

February 2022

## HELP IN THE EAST: 11,000 PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

” *“When we arrive on time, examine a person, and in many cases, prevent the development of severe pathology, it gives us strength, which is the meaning of our work,”* – Olena Skliarova, gynaecologist of the mobile clinic

In February 2022, two mobile clinics, supported by UNFPA and the UK Government, completed their mission in the east of Ukraine. In nine months, mobile clinics’ specialists provided timely life-saving medical assistance, including SRH services, to over 11,000 residents living along the contact line and in isolated settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions GCA.

The most common identified pathologies included gynaecological inflammatory diseases (50.2%), respiratory disorders (17.9%), diseases of the cardiovascular (14.8%), and digestive (16.6%) systems.

While providing examinations and vital medical assistance to the affected population, the clinics’ specialists detected 289 cases of domestic and gender-based violence. Close cooperation with local medical and social institutions allowed to refer patients for further diagnosis and treatment.

The operation of mobile clinics helped meet the dire need for quality health services caused by limited physical access and financial capabilities of local residents.



## A CLOSER LOOK: INNOVATIVE PERCEPTION STUDY IN 30 CITIES

Completed in February 2022, the UNFPA-led perception study uncovered deeply rooted stereotypes, attitudes and beliefs that perpetuate GBV in 30 Ukrainian cities and communities. The innovative methodology of the study modelled the live story format of the interviews. This approach created the necessary context to measure perceptions and beliefs, ensuring the accuracy of the results.

The study revealed that in only 17 communities the majority of respondents (over 50%) put the blame for the rape on a perpetrator, rather than the survivor (the scenario had to do with the rape of an unknown woman). The study demonstrated that in most communities, only 2-3 persons

out of 10 expressed readiness to help a woman from a neighbouring apartment in case of domestic violence. When it comes to solidarity, it turned out that in most target communities, only 1-2 people out of 10 expect their neighbours to support an acquaintance from their residential building if they see her with bruises.

The perception results are instrumental to shape the design of community-based participatory prevention programmers and prevention work in communities. It demonstrates the importance of combining GBV response measures with prevention. The project plans to make a public presentation of the study results as soon as the security situation in Ukraine allows.



## BUILDING A VIOLENCE-FREE SOCIETY: YOUTH EDUCATION

**“There was a lot of interesting and, most importantly, useful information. I liked to analyse specific situations for better understanding of the topic,”** – participant of the training from a village in Chernihiv region.

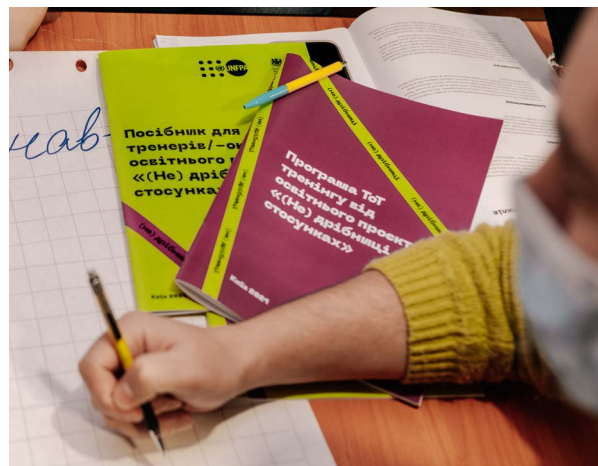
“(No) Trivia in Relationships” project continues to raise young people’s awareness of psychological violence in relationships.

In December 2021, 65 employees of youth centres from all over Ukraine developed their skills as youth trainers on healthy relationships.

In February 2022, freshly graduated trainers shared insights with 413 young people in their communities. Youth from different Ukrainian regions learnt how to recognise and distinguish toxic relationships from healthy ones. Young people also discovered ways to prevent psychological violence and detect abusive behaviour and discussed possible steps to safely leave unhealthy relationships. Participants rated the practical value of the event 9 out of 10 during the post-training assessment. It demonstrates the relevance of the training to the needs of the target audience and the

effectiveness of conducting training of trainers’ sessions.

In addition, the participants joined the “(No) Trivia in Relationships” Instagram page, where they got a chance to explore ways to prevent GBV and recognise abusive relationships in the early stages. Access to thematic information after the trainings helps participants consolidate the learning and put the received knowledge to practice. In February, 66,226 Instagram users (primarily 13-17 years old) discovered helpful insights and materials posted on the page.



## VOICES OF SUPPORT TO BREAK THE CIRCLE OF VIOLENCE

” *“You have only one life. Say NO to violence!”* – Manifesto message from a Kyiv resident.

During the “16 Days of Activism against GBV” campaign, UNFPA conducted a “Manifesto” event in 30 partner cities and communities. Local residents had the opportunity to leave messages on banners – a personal manifesto against domestic violence or wishes and words of support to survivors.

The messages were digitalised and used for the tailored national awareness-raising outdoor campaign in February 2022. Each city and community received outdoor boards and digital screens with their Manifesto messages left by their residents. The campaign united 37 municipalities where Manifesto messages reached on average up to 58.6% of the local community population.

Similarly, words of support and encouragement to leave the vicious cycle of violence were recorded and broadcast on three national radio stations in



February, as part of the “Break the Circle” campaign. 95 audio messages urged Ukrainians not to tolerate violence but act. The voices of community members were joined by UNFPA Ukraine Honorary Ambassador Mariia Efrosinina who shared information about emergency contacts and available services for survivors and witnesses of violence.

Over 1.8 million people heard the words of support and call to action to break the circle of violence.

## EXPERT ADVICE A CLICK AWAY

In February 2022, UNFPA launched a Telegram channel for specialists and practitioners of GBV response and prevention.

Using the popular platform, the channel became a place for communication of the professional community. Participants received a handy instrument to ask for specific advice, exchange intellectual products, share expertise and discuss thematic news. It facilitates

knowledge sharing by highlighting global trends, successful cases and best practices in the area of GBV response and prevention.

The Telegram channel brings together over 500 specialists and continues to grow.

[Subscribe to the channel](#) to be in the centre of knowledge exchange on GBV matters.

