



## CREATING A COHORT OF MUNICIPAL EXPERTS-CONSULTANTS

**45 future drivers of GBV response and prevention** from 15 Ukrainian cities completed the inaugurating module of the UNFPA comprehensive capacity building programme for key duty bearers at the municipal level.

Municipalities that take part in UNFPA project "Cities Free from Domestic Violence" (Lviv, Vinnytsia, Kyiv, Poltava, Odessa, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Kremenчук, Dnipro, Severodonetsk, Kramatorsk, Kostiantynivka, Pokrovsk, and Melitopol) delegated focal points of city councils, providers of specialised services to survivors of the gender-based and domestic

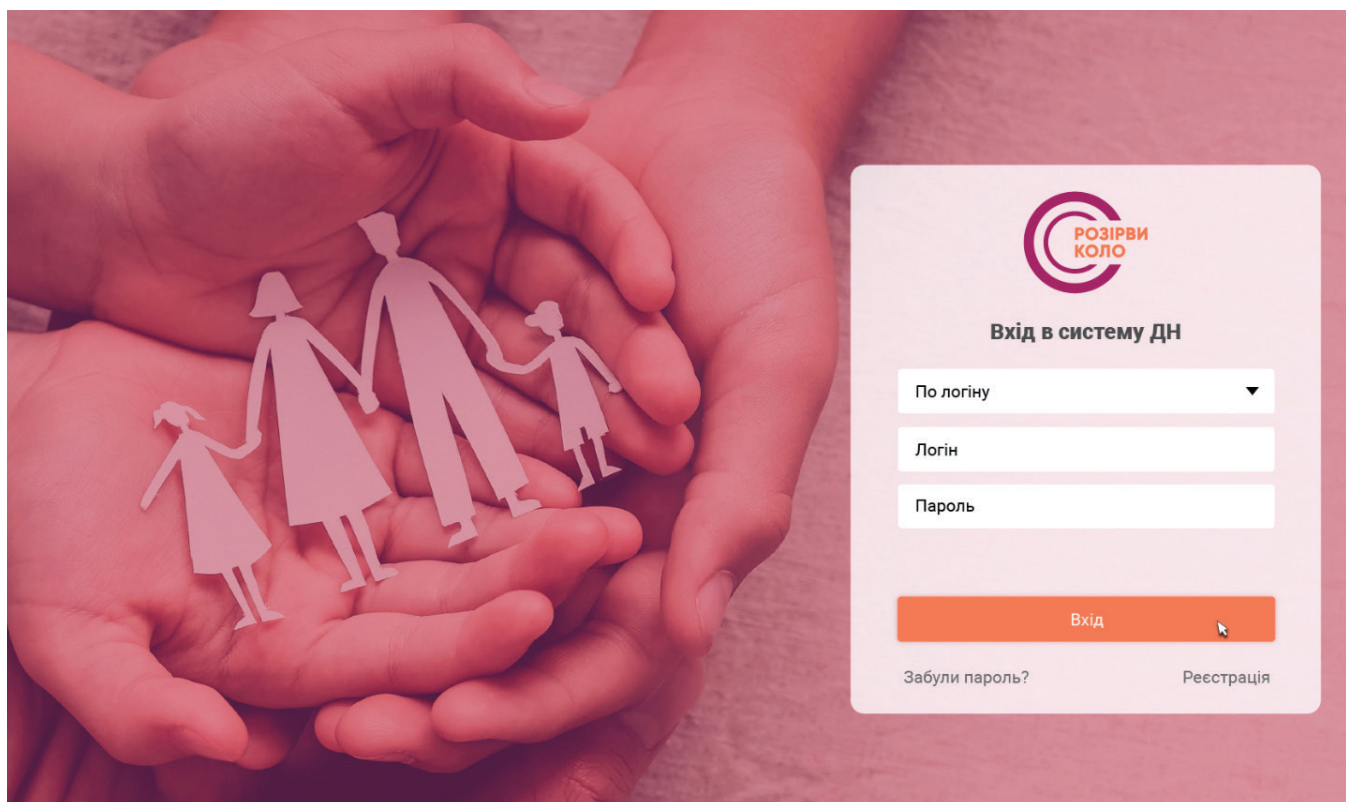
violence, and representatives of local CSOs to take part in the 4-module intensive learning course on the development of a municipal system for preventing and combating domestic violence.

During the first module in late August, participants refreshed their knowledge of key concepts and legislation in the domain of GBV and domestic violence. They also met with representatives of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and the National Police of Ukraine, as well as took part in study visits to providers of GBV specialised services in Kyiv.

The training module has established a platform for constructive dialogue, exchange of experience, and quality discussions among representatives of municipalities from all over Ukraine. It has laid a foundation for developing a strong network of experts-consultants who will be building robust municipal systems of GBV response and prevention in Ukraine.

The next three modules of the comprehensive learning programme will be held in Odesa, Kharkiv and Vinnytsia later this year.

## ASSURING ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE ON GBV RESPONSE IN COMMUNITIES



The first **100 community activists** have already successfully completed three modules of the online course “Comprehensive Response to Violence against Women and Girls in Ukraine”. The online course aims to provide access for specialists and decision makers to knowledge on evidence-based approaches and national best practices to respond to GBV. Specifically, it teaches on general matters of GBV prevention and response, running of psychosocial support mobile teams and shelters for GBV survivors. The majority of community activists, coordinators of local GBV response networks and providers of services for GBV survivors, who passed the course, admitted the high quality of the training materials and the fact that training itself raises motivation to make positive changes for effective GBV response in communities.

## ONLINE ‘RUN’ AMONG YOUTH TOWARDS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

***“The marathon insights and experience were invaluable to me. The course programme was very informative and useful for marking and tracking toxic relationships,” said one of the marathon participants, Oleksandr.***

On 4-9 August, the first online marathon for young people took place within the framework of the “(No) Trivia in Relations” project. The purpose of the marathon is to teach participants to understand where the line is between healthy and toxic relationships and how to act if one or one’s friends get into the latter.

More than 400 people registered on the specially created site [notrivia.com.ua](http://notrivia.com.ua), where everyday webinars were broadcasted.

All participants had the opportunity to do homework and receive feedback from a psychologist.

The marathon was hosted and moderated by sex blogger Asia Say, who was joined by youth opinion leaders sharing their experiences of relationships and giving advice to participants.

The concluding session of the marathon featured an engaging conversation with UNFPA Honorary Ambassador Masha Efrosinina. Streamed on UNFPA Ukraine Instagram account, the session was watched live by over 500 people. In the first week after the record publication, **25,000 users** watched it becoming better equipped to spot early signs of abusive relationships.

The next two marathons will be held in September 2020.



## START OF THE 4TH SEASON OF LIFE-CHANGING TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR VULNERABLE WOMEN



*M., 34 'I am just so used to feeling bad about my life, I can't even remember when I was so excited. I started to let myself think that something might change for the better.'*

On 5 August, the hairdressing school started as a part of the 4th season of the UNFPA and L'Oréal Ukraine joint training programme "Beauty for a Better Life", which aims at economic empowerment of GBV survivors as well as vulnerable women. The **class of 30 trainees** was divided into two groups to comply with the new public health regulations. All participants undergo medical examinations to ensure safety during training.

Furthermore, among novelties of this season, there is a new motivational programme based on analysis of the previous editions of the School and innovative solutions to foster more effective communication in the context of quarantine requirements. UNFPA introduced a new system that encourages participants to attend the group and individual sessions with the psychologist, and create professional portfolios on their Instagram pages posting their works and information about the School. Trainees will receive points that can be used for a free advanced training course in L'Oréal Academy.

Initial analysis of the new motivational system shows that it adds healthy competition to group dynamics, encourages participants to overcome the barrier of avoidance and seek the professional help of the psychologist. It also increases trainees' chances of finding a job by creating a robust professional portfolio.

In December 2020, the participants will join a team of 5,565 people who have received free training in various countries around the globe. Today, the "Beauty for a Better Life" programme helps women to become more economically resilient in more than 25 countries in Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East.