

Mitigation of the Consequences of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Facilitation of the Access to Essential Services and CSE for Conflict-Affected People in Ukraine



Photo by Daniel Mihailescu, AFP

PROJECT GOAL

To improve access and quality of essential sexual and reproductive health services and services in case of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as comprehensive sexual education for the people affected by the war in Poltava and Odesa regions of Ukraine.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Enhanced capacity of health facilities and health providers to deliver clinical management of sexual assault and Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care.

Objective 2: Greater access to referral SRH services for clients (including survivors of gender-based violence).

Objective 3: Increased awareness and demand among women, girls and youth on the importance of SRH services and CSE.

Objective 4: Enhanced capacity of educators to provide CSE, including trauma-informed sexuality education, for young people and adolescents.

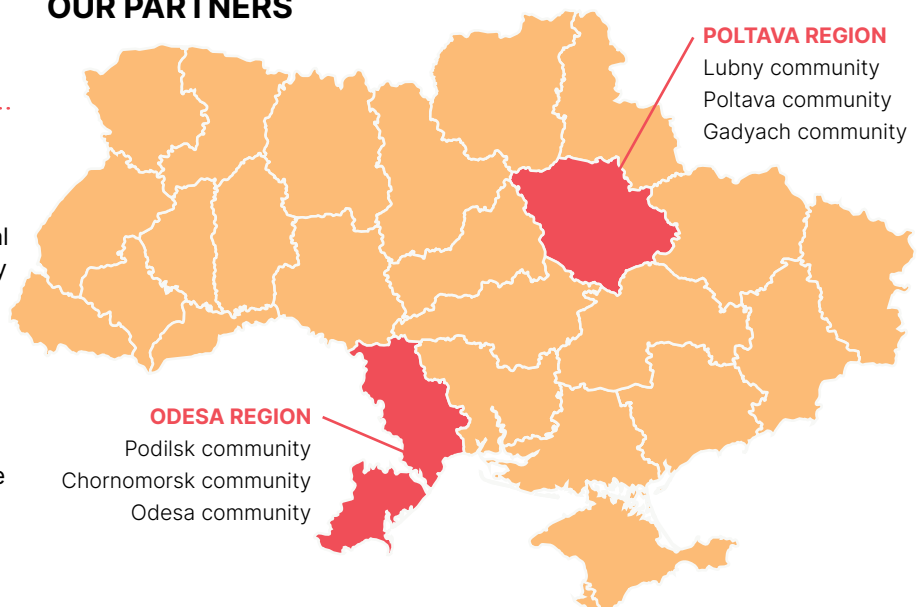
PROJECT IMPLEMENTORS AND DONORS

- Charity Foundation 'Woman Health and Family Planning' (WHFP), IPPF's (International Planned Parenthood Federation) Member Association in Ukraine
- Government of Japan

BACKGROUND

- About 6.3 million people have become IDPs, and over 6 million people fled Ukraine due to the war.
- Violence against women and girls have increased rapidly in the war time. There are reports of war crimes including use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and an increase in domestic violence.
- At the same time in many regions, quality and timely medical, psychological, legal and social services are unavailable or have limitations: many healthcare facilities are destroyed, logistical supply chains for commodity delivery are broken, and medical staff have left their places of residence.
- Availability of emergency contraception, post-rape kits and abortion pills is a challenge for all levels of healthcare.
- Young people who stay in Ukraine have had limited access to offline education, considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and war. Topics related to comprehensive sexual education are often considered by decision-makers to not be of priority, although requests and interest in them are high.

OUR PARTNERS



"Our Foundation has noteworthy experience of collaboration with different donors. This project, funded by the Government of Japan, is notable for us because we are implementing it in a challenging time for Ukraine when so many people here, including women and adolescents, are in dire need. The support we receive from Japan today lets us provide qualitative SRH, GBV and CSE services for our compatriots and make their lives better, healthier and safer."



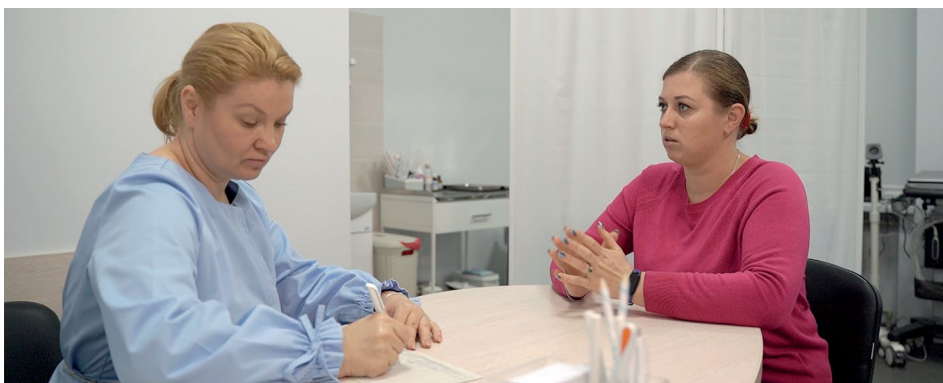
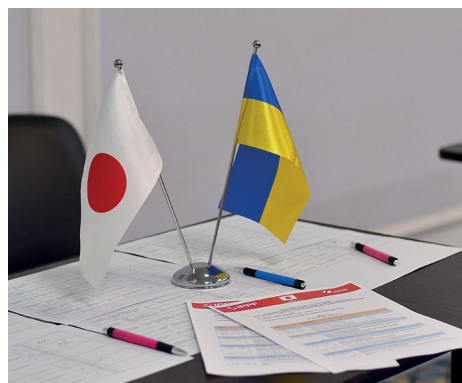
Galyna Maistruk, Executive Director, WHFP

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023

Situation assessment

To better understand the situation and plan the project activities and plan the project activities in the most efficient way, we conducted assessments among medical staff, women, educators and adolescents. The assessments results highlighted:

- [gaps in medical staff's knowledge, skills and abilities](#) (lack of equipment and medicines) to provide comprehensive care to women who survived GBV and those who require emergency obstetric and neonatal care;
- [demand among women for qualitative gynecological services](#) (incl. counseling on contraception, family planning, etc.) as well as information about places where such services are available;
- [insufficient sexual education](#) in schools caused by lack of competencies in educators to speak on the topic, although the demand on such information among adolescents is high.



Trainings for Healthcare Providers

Four 5-day trainings on Clinical management of rape (CMR) and Emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC) for specialists from target regions.

122 specialists (gynecologists-obstetricians, midwives, nurses, family doctors, etc.) trained.



"We are grateful for the opportunity to delve into the gender based violence topic and look at it not only from the point of view of medical aspects but also psychological and legal aid. Now we feel more confident in cases when women who have experienced violence address us."

Anzhelika, the training participant

Medicines and Commodities

6 partner medical facilities received medicines and essential commodities for post-rape care and emergency contraception.



Methodological and informational support for medical workers (manuals, brochures on GBV response, referrals and contraception) was provided.

Awareness rising on SRHR services available for women (handouts and posters with SDP contacts and information on services available).

Trainings for Educators

Two 2-days trainings on Comprehensive sexual education (CSE) for specialists from target regions.

50 specialists (teachers, psychologists, social workers, NGO representatives) trained.



"This training was like a breath of fresh air: full of fundamental information, engaging and interactive. That is what we need to be ready to work with children on CSE, as it is a sensitive topic, especially when it goes to adolescents."

Anna, the training participant

10 674

women* received SRHR services in partner facilities

33 365

Women covered with information materials

1 534

girls* under 18 y.o. received SRHR services in partner facilities

833

young people reached with information on CSE

*As of available reports by SDPs