

Need and projects

for MicroBusinesses

in rural communities
in Chernihivska oblast

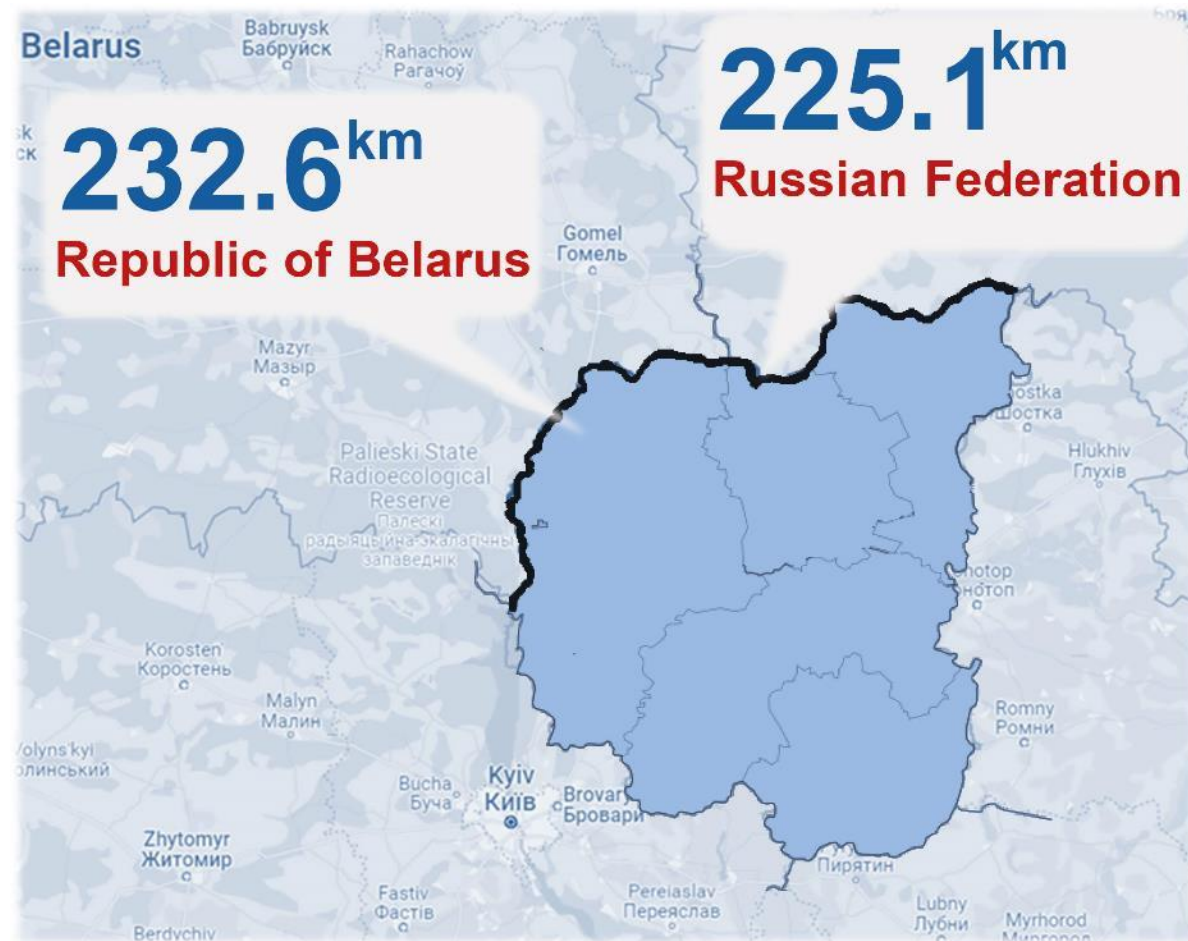
by Olga Kuntysh



Basic data about Chernihiv Region

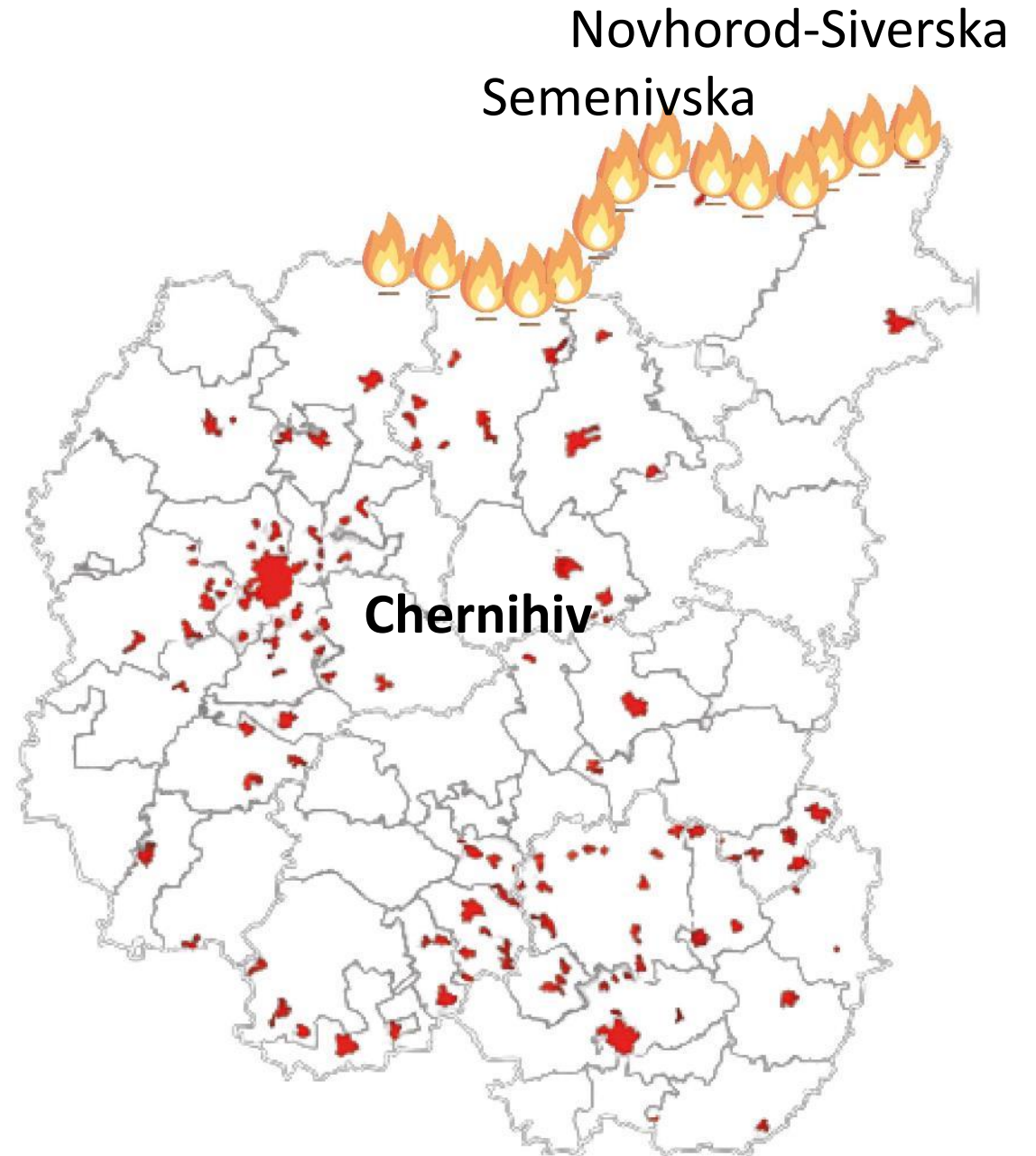
- **31.9** thousand square kilometers
- about **1** million population
- **5** districts
- **57** territorial communities

Total length of borders with aggressor countries:



Loses caused by military aggression

- more than **650** killed
- more than **1,112** wounded
- more than **11,444**
destroyed and damaged objects



10 livestock farms were damaged as a result of hostilities, the following died:

- **462 cattle (including 224 cows)**
- **1400 pigs**



Situation on the labour market in Chernihiv region as of 01.11.23:

- The number of registered unemployed - **3843**
- Number of registered vacancies – **941**



Average monthly need for food declared by district military administrations:

- Cereals, pasta, potatoes – 5000 kg
- Sugar – 280 kg
- Salt – 1250 kg
- Coffee – 100 kg
- Tea – 100 kg

Regions with the greatest need:
Chernihiv and Novgorod-Siverskyi districts
(over 70 per cent)



Need for resources for business recovery/start-up/development

In early March 2023, ZOA conducted a needs assessment among 1286 respondents in the North Communities in Chernihiv Oblast:

- 4% want to retain for another specialty
- 5% want to start a microbusiness

Additionally:

- Loss of part of production capacity (equipment, personnel)
- Lack of funds
- 66% of respondents who intend to start a business are women
- Problems with access to markets
- The need for a closed production cycle is growing



Project of MicroGrants for IDPs and the Affected Population (April-October 2023)

Key Figures:

- **208 applications** were received in total
- **25 participants were trained in writing a business plan**
- **7 participants registered as individual entrepreneurs**
- **20 participants received microgrants** to restore/develop or launch their business
- **20 participants purchased equipment** for entrepreneurial activities, which already allows them to generate income



Most applicants came from the following sectors:

- Tailoring
- Construction services
- Cosmetic services
- Craft production



Challenges:

- **Uncertainty for applicants intending to start their own business**
- **Distrust of grant programmes in some communities**
- **Duplication of grants from other organisations**



Tetiana's success story:

- With grant funds, she bought three sewing machines and other equipment
- Started a sewing production from scratch
- Employed 3 women, including 2 people with disabilities
- Main customers: business



Planned activities within UHF:

- 50 microgrants of \$3000 each for private entrepreneurs (PE)
- 100 microgrants of \$1000 each for PE or self-employment



Needs assessment in the agricultural sector, ongoing survey (as of 14.11.23):

434 respondents from the vulnerable population were interviewed, including **276 IDPS**.

80% of respondents said they had insufficient means of subsistence, **43%** of respondents reported having unemployed family members

The respondents were asked to suggest the type of support their family needs. The answers were as follows:

- * **44 %** - seeds and fertilisers for a land plot
- * **28 %** - small equipment for cultivating their own land plot
- * **31%** - small livestock and poultry
- * **6%** - cows



The area of land plots for own needs:

0,10 ha - **31 %**

0,15 ha - **16 %**

0,20-0,50 ha - **19 %**

More than 50 ha - **34 %**

