ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND MENTAL TRAUMA

♦ Two Survivors Relief Centres operate in Zaporizhzhia and Lviv and one centre is about to start operating in Dnipro to provide psychological, social, legal and informational support to internally displaced people. These centres have helped 842 people since they opened between July and August, 2022. During the reporting period, the centres provided 322 consultations and received two cases of women subjected to conflict-related sexual violence.

♦ UNFPA continues to coordinate with 27 facilities for GBV survivors, including shelters, crisis rooms and daycare centres, the national hotline and 101 psychosocial mobile teams. These services provide psychological and social assistance to GBV and domestic violence survivors. There have been 2,148 calls to the hotline, 301 individual consultations via PSS mobile teams and 19 individuals received help from psychotherapists via the Aurora platform.

♦ UNFPA supported the development and launch of a mobile app for GBV survivors, initiated by the Ministry of Interior of Ukraine. The app enables survivors to seek help from the police without calling the helpline and revealing their identity while asking for help. The app works as an “emergency button” on the phone, is synchronised with the national police system and geolocates the victim. The app also makes it easier for people who cannot call the police, due to disability, to make contact with life-saving services.

♦ UNFPA also relaunched a project for young people focused on GBV prevention. The project previously covered aspects of healthy relationships among adolescents and young people. Now, the project “No Trivia” has been expanded to help young people cope with the trauma of war, loss of family, uncertainty and hesitation. As part of this project, psychologists, experts in education and health and influencers will talk to young people via chat-bot, online platforms and social media to offer advice and support.

ENSURING SAFE BIRTH, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RESILIENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

♦ 81 metric tonnes of inter-agency reproductive health kits were delivered since the start of the war in Ukraine to fill critical gaps in supplies and equipment in 37 hospitals with perinatal centres in 22 oblasts.

♦ A total of 827 people in Kyiv, Vinnytsia and Lviv received medical services and referrals via three UNFPA-supported reproductive health mobile teams in the last two weeks. In total, 5,161 people have received medical assistance since April, including 494 pregnant women and 259 individuals with disabilities.

♦ More than 420 adolescents participated in the Energy Of Your Future summer camp for displaced youth from the eastern & Azov regions. Under the UN Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme, the camp helps teenagers cope with the trauma of war, cumulative stress to prevent long-term psychological consequences and the camp also offers help with much needed soft and life skills.

♦ UNFPA is helping young people and adolescents explore and deal with the challenges of puberty through a digital information campaign called “Pubertat”. The campaign reached around 2.3 million young people, aged between 13-17 years old, in Ukraine. UNFPA delivered messages on sexual and reproductive health, personal hygiene, gender roles, non-conflict communications, personal safety, etc.
READING
Nataliia was four-months pregnant when the war started. She was already a mother to three and she was thrilled to find out she was having another baby boy. The war in Ukraine has had a major, yet underreported, impact on childbirth; many hospitals have reported an increase in premature babies. With health facilities destroyed and damaged, and essential supplies, including oxygen, running low, thousands of pregnant women have been denied access to life-saving services and skilled care and support, making childbirth fraught with danger. Read more.

WATCHING
On 12 August, Ukraine celebrated International Youth Day for the first time. To mark the occasion, UNFPA released a video to illustrate the vital role young people play in emergency response and recovery efforts.

Locations of reproductive health kits delivery

81 MTS of Inter-Agency Reproductive Health kits delivered.
20.5 MTS expected in a month.
INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

♦ Sexual Reproductive Health Working Group

The group held an inter-cluster meeting involving the health cluster, SRH WG, GBV sub-cluster, protection cluster, WHO and UNFPA to discuss and address ways to improve access to CMR. A draft action plan is being developed to systematically address the bottlenecks that are affecting access to CMR for GBV survivors.

♦ Gender-Based Violence Sub-cluster

The GBV SC conducted coordination meetings with the Mental health psychosocial support technical working group (MHPSS TWG) and the MHPSS regional reference WG, to enhance collaboration at different levels. A presentation on MHPSS integration in GBV was delivered and we will be sharing integration tip sheets from the GBV SC with partners. As of now, the GBV SC has identified priority activities and geographical areas for the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund reserve allocation.

⇒ Sub-national GBV coordination working groups have been activated for Dnipro, Kyiv and Odesa.

Protection from the sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) of those seeking assistance is an essential part of humanitarian and development operations. SEA risks run high in Ukraine, with 17.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. CARE, IOM and UNFPA are aligning their current SEA risk assessments in the Ukraine response and will design and adapt programmes according to the findings. The PSEA Task Force, supported by a UNFPA inter-agency coordinator, updated the 2022 PSEA Task Force Action Plan and is finalising a revision of the existing SoPs for handling SEA cases and sharing information among group participants.

UNFPA UKRAINE FUNDING STATUS (AS OF 31 JULY)

♦ In March 2022, UNFPA launched its emergency appeal of US$ 47.75 million for life-saving reproductive health and gender-based violence interventions to address the needs of women and girls in Ukraine. There is an urgent requirement for sexual and reproductive health services and more funding is needed.

♦ By 15 August, the UNFPA Appeal for Ukraine was 80 per cent funded thanks to USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Denmark, the Republic of Korea, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Estonia, Spain, Norway, Iceland, Ireland, Australia, the EU (DG-ECHO, DG-NEAR), OCHA-Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), and CERF.

♦ UNFPA is also grateful to our donors for contributing to the essential core resources that ensure programmes are delivered in a predictable and sustainable manner.