The Pilot for Early Recovery and Livelihoods (PEARL) Program

is a GC initiative that integrates economic recovery and market systems (ERMS) programming alongside its portfolio of humanitarian assistance (HA) and sustainable development (SD) programming to test the feasibility and effectiveness of livelihoods support activities in communities impacted by the war in Ukraine.

The project is funded with internal GC resources and targets small businesses, damaged or disrupted by the war, and/or new businesses which can demonstrate ability to create jobs and positively impact the local economy through the establishment of their proposed business.

Objectives:
- Creating new or reviving lost jobs;
- Increasing the number of new businesses;
- Scaling up/expanding existing business activities.

PEARL

- $614,000 Total budget
- 6 MONTHS Duration
- FORTY-THREE Businesses targeted

GC has already supported 21 businesses in war-affected communities in Chernihiv Oblast, and 22 businesses in Chernivtsi Oblast.

The total amount of funding provided directly to local businesses is $395,000.
PROGRESS TO DATE

- Eligibility and selection criteria, evaluation committee structures, scoring mechanisms, and protocols for engagement with stakeholders developed.

- As of September 2023, all forty-three targeted businesses for the pilot program have received their grant funds and began procuring the approved equipment for the business projects.

- Ongoing support in activities such as online orientation sessions, individual consultations with businesses, verification of documentation, and site verification visits already took place.

BUSINESS PROFILES

- Food Production & Services – 11
- Farming & Fisheries – 8
- Manufacturing – 7
- Home Goods & Services – 6
- Health & Fitness – 3
- Artisan & Crafts – 2
- Educational Services – 2
- Technology & Electronics – 2
- Arts & Culture – 1
- Veterinary medicine – 1

2024:

- Expansion of the livelihoods programming to the Eastern oblasts is expected;
- Holding monitoring visits to businesses’ locations is planned;
- Gathering information about additional needs.