

UNFPA Regional Response to Ukraine Emergency

Situation Report #20



Reporting period from 1 July to 31 August 2023; Released: 15 September 2023



52,500

People reached with GBV information, referrals and services



15,950

Mental health and psychosocial consultations



29,470

People reached with SRH information, referrals and services



UNFPA distributed dignity kits to communities affected by the war and the recent floods in Kherson, Ukraine. Photo: UNFPA/Danylo Pavlov

Highlights

- Across the region, UNFPA and its partners trained over **1,660** people to enhance sexual and reproductive health services while over **100** people were trained to improve gender-based violence services.
- UNFPA and its partners distributed close to **3,290** dignity kits as a first entry point for further services and assistance.
- **24** new Service Delivery Points (SDPs) opened in July and August 2023, bringing to **94** the number of SDPs currently operating in Ukraine with the support of UNFPA.
- **In Ukraine, over 100** mobile psychosocial teams are deployed and have provided over **5,800** psychosocial consultations in July and August 2023.



17.6 million

People in need in Ukraine



5.1 million

Internally displaced people in Ukraine



5.8 million

Refugees in European countries

Situation Overview/Humanitarian Needs

- Attacks impacting civilians and civilian infrastructure increased in July and August, causing death, destruction, displacement and increasing humanitarian needs. As of August 2023, over **26,800** civilians have reportedly [died or suffered injuries](#) since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion.
- As of August 2023, an estimated **6.2 million** people have been [forced to flee](#) Ukraine. An estimated 5.1 million people are [internally displaced](#). Intensified hostilities in Kharkivska, Zaporizka and Sumska oblasts in recent months forced thousands more from their homes. Inside [Ukraine](#), an estimated **14.6 million** people need health assistance. **14.7 million** people require protection assistance and services, out of whom **3.6 million** people are in need of gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services. The humanitarian response aims to assist at least **1 million** women and girls across the country.
- Between January and July 2023, UNFPA and other humanitarian actors [provided](#) GBV services to at least **300,000** people, which is **28** per cent of the targeted population. Overall, humanitarians provided aid to **7.9** million people across Ukraine. Over **60** per cent were women and girls; **20** per cent were children.

UNFPA Humanitarian Response in Ukraine*

- **24** new Service Delivery Points (SDPs) opened in July and August 2023, bringing to **94** the number of SDPs currently operating in 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.
- UNFPA continues to operate **25** Mobile Reproductive Health Units (MRHU) across **22** oblasts in Ukraine. During the reporting period, MRHUs conducted over **25,820** consultations. **One** mobile maternity unit is also operating in Kharkiv oblast, providing comprehensive emergency obstetric care.
- **104** mobile psychosocial teams are deployed and have provided over **5,810** psychosocial consultations in July and August 2023.
- UNFPA also operates **seven** "VONA Hubs". Those hubs provide career, financial and professional advice to women who are at risk or have survived GBV.
- Almost **3,900** people sought support from the **11** Survivor Relief Centres established by UNFPA and its partners across the country.
- UNFPA also continues to operate a toll-free confidential and 24/7 psychological support line for men as part of its GBV prevention efforts. During the reporting period, over **1,130** consultations were provided. Men can reach out with any psychological issues that cause stress. It includes problems at work or relationships, war distress, and anger management difficulties.
- UNFPA distributed over **90,000** condoms, **2,600** packs of Combined Low Dose Oral Contraceptive Pills, and **3,840** emergency contraceptives to the Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health Technical Working Group (SRMCH TWG).
- UNFPA, jointly with the Ministry of Interior and the National Police of Ukraine, continues to operate a mobile application to protect women at risk of domestic or gender-based violence. Since its launch in 2022, the [application](#) has been downloaded over **37,000** times. This innovative technology allows survivors and those at risk to safely notify the national police of their location and urgent need for help.

- UNFPA has launched a cash assistance programme for GBV survivors. Offering unconditional cash is critical for survivors and at-risk groups to address their priority needs, immediate risks and identified vulnerabilities in a dignified, safe and survivor-centred way.

UNFPA Humanitarian Response in Neighbouring Countries*

Moldova

- A new **Safe Space for Youth** was launched within the Community Service Center in Chisinau. Its aim is to provide informational sessions on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health, life skills activities, menstruation management, and referrals to specialized mental health services for adolescents and young people from Ukraine.
- At least **8,500** participants were recorded in activities implemented by the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting women. **1,390** participants were recorded in activities implemented by the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting young people while over **2,800** participants were recorded through the five Static Safe Spaces targeting older persons.
- **Mobile Safe Spaces** organized community outreach events and visited Palanca, Drochia, and Ungheni villages, engaging **500** refugees and local community members.
- Activities offered by the various Safe Spaces include informational sessions, life skills development programmes that include basic knowledge on hygiene, mental health, building relationships, sexuality education, GBV prevention, Romanian language and recreational activities.
- As part of the "**Mainstreaming a disability-inclusive humanitarian response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis**" project, UNFPA hosted a workshop attended by **25** service providers and Safe Space teams. The workshop aimed at improving the referral of women and youth with disabilities to specialized services.

EU countries bordering Ukraine

- In Romania, UNFPA and its partner continue to provide support to the Ministry of Health for the strengthening of the family planning network and the National Agency for Equality of Opportunities between Women and Men (ANES) for the provision of technical support and mentorship to Centers for Intervention for Sexual Violence Survivors in **ten** cities across the country.
- Through Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) in Baia Mare, Brasov and Targu-Mures, UNFPA and its partners continue to provide rights-based, gender-sensitive and disability-inclusive GBV and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services for Ukrainian refugees in Romania. During the reporting period, at least **1,650** Ukrainian women and girls benefitted from individual and group services. WGSS psychologists delivered over **200** individual psycho-social counselling sessions.
- In August, UNFPA deployed a roving GBV in Emergencies Specialist and a roving SRH in Emergencies Specialist who will be tasked to support services for women and girls and coordination mechanisms in EU countries bordering Ukraine, including Slovakia, Poland and Romania.

Belarus

- UNFPA continues to support **three** Safe Spaces in Belarus that now also offer art therapy classes for older people. During the reporting period, over **70** older people joined the activity. In August 2023, UNFPA trained consultants and volunteers supporting Ukrainian refugees in Safe Spaces on "Psychosocial support and prevention of emotional burnout".

- During the reporting period, over **130** persons in the Brest oblast, **190** persons in the Gomel oblast (women, older people and persons with disabilities) and **34** older women in the Vitebsk oblast benefited from tailored psychosocial counselling.
- At least **140** women, over **60** older people and **15** persons with disabilities were referred to adequate services and support, particularly for medical care, employment, temporary shelter, food and hygienic goods.
- Crisis Centres, operated by the Red Cross and supported by UNFPA, in Brest and Vitebsk provided accommodation, specialists' support and counselling for **one** Ukrainian family in Brest and **six** Ukrainian women in Vitebsk.

** More information is available in the country snapshots below.*

Ukraine Country Snapshot #23

Moldova Country Snapshot #17

COORDINATION

Ukraine

- During the reporting period, the GBV Sub-Cluster, co-led by UNFPA, and the East European Institute for Reproductive Health collaborated to initiate a series of trainings, which focused on key areas such as psychological first aid for GBV survivors, effective referrals, and trauma-informed care of GBV survivors. Over **77** participants from **27** organizations actively took part in these training sessions, enhancing their knowledge and understanding of the minimum standards for GBV.

Moldova

- During the reporting period, the GBV Sub-working Group co-chaired by UNFPA conducted a training on the monitoring and evaluation of GBV Programmes. The objective of the training was to build the capacity of service providers to identify GBV risks and mainstream mitigation measures in their sectors and areas of work.

Romania, Slovakia, Poland

- UNFPA continues to coordinate and provide tailored technical, operational support, and practical solutions on SRH and GBV-related matters to UNFPA partners responding to the Ukraine war in refugee response countries, with a focus on Poland, Slovakia, and Romania and other EU countries.
- Together with the Refugee Health Extension (RHE), UNFPA is monitoring the SRH and reproductive rights situation for refugees through bilateral meetings, field visits and review of existing partners' assessment to determine activities, needs and challenges of humanitarian actors in the field of SRH for women, young people and key populations.

Belarus

- As a part of the Inter-Agency Refugee Taskforce, UNFPA took the lead in cooperating with the International Committee of the Red Cross to address specific complex cases related to the provision of support to older people from Ukraine.

Regional response

- UNFPA in collaboration with UNHCR and Voice Amplified is co-leading the Regional GBV Working Group for the Ukraine Refugee Response. As part of the coordination efforts, UNFPA is working with partners to draft the new Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for 2024, revise the reporting indicators and ensure GBV is well integrated and prioritized within the overall refugee response.

FUTURE PLANS

- UNFPA regional humanitarian specialists will travel to Ukraine, alongside colleagues from the UNFPA Humanitarian Response Division (HRD), to conduct a Training of Trainers on Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in September, in collaboration with the Ukraine CO and the SRH WG.
- UNFPA will organize a regional CMR/IPV ToT in October 2023 in Romania, with participants from the initial cohorts from Slovakia and Romania, as part of the regional strategy to enhance the capacity of national counterparts and service providers to provide quality CMR and IPV services to refugees and communities.

UNFPA Funding Requirement for 2023



\$103 M required



77% funded as of August

- UNFPA released an updated [2023 regional appeal](#) for Ukraine, Moldova and other neighbouring countries seeking a total of \$103 million in funding to provide life-saving SRH and GBV interventions and supplies.
- The OCHA-led 2023 [Humanitarian Needs Overview](#) and [Humanitarian Response Plan for Ukraine](#) and UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency)-led [2023 Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), which includes UNFPA funding requirements, were officially released in early 2023.
- As of 31 August, the UNFPA Ukraine and Refugee Response Appeal for 2023 was 77 per cent funded.

MEDIA, COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

- In Belarus, [watch](#) how 'orange activities' take place and how refugees settled at the crisis centre in Brest.
- [Read](#) an interview with Oleksii Geliukh, a specialist for the Aurora online platform, a UNFPA project in Ukraine.
- [Discover](#) how a safe space in the Republic of Moldova offers comprehensive sexuality education for Roma refugees fleeing Ukraine.
- UNFPA Moldova participated in the Women Deliver Conference 2023 and shared testimonies of survivors with clothes they wore when assaulted as part of an [exhibit](#).

UNFPA greatly appreciates the generous support of donors and the tireless efforts of partners in responding to the needs in Ukraine and the region.

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