

Theirworld partners with Ukraine to act for early years ^[1]

We will work with Ukraine's government to transform education and development for children aged three to five.

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Source: Theirworld

Format: Article

Publication Date: 20 Sep 2023

AVAILABILITY

Access online ^[2]

Excerpts

Theirworld is to partner with Ukraine's government to transform the lives of the youngest children in the war-torn country.

We will support a national early childhood education and development initiative to give children the best start in life.

As Ukraine looks to the future, it will place early childhood education as the top of its education reform agenda to ensure that Ukrainian children – including refugees returning from abroad – can benefit from a safe, quality early education.

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The campaign calls for world leaders to invest in early years childcare and pre-primary education.

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At the event, Yevhen Kudrivets, Ukraine's First Deputy Minister for Education and Science, said:
"Ukraine is committed to be an Act for the Early Years champion – even during a crisis. We are committed to reforming our system and increasing the coverage for three to five-year-old children across the country."

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President Zelenskyy requested that Theirworld work with Ukraine's government to focus on comprehensive support for early childhood education, as well as accelerated learning programmes for science and mathematics.

Since the Russian invasion began, more than 100 early childhood schools have been destroyed and more than 1,000 damaged. Many are being used as shelters for internally displaced people.

As part of the new initiative, Theirworld will provide technical support and staffing to develop and implement the national early childhood education and development initiative.

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5 million Ukrainian children have had their education disrupted since the Russian invasion.

The initiative reached more than 1.5 million learners in the first year, marking one of the single largest education investments in the first year of the war.

Theirworld has also supported Stay With Ukraine, a programme to help young refugees keep in touch with Ukrainian language, learning and culture while living in other countries.

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