

### **UNFPA UKRAINE**

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Shelter for GBV survivors. Kyiv. Photo by Olha Sanina

## **MOVING FORWARDS THREE ZEROS:**





maternal mortality



tolerance to gender-based violence

## FOREWORD

- **6** Global Sustainable Development Goals
- 7 Key Data and Annual Outcomes
- **12** Delivering Life-Saving Services: Humanitarian Response
- **32** Development Programme
- 56 Policy
- 58 Partnerships: Strengthening Impact
- **60** Financial Results

## FOREWORD

24 February, 2022, marked a fateful day that forever changed the lives of people in Ukraine. The full-scale invasion by the Russian Federation not only disrupted the very fabric of society, but also inflicted profound humanitarian challenges on every woman, man, girl, and boy. The repercussions of displacement, disability, and trauma have reverberated across the nation, leaving no one untouched.

Over the course of 2022, nearly one third of the population of Ukraine - or roughly 14 million people - have been forced to flee their homes -6,5-7 million refugees (83 per cent women). More than 180,000 women gave birth in Ukraine. More than 3.5 million people need genderbased violence prevention and response services at different levels (from primary to specialized ones). 10 million people in Ukraine are at risk of, or already suffering from, acute stress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress.

In the face of this unprecedented humanitarian crisis, UNFPA's unwavering commitment to the people of Ukraine has compelled us to extend our mission beyond traditional boundaries. Our development work has seamlessly merged with emergency response efforts, empowering us to deliver lifesaving, multi-sectoral sexual and reproductive health services, and comprehensive support for survivors of gender-based violence. Guided by our core principles, we have amplified our endeavors through fruitful collaborations with esteemed partners, including the Government of Ukraine, local authorities, dedicated national civil society organizations, and compassionate donors. Together, we strive to ensure that no person in need is left behind, as we provide vital information, essential services, and life saving humanitarian assistance to all those affected by the war.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed partners, generous donors, United Nations agencies, and all those who have played a crucial role in supporting UNFPA Ukraine. Your invaluable contributions have enabled us to make a difference in the lives of millions.

In the midst of the ongoing war in Ukraine, UNFPA remains steadfast in our commitment to leaving no one behind. Our mission, anchored in basic human rights, is driven by the belief that every individual deserves to have the opportunity to thrive and realize their full potential.

Jaime Nadal, UNFPA Representative in Ukraine

# SUSTAINABLE GEALS



## KEY DATA AND ANNUAL OUTCOMES

Amount of people reached by GBV awareness and information campaigns 20 389 888



## **HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE**

#### A national network of Survivor Relief Centres was

launched - a unique model of support services for those affected by the war, including those who have experienced conflict-related sexual violence.

### 42,000 people

have received social and psychological support within the framework of 101 PSS mobile teams activities.



**129** survivors of GBV received high-guality, specialized psychotherapeutic support via the 'Aurora' online platform.

**9** women-and-girl-friendly **spaces** opened in different cities of Ukraine.



## 36,000 dignity kits

were provided to UNFPA partners for further distribution among the most vulnerable women and girls, including older women and people with disabilities.

Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) teams have launched a total of

### **16** mobile clinics and **T** mobile maternity

unit for the provision of medical services.

### **32** new Service Delivery Points established in 8 oblasts of Ukraine ensuring timely diagnosis, effective treatments, and the provision of appropriate

health advice to 1,648 women.

#### **Regional working groups to** coordinate the humanitarian response to gender-based

violence were activated in 17 regions of Ukraine in partnership with the GBV Sub Cluster involving more

than **500** participants, including local authorities. In partnership with **1** regional administrations,

**5** primary psychosocial services for GBV survivors, 5 day care centers, 7 crisis rooms, and specialized mobile

teams in **52 hromadas** were established or enhanced.

## DEVELOPMENT

### **5** new specialized services

for survivors of domestic violence were launched with the support of UNFPA within the project «Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence»:

2 daycare centers,
2 crisis rooms and
1 shelter.

**8,124** women have installed a mobile application created in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. **The application can save lives:** in the hidden section, users can call the police with one push of a button - without necessity to make a call or attract unwanted attention from the abuser.

#### The helpline for men -

a unique service (with few analogues in the world) was launched in Ukraine to help men improve their mental health and relationships.

**32** specialized services for survivors of domestic violence received support from UNFPA to strengthen their work:

2 primary counseling services,
11 crisis rooms,
9 daycare centers,
6 shelters, and
4 online daycare centers for residents of cities that are temporarily not controlled by Ukraine. Relaunched **«No trivia»** project

reached **3 mln adolescents** to be mindful of their emotional state and protect personal boundaries **3,591** women received support in finding employment and setting up their own business via «Vona» women career hubs network.

In **60** Ukrainian cities and communities the «Sensitivity overcomes violence»

commemorated the annual

**16** days of activism against gender-based violence.

**«Break the Circle»** campaign reached the hearts of **13.5** million people

Masha Efrosinina hosting a National event of UNFPA dedicated to the start of the campaign «16 Days of Activism against Violence». Photo by Andriy Krepkyh

## UNFPA UKRAINE'S HONORARY AMBASSADOR MASHA EFROSININA

Masha Efrosinina played a significant role in various UNFPA's initiatives aimed at addressing gender-based violence and promoting awareness on critical issues.

Masha Efrosinina hosted and moderated a National event of UNFPA dedicated to the start of the campaign «16 Days of Activism against Violence.» The event served as a platform to unite representatives of the government, state partners, international organizations, embassies, and city administrations, fostering collaboration and raising awareness about the urgent need to combat violence in all its forms.

Additionally, Masha actively participated in the re-branding activities of the national awarenessraising campaign, «Break the Circle.» She became the public face of the campaign's re-branding video. The video was extensively promoted on digital platforms, media channels, and public transport, effectively disseminating the message of breaking the cycle of violence to a broader audience. Moreover, Masha Efrosinina played a vital role in the launch of a mobile application for survivors of domestic violence. This application, presented by UNFPA, international partners, and state authorities, offered a lifeline to survivors, providing them with a safe and accessible resource to seek support, access information, and connect with relevant services.

Her unwavering commitment and dedication to the cause have strengthened UNFPA Ukraine's endeavors to combat gender-based violence and foster an environment where everyone can live a life free from fear and violence. Her valuable contributions have been instrumental in advancing the UNFPA's mission and promoting gender equality and reproductive health in Ukraine.

## DELIVERING LIFE-SAVING SERVICES: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

UNFPA Ukraine has been at the forefront of the humanitarian response, working tirelessly to ensure the well-being and dignity of those affected by the ongoing war. Through our comprehensive and compassionate approach, we have delivered critical services that have saved lives, empowered communities, and brought hope in the midst of despair.

The full-scale invasion unleashed immense suffering upon the people of Ukraine, with women, girls, men, and boys, bearing the brunt of its devastating impact. Recognizing the urgent need for humanitarian aid, psychological support, and social services assistance, UNFPA swiftly mobilized to ensure that every Ukrainian had access to the high-quality, confidential, safe, and free help they needed.

We have scaled up our efforts to deliver sexual and reproductive health services, including access to contraception, maternal healthcare, and safe deliveries. Through our dedicated gender-based violence prevention and response interventions, we have offered support, counseling, and protection to survivors, ensuring their safety and facilitating their recovery. Additionally, we have prioritized mental health and psychosocial support, recognizing the profound impact of the conflict on the emotional well-being of individuals. Співфінансується в рамках гуманітарної допомоги Європейського Союзу

SRH mobile health unit. UNFPA Ukraine

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## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The year 2022 presented a multitude of challenges for pregnant women in Ukraine, primarily due to the ongoing war. The devastating impact of the conflict was particularly felt in maternity hospitals and perinatal centers, many of which were subjected to bombings or compelled to relocate their delivery rooms and wards to basements. Consequently, access to essential medical care became severely limited for women across numerous cities. Tragically, some women were even forced to give birth in makeshift shelters located in basements and subway stations. Furthermore, a considerable proportion of women experienced displacement, becoming internally displaced persons (IDPs).

These circumstances placed pregnant women and their unborn children in a uniquely vulnerable position, exposing them to heightened risks of mortality, disease, and mental health challenges that can persist long after childbirth. Recognizing the urgent need to address these pressing issues, UNFPA took decisive action.

Understanding the critical importance of adequate maternal health care, UNFPA stepped in to provide essential reproductive health supplies, medicines, and equipment to hospitals and mobile teams. These provisions were designed to meet the immediate reproductive health needs of approximately 7.2 million individuals, with a particular focus on pregnant women. By delivering these vital resources, UNFPA aimed to mitigate the potential tragedies that can arise during childbirth when essential maternal health care is lacking. Through its concerted efforts, UNFPA sought to safeguard the well-being and lives of pregnant women in Ukraine, ensuring they receive the necessary support and medical interventions during this crucial period.

### Mobile Reproductive Health Units (MHUs)

In 2022, 1 mobile maternity unit in Kharkiv oblast and 16 mobile reproductive health units were launched to provide free and quality medical services for women. Clinics are operational in 16 oblasts of Ukraine, thereby catering to a vast number of beneficiaries across the country.

During 2022, SRH teams have successfully provided a total of 17,064 medical consultations through MHUs, engaging more than 80 medical staff members. Such consultations have been instrumental in ensuring the timely diagnosis and treatment of various sexual and reproductive health-related issues among the target population.

Mobile maternity unit. Photo by Andriy Krepkyh

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Handover of ambulances AECID. Photo by Vorobiov Oleksandr

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### **Cars Delivery**

24 medical vehicles and 1 mobile maternity unit have been successfully delivered to medical facilities to be used as Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) mobile medical teams in all regions of Ukraine. These vehicles and mobile maternity unit have been equipped with gynecological chairs, ultrasound, colposcope, electrocardiogram (ECG) and other needed equipment, medical equipment and supplies that are essential in providing quality healthcare services to the beneficiaries.

SRH mobile medical teams are deployed to various locations to provide critical healthcare services to the population residing in these areas. The medical teams focus on providing a range of SRH services, including antenatal care, family planning, and the treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

### **Service Delivery Points (SDPs)**

Service Delivery Points are located in hospitals (mostly in maternity clinics) where healthcare professionals can provide specialized, confidential assistance to those affected by gender-based violence, including conflictrelated sexual violence. The SDPs are designed to ensure access and comfortable service provision for people with disabilities.

SDPs are equipped with modern medical equipment, diagnostic kits (or rapid test kits), medicines – everything necessary for the protection of reproductive health, HIV prevention, treatment of sexually transmitted infections, prevention of unintended pregnancy and emergency care for rape survivors.

In 2022, 32 new SDPs were established in 8 oblasts of Ukraine, thus extending the reach of quality healthcare services to the population residing in these areas. Overall, 1,648 women have received medical consultations from qualified medical doctors. Consultations have played a crucial role in ensuring timely diagnosis, effective treatments, and the provision of appropriate health advice to the beneficiaries.



Inclusive Barrier-Free Gynecological Surgery Rooms. UNFPA Ukraine

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Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits distribution. UNFPA Ukraine.

12 40 INTER-AGENCY REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH KIT

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### Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) Kits

Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits ensure that women can deliver safely. They contain necessary instruments for all types of SRH service: C-section, complicated and normal deliveries, treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), contraception, clinical management of rape (CMR). The kits are equipped with high-quality medical supplies and equipment that are essential in providing timely and effective medical care to the beneficiaries and intended to benefit approximately 138,000 women.

In 2022, 104 tons of IARH Kits were delivered to 48 medical facilities across the regions of Ukraine that were identified as priority areas.

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) PREVENTION, MITIGATION, AND RESPONSE

The risk and occurrence of GBV in Ukraine is severely impacted by the negative consequences of the war. Loss of regular income has increased the risks and occurrence of intimate/domestic partner violence as well as risks of being absorbed in illegal activities, unpaid employment, and of other negative coping strategies, markedly impacting female-headed households and divided families. The large-scale destruction of infrastructure has also left services for survivors of violence, healthcare and other critical forms of support out of reach for many.

### **Psychosocial mobile teams (PSS MTs)**

In April 2022, following the full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation in Ukraine, UNFPA relaunched and widened the network of the specialized psychosocial mobile teams active since 2015 to sustain the response to gender-based violence, in particular domestic violence (DV), in different regions of Ukraine. With operations spanning across more than 100 communities in 21 regions of Ukraine, these mobile teams have provided affordable, accessible, swift and effective response to and mitigation of the incidents of GBV / DV at the local level, with a majority of beneficiaries being women and girls survivors and those at risk of GBV.



Specialists of the psychosocial mobile teams. Photo by Diana Nesterova

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Comprising a group of skilled specialists, these mobile teams were instrumental in providing essential first-line psychological support, including crisis and emergency interventions, to survivors of violence in the aftermath of traumatic events. Besides it their objectives are to ethically refer survivors to other specialized and general service providers and respective institutions (e.i., day centers, temporary safe accommodation spaces, social protection providers, law enforcement bodies, health care entities, psychotherapy, legal aid and judiciary, cash and voucher assistance, livelihoods support etc.) when needed and also take the referrals from other actors. PSS MTs raise individual and community awareness about the phenomena of GBV / DV, available solutions and options for GBV/DV survivors, their rights and opportunities. All PSS MT's activities are based on the principles of the survivor-based approach ensuring safety and confidentiality of the beneficiaries, respect to their human rights and decisions they make, non-discrimination, accountability etc., and are ultimately aimed to help a survivor make an informed decision.

The mobility of PSS MTs has been their distinctive advantage, allowing them to access hard-to-reach locations, including rural, remote and distant areas, territories close to the frontline and those under shelling as well as newly de-occupied settlements among them. Moreover, PSS MTs have played a crucial role in supporting internally displaced persons in their temporary places of residence and individuals with disabilities within communities. They facilitate the transportation of (potential) survivors of acute GBV / DV incidents, when necessary, to crisis rooms or other available sites for immediate assistance.

Beyond providing direct support, the mobile teams are a significant chain of educational and awareness-raising efforts directed to familiarize people with the root causes of GBV, to promote zero tolerance to violence in communities, and to promote prevention strategies. Throughout the year, they conducted over 20,000 awareness raising events in hromadas and sites for local people: informational sessions, discussions with the authorities, other respective bodies and service providers, educational activities and classes for young people. As a result, more than 60,000 individuals gained valuable insights into combatting and preventing domestic and gender-based violence.

Furthermore, the specialists of the psychosocial mobile teams have been easily accessible through phone consultations, offering vital information to nearly 50,000 individuals seeking guidance and support.

The implementation of PSS mobile teams has demonstrated immense success and become an indispensable model for addressing genderbased violence in Ukraine. Through proactive engagement with diverse communities and the provision of timely support and education, UNFPA has achieved substantial progress in countering and preventing GBV, thereby contributing to the creation of a safer and more enlightened society. Specialists of the psychosocial mobile teams. Photo by Olha Sanina

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Specialists of the psychosocial mobile teams. Photo by Olha Sanina

Specialists of the psychosocial mobile teams.
 Photo by Anatoliy Nikonenko

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Survivor Relief Centre in Dnipro. Photo by Ihor Spivak

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#### **Survivor Relief Centres (SRCs)**

As a result of the full-scale invasion, millions of Ukrainians were forced to abandon their homes and seek refuge in other regions of the country, giving rise to a multitude of challenges. They had to grapple with daunting questions such as finding new apartments, enrolling their children in schools, and coping with the aftermath of traumatic experiences.

Therefore, on the initiative of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, with support from UNFPA, a national network of four Survivor Relief Centers - a unique model of support services for those affected by war, including those who have experienced conflict-related sexual violence - was launched. Here, both internally displaced persons and local residents can receive psychosocial assistance, legal advice, and informational support on various issues, as well as lifesaving referrals. Specialists at the centers also provide comprehensive, specialized assistance in cases of conflict-related sexual violence and ensure that survivors have access to the assistance they need.

Within the operation of Centres established in Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Dnipro, and Kyiv, more than 6,500 services were delivered, and over 40 cases of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) were identified.

#### **Aurora platform**

A full-scale invasion brought terror and violence to Ukraine. People faced different forms of sexual violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, and in the majority of cases, they lacked both access to gualified professional services and information about those available. As a result. survivors felt they had nowhere to go to receive the highly specialized support they needed. Therefore, UNFPA, with the support of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and the Government Commissioner for Gender Policy, launched the online service Aurora, a platform that provides focused psychotherapeutic aid to people who have experienced sexual violence, including conflict-related sexual violence

Aurora's goal is to provide survivors of violence with access to high-quality remote assistance in any part of Ukraine, including territories temporarily not under the control of the Government of Ukraine, and target people who are currently abroad.

On the platform, survivors are provided with comprehensive support from psychotherapists to overcome traumatic experiences, restore their emotional balance, and rebuild their lives. In addition, they can get advice from medical specialists to address urgent health issues, including reproductive health. Also, those in need can get professional legal aid from lawyers.

All services are provided confidentially and anonymously, following the highest ethical

standards. Platform users can choose a specialist who will provide long-term therapy and case management to avoid re-traumatization and increase the effectiveness of the assistance. Anyone, regardless of gender or age, can access the AURORA platform.

The Aurora online platform was created by UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, with the assistance of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and the Government Commissioner for Gender Policy, and with the support of the Government of Great Britain. The site was developed by OpenTech volunteers from the SoftServe company.

## Women and girls-friendly space «Vilna»

9 «Vilna» spaces opened in different cities in Ukraine. The spaces, called «Vilna», focus on care for women and girls, their physical and psychological recovery, and help them reveal their creative potential. The spaces also serve as places to socialize and offer a range of leisure activities and opportunities for career development. In total, 1,701 vulnerable women and girls (50% IDPs) were served by safe spaces.

«Vilna» spaces specifically target women and girls to facilitate their emotional healing and support their integration into the community, especially for IDPs, as part of the work on the reduction of risks of GBV at the community level.

### In «Vilna» space women and girls can access the following services:



Psychologist-guided group and individual sessions;



distribution of the contact information of specialized services and psychosocial support services for women and girls;



thematic gatherings over coffee or tea;



master-classes on cooking, drawing, art therapy, handicrafts, theater performances, beauty activities etc.



sport activities (yoga, pilates, dances, selfdefense classes etc.)



career sessions (success stories of prominent community guests, professional orientation, financial literacy, speaking language clubs etc.).

Specialists of Vilna WGSS in Kyiv. © UNFPA, Ukraine

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Dignity kits distribution to elderly women from Kyiv oblast. Photo by Olena Kudria

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#### **Dignity Kits for GBV survivors**

To support women and girls who suffered from gender based violence, UNFPA provided 36,000 dignity kits throughout 2022. UNFPA dignity kits (DKs) contain carefully selected essential items to ensure menstrual hygiene, comfort (shower gel, deodorant, soap, shampoo, power banks, etc.), and are also tailored to the needs of pregnant and lactating women.

The kits are delivered through various service providers, including psychosocial mobile teams and perinatal centers. Kits reach the most war-affected regions of Ukraine, as well as the newly de-occupied areas of Kharkiv, Kherson and Donetsk regions where the Government of Ukraine regained control. Thanks to our cooperation with local authorities, our kits reached women and girls who needed them the most.

### Regional coordination and emergency support of specialized services

Regional working groups for coordinating humanitarian response throughout the country to gender-based violence were activated and re-activated in 17 regions of Ukraine in partnership with the GBV Sub Cluster led by UNFPA since 2015. Overall, it involved more than 500 participants. The main tasks of the field working groups involved are following: preparing joint work plans on GBV response and risk mitigation for each region (oblast), enhancing the effectiveness of the referral system for GBV survivors, and coordination and information work around the GBV safety audits in communities (specifically in collective centers for temporary accommodation for IDPs).

Initiated by regional authorities, 14 workshops on GBV response were supported in 12 regions of Ukraine, with nearly 400 participants.

Also, as a result of the fruitful cooperation, in partnership with 11 regional administrations, 15 primary psychosocial services for GBV survivors, five day care centers, seven crisis rooms, and specialized mobile teams in 52 hromadas were established or enhanced. Additionally, a transit center for IDPs in Dnipro was supported in partnership with UNDP and the Donetsk Regional Military Administration.

## DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Having access to sexual and reproductive health services became more crucial than ever in 2022 with the ongoing full-scale invasion. Throughout the year, 25 sexual and reproductive health mobile teams were integrated into the health system to provide Ukrainians in different regions with high-quality specialists.

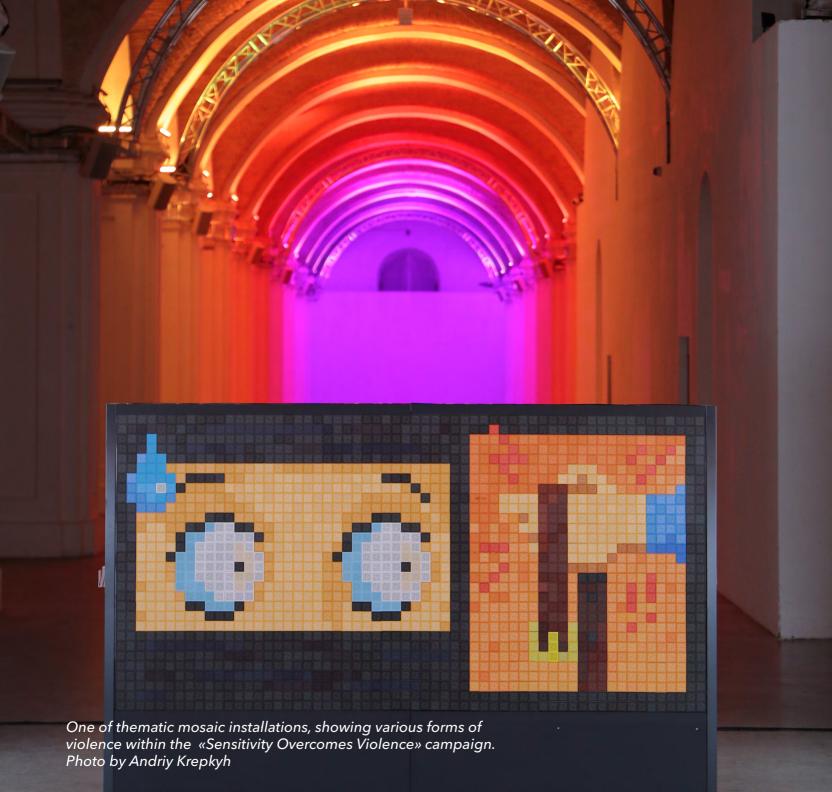
Outreach secondary level service with necessary equipment became available to the rural population. Thus, over 17,000 gynecological and other specialized care consultations were provided to women living in remote and hard to reach areas including newly deoccupied territories and settlements close to the front line , IDPs, People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and other vulnerable groups.

Finally, service delivery points (SDP) were opened to provide access of GBV survivors to comprehensive health service in 32 facilities, including for women with disabilities and elderly.



Visit to an inclusive barrier-free gynecological surgery room. Photo by Andriy Krepkyh





## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

### **Sensitivity Overcomes Violence**

60 cities all over Ukraine marked the official beginning of the «16 days of activism against gender-based violence» campaign during wartime. The theme of the campaign was «Sensitivity Overcomes Violence».

Since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion, Ukraine has faced an unprecedented level of pain and trauma. Ukrainians reportedly suffered from and witnessed the crimes of the Russian troops, in particular cases of genderbased violence and, in particular, sexual violence related to the war (CRSV). But along with it, unfortunately, gender-based violence continues to exist within Ukrainian society, continuing to harm survivors and those at risk.

Thus, UNFPA, in cooperation with partners, has launched the «Sensitivity Overcomes Violence» campaign. Thematic mosaic installations, showing various forms of violence, have been presented in 60 cities and communities throughout Ukraine. The mosaics are made of magnets that visitors may take away to «spoil» the negative image and symbolically deconstruct gender-based violence itself. «Building a life free from violence amidst the war may seem like an impossible challenge for many. Yet the bigger the challenge, the greater the opportunity it brings for change and growth. By renouncing old beliefs, stereotypes, and assumptions that no longer serve Ukraine, Ukrainians have a unique opportunity to lead a transformational change and create a society that has no place for violence», said Mustafa Elkanzi, UNFPA Senior Emergency Coordinator/Deputy Representative in Ukraine.

In addition to the mosaic, UNFPA presented an interactive online game. The game educates players by presenting the attitudes of people towards gender-based violence in the 30 cities and communities that participate in UNFPA's «Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence» project. Game winners received campaign-branded gifts.



## **BREAK THE CIRCLE**

Since 2015, the GBV Response and Prevention Programme has been implementing the «Break the Circle» national awareness-raising campaign. It is designed to inform Ukrainians about actions should they witness or experience GBV, available assistance, and pathways to it. The campaign challenges perceptions that condone GBV and transforms social beliefs to establish zero tolerance for GBV in Ukrainian society by 2030.

Each year, the Break the Circle campaign implements creative approaches to reach a wide audience through various activities. In 2022, the campaign reached the hearts of 13.5 million people. It updated its visual style and concept to help even more Ukrainians form new beliefs that will allow them to build and live a life free from violence.



Thematic video featuring UNFPA Ukraine's Honorary Ambassador Masha Efrosinina within the new wave of Break the Circle campaign. Video by Vandog Agency and JOY Film

We carry this sign to remind everyone

A worker of the specialized service communicates with the domestic survivor. Photo by Maryna Vladimirova

## CITIES AND COMMUNITIES FREE FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

30 cities and communities across Ukraine participated in the «Cities and Communities Free From Domestic Violence» project in 2022. Notwithstanding challenges brought by war, they continued to develop prevention and response systems to gender-based violence in Ukraine. Overall, nearly 1,000 specialized service providers strengthened their capacity to systematically respond to domestic violence and provide quality support to those in need.

Five new specialized services for DV / GBV survivors of domestic violence were launched: 2 daycare centers, 2 crisis rooms and 1 shelter for DV/GBV survivors. Another 32 specialized services for DV / GBV survivors have received support from UNFPA to strengthen their operational capacities: 2 primary counseling services, 11 crisis rooms, 9 daycare centers, 6 shelters, and 4 remote (online) daycare centers for people in cities temporarily not controlled by Ukraine.

## **HELPLINE FOR MEN**

Mental health is an essential part of well-being. Unfortunately, men often do not seek psychological support due to gender stereotypes or other prejudices. During the full-scale war, the number of stressful situations has continued to increase significantly. Therefore, solving problems and overcoming psychological tension are vital, and serve as a strong GBV risk mitigation to prevent the cycle of violence.

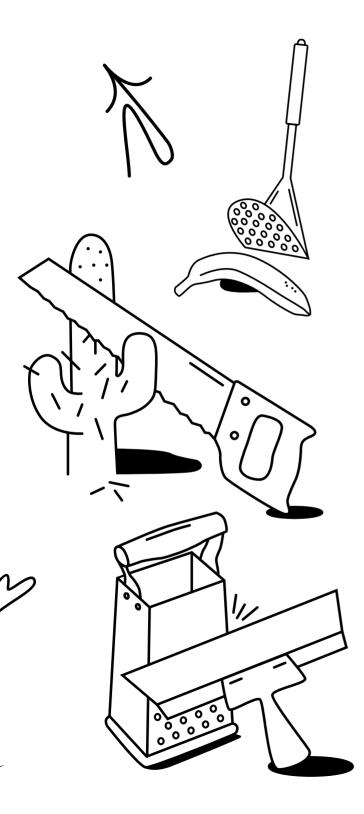
In October 2022, UNFPA launched a toll-free confidential and 24/7 psychological support line for men. It aims to help men stabilize their emotional state, find resources to overcome challenging situations and identify problematic aspects of behaviour.

922 men received qualified psychological support via a specialized helpline. In total, 1543 professional consultations have been provided since the hotline was launched on October 13th. The most common topics that men discussed with the psychologists were high levels of anxiety, family conflicts, and loss of social status and professional affiliation.

The launch of the helpline has been supported by an intensive promotional campaign, which aimed to destroy myths and prejudices against «normative» male behavior and manifestations of feelings that contribute to the toxic masculinity culture. Overall, the promotional campaign reached 1.2 million people via media, social networks, and messengers.







## **NO TRIVIA**

No Trivia is a platform that aims to address the psychological challenges that teenagers face, sharpened by wartime, such as rethinking of values and outlook, emotional condition, self-confidence, acquisition of feelings and behaviors, new kinds of relationships, etc. The project initially started on Instagram but has now expanded to include a website and a chatbot that offer support and resources to help young people understand and manage their experiences, as well as online educational broadcasts.

Over 4,000 consultations were provided for teenagers. The most requested issues to be discussed were the following: misunderstandings with parents, problems in relationships with peers, difficulties in romantic relationships, worries about mental well-being, and concerns about self-efficacy.

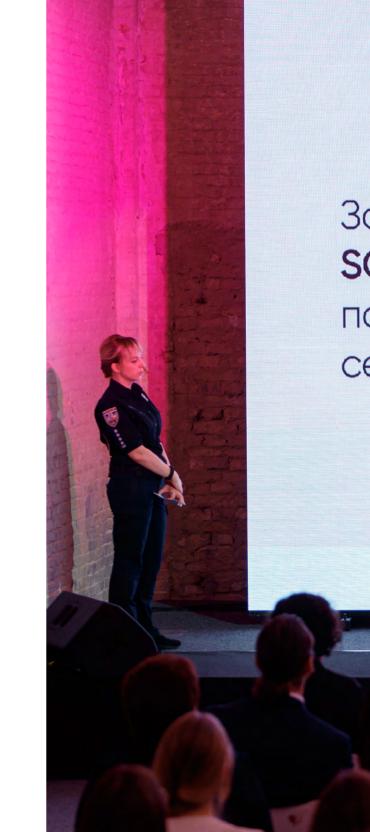
Overall, the No Trivia project reached 3 million adolescents to support their willingness to be mindful and resilient in their emotional condition and to protect personal boundaries – one of the core elements of the prevention of being subjected to GBV and abuse in relationships.

## MOBILE APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THOSE AT RISK

A mobile application for women and girls allows users to alert the police when needed. The application looks like a menstrual cycle calendar for women but contains a hidden section with an alarm button. It allows survivors, including those with disabilities, to request help from the police if under the risk of domestic or street violence without making the physical call. An app figures out a person's geolocation, and the police receive a request with this information on their tablets. The app was developed in coordination with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Police of Ukraine.



Over 8,000 women have already installed this life saving app as of 2022.



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S button, you can call the police by pressing the red button for 2 seconds

Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs Kateryna Pavlichenko at the presentation of the Mobile Application. Photo by Andriy Krepkyh

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Opening of VONA hub in Chernivtsi. Photo by Mykhailo Kryluk

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## «VONA HUBS»

UNFPA-supported Women Career Hubs, known as «VONA Hubs» are designed to provide employment advice and basic vocational and professional skills training to assist women achieve a level of economic independence, which would contribute to GBV prevention and mitigation.

Over 3,500 women received support in finding employment and setting up their own businesses via these hubs. The online «Vona» women career hub (previously known as the online Women Career Hub) and seven newly established local offline hubs are capacitated to assist women with self-employment and starting or re-establishing their own businesses and are designed to provide tailored and comprehensive support to both GBV survivors and vulnerable women without risk of stigma. The project serves as an early recovery effort and supports the UN Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Nexus with a focus on resilience.

## PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH AND GENDER EQUALITY

### **#CVIDOMI**

In September 2022, UNFPA, jointly with the Junior Academy of Sciences (JAS) of Ukraine, conducted a career guidance project within the national campaign on choosing a career without stereotypes (CVIDOMI). The #CVIDOMI communication campaign contributed to the government's recovery effort towards youth career consulting and professional orientation, reaching over 10,072,000 beneficiaries.



Sessions on the free career choice under #CVIDOMI communication campaign have been conducted for adolescents during spring camp «Energy for your future». Photo by Yuliia Hryhorash

#CVIDOMI

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Visuals of the digital campaign on sexual education for adolescents «Puberty» © UNFPA



### «Puberty»

## In 2022, UNFPA's digital campaign on sexual education for adolescents «Puberty» was launched,

aimed at popularizing reliable information about healthy relationships, reproductive health and debunking traditional stereotypes and established myths about sex education. Thematic videos and publications on the Instagram social media covered almost 4 million people, and reached more than 5,700 followers of the Instagram page. «Puberty» campaign serves as a guide that will accompany adolescents through the various physical and emotional changes in their life.

### **ProSkills - Energy of Your Future**

A comprehensive psychosocial programme for adolescents, affected by war, was developed in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and piloted at the safe environment of summer camps in Ivano-Frankivska and Zakarpatska oblasts. It supported over 800 vulnerable adolescents and helped them to cope with traumas caused by war.

Participation in the camp helps young people develop the ability to overcome difficult life situations, build interpersonal relationships, plan for the future, create new ideas with others to help build a better world. The most motivated participants can themselves become peer coaches using the peer-to-peer method.

### «Close at the Distance»

The activities of the TatoHubs network were underpinned by the UNFPA communication campaign «Close at the Distance,» dedicated to Father's Day (19 June 2022). Implemented in partnership with ICTV and STB national TV channels, the video campaign focused on maintaining bondage between fathers and children at a distance and the support and appreciation of fathers in rescue teams, hospitals, factories, and volunteer organizations during wartime. The message of the campaign and its visual narrative resonated with government priorities and were supported by First Lady Olena Zelenska on social media, contributing to government communications about gender equality and childcare. It reached more than 11.34 million viewers.



https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=u9MyuG2azBY



**Other:** 

Video:

https://ictv.ua/ua/denbatka-2022/

«Energy of your future» camp for adolescents © Yuliia Hryhorash

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Cover of the podcast «MOLO has a question» © Molodvizh.Centre.Lviv









### Bank of Ideas 2:0 «MOLO, diy!»

UNFPA supported the dreams and initiatives of young people within the framework of the Bank of Ideas 2.0 «MOLO, diy!» project. In 2022, 14 youth teams from 6 regions of Ukraine received mini-grants to implement projects in the field of humanitarian response in order to overcome the adverse consequences of war for youth in communities. More than 2,500 young people have become beneficiaries of the project, of whom about 30% are internally displaced persons.

Supported projects were conducted in the areas of mental health, art therapy and burnout management for young volunteers and IDP youth, peer-to-peer support activities, creation of a safe space for young people in the youth spaces and in the municipal certified bomb shelter, support the work of municipal youth centers, in particular, in the rural area and the one that suffered from the bomb shelling, popularization of the socially responsible small business with participation of IDPs, educational and cultural events for youth.

## Podcasts «MOLO has a question» and «Mentalochka»

In 2022, more than 112,000 young people listened to a series of thematic youth dialogues in the format of the podcasts «MOLO has a question» and «Mentalochka», aimed at helping to build a safe space for communication among young Ukrainians on different topics about their own lives and challenges, their ups and downs of mental health, the new future of Ukraine, and life after the war.

The podcast «Molo has a question» focused on communicating to Ukrainian youth critical issues of the current time as well as showcasing the work of the youth civil society organizations that lead the positive change movement in their communities on multiple fronts.

The «Mentalochka» podcast was focused on providing young people with a resource to gain the necessary energy, a renewed spirit, and a less-stressed perspective, allowing youth to talk about their own mental health challenges and how to get through them by analyzing their own experiences and perspectives.

## **ONLINE-COURSES**

### «Youth Resilience in a Time of Crises»

UNFPA developed an online-course in partnership with the NGO «Women's League of Donechchyna», Mariupol State University and Ukrainian Catholic University, aimed to develop resilience skills among youth. Over 1,800 young people learned skills that help to adapt in the face of adversity, trauma, threats or significant sources of stress and cope with devastating effects of the crisis on their wellbeing, education and future work prospects. The course includes 10 modules on different topics and is placed and Learning Management Platform <u>Prometheus</u>.

### Socially responsible blogging «МОLОблогерстVO!»

In 2022, UNFPA developed online-course to help young people develop skills and the ability to effectively formulate their own judgments and communicate for their target audience, be prepared to act during the times of crises in their communities and strengthen their ability to advance the UNFPA mandate. The course aimed to create future positive youth role models and agents of change among active young people.

30 youth representatives participated in the hybrid educational residency, and 10 recorded video-lessons from the residency trainers were placed on the online-platform <u>Prometheus</u>. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Separate information course campaign was launched and covered a total of 100,913 users.



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## UN RPP\* YOUTH-FOCUSED ACTIVITIES

### **TURBOta youth emergency support initiative**

Thanks to TURBOta youth emergency support initiative launched in April 2022, UN Recovery and Peacebuilding Program (UN RPP) ensured timely response to most pressing needs of youth through comprehensive legal, educational, employment, and psychosocial support for over 100 individual cases of displaced young people – alums of UN RPP educational and leadership initiatives from Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kherson oblasts.

### **Myropolis**

**Myropolis,** an annual YPS-inspired initiative launched by UNFPA within UN RPP in 2019, which now unites more than 500 young drivers of change, was organized in 2022 in a displaced format with the agenda of searching for solutions to meet the devastating consequences of war and assessing war impact on young people. 12 human stories of Myropolis alumni affected by the war were published with total coverage of more than 26 000 views.

## Youth Support Bank

**Youth Support Bank** initiative helped to strengthen the institutional resilience and organizational capacity of 9 youth-led NGOs from six various regions of the country (including those displaced from Mariupol, Kherson and Irpin) uniting more than 200 members and volunteers that continue efficient youth work in times of war under the leadership of young women and girls (70% of supported NGOs are led by young women and girls).

## POLICY

## **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

After years of negotiations and technical support the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention) entered into force on 1 November, after approval by the Ukrainian Parliament on 20 June 2022 and ratification on 18 July 2022. Ratifying the Convention was a long-awaited step to strengthen the combat against gender-based / domestic violence in Ukraine, which, being very latent in its nature, still prevails significantly in the social life of Ukrainians. Ratification of the Convention is an important step to meet the global commitments taken by Ukraine in 2019 on tackling domestic and gender based violence.

Even before the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, a significant part of its norms related to responsibility for domestic violence had been incorporated both in legislation of Ukraine and institutional response and practices of its implementation, and with support from the UNFPA side. However there were gaps in the part concerning the monitoring system, definitions of and responsibility for some types of violence (i.e., rape, stalking etc.) against women and domestic violence as well as unsound mechanisms of prosecution for violence. To meet these challenges UNFPA has provided the expert and technical support to the working group initiated and launched by the Ministry of Interior to amend the relevant parts of Criminal and Criminal Procedural Codes of Ukraine. The draft amendments have been worked out and provided to the respective body for further consideration and processing.

To facilitate the inter-sectoral and interagency coordination of efforts to respond to, prevent and mitigate the GBV in Ukraine the translation of the *Prevention and Support Standards for Women Survivors of Violence* (A WAVE (Women Against Violence - Europe network) Handbook for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention) was finalized, prepared for publication and <u>posted on</u> <u>UNFPA's website</u> for interested counterparts.

In 2021, the National Police of Ukraine received more than 325,000 reports and complaints related to domestic and/or gender-based violence, however, most of the cases go unreported. The full scale invasion and ongoing war has worsened the situation for Ukrainian women and girls, as the deterioration of the security situation has increased the risk of multiple forms of violence; in addition gender-based war crimes have been documented and also needed to be responded to. So, the UNFPA will continue its efforts aimed at strengthening the legal and institutional framework for preventing and combating gender-based violence and domestic violence.



## PARTNERSHIPS: STRENGTHENING IMPACT

Successful sustainable development requires dynamic and inclusive strategic partnerships that involve a variety of stakeholders. Strategic partnerships, which advance the work and position the brand of UNFPA, are inspired by the drive for tangible results under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Support from our partners allows us to invest in long-term projects, and in emergency humanitarian settings.

### L'Oréal

With the kind support of L'Oréal to UNFPA's Humanitarian Thematic Fund for Ukraine (EUR 50,000), five metric tonnes of Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health Kits were procured and delivered to three hospitals in western Ukraine, which have provided lifesaving SRH and GBV services to cover an estimated population coverage of 375,000 affected people.

Thanks to L'Oréal, women and girls in Ukraine have been able to access lifesaving SRH and GBV services, including clinical management of rape. National Ukrainian healthcare capacities have been strengthened to effectively and timely respond to the unfolding humanitarian emergency.

The global UNFPA funding architecture includes un-earmarked funding (or core), which constitutes the bedrock of UNFPA operations. Core resources enable UNFPA to achieve flexible funding that facilitates impartiality, responsiveness and the best possible use and alignment of resources. UNFPA thanks L'Oréal for this critical flexibility in responding to the humanitarian emergency in Ukraine.

### Avon

With the timely support of Avon (US\$ 25,000 donation), UNFPA was able to open a crisis room in November 2022 for GBV survivors in Chernihiv, which was established to serve the wider region. The UNFPA-supported crisis rooms provide temporary accommodation for women and their children, with a kitchen, furniture, utensils and food, operated by local social welfare centres. Forming a network of safe spaces, the crisis rooms were created to help women escaping domestic violence, and offer a place to live in safety and dignity.

In Ukraine, Avon has tackled the issue of violence against women since 2009. In 2019 the company started cooperating with UNFPA Ukraine to fight domestic violence together. In that regard, Avon established two priorities: spreading information on available services that GBV survivors can access; and fundraising and implementing projects to help assist survivors. Avon also cares about its employees who face violence or who face other difficult life circumstances. UNFPA thanks Avon for its continued support to protect the rights of women in Ukraine.

### **Corporate sector and social** responsibility during war time

To promote the concept of «family-friendly policies» in wartime, a media project 'Equally valuable in business' was realized in cooperation with the Ukrainian corporate sector. The focus of the project was addressing corporate practices implemented by employers within the corporate social responsibility of businesses for supporting employees and their families during the war, including gender equality, non-discrimination, and prevention of domestic violence.

The initiative was implemented within the framework of the «UNFPA Springboard to Equality» and «EU for Gender Equality: Together Against Gender Stereotypes and Gender-Based Violence» projects with the financial support of the EU and Sweden in cooperation with UN Women and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine.

## **FINANCIAL RESULTS**

12,436,165.47 USD	GBV response and prevention program
7,715,702.58 USD	Sexual and Reproductive Health programme
3,397,926.45 USD	Gender Equality, Youth and HIV portfolio
759,625.59 USD	<b>Recovery and Peacebuilding Project</b>
	Total:
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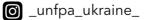


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