial budget allocations across multiple fiscal years, demonstrating the government's prioritisation of social protection for displaced populations as part of its broader socio-economic resilience strategy.

By mitigating the risk of poverty and social exclusion among IDPs, the monthly targeted assistance not only fulfils an immediate humanitarian function but also contributes to maintaining social stability in host communities and reducing the potential for social tensions arising from displacement. The programme thus serves as a cornerstone in the state's policy for managing internal displacement, illustrating a transition from emergency humanitarian response towards a structured social protection mechanism capable of adapting to the protracted nature of displacement.

Table 1

Funding for Monthly Targeted Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (2022–2024)

Year	Planned funding	Actual funding used	Percentage of funds used, %
2022	57650.0 million UAH 1463.20 million EUR	53500.0 million UAH 1357.87 million EUR	92,8%
2023	74160.0 million UAH 1858.65 million EUR	73200.0 million UAH 1834.59 million EUR	98,7%
2024	57650.0 million UAH 1419.95 million EUR	38500.0 million UAH 948.28 million EUR	66,8%

Source: compiled by the author based on [8,9,10,11,12,13]

Table 1 and Fig. 1 presents the dynamics of state funding allocated for monthly targeted assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine over 2022–2024. In 2022, the planned funding amounted to 57,650.0 million UAH, reflecting the urgent need to support a significant influx of displaced persons during the first wave of internal displacement. In 2023, the planned funding increased substantially to 74,160.0 million UAH, marking a 28.7% rise compared to 2022, which demonstrates the government's commitment to maintaining social stability and ensuring continuity of support amidst protracted displacement. However, in 2024, the planned funding returned to the 2022 level of 57,650.0 million UAH, indicating a recalibration of the state's financial strategy in supporting IDPs while aligning with broader fiscal constraints.

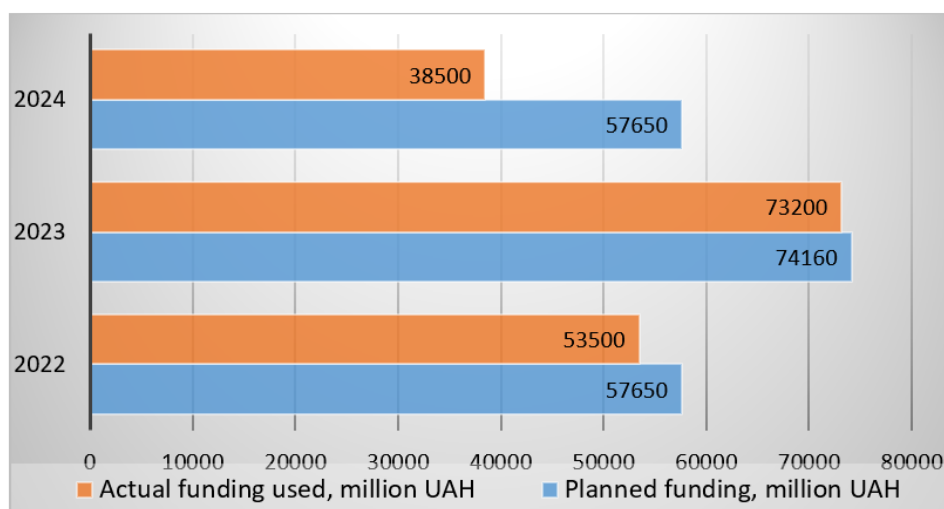


Fig. 1. Dynamics of changes in the volume of funding for IDP payments in 2022-2024

Source: compiled by the author based on [8,9,10,11,12,13]

The actual disbursement of funds shows a consistently high utilization rate in the first two years. In 2022, 53,500.0 million UAH were used, covering 92.8% of the planned amount (Fig. 2), while in 2023, 73,200.0 million UAH were used, which is 98.7% of the planned funding, reflecting the high demand for financial

assistance among IDPs. However, in 2024, a notable decline in actual funding usage is observed, with only 38,500.0 million UAH utilised, constituting 66.8% of the planned funding for that year.

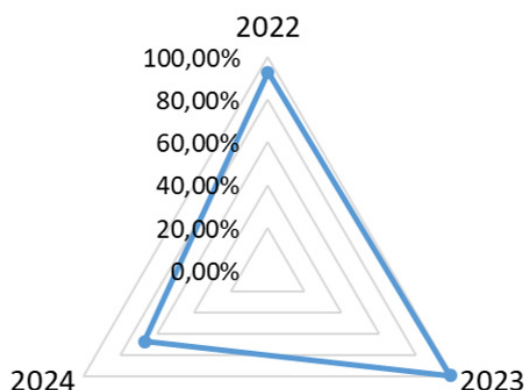


Fig. 2. Percentage of planned funding used for IDP payments in 2022-2024

Source: compiled by the author based on [8,9,10,11,12,13]

The underutilisation of allocated funding for monthly targeted assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 2024, reflected in a significant discrepancy between planned and actual disbursement, can be traced to a constellation of demographic, administrative, and socio-economic factors that shaped the evolving landscape of internal displacement in Ukraine.

A key factor influencing this trend is the gradual return migration of IDPs to their home regions, as stabilisation in certain areas and the reopening of local infrastructure encouraged households to return and resume pre-displacement livelihoods, thus leading to the termination of their IDP status and, consequently, the cessation of financial support. In parallel, the phenomenon of secondary displacement abroad emerged as a significant trajectory, with some IDPs seeking long-term security or economic opportunities in foreign countries, which also resulted in the automatic loss of eligibility for domestic assistance programmes. Another critical aspect is the failure of some IDPs to renew or update the necessary documentation required to maintain assistance. Bureaucratic complexities, lack of access to administrative services in host regions, or limited awareness regarding renewal procedures contributed to the exclusion of some individuals from continued support, despite their underlying need for assistance.

Additionally, the integration of IDPs into local labour markets over time, facilitated by employment in host communities, led to a gradual reduction in the number of eligible recipients, as individuals who achieved a certain level of income no longer met the criteria for targeted financial support. This integration, while a positive marker of social adaptation, indirectly reduced the scope of the state's financial obligations under the targeted assistance programme. Administrative barriers and delays in the distribution of funds further compounded the situation, with regional disparities in the efficiency of processing payments and verifying eligibility impacting the consistency of support delivery. In some cases, procedural bottlenecks and the uneven capacity of local administrative bodies led to delays or the omission of eligible recipients from monthly disbursement cycles.

Finally, shifts in household structures and complexities associated with regional registration affected the eligibility of certain individuals. Changes in household composition, such as marriage, separation, or the birth of children, often required updates in registration, which, if uncompleted or delayed, resulted in the suspension of assistance. Moreover, regional registration challenges, particularly in densely populated host regions, created additional layers of complexity, affecting the timely inclusion of eligible recipients in the programme.

Taken together, these factors highlight the multifaceted nature of underutilisation of state funds in 2024, reflecting not only financial or administrative inefficiencies but also the dynamic and adaptive strategies of displaced populations as they navigate the complexities of displacement, integration, and return within the broader socio-economic fabric of Ukraine.

Conclusions. The analysis of the implementation results of state programmes supporting internally displaced persons in Ukraine during 2022–2024 reveals the critical role of targeted financial assistance in ensuring the basic needs and social stability of displaced populations amidst demographic challenges. The monthly targeted assistance programme, while substantial in scale, exhibited a consistent gap between

planned and actual funding utilisation, particularly evident in 2024, when only 66.8 % of allocated funds were disbursed.

The identified underutilisation of funds can be attributed to several factors, including return migration of IDPs to their home regions, secondary displacement abroad resulting in the loss of IDP status, administrative challenges in documentation renewal, and integration into local labour markets, which gradually reduced the number of eligible recipients. These findings highlight the dynamic nature of displacement processes and the necessity for flexible policy tools capable of adapting to rapidly changing socio-demographic realities.

The research underscores that while the financial support programme played a stabilising role, its effectiveness depends on improving the accuracy of IDP registration, enhancing interagency coordination, and ensuring timely information sharing with beneficiaries. Furthermore, addressing administrative delays and streamlining procedures for eligibility confirmation would contribute to maximising the utilisation of allocated funds and expanding the programme's reach to those in need. The study also demonstrates the need for integrated policy approaches that link emergency financial support with long-term socio-economic integration strategies for IDPs. Such approaches would not only improve the living conditions of displaced populations but also contribute to regional development and labour market stability in host communities. Future research should focus on assessing the long-term socio-economic outcomes of financial assistance on IDP households, exploring regional disparities in programme effectiveness, and identifying best practices for aligning emergency aid with sustainable development goals in the context of forced displacement in Ukraine.

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