



MOBILE CLINICS LAUNCHED THEIR WORK IN EASTERN UKRAINE

On 1 July, with the support of UNFPA and UK Government, two mobile clinics started operation in Luhansk and Donetsk regions, providing access to highly specialised medical and psychosocial services to people living in settlements along the contact line and remote areas in the East of Ukraine.

Mobile clinics conduct medical examinations, provide critical medical services and identify cases of domestic and gender-based violence.

Gynaecologist Yevheniia, one of the members of a mobile clinic in Luhansk region, comments: ***"From many villages, towns, and vast territories, it is difficult for people to reach a city hospital. Transport is often unreliable; the Joint Forces Operation is conducted nearby. The COVID-19 quarantine has further complicated the situation. Most often the clinic receives requests for assistance from women who have not been able to get a preventive examination for several years."***

Assisting to everyone in need, mobile clinics also provide patients with necessary personal protective equipment and follow a special procedure for cases of suspected COVID-19.

In the first month of operation, doctors of the mobile clinics examined **more than 1,200 patients**.

COMBATING GBV AT WORKPLACE

On 23 July 2020, UNFPA conducted a webinar for 40 representatives of companies to share practice and tools on GBV prevention in COVID-19 context.

Since many companies support remote work modalities as part of COVID-19 response, domestic violence directly affects not only staff well-being and safety, but also their productivity, hence companies' economic resilience during the lockdown.

The webinar shared best practice and guidelines on how to assist survivors of domestic and gender-based violence in COVID-19 context and some practical aspects of 4B Model for Business (Be aware, Bring about response, Build

effective partnerships, Be able to measure). UNFPA presented the concept of an online training module that would equip companies with guidance and tools on raising awareness of employees on gender equality and prevention of domestic violence.

Recognising the importance of fostering gender equality and zero tolerance to GBV in the corporate sector, Ukrposhta (Ukrainian Postal Service) confirmed its commitment to sign the Declaration for Gender Equality and Prevention of Domestic Violence. Overall, **21 Ukrainian and international companies** committed to making a sound contribution to eliminating gender stereotypes and GBV by 2025.

#ACTAGAINSTVIOLENCE



Jointly with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, UNFPA produced and launched a new video-campaign calling DV/GBV survivors and witnesses to contact police in case of a domestic violence situation.

Three videos tell simple, informative stories about safety plans in case of DV/GBV, appeal to neighbours to take action in such situations and explain what a police crew does in responding to domestic violence.

Three videos were placed for two months in all Intercity interregional trains, nine national radio stations, social media and video boards in Kyiv city. Overall, in one month of the promo campaign, over **1 mln Ukrainians** got to know what to do in case of DV and GBV.

UKRAINE-BELARUS BEST PRACTICE EXCHANGE

In July, UNFPA Ukraine jointly with UNFPA Belarus completed a series of six weekly online meetings of experts and practitioners to exchange effective practices and successful models of GBV response and prevention, including COVID-19 pandemic context.

The meetings addressed various angles of systemic work on GBV response and prevention, starting from provision of inclusive assistance to

survivors, including during COVID-19 quarantine, organising work with perpetrators, implementing awareness raising campaigns and prevention initiatives, as well as developing effective partnerships with business in tackling GBV.

The online meetings gathered **over 8 000 attendees** from Ukraine and Belarus, 75% of registered participants coming from Ukraine.

STRENGTHENING COORDINATION OF GBV RESPONSE AND PSEA CAPACITY OF HUMANITARIAN AID WORKERS

JULY 2020

On 24 July 2020, an online joint national/sub-national GBV Sub-Cluster meeting gathered **over 30 representatives** of Donetsk and Luhansk regional state institutions, UN agencies, NGOs, and international organisations to enhance participants' knowledge and capacity in the area of prevention and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). The attendees also discussed challenges and opportunities for better cooperation in the provision of remote and outreach assistance to the affected population during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coordinating GBV Sub-Cluster, UNFPA emphasized the importance of adhering to the provisions on PSEA of the Secretary General's

Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13) and international standards on GBV referrals and assistance to the victims of abuse at all times.

In August, UNFPA will disseminate a survey to analyse the needs of aid workers in the area of GBV and PSEA that will inform GBV Sub-Cluster plan of actions on prevention of SEA. Strengthening coordination of GBV response and improving PSEA capacity of aid workers will ensure that human rights and dignity of recipients of humanitarian aid, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, will be protected in Ukraine.

SUPPORTING START OF PEACEFUL LIFE: FREE FROM WAR WOUNDS AND VIOLENCE

Assessment of the pilot phase of MTs operation (November 2019 – March 2020) showed that 57% of veterans needed psychological support to cope with:

-  family conflicts – 54%
-  sleep disorders, anxiety – 24%
-  uncontrolled aggression attacks – 12%
-  thoughts about suicidal behaviour/self-harm – 6%
-  problems with excessive use of psychoactive substances – 4%

On 30 June, jointly with its implementing partner Ukrainian Foundation of Public Health, UNFPA held a presentation of the model of outreach work with ATO/JFO veterans and their families as part of prevention of GBV.

In November 2019, thanks to UK Government support, 6 mobile teams of psychosocial support launched targeted psychosocial assistance to former combatants and their families in Kyiv and Mykolaiv regions. Providing peer-to-peer psychosocial support, MTs help veterans adapt to a peaceful life, reduce psychological stress in veterans' families and mitigate the risk of domestic violence.



MTs have promptly adjusted their operation in the context of COVID-19. Standing ready to make urgent visits within their service area in Mykolaiv and Kyiv regions, mobile teams' staff started providing consultations via phone, Skype and messengers. Offering their support to everyone in need nationwide, psychologists have been weekly addressing a seven-fold volume of GBV cases compared to the pre-quarantine period. Since the start of operation, 6 MTs provided **over 10,000 consultations** to ATO/JFO veterans and their families.

The Deputy Minister of Veteran Affairs, responsible for veterans' rehabilitation, took part in the presentation of MTs work. He expressed the interest to consider the practice of MTs outreach work with ATO/JFO veterans and their families as a service provision modality in the Ministry's programme for veterans' rehabilitation.

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