

Regional Response to the Ukraine Crisis

UNFPA APPEAL

2024

UNFPA-supported Maternity Hospital in Odesa, Ukraine. Photo: UNFPA Ukraine/Evgen Zavgorodniy.

OVERVIEW

US\$94.4 million

Total financial requirements for UNFPA's Ukraine Regional Response.

\$75 million to fund
needs within Ukraine

\$19.4 million to fund
the refugee response

The war in Ukraine continues with no resolution in sight,¹ taking a toll on the lives of millions of people, including women, girls, older persons and other vulnerable groups who have been uprooted from their homes. Over 14.6 million people – about 40 per cent of the estimated total Ukrainian population – will need humanitarian assistance in 2024. As they face the harsh realities of forced displacement, many women have become the sole providers for their families.

This war has resulted in 6.3 million people fleeing Ukraine, with 5.9 million of them hosted across Europe.² In Ukraine, around 3.7 million people are internally displaced.³ Support is vital for areas hosting large numbers of internally displaced people, and durable solutions must be sought. Over 4.6 million people are also returning to their original homes, adding a layer of complexity to displacement trends. Returnees often face safety issues, family separation, and a lack of job opportunities.⁴

Women and girls affected by the war are at increased risk of life-threatening gender-based violence (GBV), such as sexual and physical violence, domestic violence and intimate partner violence (IPV), trafficking and exploitation. The war has also significantly disrupted access to essential health care, including sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, due to damaged infrastructure, broken supply chains and restricted mobility. This poses grave risks, especially to women of reproductive age facing pregnancy-related complications.

14.6 million
people in need
of humanitarian
assistance in
Ukraine

7.8 million
people need
health
assistance in
Ukraine

2.5 million
people need
gender-based
violence
services in
Ukraine

3.7 million
internally
displaced
persons in
Ukraine

6.3 million
refugees from
Ukraine

¹ [UNOCHA Situation Report](#) published in November 2023.

² [UNHCR Operational Data Portal](#) (last update in December 2023).

³ Most recent data from [IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix](#) as of December 2023.

⁴ [IOM Internal Displacement Report](#) published in October 2023.

UNFPA REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE WAR IN UKRAINE FOR 2024

The number of people affected by the war is expected to remain high and the needs significant. In Ukraine, UNFPA will concentrate efforts on targeting hard-to-reach areas, particularly close to the front line or newly liberated and retaken areas. Concurrently, there is a pressing need for UNFPA to support initiatives promoting social cohesion, recovery and development.

UNFPA will continue to work closely with local, national and international partners in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. With long-term and flexible funding, this collaboration will address health and protection needs and guarantee the delivery of life-saving SRH services and supplies. It will also provide multi-sectoral mechanisms and services to prevent, mitigate and respond to GBV, including conflict-related sexual violence. GBV and SRH services will continue to be tailored to the specific needs of women, youth, older people, people with disabilities and the Roma population (in Moldova particularly) from displaced and host communities.

By embracing a humanitarian, development and peace nexus approach, UNFPA continues to enhance the capacity of national SRH and GBV service providers and partner with women-led organizations to ensure effective and sustainable responses. At the regional level, UNFPA established a dedicated humanitarian team to provide regional coordination, capacity building and technical support.

As the leading agency for GBV and SRH in emergencies, UNFPA will continue to ensure the coordination of the GBV Area of Responsibility under the Protection Cluster and the SRH Technical Working Group under the Health Cluster in Ukraine, both at national and local levels. UNFPA will also continue to be a key player, along with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, in the coordination of the regional and national GBV and SRH Working Groups in refugee-hosting countries, particularly in Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Belarus.

REGIONAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN 2024 (USD)

UNFPA is appealing for **\$94.4 million** in 2024 to respond to the needs of affected populations in Ukraine and those who have fled to refugee-hosting countries.

Ukraine	\$75,000,000
Moldova	\$13,000,000
Poland	\$2,000,000
Romania	\$1,000,000
Slovakia	\$1,000,000
Belarus	\$660,000
Regional Coordination, Capacity Building & Technical Support	\$1,752,000
Total UNFPA Ukraine Regional Appeal	\$94,412,000

These funding requirements are included in the [2024 Global Humanitarian Overview](#), [UNFPA's 2024 Humanitarian Action Overview](#), the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan for Ukraine and the 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan for countries neighbouring Ukraine – the two latter to be released in January 2024.



UNFPA-supported SRH Mobile Health Unit, Cherkasy region, Ukraine. Photo: UNFPA Ukraine/Andrii Dryga.

2024 PLANNED RESULTS

Ukraine – \$75 million



Key interventions:



Provide life-saving SRH services, including outreach, service delivery points for barrier-free **integrated SRH/GBV response** and hotline. **Strengthen primary health care through SRH integration** and enhanced referral pathways.



Provide emergency GBV prevention and response services, including mobile psychosocial support teams, GBV case management service, survivor relief centres, safe spaces, hotlines, online platforms, and dignity kit distribution. Also, access to life-saving information on GBV risks, available services and referrals.



In partnership with national and regional level authorities of Ukraine, **lead the GBV and SRH humanitarian coordination** structures.



Provide leadership, coordination and technical support for **Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) training and services**.



Support the national health-care system through the **long-term supply of essential medicines, commodities, and equipment** to secure uninterrupted access to family planning and to prevent maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality.



Improve access to, and strengthen the capacity of, municipal-level GBV prevention, mitigation and response services for internally displaced people, host communities and returnees, particularly vulnerable women and girls.



Support various **youth empowerment initiatives** aimed at skill building, resilience development and social cohesion.



Strengthen the network of Women Career Hubs and related programmes for economic empowerment focused on GBV survivors and women at risk.



Support policy development, technical capacity enhancement and advocacy among national SRH/GBV providers.



Enhance national access to the Common Operational Dataset on Population Statistics, which provides disaggregated population data and information on GBV and SRH.

Moldova – \$13 million

SRH GBV



Key interventions:



Co-lead the GBV Sub-Working Group, along with UNHCR, to ensure prevention, mitigation and response mechanisms are in place and **support SRH coordination mechanisms** by reviewing and developing national safe maternity care protocols.



Provide and scale up GBV prevention and response services at static and mobile safe spaces for people at risk of GBV and GBV survivors, offering social cohesion activities, empowerment initiatives, information and awareness-raising sessions, dignity kits and menstrual hygiene items, psychosocial support, case management, cash and voucher assistance and referrals.



Increase the resilience of national health and social protection systems by providing equipment and supplies to health facilities for better quality services and support the implementation of the National Action Plan on the Elimination of Violence Against Women.



Strengthen the capacities of national service providers to address SRH/GBV needs. This includes enhancing maternal and neonatal health through emergency obstetric and neonatal care, an efficient referral system, providing family planning services, and building the capacity of health providers. Additionally, support GBV case management and the provision of integrated GBV services.



Support disability inclusion in selected shelters for GBV survivors by adjusting the infrastructure of one of the shelters to the needs of women with disabilities and lactating women.



Support various **youth empowerment initiatives** aimed at skill building, resilience development and social cohesion.



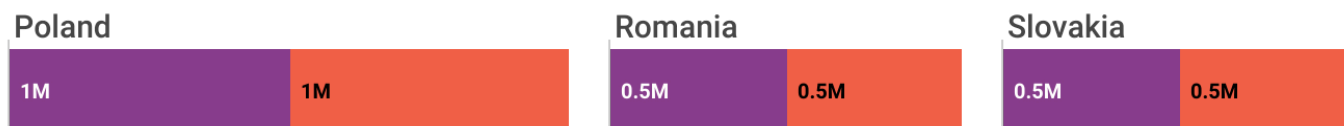
Increase the capacity of local women-led organizations to deliver GBV services through grants.



Implement cash assistance programmes and strengthen existing governmental social assistance programmes for lactating and pregnant women. Additionally, **cover the cost of SRH-related services** provided by health-care facilities.

European Union Countries – \$4 million

SRH GBV



Key interventions:



Support SRH/GBV coordination mechanisms to ensure functioning prevention and response mechanisms and linkage to integrated SRH, GBV and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services.



Strengthen the capacities of national service providers to improve access to and quality of SRH and GBV multi-sectoral services, including the provision of the Minimum Initial Service Package, CMR, GBV case management and psychosocial support.



Lead the alignment of protocols on GBV, SRH rights and accountability to affected populations at the national level with international standards for improved service provision.



Develop regionally adapted guidance/toolkit for disability inclusion in GBV services. A pilot programme is to be launched in Romania in 2024 to build partnerships with local organisations of persons with disabilities.



Invest in localization initiatives by scaling up partnerships with women-led and rights organizations to promote the inclusion of youth and other access-impaired populations in GBV and SRH rights programmes.



Coordinate and enhance the capacities of national organizations on GBV case management in alignment with international guidance and best practices.



Roll out of the [SafeYOU App](#) to increase access to information and services to mitigate risks and respond to GBV.



Conduct contextual analysis on contributing factors and barriers to accessing SRH/GBV services in refugee-hosting countries.

Belarus – \$0.66 million



SRH



GBV

198k

462k

Key interventions:



Support SRH/GBV coordination mechanisms at national and regional levels to ensure the mapping of GBV actors, establish and disseminate effective referral pathways and capacity-building of service providers.



Expand three safe spaces and two crisis centres to include GBV and SRH service referrals, humanitarian assistance, psychosocial support and mobile services, ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities.



Implement cash assistance programmes and strengthen existing governmental social assistance programmes for older people.



Strengthen the capacities of the front-line service providers in addressing GBV and establish and disseminate effective GBV referral pathways.



Support mobile clinics to provide SRH, health-care and counselling services in remote areas. Additionally, **cover the costs of SRH-related services** provided by health-care facilities.



Provide shelter services to GBV survivors and **conduct awareness-raising activities** for women and men on available GBV and protection services.

Regional Coordination, Capacity Building & Technical Support – \$1,752,000

SRH GBV

876k

876k

Key interventions:



Co-lead the Regional GBV Working Group with UNHCR to support prevention, risk mitigation and response mechanisms in place.



Support SRH coordination mechanisms under the Health Cluster to ensure the development of national protocols and guidance for safe service provision.



Enhance GBV Information Management coordination by providing technical support to the Regional Information Management Working Group and all partners.



Technical assistance on SRH and GBV to country offices, partners and governments in Ukraine and refugee-hosting countries whose populations and services are either directly or indirectly affected by the war in Ukraine.



Coordinate the roll-out of the SAFE You app and technology-facilitated GBV interventions in countries neighbouring Ukraine, with the possibility to expand to other parts of Eastern Europe and to Central Asia.



Contextualize global GBV guidance and tools to Eastern Europe and Central Asia and the Ukraine Regional Response.

UNFPA CALL TO PARTNERS

UNFPA requires long-term, flexible funding to address the needs of those affected in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. All levels of funding are solicited. This funding is crucial for the continued delivery of life-saving SRH and GBV services, particularly in hard-to-reach areas, as the war in Ukraine has severely disrupted pre-war national service delivery capacities and medical supply chains.

The ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine also calls for integrated recovery and development support, focusing on vulnerable and remote areas. UNFPA's collaboration with the Government in Ukraine and those in neighbouring countries and international and national civil society organizations is key to delivering life-saving GBV and SRH services, achieving universal health coverage and developing national GBV services networks. UNFPA's need for flexible, long-term funding is also critical to fostering demographic resilience.

Since the beginning of the war, donor support has enabled UNFPA to save lives, restore services and implement sustainable solutions, such as bulk procurement of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. However, as local supply chains recover, multi-year funding becomes essential to ensure uninterrupted delivery of essential medicines and to enable UNFPA and its partners to respond effectively to changing needs and strengthen local capacities.



Kherson-Kakhovka Dam, Ukraine. Photo: UNFPA Ukraine/Danylo Pavlov.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS in 2023 (January - November)

In 2023, UNFPA, leveraging its established partnerships in Ukraine, intensified its localized emergency SRH and GBV response in war-affected areas. The agency also expanded activities across Eastern Europe and the EU, focusing on inter-agency coordination and prioritizing GBV and SRH services to meet the urgent needs of the most vulnerable.

UNFPA Humanitarian Response in Ukraine

- **Reached over 740,000 women, girls, men and boys with tailored GBV prevention, mitigation and response services** (through: psychosocial mobile teams; women and girl safe spaces; survivor relief centres; municipal specialized services; crisis rooms; shelters; day-care centres; GBV case management; cash assistance; women career hubs; dignity kits; online platform; chatbots and awareness raising).
- **Provided over 139,000 people with life-saving SRH services** (through: SRH mobile teams, service delivery points embedded in national health-care providers and kits for pregnant lactating women).
- **Reached millions of Ukrainians with life-saving information about GBV, SRH, mental health issues and available services** via social media and news outlets.
- **Distributed 270 tons of Interagency Reproductive Health Kits**, contraceptives, Personal Protective Equipment and bulk pharmaceuticals to over 100 hospitals and maternity wards.
- **Led the GBV Area of Responsibility and SRH Technical Working Group**, ensuring timely emergency coordination and policy coherence nationwide in collaboration with national and local authorities.
- **Delivered the 2023 Ukraine Common Operational Dataset on Population Statistics** to the Humanitarian Country Team, becoming the foundational basis for calculating populations in need and target groups across all coordination clusters.

UNFPA Humanitarian Response in Refugee-Hosting Countries

In Moldova:

- **Led the GBV Sub-Working Group jointly with UNHCR**, which supported the update of the GBV Safety Audit of [2022](#) and the mapping of GBV services. This effort has significantly guided the Government of Moldova and other key stakeholders in their humanitarian response programming.
- **Reached over 53,000 women, girls, men and boys with tailored GBV prevention, mitigation and response services** (through: static and mobile safe spaces, case management, referrals, cash assistance, dignity and winterization kits, vouchers for hygiene products and awareness raising).
- **Strengthened the capacities of five local women-led organizations and 300 front-line service providers**, equipping them to offer GBV services and prevention actions in communities hosting refugees.
- **Enhanced the national SRH system, including emergency gynaecological and obstetric care**, by supplying ambulances, medical equipment, IT tools and dedicated spaces for sexual violence survivors in 44 public facilities, covering hospitals, educational institutions and penitentiaries.
- **Assisted in renovating a shelter** to cater to GBV survivors with disabilities or who were lactating.

In Poland, Romania and Slovakia:

- **Reached over 98,000 women and girls in Romania with tailored prevention, mitigation and response services on SRH and GBV** through four women and girl safe spaces, GBV case management, psychosocial support, dignity kits and awareness-raising activities.
- In coordination with the Romanian Ministry of Health, **five national working groups** were established, focusing on **public health policies for SRH and family planning to support the strengthening of national systems**.

- **Mobilized a pool of journalists** from Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia to **build their capacity to cover GBV stories effectively and in line with international guidelines and ethical standards.**
- **Led the roll-out of Comprehensive CMR and IPV trainings** in Slovakia, Romania and Poland, and one Regional CMR/IPV ToT, in collaboration with the SRH and GBV WGs in the country, which further contributed to the regional pool of trainers.
- In support of, and at the request of the Government of Romania, **co-facilitated GBV case management training in collaboration with UNHCR, UN Women and UNICEF.**
- In Poland, **established a safe shelter for women and girl refugees** who are at risk of GBV, supported a **helpline** for referral to specialized GBV services and **set up the country's first crisis centre for GBV survivors** in **collaboration** with **local women-led organizations.**

In Belarus:

- **Reached over 3,000 women, older persons and people with disabilities with tailored GBV prevention, mitigation and response services** (through: safe spaces, psychosocial counselling, referrals, dignity kits and awareness raising).
- **Enhanced two Crisis Centres** with the provision of essential equipment and supplies and the development of internal regulations and guidelines for gender/age/disability responsive support.
- **Facilitated various activities for older persons in safe spaces**, including digital literacy, healthy ageing, yoga, art therapy classes and meetings with health and social work specialists.
- **Trained and equipped 40 front-line workers on GBV response for refugees.**

Regional Coordination, Capacity Building & Technical Support:

- **Co-led the regional GBV Working Group and represented UNFPA in regional coordination mechanisms**, such as the Refugee Health Extension, the Gender Task Force, as well as the regional health, protection, SRH, MHPSS and Information Management Working Groups to ensure prioritization of the response for SRH and GBV.
- **Briefed governments and humanitarian actors on the quality and accessibility of SRH and GBV services for refugees** in Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, informed by a [comprehensive study](#).
- **Implemented UNFPA's regional Clinical Management of CMR/IPV strategy** by enhancing the capacity of health providers in Moldova, Poland, Romania and Ukraine in collaboration with UNHCR, WHO and UNICEF. This resulted in advocacy efforts to integrate CMR services in referral pathways, change national guidelines and the **establishment of a regional pool of trainers**, targeting over 100 health providers.

For more information, please refer to UNFPA's regional [website](#), which contains all Situation Reports covering UNFPA's work in the region.

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