

UKRAINE DEVELOPMENT CHARITY
CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF BENEFICIARIES
IN THE RELIEF OF POVERTY

2 MARCH 2024

The Constitution of the Ukraine Development Charity provides:

From time to time the Trustees will maintain a set of criteria for the selection of beneficiaries in the relief of poverty.

1. It is the intention of the Ukraine Development Charity to relieve either the poverty or the financial hardship of anyone who does not have the resources to provide themselves, either on a short or long-term basis, with the normal things of life which most people take for granted. It is not within the Ukraine Development Charity's mandate to provide assistance to someone who is neither in poverty nor at risk of being in poverty.
2. The trustees of the Ukraine Development Charity therefore have appropriate criteria in place to guide them in selecting their beneficiaries and to ensure that assistance given to individuals is to relieve poverty and is no more than that actually required to relieve their need, and those guidelines are here.
3. Relying on beneficiaries or third parties to make a declaration to this effect is insufficient for the Ukraine Development Charity to act under its poverty relief function.
4. Where the charity is operating in partnership, for example with grant recipients, to relieve poverty, invariably there must be written agreements that are implemented to formalise the working arrangements and set out roles, responsibilities and expectations. In cases where the distribution of aid is carried out at the discretion of third parties, we would need to see evidence that the distribution of aid is underpinned by agreements between Ukraine Development Charity and third-party organisations formalising the working arrangements and setting out roles, responsibilities, and expectations.

5. Even where countries are engaged in ongoing conflict there can be no assumptions that individuals are in need by virtue of their nationality. To further a purpose for the relief of poverty, aid should be provided exclusively to those identified and assessed with a verifiable need related to poverty.
6. Where any poverty relief activity is contemplated, the actual financial and material welfare of the people apparently in poverty must be assessed by reference to one or more of site assessments, evaluation reports by individuals or organisations familiar with the individuals or communities in question, and/or governmental reports into the conditions of poverty of the individuals or communities at issue.
7. Poverty will typically be construed as involving problems in daily subsistence, such as lack of access to sufficient food, infrastructure, heating, accommodation and other essential incidents of living, such that the individuals in question are at risk of life or health in the absence of assistance.
8. Any support provided by the Ukraine Development Charity will take account of the actual needs of the poor in question and will be tailored to those needs. The Trustees may from time to time undertake or commission their own assessments to establish both property and the type of support most appropriate for it.
9. It should be born in mind at all time that financing third parties to disperse aid is not necessarily charitable, and the Trustees shall commission their own assessments of any putative third party falling within this category to ensure that their activities are entirely consistent with the charitable purposes of the Ukraine Development Charity.