

UNFPA, the UN Population Fund, is the UN's Sexual and Reproductive Health Agency, and in humanitarian settings holds the global-lead mandate to combat Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and to mitigate its consequences, while also being mandated to address reproductive and maternal health. We work to ensure that women are protected from GBV and can deliver safely in spite of humanitarian and emergency situations. UNFPA has been present in Ukraine since 1997, working to prevent gender-based violence, improve sexual and reproductive health, promoting gender equality and advancing youth rights, participation and resilience.

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION, MITIGATION, AND RESPONSE

Services in operation:



**98**

Psychosocial Mobile Teams (anticipating deployment of 23 more PSS mobile teams)



**29**

"Vilna" women-friendly spaces



**7**

"VONA Hubs" (career hubs)



**11**

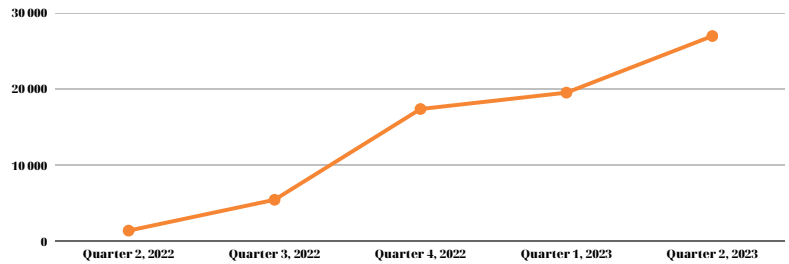
Survivor Relief Centres

**2,441**

People\* in need received psychosocial counselling from PSS mobile teams in **June 2023**.

**26,967**

People\* in need received psychosocial counselling from PSS mobile teams **since March 2022**.



87,8% – female  
12,2% – male



17,6% – people with disabilities

**2,268**

Services provided to people\* by SRCs in **June 2023**.

**18,374**

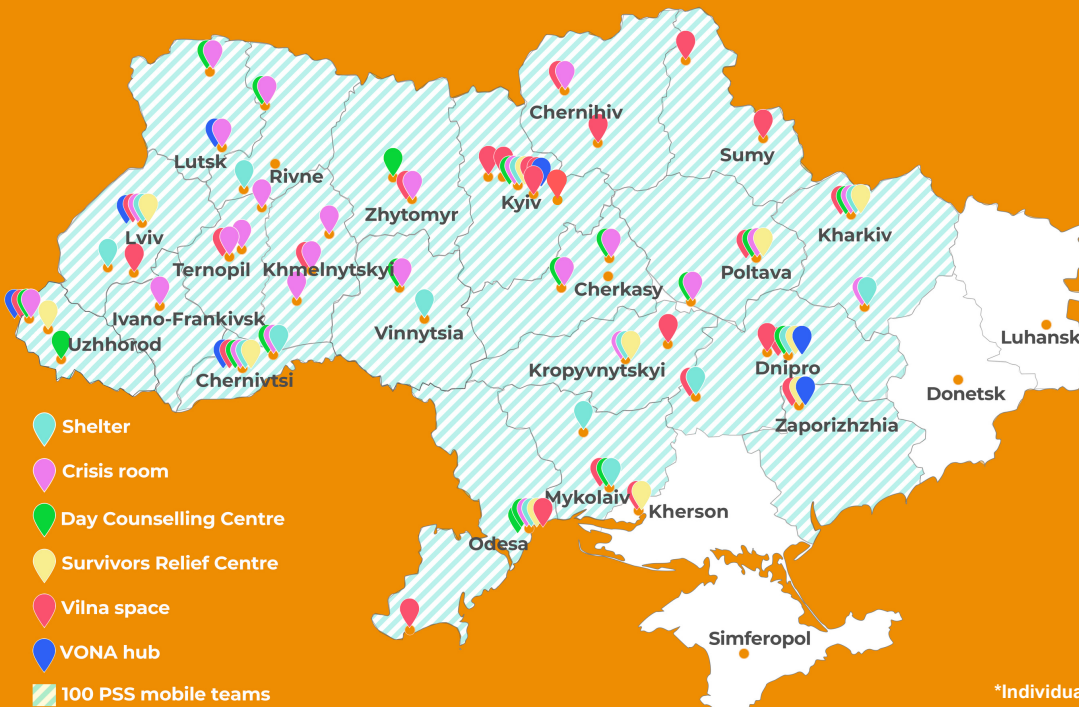
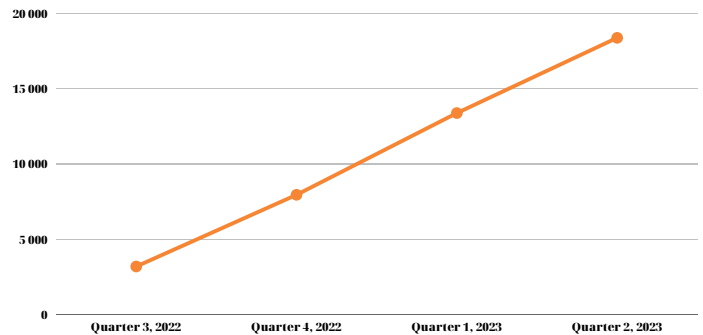
Services provided to people\* by SRCs **since March 2022**.



76,5% – female  
23,5% – male



4,3% – people with disabilities



\*Individuals may receive multiple services

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION, MITIGATION, AND RESPONSE

Working together with the Government of Ukraine, UNFPA has established **Survivor Relief Centres (SRC)** in areas close to the conflict line and/or receiving high numbers of IDPs. As an effective and safe 'entrypoint' for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence to receive assistance, SRCs are also **open for all people affected by the ongoing war**, where they can receive psychosocial assistance, in addition to lifesaving referrals, including to healthcare and legal aid.

The name of the **"VONA" career hub** consists of the first letters of 4 words (in Ukrainian) - Free, Winged, Independent, and Ambitious. The project aims to develop the professional potential and financial capacity of women who have suffered from GBV, including domestic violence, and those higher at-risk, as a way to break the cycle of dependency on the perpetrators, one of the main barriers for survivors to seek assistance.

**'Vilna' spaces** provide various services to women and girls, including those who are survivors of GBV and at risk of violence. 'Vilna' spaces complement the range of services offered through SRCs and 'Vona Hubs' by providing access to activities that focus specifically on women and girls' wellbeing, including mental and physical health. The activity sessions, conducted by specialists of 'Vilna' and linked to the work of the SRCs and 'Vona Hubs', include a broad range of therapeutic activities that women and girls can attend, free of charge such as sports, dancing and creative therapies, lectures on healthy eating, psychology and mental health, etc.

**In June, UNFPA launched one additional "Vilna" women-friendly space in Kyiv.**



**'Aurora'**, is an **online platform** that provides specialised psychotherapy for survivors of GBV, including conflict-related sexual violence. The platform ensures that survivors have access to quality, online specialised assistance in any part of Ukraine – including non-government-controlled areas and abroad. Anyone, regardless of gender or age, can access it for free. To receive individual specialised assistance, one needs to fill out an anonymous form on the **Break the Circle** website. **199 people\*** have received support from psychotherapists on the **'Aurora' platform** from the beginning of the war. With a strong case-management approach built in, clients receive several sessions with a psychotherapist and may, eventually, be referred to available services, as needed.

## DIGNITY KITS DISTRIBUTION



**Almost 39,500 dignity kits have been distributed to, mainly, women since March 2022.**

UNFPA dignity kits (DKs) contain carefully selected essential items to ensure menstrual hygiene, comfort, and are also tailored to the needs of pregnant and lactating women. They are distributed in areas that face particular challenges like being close to the line of contact, or having been flooded following the blow of the Kakhovka Dam.

## ONGOING RESPONSE TO URGENT HUMANITARIAN NEEDS IN FLOOD-AFFECTED REGIONS

In response to the devastating flooding caused by the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam on June 6th, UNFPA has been at the forefront of providing humanitarian assistance to affected communities. With a focus on addressing the urgent needs of vulnerable groups, including girls, women, and older people, UNFPA's response has been swift and comprehensive.

Recognizing the urgency of the situation, UNFPA joined several **UN Inter-Agency (IA) convoys**, deployed immediately to those in need. During the first IA convoy on June 9th, a total of **608 dignity kits were provided by UNFPA**. These kits included 320 dignity kits for older women ("Babusia Kits"), designed to meet their specific needs; and 288 dignity kits, which offer vital sanitary supplies. Each dignity kit contains carefully selected items to address the hygiene and comfort needs of affected women, serving as a crucial entry point to other services and fostering stronger connections with communities.

The **Survivor Relief Centre in Kherson** has been actively engaged in providing humanitarian aid to flood survivors and supporting evacuation efforts. The staff at the centre provides direct social, psychological, and even legal aid to individuals affected by the flooding.



The **'VILNA' women-friendly space in Kherson** has remained operational, providing vital support to those affected. While the facility itself has been severely impacted, the staff have been temporarily relocated and continue to assist evacuees both online and offline. The provision of psychological support remains a top priority, with group sessions for women and families, as well as individual sessions tailored to meet the specific needs of women in distress.

Throughout the crisis, UNFPA's **psychosocial mobile teams in Mykolaiv and Odesa** have remained active, serving as a vital lifeline for those impacted by the floods. These teams have played a crucial role in delivering consistent and much-needed psychological support to individuals affected by the disaster. Additionally, they have been instrumental in facilitating access to essential medical and legal services for evacuees.



## ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

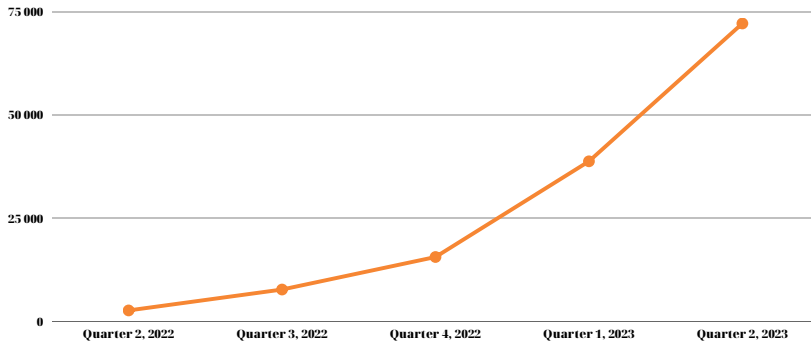
### Services in operation:



**25**

**Mobile Reproductive Health Units**

In June, a new MRHU started operation in **Donetsk oblast**, based in the Kramatorsk Perinatal Centre.



**1**

**Mobile Maternity Unit**

MMU is operating in the **Kharkiv oblast**, providing comprehensive emergency obstetric care.



96% – female  
4% – male



4,4% – people with disabilities

**9,712** Consultations were provided to people by MRHUs in **June 2023**.

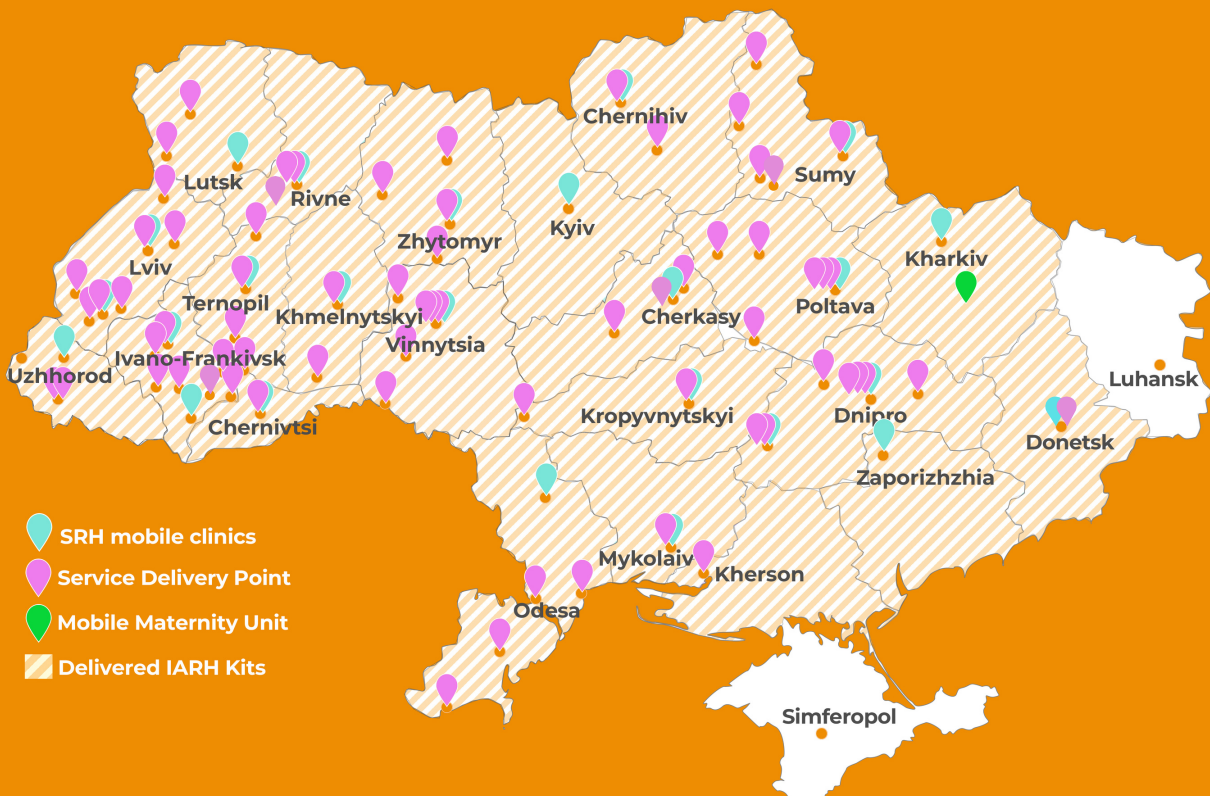
**72,161** Consultations were provided to people by MRHUs **since March 2022**.



**70**

**Service Delivery Points**

In **June**, **5 additional SDPs** were opened in different regions of Ukraine. SDPs are located in hospitals (mostly in maternity facilities) where healthcare professionals can provide specialized, confidential assistance to those affected by GBV, including conflict-related sexual violence. The SDPs are designed to ensure access and comfortable service provision for people with disabilities.



## ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



**203** METRIC TONS

of Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits have been delivered since the start of the war to fill critical gaps in supplies and equipment in hospitals with perinatal centres.

**33 Metric Tons of Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits delivered to 21 facilities** in Kyiv, Rivne, Sumy, Lviv, Odesa, Zhytomyr and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts in June 2023.



During June, UNFPA made significant progress in its capacity enhancement efforts, equipping professionals across Ukraine with the necessary knowledge and skills to provide quality and life-saving reproductive health services. A total of **371 participants from 17 oblasts benefited from learning activities**. The trainings focused on three key areas:

- Adolescent- and Youth-friendly approaches to the provision of sexual and reproductive health services.
- Standards of service provision for sexual and reproductive health to women with disabilities.
- HIV counselling and testing services for clients of programmes targeting persons affected by GBV.

Back in 2020, UNFPA Ukraine started a local HIV/GBV integration initiative to enhance access to HIV prevention and testing services for GBV survivors in Odesa. The project provided integrated HIV screening and psycho-social support to GBV survivors, proving to be a highly effective approach in addressing gaps in access to HIV information and services. Building on that success, the model is being replicated in Dnipro in 2023. Social workers and other professionals have been trained to run HIV testing using rapid tests and to offer pre- and post-test counselling, ensuring a continuum of care in the provision of HIV+ services for women and girls at risk of GBV in a humanitarian setting.

## STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Ukrainian adolescents participated in the **Hackathon #CVIDOMI**, presenting innovative projects for the country's reconstruction in diverse categories. 15 teams made it to the finals, showcasing their ideas to a jury comprising government representatives, businesses, and scientists. This initiative empowered young participants to contribute to Ukraine's future development.



## INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

### GBV Sub-Cluster (GBV SC)

- GBV SC **Capacity Enhancement Working Group** completed a comprehensive needs assessment, reaffirming the importance of strengthening the skills of frontline GBV workers. Areas requiring additional capacity enhancement included trauma-informed care/mental health, psychosocial support for GBV survivors, and GBV case management. The assessment further highlighted the significant demand for these trainings in frontline regions, including Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Mykolaiv, and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts.
- In June, the GBV SC and UNFPA implementing partner East European Institute for Reproductive Health collaborated to initiate a **series of trainings on GBVIE response**. The trainings focused on key areas such as Psychological First Aid for GBV Survivors, Effective Referrals, and Trauma-Informed Care of GBV Survivors. A total of **176 participants from 114 organisations** actively took part in these trainings, enhancing their knowledge and understanding of the minimum standards for GBVIE.
- The GBV SC **Working Group on Needs of Male Survivors of Sexual Violence**, co-chaired by the Women's Refugee Commission, initiated an assessment aimed at identifying barriers to access GBV services for male survivors in Ukraine. The findings will contribute to the ongoing adaptation of global guidance on the needs of male survivors to the Ukrainian context.
- After the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam, **GBV SC coordinated life-saving interventions** and GBV services for flood-affected populations. These services were provided to evacuees and locally displaced persons through safe spaces, offering PSS, accommodation, legal aid, and dignity kits.

### Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health Technical Working Group (SRMCH TWG)

- In Dnipro, a series of meetings took place involving the Eastern Bureau of the National Health Service of Ukraine to discuss **practical steps towards integrating SRH services at the PHC level**. Subsequently, coordination meetings were organised with international partners. These meetings aimed to explore ways to adapt their current interventions to incorporate the SRH component. Through these discussions, a shared understanding and consensus were achieved on the path forward for integrating SRH services within existing programs.
- **Discussions for a joint qualitative assessment of SRH were initiated**. This collaborative effort aims to gather qualitative data and inputs related to SRH, providing key insights to inform future policy interventions to improve SRH services. Discussions involve relevant stakeholders and experts who will work together to conduct the assessment and analyze the findings. This joint effort emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to address SRH needs effectively.

## LATEST NEWS FROM UNFPA IN UKRAINE

Conflict-related sexual violence is a crime! Participants of the **"Taking Action for Survivors" event, held on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict** on 19 June, strongly emphasized this. The event, supported by the First Lady, Olena Zelenska, gathered a diverse group of participants. The work done to combat domestic violence, sexual violence, and conflict-related sexual violence, was highlighted during the event. It was acknowledged that survivors often feel ashamed or fear seeking help, and their stories become invisible to society. However, only through collective support can the wounds of survivors be healed and it can shed light on this horrendous crime.



During the **Ukraine Recovery Conference**, UNFPA emphasised the pivotal role data collection will play for the recovery and reconstruction efforts, which UNFPA currently supports the Government of Ukraine on. He underlined the importance of comprehensive population data (incl. age, gender and geographical distribution) as a way of mapping out Ukraine's human capital. Such data is indispensable for effectively planning and implementing social and economic policy interventions in Ukraine. The statement underscores the significance of evidence-based decision-making for leaving no one behind.



**With the EU's support, UNFPA has started implementation of its EU4Recovery project.** UNFPA will establish Community Resilience Centers (CRC) in three target municipalities of Ukraine: Kam'yanske (Dnipropetrovsk oblast), Kremenchuk (Poltava oblast), and Nizhyn (Chernihiv oblast).

UNFPA envisions CRCs as community-led, adaptive, inclusive spaces led by the communities for the benefit of young people, women, and families, with a focus on vulnerable groups such as displaced people, ex-combatants, Roma and other ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities.

A particular focus of the CRC in each of the three target municipalities will be decided in close collaboration with local authorities, youth actors, civic activists, and NGOs, including civic platforms representing IDPs, recognising the importance of the specific context and individual needs of the community, focusing on its most vulnerable members.



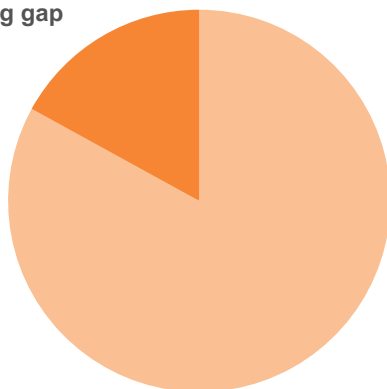
## PARTNERSHIPS

- With a strong focus on **local interventions** through, in many cases, already established policy interventions and programmes, UNFPA works closely with an extensive network of Ukrainian implementing partners. Among 21 partners, 15 are **Women-Led Organizations (WLO)**. Committed to increasing gender equality, these WLOs work to empower women and girls, and play a crucial role in strengthening the delivery of essential services, including by aligning them with the specific needs of women and girls. UNFPA remains committed to strengthening these partnerships to support the resilience of women, and ensure they are well-positioned to play an active role in Ukraine’s recovery.
- **Collaboration with UN Funds, Agencies, and Programmes, remains a priority for UNFPA, in order to maximise its impact on the ground, and to effectively meet the needs of women and girls.** Joint Inter-Agency UN convoys are a crucial mechanism for delivering aid in remote and/or hard-to-reach areas where communities are most in need. These convoys typically include UN agencies such as UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNHCR, OCHA, IOM, and UNFPA, working together to ensure the efficient and coordinated distribution of life-saving supplies and services. In June, UNFPA participated in IA convoys to several locations, including the front-line areas of Marinka and Vuhledar in the Donetsk oblast, as well as Borova in the Kharkiv oblast, and to Kherson (to support people affected by the flooding). As an important accelerator, UNFPA also invests in partnerships with both national and international private businesses.

## UNFPA UKRAINE FUNDING STATUS (AS OF 30 JUNE)

- In 2023, **UNFPA Ukraine launched its emergency appeal for US\$70.1 million.** The appeal seeks to provide life-saving SRH and GBV prevention and response services to address the needs of women and girls in Ukraine.
- **As of 30 June, the UNFPA Appeal for Ukraine was 83 per cent funded,** which includes funds committed for ongoing projects. This includes support from the USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Sweden, Australia, Norway, the United Kingdom, France, Korea, Denmark, Spain, Finland, Belgium, the EU (DG-ECHO, DG-NEAR), CERF, Netherlands, Ireland, OCHA-Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, Japan, Canada, Iceland, Estonia, Czech Republic, the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) and Portugal. Funding from the private sector and private individuals is also included.
- **UNFPA requires long-term flexible funding to respond to the needs of the population in Ukraine and neighbouring countries.** All levels of funding are solicited.

Funding gap  
17%



Funds mobilised\*  
83%

### FUNDS REQUIRED

US\$ 25.1 million  
**SRH**



US\$ 45 million  
**GBV**



\*which includes funds committed for ongoing projects started in 2022

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