



UKRAINE



RESULTS REPORT 2020



United Nations Country Team in Ukraine



Contents

Foreword by Resident Coordinator	4
United Nations Country Team in Ukraine	6
Key development partners of the United Nations development system in Ukraine	8
Chapter 1. Key developments in Ukraine and regional context	9
Chapter 2. United Nations socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic	11
Chapter 3. United Nations support to national development priorities	15
Overview of Cooperation Framework Results	15
Support to partnerships and financing the 2030 Agenda.....	30
United Nations coherence, effectiveness and efficiency	33
Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization	35
Chapter 4. Challenges and key United Nations focus in 2021	38



UKRAINE



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
EECP	Entry/exit crossing point
EPID	Equal Pay International Coalition.
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender-based violence
GCA	Government Controlled Area (in Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine)
GDP	Gross domestic product
GoU	Government of Ukraine
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLoD	First Line of Defence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOA	Homeowners' Association
IDP	Internally displaced person
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITA	International Technical Assistance
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Funds
NAP	National Action Plan
NGCA	Non-government controlled area (in Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	Operations Management Team
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprise
SSSU	State Statistics Service of Ukraine
TB	Tuberculosis
UNDS	United Nations Development System
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNPF	United Nations Partnership Framework
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VoT	Victim of trafficking
VNR	Voluntary National Review

Foreword by Resident Coordinator

The United Nations in Ukraine had looked with anticipation to 2020, the third year of implementation of the **Government of Ukraine – United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPF) 2018–2022**, also marking the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations. We were intent to press forward with supporting Ukraine to make even bolder strides to advance its reform agenda towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. There was reason for hope that progress in the political negotiation process may bring closer an end to the conflict in eastern Ukraine, thereby opening up opportunities for the United Nations to shift more of its efforts from humanitarian response to recovery and sustainable development.

The outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic that struck Ukraine early in the year called for a swift and decisive reorientation of our energies to respond to an unforeseen, unprecedented health crisis affecting the entire country and exacerbating the humanitarian crisis in the conflict-affected east.

As we mourn all lives lost to the pandemic and lament the inevitable derailment of progress in some areas, this report attests to our determination, jointly with the Government of Ukraine, to stay the course set by our Partnership Framework. With the unfolding of the crisis, the United Nations speedily harnessed the full range of its capacities, joining efforts with the Government and other international and national partners to respond to and mitigate the health impact and the cascading humanitarian, socio-economic and human rights impacts.

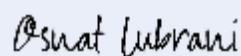
The planned UNPF budget for 2020 was US\$200 million. Thanks to the generous support from Ukraine and its international partners, the United Nations was able to repurpose standing budgets as well as mobilize fresh funds so that by year-end, the UNPF delivered \$231 million, a delivery rate of 115 percent. In addition to the UNPF budget, \$128 million were mobilized for the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan implemented jointly by the United Nations and its humanitarian partners in conflict-affected eastern Ukraine.

Drawing on the comprehensive, gender-sensitive, human rights-based **COVID-19 United Nations socio-economic assessment (SEIA) and socio-economic response plan (SERP)**, as this report summarizes, important results were achieved jointly by the United Nations and the Government in 2020. Life-saving personal protective equipment (PPE) was procured and integrated within United Nations interventions. Vital medical and laboratory equipment as well as enhanced capacities were provided, including for the establishment of crisis management mechanisms to plan, monitor, and importantly, coordinate response actions. Among the many activities reoriented to support the response, the United Nations supported small business to adapt and offered technical advice on development of policies and action plans to create new jobs, which is key to jump-starting economic recovery.

The burden of crisis did not divert the United Nations from implementing planned support to reforms, including in anti-corruption, judiciary, decentralization, public administration, labour, health, education and social protection services, as well as the advancement of recovery and peacebuilding, and the digital transformation agenda of Ukraine. With United Nations support, Ukraine finalized its first Voluntary National Review (VNR), an important instrument to track SDG progress. Presented at the United Nations in July, the VNR draws on wide multi-stakeholder consultations, with gender equality and principle of “leave no one behind” strongly integrated across all the SDGs. An SDG 2020 report was also produced with United Nations support as planned.

While we appreciate the 2020 results achieved in the face of adversity, we acknowledge that we must strengthen our joint efforts. Looking to 2021, the health challenge still requires our robust action to control, treat and vaccinate against COVID-19. The United Nations in Ukraine is determined to work with the Government of Ukraine to support a socio-economic recovery that seizes all opportunities to build Ukraine back better and greener.

Since 2021 is the penultimate year of the UNPF 2018–2022 as well as the year when we must prepare a new Government of Ukraine – United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) for 2023–2027, the elevation of the UNPF Joint Executive Committee for the first time to the level of Prime Minister promises to ensure that our partnership is even stronger and fit for purpose to overcome the COVID-19 crisis and that Ukraine will catch up on and then accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.



Osnat Lubrani

UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine

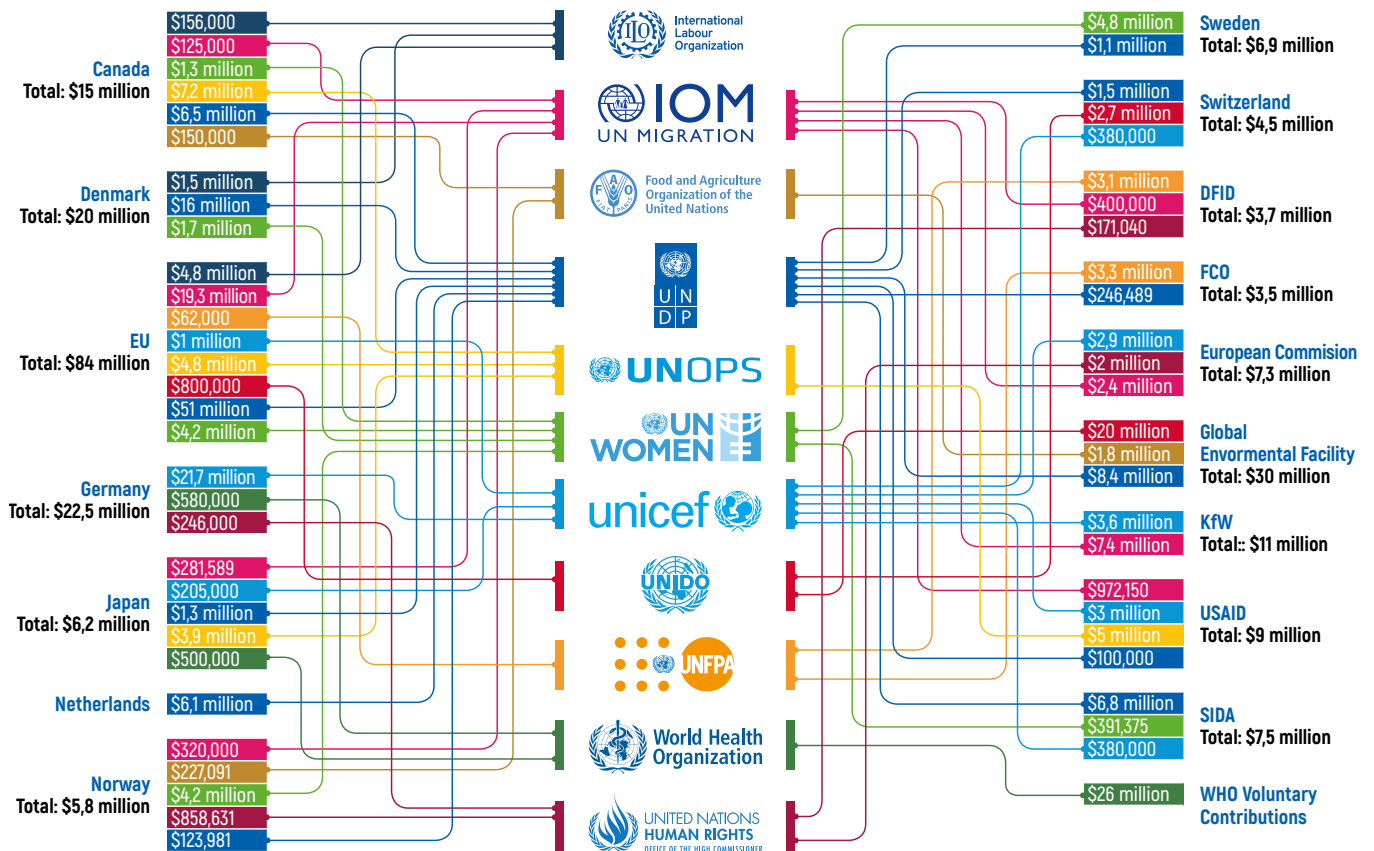
2018-2022 GoU-UN Partnership Framework Priority areas



In Ukraine, United Nations Country Team consists of United Nations entities accredited and active in Ukraine, namely Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United

Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), United Nations Volunteers (UNV), United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and World Health Organization (WHO). The non-resident United Nations entities that are also actively engaged in country programmes and operations are International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Trade Centre (ITC), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Key development partners of the United Nations development system in Ukraine



The key partners of the United Nations are the GoU, regional and local governments, development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector.

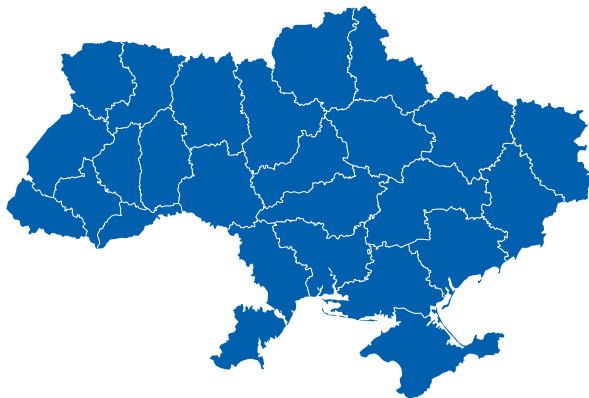
The implementation of the UNPF has benefited from generous support (close to 95 percent of UNPF available funds) from the Government of Ukraine, as well as the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America and Japan. The European Union (EU) is also a significant contributor as are the Global Fund, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Joint Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Fund. In addition to these development partners, several private sector entities have also provided important support to the United Nations in 2020.

The United Nations, the Government and development partners regularly met within the framework of the International Technical Assistance (ITA) coordination mechanism. The United Nations was a strong supporter

of the establishment of this three-tiered forum: the strategic tier, which meets at an annual forum chaired by the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the middle tier chaired by the Vice-Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, which semi-annually holds strategic discussions with heads of United Nations agencies and other international development partners, and importantly, the working-level tier, composed of 22 sectoral working groups co-chaired by relevant by line ministries and development partners. The United Nations is represented in nearly all sectoral working groups and co-chairs the groups on health, social policy, education, recovery and reintegration, and youth.

In addition to being actively involved in the ITA mechanism, the United Nations also closely engages bilaterally on policy, advocacy, as well as strategic planning and programming with the EU Delegation, EU member states and international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Chapter 1 Key developments in Ukraine and regional context



Ukraine’s socio-economic and political development in 2020 continued to be negatively affected by the prolonged conflict in the east, and since early in the year, the additional severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ukraine’s population and economy were hit hard by COVID-19. By the end of 2020, over 1 million Ukrainians had been infected with the new coronavirus, and 18,533 COVID-19-related deaths were recorded. The country’s GDP in 2020 declined by 4 percent (compared to 3.2 percent growth the year before), and 6.4 million Ukrainians fell into poverty. Those most affected were the vulnerable, including elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons working in the informal sector, the homeless, Roma, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, Ukrainian migrants who lost their work abroad, people living in conflict-affected areas, women, and families with children. The pandemic and subsequent healthcare response measures limited access to income, healthcare, education, social benefits, and pensions. Women took on more unpaid work at home.

Despite the significant shock to the economy, due to prudent macroeconomic management by the Government over the past years, the country was able to absorb the economic shock to some extent. Furthermore, the economic impact turned out to be less severe than initially anticipated. A full-scale lockdown lasted for a few months before being replaced at the end of the year with an “adaptive quarantine”, which has enabled many businesses to function, though many at reduced capacity. Domestic demand was also supported by a recovery in real wages, and continued remittance inflows from abroad.

The political environment also saw fluctuation with the appointment of a new Prime Minister in March, leading to several changes in the Cabinet of Ministers. Decentralization reforms have led to enhanced responsibility and increased resources to local communities. Local elections in October featured a record-low turnout (37 percent) with local parties and elites maintaining or gaining strength. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) [election](#) observation mission voiced concern over some aspects of the electoral process, including the Government’s decision to postpone elections in 18 communities located in the vicinity of the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

Implementation of the country’s reform agenda as per the Government Action Plan saw progress with the adoption of important legislation on agricultural land and banking, the revision of the national security concept, and a gradual increase in the accessibility of public services through digitalization. However, there are risks of setbacks to the reform agenda, as evidenced most recently by a Constitutional Court crisis, as well as changes in senior appointments of key institutions, raising concern over weakening of their independence, and eroding gains achieved in anti-corruption efforts. Moving forward, government efforts will be required to address these vulnerabilities and risks to ensure that reforms can continue unimpeded and to avoid backtracking.

2020 Government’s Action Programme	
Short-term priorities	Long-term priorities
Measures aimed at addressing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and stabilizing the economic situation in the country.	Public finances and economics National security and defence Rule of law and anti-corruption Human capital development Good governance.

The conflict in eastern Ukraine entered its seventh year and continued to affect the country’s political stability and security, as well as economic prospects while also taking a toll on the lives and livelihoods of millions of citizens living in conflict-affected Donetsk and Luhansk regions. International mediation efforts yielded limited results in 2020 with no major progress made

in the Trilateral Contact Group and Normandy Group negotiation formats. The exchanges of prisoners and detainees stalled, and progress on humanitarian, social and economic issues in the east remained limited. While the August 2020 ceasefire has largely held, the significant uptick of violations and unexploded ordnance (UXO) incidents in recent weeks has resulted in an increase of casualties as well as damage to civilian objects and critical infrastructure. In addition, compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, this has impeded access to critical humanitarian assistance and reduced civilian crossings over the contact line to a mere fraction of what they were a year ago. An estimated 3.4 million people in both government and non-government-controlled areas continue to face severe hardship, having only intermittent access to basic services including water, health, education and

heating, which therefore exacerbates the humanitarian situation.

In addition, in 2020 significant progress is to be noted in terms of investment in new road infrastructure in eastern Ukraine, as well as improved services, including the opening of new administrative services near the contact line. Infrastructure has also improved in other parts of the country.

Finally, through the framework of the Association Agreement and the Eastern Partnership initiative, Ukraine deepened its relations with the EU, including through the EU-Ukraine Summit in October, which culminated in the signing of several new agreements to support civil society, a climate package for a stable economy, and new energy efficiency programmes.

Chapter 2 United Nations socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic

The United Nations developed a comprehensive **United Nations Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) of COVID-19 in Ukraine** and **United Nations Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP)**. The assessment was based on primary data collected through approximately 60 field surveys investigating areas of impact, and on secondary data from various sources. The assessment aims to help Ukraine respond to the COVID-19 crisis and manage the complexity and uncertainty it poses.

These efforts, organized along the five pillars presented below, jump-started systematic monitoring and reporting of the impact of COVID-19 on human rights, and mapping of those who are in a situation of vulnerability.



Pillars of the UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19:



HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES



28,000 medical staff and **450** hospitals supported

In 2020, the United Nations supported the GoU with COVID-19 crisis management, providing policy advice

and ensuring quality monitoring. Assistance was provided in developing the national COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, which was regularly updated based on the evolving situation and needs. Furthermore, Ukraine's participation in the regional COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor was supported by the United Nations in line with international obligations on transparent reporting of the pandemic's evolution in the country.

FIELD VIEW



Approximately 1 million PPE items from WHO arrived in Kyiv on 22 June. The goods included 500,000 medical masks, 125,000 respirators, 25,000 gowns, 50,000 protective shields and 2,500 goggles and covered all PPE needs of 50 principal healthcare institutions designated for COVID-19 response by the Ministry of Health (MoH).



As part of its assistance to Ukraine, the United Nations provided life-saving biomedical equipment, laboratory equipment and consumables, personal protection equipment (PPE), and hand hygiene supplies and other equipment required for infection prevention and control, non-food items, oxygen sources and other engineering support. It supported around 450 COVID-19 dedicated hospitals throughout Ukraine with COVID-19 crisis webinars, off- and on-site mentoring, training, and workshops for medical staff.

Almost **28,000 medical and technical personnel** were further supported, regularly receiving supplies and consumables, guidelines on treatment, mentoring and clinical management toolkits. The Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Public Health Service also received training in COVID-19 case definition, laboratory testing and contact tracing.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND BASIC SERVICES



>50,000 people benefited with social protection schemes

2,060 schools and **1,625** examination centres equipped with hygiene supplies and info materials

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated social and economic challenges in Ukraine and disproportionately affected women and other vulnerable groups. As a result, the United Nations focused its response on helping the most vulnerable. Support was provided to children in conflict with the law, and children who had witnessed violence. Over 50,000 people benefited from social protection schemes and services related to the COVID-19 pandemic and 700,000 people were reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services.



The United Nations helped address the gender-related dimension of COVID-19. In Ukraine, during the first five months of 2020, the National Police registered 84,237 complaints related to family

violence (63,964 from women), 53 percent more than during the same period of the previous year. Psychosocial support mobile teams were established to support responses to gender-based violence (GBV). Information hotlines on COVID-19 were also supported, including one that provides online consultations to children, caregivers and youth, and one that provides consultations to potential migrants and Ukrainians abroad.

The United Nations also worked closely with development partners to guide the Ministry of Education and Science in its response to the pandemic. The United Nations provided financial and technical support to the development of lessons for grades 1-4 and partnered with private TV for sign language translations of 532 lessons for all grades. An assessment revealed that at least 60 percent of schools in Ukraine used TV lessons to facilitate learning during the lockdown. The United Nations also supported the State Institute of Educational Analytics to implement the National Assessment of School Preparedness to assess whether schools are ready to provide education and what is required to start offline education during the COVID-19 pandemic. The results were used by the Ministry to plan school re-openings. Further, the United Nations supported 2,060 schools across the country through the provision of infection prevention and hygiene supplies, as well as awareness-raising materials. Over 350,000 boys and girls were able to take final exams in person in 1,625 safe testing centres, which received from the United Nations infection prevention supplies and information materials on COVID-19 prevention.

Support was provided to the **Higher Court of Justice of Ukraine** to ensure that the courts of justice continue to operate with the required adaptation needed during the COVID-19 pandemic. **The Cabinet of Ministers,**

the MoH and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) were supported to ensure the safe management of local elections in late 2020.

ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY



600 private companies supported

the United Nations supported over 600 private sector companies and facilitated the translation, adaptation, and wide dissemination in Ukrainian of WHO, FAO and ILO tools and procedures on workplace adaptation to mitigate the risks of COVID-19. Three online training sessions on the role of occupation health and safety

measures at workplaces to mitigate the consequences of COVID-19, protect workers and ensure business continuity were followed by 6,000 workers' and employers' organizations, businesses and labour inspectors. The United Nations also supported migrants from the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and advocated for the inclusion of migrants and other vulnerable groups in COVID-19 recovery plans. Since March 2020, the United Nations supported a National Toll-Free Counter-Trafficking and Migrant Advice Hotline, which received on average 600 calls per month related to COVID-19.

SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The United Nations provided capacity-building support to employers and business membership organizations (EBMOs) and trade unions with a view to increase their participation in the development of socio-economic policy responses. The Federation of Employers of Ukraine (FEU) surveyed its 121 member enterprises, based on ILO's "enterprise survey tool", whose findings informed subsequent government anti-crisis policy decisions.

The United Nations supported the capacity building of 260 community-based organizations to respond to and mitigate the pandemic, fight against COVID-19-related domestic violence, racism, xenophobia, stigma and other forms of discrimination, and prevent and remedy human rights abuses. This covered organizations providing livelihoods support and basic services delivery, and women's and youth organizations.

FIELD VIEW



Since the beginning of the pandemic, the The United Nations Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme have been supporting the population of eastern Ukraine with lifesaving assistance. Through a joint UN programme, the healthcare providers in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts received 160 oxygen concentrators, 5 ventilators and 10 patient monitors, 1,860 medical protective suits, 45,552 valveless N95 respirators and 100 plastic defensive face-shields, as well as 42 containers of antiseptics to enable medical specialists to effectively and safely respond to the coronavirus disease. The United Nations procured seven artificial lung ventilations systems for the National Military Medical Clinical Centre "Main Military Clinical Hospital".

The United Nations facilitated the delivery of humanitarian convoys with COVID-19 relief from government-controlled areas (GCA) in eastern Ukraine to non-government-controlled areas (NGCA). The United Nations established a comprehensive

humanitarian support programme composed of both large-scale deliveries of supplies, and training and mentoring of medical professionals in NGCA to ensure diagnostics and clinical care for the population living in this area.



The United Nations further supported the Government by defining points of entry, initiating capacity building at these points, and by supporting the safe management of entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) in eastern Ukraine on both sides of the contact line. Several webinars on human rights issues and the impact of COVID-19 and

on addressing the issues of IDPs during lockdowns were also held.

Further on- and offline training sessions were conducted for mental health workers on immediate psychological support in crises. They also aim to support mental health management throughout the country.



CRISIS COMMUNICATION

The United Nations supported the development of the **National Risk Communication Strategy for COVID-19**. The United Nations regularly reached out

to the public to inform and educate audiences on COVID-19, and best practices to prevent infections.

Chapter 3 United Nations support to national development priorities

OVERVIEW OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS

The United Nations worked in 2020 with the Government, civil society and development partners to promote sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) along four pillars of the Ukraine-UN Partnership Framework 2018–2022:

- 1 Sustainable Economic Growth, Environment and Employment
- 2 Equitable Access to Quality and Inclusive Services and Social Protection
- 3 Democratic Governance, Rule of Law and Civic Participation
- 4 Human Security, Social Cohesion and Recovery with Particular Focus on Eastern Ukraine.

2020 Government's Action Programme	2018 – 2020 UNPF Priority Areas	UN Framework COVID-19
Finances and Economic development	PA1. Sustainable Economic Growth, Environment and Employment	Pillars 3 and 4 – Economic response and recovery
Human Capital Development	PA2. Equitable Access to Quality and Inclusive Services and Social Protection PA4. Human Security, Social Cohesion and Recovery with Particular Focus on Eastern Ukraine	Pillars 1 and 2 – Health and social protection
Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption	PA3. Democratic Governance, Rule of Law and Civic Participation	Pillar 5 – Social cohesion and community resilience
Good Governance	PA3. Democratic Governance, Rule of Law and Civic Participation PA4. Human Security, Social Cohesion and Recovery with Particular Focus on Eastern Ukraine	Pillar 5 – Social cohesion and community resilience
National Security and Defence	PA4. Human Security, Social Cohesion and Recovery with Particular Focus on Eastern Ukraine	
EU Green Deal	PA1. Sustainable Economic Growth, Environment and Employment	

The efforts of the United Nations under the four priority areas of the UNPF and United Nations COVID-19 socio-economic response plan (SERP) support the Government in achieving short- and long-term priorities of its Action Programme 2020 and all 17 SDGs.

Implementation of the UNPF in 2020 aimed at a budget of US\$200 million, with almost 95 percent provided by the Government and development partners in the country, including national, regional and global partners.

By the end of the year, the programme achieved a **delivery rate of 115 percent** (over \$231 million), with the balance carried over to 2021. For detailed information, see section *Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization*.

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$214,692,608
Available Resources (Annual)	\$200,025,419
Expenditure	\$230,646,964

Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual)) 115%

In 2020, the GoU prepared and submitted its first **Voluntary National Review (VNR)** of progress towards the achievement of the SDGs, which was developed through a consultative process with key ministries and central executive bodies, civil society, the United Nations and other international development partners. The United Nations provided advocacy and technical support throughout VNR

preparation, including ensuring that gender equality and the of “leaving no one behind” principle were properly reported across the SDGs. The VNR is a

key instrument to track progress towards Agenda 2030 and strategically map GoU commitments to achieve the SDGs.



GOAL 1
END POVERTY

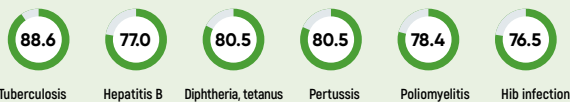
57.4% Share of the poor population covered by state social support in the total number of poor people



GOAL 3
HEALTHY LIVES AND WELL-BEING

14.9 Number of cases of maternal mortality, per 100,000 live births **8.2** Mortality of children under 5, cases per 1,000 live births

Immunization rate of children under 1 year according to the Preventive Vaccination Calendar for prevention of infectious diseases



GOAL 4
QUALITY EDUCATION

9.39 Number of full-time secondary school students per teacher, at the beginning of the school year

95.20% Share of rural full-time secondary schools with internet access

98.70% Share of rural full-time secondary schools, where computers are used in the educational process

35.14% Share of full-time secondary schools with inclusive education



GOAL 5
GENDER EQUALITY

130.500 Number of complaints regarding domestic violence

2,122 Number of child victims of abuse **8,337** Number of specialists trained in preventing and combating domestic violence



GOAL 6
CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

26.0% Share of the rural population with access to centralized water supply

3.4% Share of the rural population with access to a centralized water drain

89.5% Share of the urban population with access to centralized water supply

77.0% Share of the urban population with access to a centralized water drain



GOAL 8
DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

15.6% Share of youth not in employment, education or professional training in the total number of those aged 15–24



GOAL 9
INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

46 Population coverage with Internet services, subscribers per 100 persons



GOAL 10
REDUCE INEQUALITY

39.2% Share of rural households who suffered from deprivation due to lack of access to ambulance services in the settlement

29.6% Share of rural households who suffered from deprivation due to the lack of a medical facility near their home

24.4% Share of rural households who suffered from deprivation due to the lack of regular daily transport to another settlement with developed infrastructure



GOAL 11
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

86.1% Emissions of air pollutants from stationary sources to 2015 level

All United Nations interventions in 2020 are assessed and matched against the SDG goals and targets. Out of \$231 million invested in 2020, almost 84 percent is focused on driving progress towards achieving three SDGs: 47 percent focused on SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions); 32 percent on SDG 3 (Good health and well-being); and 5 percent on SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth).



United Nations in Ukraine contribution to SDGs in 2020

THE "LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND" PRINCIPLE

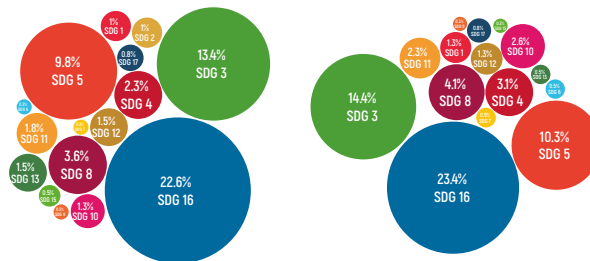
COVID-19 had a negative impact on the most vulnerable groups, including the poor, the elderly, people with underlying medical conditions, people residing along the contact line (notably in the NGCAs), people in detention and institutions, homeless people, Roma and persons with disabilities.

In 2020, the United Nations consistently highlighted the issue of child poverty with sound analysis and evidence-based advocacy. The United Nations has particularly highlighted the increasing poverty in eastern Ukraine due to the double crises of the armed conflict and COVID-19. In addition, the United Nations engaged at the highest level with the President of Ukraine and the First Lady, laying the ground for strengthening child rights advocacy as part of its advocacy for achieving the SDGs.

Civilians living in communities along the contact line were particularly impacted by the imposed restrictions and limitations of freedom of movement due of the COVID-19 pandemic. Access to basic services, including medical and social care, remains challenging for people of all ages, especially older persons, and people with disabilities in remote and isolated settlements. The disruption of public transportation further reduced the possibility to enjoy economic and social rights, in particular regarding access to livelihoods and employment.

In response, United Nations agencies' efforts under the 2018–2022 UNPF contributed significantly to gender

and human rights issues with a strong focus on SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), SDG 3 (Good health and well-being), SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 4 (Quality education), particularly on the most vulnerable groups.



This visual shows percent of KEY activities which have been tagged AS significant contribution (LEVEL 2) OR principle contribution (LEVEL 3)

The main challenges in achieving progress in UNPF implementation in 2020 were posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic downturn, which has exacerbated problems such as corruption, weak institutions and their accountability to citizens, and caused new bottlenecks. These bottlenecks include: restrictions on the freedom of movement; frequent reshuffling of government officials, both at the strategic and working levels; the slow pace of reforms; and the lack of a recent census and social development data combined with limited evidence-based decision-making processes. Another challenge was data availability and relevance for UNPF indicators monitoring since some targets are missing for the baseline and for 2020.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 1.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

AGENCIES: UNDP, ILO, UNIDO, UNFPA, UNHCR, FAO, UNICEF, WHO

13 CLIMATE ACTION	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
2 ZERO HUNGER	15 LIFE ON LAND	1 NO POVERTY	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR GOALS			
13 CLIMATE ACTION	29.89%	SDG 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Available Resources (Annual) \$2,765,347

EQUAL ACCESS TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT, WITH A FOCUS ON SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES.



OUTCOME 1.1

BY 2022, ALL WOMEN AND MEN, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE, EQUALLY BENEFIT FROM AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT THAT INCLUDES LABOUR MARKET, ACCESS TO DECENT JOBS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Given that the creation of decent jobs is one of the key elements of economic recovery, the United Nations in Ukraine supported the development of the Employment Policy Objectives and **Action Plan for Employment Policy Implementation and Jobs Creation for 2022**, adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 3 March 2020. To support

the implementation of this Action Plan, the United Nations provided a **Start and Improve Your Business** methodology to operationalize the state programme, 'Affordable Loans 5-7-9%' to provide affordable loans to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Since the start of the programme, participating banks have issued 10,369 loans amounting to UAH 25.5 billion (around \$910 million). To date, a total of 1,337 potential entrepreneurs aged 18 to 55 (of whom 60 percent women, 40 percent men) have been trained.

The United Nations was active at the subregional level, expanding direct assistance to local industries and entrepreneurs. A striking example is the completed **Agricultural Value Chain Assessments for Southern Donetsk and Southern Zaporizhzhia Oblasts**, which have identified potential areas for local economic and export growth.

To ensure the inclusivity of economic opportunities, the United Nations promoted the **ethical employment of migrant workers** and facilitated access to income-generating opportunities for vulnerable migrants and former victims of trafficking (VoTs). In 2020, the United Nations provided business training to 90 former VoTs (43 women, 47 men), of whom 60 (31 women, 29 men) received grants for micro-entrepreneurship and self-employment initiatives, advancing their economic self-sufficiency. This field of work was further supported by United Nations policy advice

to the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture of Ukraine (MoEDTA) on the **development of a draft law on the economic reintegration of labour migrants**.

Furthermore, having a distinct focus on assisting the most vulnerable groups in Ukraine, the United Nations also **supported refugee and asylum-seeking men, women and youth with business start-up grants** (70 grants: 15 female and 55 male beneficiaries), **language training (116 persons: 50 female and 66 male) and vocational training** (25 persons: 11 female and 14 male) to facilitate their self-reliance and economic inclusion.

The United Nations advocated with the GoU for access to decent jobs for asylum-seekers in Ukraine, and established new partnerships with the private sector to promote labour market opportunities for asylum-seekers and refugees in line with the leaving no one behind principle. The United Nations helped to introduce new procedures for determining the refugee status for applicants belonging to the lesbian, gays, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community, including those living with HIV. Evidence-based awareness raising on HIV/TB helped employees of the State Migration Service to implement non-discriminatory practices while working with asylum seekers, irrespective of their known or unknown HIV status.

FIELD VIEW



Refugees from Somalia, received UNHCR grant for business start-up to produce Somali spicy sauces. In the family with 6 children, the driving force of the business is the mother, Lul. Her 17 and 16 years old children, Ibrahim and Munila, help her with everything – from production to sales. A year after launching their business, Lul sauces enterprise received free of charge placement in the prestigious Silpo chain. The family has been in Ukraine for many years, relying on the occasional jobs, food packages in the accommodation center and sporadic remittances.

The United Nations has prioritized **youth employment** and the ability of youth to build and fulfil their potential in 2020 by supporting the **Ukrainian Pact for Youth initiative**. The initiative is a joint effort of business, the GoU and the educational sector to create partnerships between business and education, and to provide first employment and internship opportunities for youth. The initiative was renewed in September 2020, focusing on new challenges by 2025.



The year 2020 marked the end of this five-year, historic joint initiative, publicly recognized as the largest partnership initiative between the public and private sectors, bringing together more than 148 employers who jointly created more than 45,000 jobs for youth. The initiative was recognized by CSR Europe as one

of the best practices for youth in Europe, and the United Nations global initiative “Decent Jobs for Youth” recognized PACT for Youth as one of the best examples in the world of implementing SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

IMPROVED LABOUR STANDARDS

To ensure **fair, safe and healthy working conditions**, the United Nations closely supported the drafting of the legal act transposing the **EU Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Framework Directive**, as well as the alignment of national labour legislation with several other International and European Labour Standards on employment relationships. Practical application of this new legislation has been facilitated by the United

Nations by introducing **risk management systems in the Ukrainian mining industry**. This included **development of the OSH profile for Ukraine** and the piloting of the risk management system in the Stepova coal mine. Following a positive evaluation, the Ministry of Energy and the social partners will extend support beyond 2020.

SUPPORT AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS

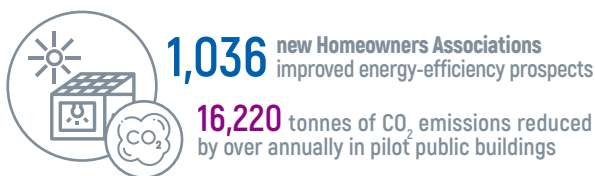
For rural communities in Ukraine, adequate value chains combined with robust climate change resilience are essential for livelihoods. The United Nations is working to **improve agri-food production chains and access to markets**, focusing on supporting small-scale farmers, value chain development, and technical and policy development for the public and private sectors. A significant example of this work in 2020 is the **reinforcement of the cooperatives’ legal framework**. The United Nations and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development welcomed the GoU passing landmark legislation, for which they advocated for many years. This legislation paved the way for **modern agricultural cooperation in Ukraine**. The legislation supports the creation of agricultural cooperatives that can improve farmers’ productivity and increase their access to high quality inputs by securing access to modern technologies, technical advice, financing, and markets, both at home and abroad, thus strengthening their bargaining power.

As a result of United Nations support in this area, 152 local enterprises and over 200,000 women and men **improved their livelihoods and economic opportunities** through multi-stakeholder, sustainable development initiatives in the areas of local economic development, energy efficiency, waste management and sustainable transportation. In addition, more than 350 participants completed a Farmer Field School (FFS) one-day training session on conservation and smart agriculture practices. Among the participants, there were 144 farmers who employed their new learning on their farms, which totalled 248 220 ha of arable land.

OUTCOME 1.2

BY 2022, NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, PRIVATE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITIES IMPLEMENT GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PRESERVATION OF ECOSYSTEMS, MITIGATION, ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND GENERATION OF GREEN JOBS.

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIVE PUBLIC POLICIES



In 2020, the United Nations continued to contribute towards **strengthening the capacities of the Environmental Committee of Ukraine’s Parliament** and developing legislation to support Ukraine’s

alignment with the commitments under the Paris Agreement and the EU Green Deal.

The United Nations has further contributed to **improving the assessment of environmental risks**. The online Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Registry, developed by the United Nations, has been adopted by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. The United Nations’ construction of an **innovative subsurface drip**

irrigation technology, combined with conservation agriculture, created better soil protection in degraded areas and resulted in a 10 percent higher efficiency and profitability for farmers. The United Nations and

the Parliament of Ukraine are working to combat open burning and to better facilitate the creation and **restoration of shelterbelts**.

FIELD VIEW



In Ukraine, 400 hectares of the forest shelterbelts protect 13 million hectares of arable land and agricultural landscapes. However, a weak policy framework leaves ownership rights ambiguous. Without clear responsibilities, the forest shelterbelts are neglected and the crops they protect are left vulnerable. Through the Integrated Natural Resources Management in Degraded Landscapes project, farmers are receiving the tools and know-how to rehabilitate land and grow more diverse crops. With support from FAO and partners, the Ukrainian Ministry of Ecology and Environmental Protection is collaborating with leading Ukrainian experts and the Institute of Water Problem and Land Reclamation to restore the shelterbelts by developing frameworks for better land and forest management and equipping farmers with methods to sustainably boost their livelihoods.

The United Nations further contributed to **improving the water quality** in river basins through the transposition of the EU Water Framework Directive into national law, which involves the development of **River Basin Management Plans** (one of the national SDG indicators) and, in particular, in collaboration with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the development of the Siverskyi-Donets BMP in eastern Ukraine, being the river that is

the source of water supply for most of the population of Donbas.

Finally, the United Nations launched the **Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC)**, which will show climate, energy and environmental (CEE) issues through the prism of the children's programmes implemented in Ukraine.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The United Nations has actively supported the GoU with the development of an energy efficiency policy. In particular, the United Nations has facilitated the review of the draft law on energy efficiency, developed for the implementation of the EU's Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU), and offered key policy advice to the Ministry of Environment on the energy efficiency first principle.

To stimulate Ukraine's active green transition, the United Nations contributed to improving the capacity of the GoU to draft the **Roadmap for the production and use of hydrogen** to support a green, post-COVID-19 recovery. The development of infrastructure to produce and use hydrogen in Ukraine will facilitate its economic recovery in an environmentally friendly manner.

In 2020, the United Nations continued to support **energy efficiency measures in the housing sector**

by facilitating the establishment of **1,036 new Homeowners' Associations (HOAs)**. This brought the total number to 1,861 of fully formed HOAs established in Ukraine with United Nations support. The United Nations also strengthened the operational and management capacities of 5,545 newly created and existing HOAs. Eighty percent of the **created HOAs aim to renovate their buildings for energy efficiency**. Furthermore, through improved energy efficiency measures, the United Nations contributed to the reduction of CO₂ emissions by over 16,220 tonnes annually in pilot public buildings.

The United Nations supported the development of the **National Adaptation Strategy by 2030**. Cumulatively, in 2019 and 2020, over 2 million m³ of water was replenished after cleaning work at hydrotechnical installations in Chernihiv Oblast. This improved the air quality for over 100,000 residents while preserving an ecosystem on 6,000 ha.

ENHANCING THE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY, COMPETITIVENES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF UKRAINIAN COMPANIES

In 2020, the United Nations continued to support the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centre (RECPC), which focuses on the adoption of **resource-efficient and cleaner production methods**. RECPC provided technical assistance to and in-plant assessments of 170 Ukrainian companies with 686 RECP options identified, resulting in the following savings in 2020: 57 options for 17 companies; energy 8,100 MWh; raw materials 53 t; water 1,900 m³; CO2 emissions 2,100 t CO2-eq; and economic savings EUR 300,000.

The **circular economy and waste management** is another area that strengthens the environmental sustainability of Ukrainian industry through supporting the **draft law on waste management** and the draft law on energy efficiency. The United Nations developed and customized the guidelines and best practices for

MSMEs to assure resiliency and progress towards a circular economy in sustainable resources management and critical raw material supply chain solutions in Ukraine.

In 2020, the United Nations partnered with the European Space Agency (ESA) to **analyse the impact of COVID-19 lockdown on air quality** in Ukraine. Earth Observation Data were used to locate air pollution hotspots, patterns and changes that occurred during the spring lockdown. This study provided decision makers in Ukraine with tools for improving situational awareness, enabling early warning systems (EWS) and supporting the planning of mitigation measures in the air quality. These methods will be further explored to estimate the feasibility of the application in the national SDGs monitoring.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 2. EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY AND INCLUSIVE SERVICES AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

AGENCIES: UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNODC, UNAIDS, UNOPS, OHCHR



OUTCOME 2
BY 2022, WOMEN AND MEN, GIRLS AND BOYS, EQUITABLY BENEFIT FROM INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION, UNIVERSAL HEALTH SERVICES AND QUALITY EDUCATION



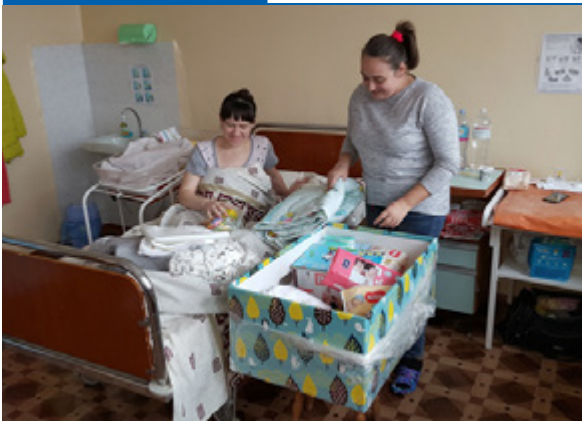
SOCIAL PROTECTION

INCREASED ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES AND IMPROVED SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE. The United Nations provided support and technical assistance to strengthen access to social services. With United Nations’ support, the municipalities conducted consultations on local planning and budgeting with a view to introducing integrated social services (i.e. bringing together different services under one roof), and ensuring results. The United Nations also supported vulnerable populations in accessing social and public services, and providing capacity building to professionals to ensure appropriate support for VoTs, IDPs and survivors of GBV, among others. Direct

services were also provided by the United Nations when the social infrastructure in place was unable to provide the needed support to the VoTs. The United Nations supported the rehabilitation of over 100 social infrastructure facilities, including hospitals, kindergartens and schools, hostels for IDPs, and water and power supply systems.

A further visible example of the United Nations’ partnership with the GoU was the distribution of 120,000 baby boxes to new-born children, contributing to their health, safety and well-being.

FIELD VIEW



Zhaskiv hospital, 28 January 2020: the mother of a newborn looking at the baby box contents provided by UNICEF and UNOPS.

EXPANDING POLICY DIALOGUE / SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY AT ALL LEVELS. United Nations policy support and advocacy led to significant improvements in the social protection policy framework. The United Nations provided technical support and expertise in the drafting of the new **Occupational Safety and Health Legal Framework, in line with EU requirements.** The United Nations supported Ukraine in implementing its **National Strategy on Reforming Justice for Children**, including by developing programmes for the resocialization of juveniles using the available public services and social infrastructure. Measures to increase child and youth participation in local-level

policy dialogues were also implemented, leading to meaningful child and youth participation in the local planning and development of **Ukraine's National Youth Strategy.** The United Nations' high-level interventions led to the adoption of the Presidential Decree, **"On Urgent Measures to Prevent and Combat Domestic and Gender-Based Violence and Protect the Rights of Survivors"** and the launch of a new state programme to support this strategy. The United Nations also introduced new approaches to 'gatekeeping' for the prevention of institutionalization and the promotion of family reunification of children. Moreover, the concept of integrated social services was considered in the development of the National Law on Social Services.

Research, studies, and assessments. The United Nations also contributed to improving social protection by publishing and disseminating assessments, research and studies. The first national assessment of existing alternative care systems was conducted and formed the basis of recommendations for a National Plan of Action. A **Youth Well-Being Index**, an evidence-based instrument that allows to monitor and assess the well-being of youth, including their access to public services, was launched at the municipal level in seven new cities. The initiative serves as a tool for local policymakers to determine the priority areas for investment in youth development by identifying inequalities and vulnerabilities of youth that require targeted intervention through the implementation of special programmes and projects

HEALTH

GOVERNANCE AND REFORM. Several achievements were reached within the fields of health governance and health system reform. The United Nations continued to support the national health sector and financing reform process by providing expert technical advice and financial contributions, and by promoting policy dialogue in line with the SDGs and international health regulations, and following a human rights-based and gender-sensitive approach.

Support to the MoH led to the development of several national-level strategies and guidelines. The United Nations provided technical and expert support towards the drafting of the **National Drug Strategy 2021–2030**, which is expected to be officially approved in 2021. Furthermore, **Clinical Guidelines for Opiate Dependence Treatment** were developed and approved by the MoH. Expert support for the National Council on TB and HIV/AIDS also continued to be provided, towards the development of the **2020 Annual Plan of the Council.**

To prevent a feared rolling back of health financing reform, the United Nations engaged in policy dialogue with the MoH, the Parliamentary Health Care Committee and other partners, providing strategic and evidence-based advice. Furthermore, with United Nations assistance, the National Judges Platform on HIV/TB and Health Rights developed the **Compendium of Law Cases regarding HIV/TB** to inform lawmakers as national reforms continued to be implemented. The creation of an All-Party Parliamentary Platform on Human Rights and Socially Dangerous Diseases was also supported, which provides a forum for lawmakers to discuss these topics. At the local level, the United Nations also continued to support cities to implement **Human Rights and Healthy City Action Plans.**

Numerous reports, surveys and studies were also developed to support and inform policy dialogue. The United Nations prepared the **Budgetary Space for Health in Ukraine** policy document. The results of the **STEPwise approach to surveillance (STEPS) survey**

were taken on board and implemented by the GoU and health partners. Further studies were also completed, and the recommendations shared with the GoU, including the studies, **State of Tobacco Control**, and **Progress on the Health-Related SDGs**.

IMPROVEMENT OF EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SERVICES. The United Nations supported Ukraine in improving equitable access to health services, engaged in advocacy, conducted research, and organized capacity building for healthcare professionals. In addition, the United Nations continued to directly support the GoU to deliver its HIV/TB, viral hepatitis and opioid substitution therapy (OST) commitments. As a result of this engagement, **Ukraine currently has the most extensive HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis programme in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**. Similarly, support was provided to strengthen the quality of care for mental health, including through the deployment of mobile teams and online psychosocial counselling. The United Nations also facilitated the capacity building of regional health systems to comprehensively manage cases of GBV and provide service to survivors.

The United Nations also engaged in advocacy for gender-sensitive and youth-friendly services, leading to an amendment in the **National Plan for the Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV**.

Research and studies also continued in 2020, leading to the **White Paper on Service Delivery** developed with United Nations support, bringing together the leadership of the MoH and the National Health Service, as well as hundreds of service providers to discuss and identify recommendations for reform. Similarly, the United Nations supported the **Study on the Status of Rehabilitation Services**, with the adopted recommendations flowing into the new **National Rehabilitation Regulation**, adopted in late 2020. The recommendations from the **Study on Primary Needs and Barriers to Accessing Health and Social**

EDUCATION

Inclusive primary and secondary education. The GoU continued to endorse **the Safe and Child-Friendly Schools (SCFS) model** to integrate the principles of a child-friendly, safe and protective learning environment, particularly in the conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine. The United Nations helped implement SCFS in 50 schools located along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine.

The United Nations and partners developed a Cyrillic font that helps mitigate difficulties caused by dyslexia.

Services among People Who Use Drugs are also being used to develop a new modus operandi in service delivery for people who use drugs. The **Mapping of Treatment Facilities** was also completed, facilitating the monitoring of drug consumption, and ensuring a responsive treatment system.

The United Nations also supported national partners in raising awareness on health services, within the frameworks of the National Physical Activity Campaign and World No Tobacco Day.



Immunization, vaccines and the infodemic. The United Nations continued to assist the MoH in essential routine vaccination efforts by supporting the Measles and Rubella Elimination Plan, monitoring regular immunization coverage, and providing technical advice to health partners. Since the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic threatened to reduce regular vaccination coverage, the United Nations combined advocacy and public dialogue on immunization with continued policy support, capacity development and targeted messaging, leading to the addition of one new vaccine to the routine immunization calendar. To increase preparedness, surveillance and laboratory systems continued to be supported. Finally, the United Nations conducted research on the ongoing *infodemic* of false and misleading information about the pandemic, and formulated recommendations to the GoU and the public.

This is the first time that such a font is developed for the Cyrillic alphabet. Starting in 2020, the font was used in textbooks and visual learning material for grades 1 and 2 of four pilot schools. Upon receiving positive results from the pilot, the Ministry of Education will endorse the font for use in educational materials across Ukraine. The font is available as an open-source public good: <https://github.com/Social-Synergy/inclusion-UKR>

The United Nations continues its efforts in ensuring gender-sensitive education through the capacity

building of teachers, hackathons for educators as well as publishers and authors of school textbooks on creating non-discriminative text and visual content. Overall, 65 percent of publishing houses of school textbooks have been capacitated by the United Nations to create modern educational content free from stereotypes.



The number of textbooks dominated by the discriminatory practices fell down from **86% in 2016** to **2% in 2020**



In 2020, at the request of the Ministry of Education, the United Nations conducted research on attitudes of teachers and parents to the comprehensive sexuality education, which **confirmed the overwhelming support of parents (89 percent) and teachers (92 percent) for formal and informal comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)**. An interdepartmental working group on the development of the CSE concept will be formed by the Ministry in early 2021.



Based on the request from the Ministry of Education and Science to ensure the comprehensive early prevention of human trafficking, the United Nations supported the development and approval of additional gender-sensitive trafficking prevention educational materials for children studying in primary school (grades 1–4). Twenty-five schools from four oblasts of Ukraine were chosen as pilots. Overall, 79 teachers (78 women and 1 man) were trained on how to roll out the developed counter-trafficking educational lessons in primary schools. They approved it among 2,851 primary school students (51 percent girls and 49 percent boys).

SUPPORT TO SAFE EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT. Innovative mechanisms and

platforms were implemented to engage young people on a variety of civic matters. With the schools' closure in March and consequent frustration, anxiety and increased violence among students, the United Nations conducted a course consisting of 55 online workshops, "Solving conflicts in digital space", reaching 2,177 adolescents and 1,883 adults. The course promoted non-violent communication in solving conflicts that arise in digital learning circumstances. The United Nations piloted peer support intervention to increase adolescents' resilience in these challenging times. Fifty peer volunteers were trained to provide emotional support to adolescents via a web-based service. They engaged 900 adolescents in need of appropriate self-care while referring them to professional mental health and violence response services. More than 100,000 were reached by an awareness-raising campaign.

The United Nations extended the roll-out of skills development based on school programmes, "*Skills Lab: Self-Employment*" and "*Skills Lab: Career to Success*"; in 14 regions of Ukraine engaging more than 300 young people. The "*Skills Lab: Career to Success*" online course was launched on the Impactorium Platform with over 1,200 participants registered. The ProSkills Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized for 30 summer camp trainers, psychologists, teachers, methodologists and specialists from youth centres in Donetsk and Luhansk region to prepare them for the further introduction of the ProSkills programme in their work with adolescents aged 14–17. Participants of the ProSkills ToT continued their work by further conducting both offline and online ProSkills training for almost 230 boys and girls of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including those living near the contact line.

The United Nations contributed to the promotion of life skills learning by developing an innovative online **educational quest** on safe employment aimed at raising awareness of Ukrainians about the risks of abusive and fraudulent practices during job recruitment and job placement processes. The main goal of the online educational quest is to develop critical thinking skills of users in real-life situations and educate them on how to identify risky situations that might lead to human trafficking. Over 23,000 Ukrainians (of whom 48 percent youth under 25) have already completed the quest since its launch on 1 October 2020, received customized feedback on the safety of their choices during the educational quest, and were provided with employment and migration safety advice, as well as contacts of the IOM-supported Counter-Trafficking and Migrant Advice Hotline 527 and www.worksafe.org.ua website.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 3.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION

AGENCIES: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, ILO, UN WOMEN, UNOPS, UNHCR, IOM



OUTCOME 3

BY 2022, WOMEN AND MEN, GIRLS AND BOYS PARTICIPATE IN DECISION-MAKING AND ENJOY HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER EQUALITY, EFFECTIVE, TRANSPARENT AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY PUBLIC SERVICES.

UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO THE COMPLETION OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY FOR 2021–2023 AND ITS ACTION PLAN. This support included new sections prepared by the United Nations on remedy and reparations to civilian victims of the conflict, enhancing gender mainstreaming at the national and local levels, and ensuring non-discrimination and the promotion of social cohesion. Furthermore, the United Nations proposed several additional amendments, such as those related to: the right to a fair trial and accountability of violation of this right; the non-discrimination of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders, and intersex and queer persons, Roma, persons with disabilities; freedom of the media; freedom of peaceful assembly; rights at work; right to social protection; the right to education; human rights awareness; and rights of detainees, IDPs and residents of armed group-controlled territory. This work was informed by **the assessment of the National Human Rights Strategy Implementation (2016–2019)**, which reviewed key achievements in implementing the Strategy’s Action Plan, challenges, and the next steps needed to advance human rights in Ukraine, which were summarized and provided to the Ministry of Justice.

COMBATTING SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE. The United Nations advanced this issue at the legislative and policy levels by developing and sharing with the Ukrainian authorities a set of recommendations that included concrete suggestions. An example includes integrating the issue of combating conflict-related sexual

violence into relevant legislative initiatives for the development of the system of transitional justice, international criminal law and humanitarian law, which was then led to the Draft Law No. 2689.



Dissemination of Safety Plans for GBV Survivors by Police (May 2020).

Similarly, the United Nations provided relevant comments to a draft **National Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security**, aimed at ensuring better compliance until 2025, including strengthening the process of investigating conflict-related sexual violence in line with international standards. Furthermore, following a thorough assessment, the United Nations developed an **Early Warning Indicators Matrix** for the GoU, which will help promote a comprehensive approach to preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence in Ukraine.

In addition, with United Nations support, in 2020, the Barnhaus model was first piloted in Ukraine, in accordance with an Order of the President on combating domestic violence. On 21 September 2020, Ukraine adopted the Presidential Decree “On Urgent Measures to Prevent and Combat Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, and Protect the Rights of Victims of Such Violence”.

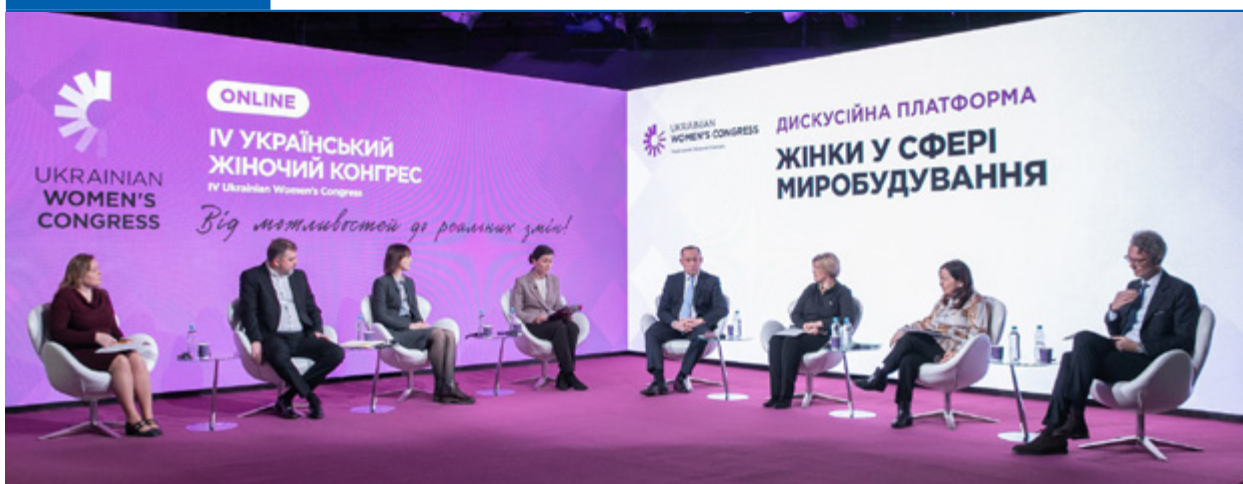
EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION in the context of the COVID-19 response, among other contexts. In this regard, **information and legal support were provided to 3,465 women and men, and a medicine procurement programme was supported, which enabled**

over **798,140** patients to access medical treatment and state-funded medicines.

Support was also provided to develop new legal frameworks and update existing ones that promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination, including of people with disabilities, and to counter gender-based discrimination. In 2020, with United Nations support, the Parliament and the GoU amended the electoral code to strengthen sanctions for the non-compliance with a 40 percent gender

quota (Law of Ukraine of 16.07.2020 No. 805-IX). The GoU also strengthened the institutional and coordination mechanisms of the national gender machinery by establishing a Coordination Commission for Ensuring Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men (Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 784 of 02.09.2020) and by institutionalizing the positions of gender advisers and gender units at executive bodies at national and regional levels (Resolution of the CMU No. 930 of 9 October 2020).

FIELD VIEW

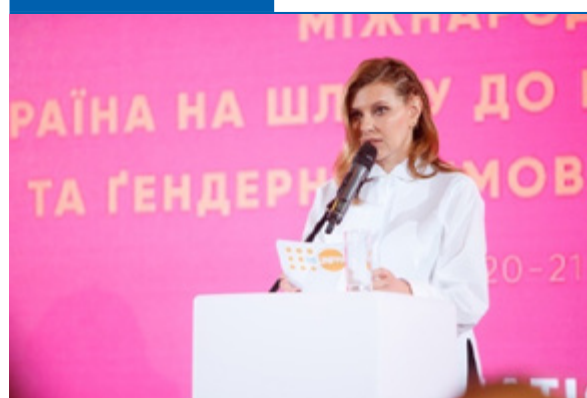


IV Ukrainian Women's Congress supported by the UN.

Another notable achievement in 2020 was the **adoption of a law establishing the procedure for determining statelessness** that, once implemented, will establish a procedure for the state authorities to determine the nationality or statelessness of undocumented individuals, allowing them to establish a legal identity. Also, in part due to the United Nations' advocacy efforts, in June 2020, the **Electoral Code was amended to allow persons who are not official residents in the constituency to change their voting address to their current address**, thereby improving the situation of, *inter alia*, IDPs, and also of students and other persons living outside of their official place of residence. This gives additional effect to the abolishment of the *propiska* (both a residency permit and a migration-recording), which was declared unconstitutional in 2001. In addition, Draft Law No. 3695 was adopted by the Parliament of Ukraine in a first reading in December 2020, which provides for equal opportunities for mothers and fathers to care for their children, improve men's caregiving practices as well as remove legislative gaps restricting a man's right to paternity leave, in compliance with the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine, and as one of the Biarritz Partnership commitments. Also, following concerted United Nations advocacy to address the

human rights situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation (hereafter Crimea), the freedom of movement between Crimea and mainland Ukraine for certain categories of children was further simplified. Similarly, following United Nations advocacy, the National Bank of Ukraine amended its resolution, which contributed to the discriminatory exclusion of Crimeans from the full spectrum of banking services in Ukraine.

FIELD VIEW



First Lady Opens International GBV Forum (February 2020).



The United Nations has contributed to increasing the efficiency and transparency of migration management in Ukraine. This was achieved through the automation of business processes of the State Migration Service of Ukraine (SMS), the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGS) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (MFA). A Common Biometric Matching System

accelerates the delivery of services by the relevant authorities and contributes to the mitigation of corruption risks in the sphere of migration management. However, the full use of several developed solutions will be possible after the adoption of several legislative acts aimed at the provision of a comprehensive regulation for capturing and processing biometric data of foreigners and stateless persons. The United Nations has supported the GoU with necessary recommended changes in the legislation.

UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN ON HATE SPEECH. In 2020, the United Nations strengthened its joint approach to combating hate speech, which resulted in several achievements. For example, based on the Secretary-General’s Strategy and Action Plan on hate speech, **on 1 May 2020, the United Nations adopted a Ukraine-specific Action Plan on Hate Speech.** The United Nations contributed to strengthening the capacity of the Ombudsperson’s Office representatives on hate speech through training, which resulted in an increased number of incidents recorded and condemned by the relevant authorities, including by state and municipal officials, and religious leaders. Collaboration within the United Nations and with the Ombudsperson Office on hate speech through early warning advocacy also resulted in the prevention of an escalation of hate speech and hate-motivated violence.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 4.
HUMAN SECURITY, SOCIAL COHESION AND RECOVERY WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON EASTERN UKRAINE
 AGENCIES: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, OHCHR, UN WOMEN, UNOPS, UNHCR, IOM



OUTCOME 4
 BY 2022, COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING VULNERABLE PEOPLE AND IDPS, ARE MORE RESILIENT AND EQUITABLY BENEFIT FROM GREATER SOCIAL COHESION, QUALITY SERVICES AND RECOVERY SUPPORT

SUPPORT TO REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON QUALITY, NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND EQUITABLE SOCIAL SERVICES IN EASTERN UKRAINE. The United

Nations provided support and technical assistance to strengthen access to social services, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations and eastern Ukraine. New models of integrated social services, bringing together different services under one roof with a single website, were launched in eastern Ukrainian cities.



Integrated social services for families with children were strengthened through the capacity-building of case

managers, addressing the social and gender-specific needs of vulnerable families with children while training community specialists and decision-makers on social service design, planning and budgeting.



Through a joint United Nations programme focusing on eastern Ukraine, 360,000 persons living in conflict areas (57 percent women) benefited from improved social infrastructure and quality public services. United Nations agencies and partners also ensured the provision of safe drinking water to over 600,000 people in eastern Ukraine during 2020.

Women and men, including those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in conflict-affected Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts benefited from 21 local socio-economic development strategies, 16 target programmes, 30 budget programmes and five programmes on socio-economic development, all of which supported by the United Nations. All of these strategic documents are more gender-responsive, conflict-sensitive and inclusive of the needs of community members, including the most vulnerable, and aligned with the SDGs. Effective participation of citizens in the political lives of their communities improves their sense of agency and belonging, and their receptiveness to alternative views and increased confidence that decision-making processes are proceeding in a participatory and inclusive manner contributes to their support for reintegration.

The Second National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325) was developed and adopted in 2020. Grassroots women leaders from 36 target communities in the east engaged in the development of the new NAP 1325. The United Nations helped to amplify women's voices by facilitating their participation in online multi-level consultations and strategic sessions. More than 50 percent of the proposed recommendations were reflected as goals and tasks in the new NAP 1325. Twenty-one Local Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 Women, Peace and Security (LAPs 1325) were monitored, costed and budgeted to strengthen and accelerate their effective operationalization of the Women, Peace and Security

agenda at the local level. Finally, the United Nations applied a gender accessibility audit tool to identify barriers restricting the access of women with disabilities to public infrastructure and services in eastern Ukraine, and shared its recommendations with the Government.

FIELD VIEW



UNDP in Ukraine, in partnership with the Government of Canada, has transferred a mobile Administrative Service Centre (ASC) to Sievierodonetsk community in Luhansk Oblast. Every Tuesday, mobile ASC with three administrators on board, travels to several villages and provides public and administrative services for local residents.

Positive trends have been identified towards increased citizens' trust and participation in the United Nations target locations. An increasing proportion of citizens in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts now trust the local government to respond to their needs. In addition, the share of those who are actively engaged in civic activities has also increased by 9 percent in recent years. Pre-COVID-19 estimates also showed an increase in the level of social optimism among the conflict-affected population: from 24.5 percent to 43.5 percent in Donetsk Oblast, and from 21.2 percent to 39.3 percent in Luhansk Oblast. This is connected to positive expectations from the new authorities at different levels, as well as with signs of transformation, economic stabilization and potential for reintegration.



STRENGTHENED SOCIAL COHESION AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY-BASED SECURITY. During

2020, the United Nations supported the Regional Oblast Authorities in Donetsk and Luhansk in developing their Regional Development Strategies for the period until 2027, which includes strategic goals aimed at renewed, competitive economy, increased quality of life and human development, gender equality, as well as efficient governance and greater environmental security. These strategic documents are also aligned with the SDGs and directly contribute to their localization in conflict-affected communities of eastern Ukraine.



Forty-eight Community Security Working Groups now operate in the target communities of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts, providing space for police-community dialogue, information exchange, discussions on security issues, and interaction among the local authorities, security providers and community members. This work has helped the conflict-affected population to feel safer in their communities. For example, the percentage of persons who fear walking alone in their communities has decreased by 6 percent and satisfaction with the quality of security services provided with United Nations support has increased, from 65 percent to 75 percent. Similarly, compared to non-target communities, target communities expressed more confidence in their local administrations

KEY CHALLENGES

Key challenges impeding development were posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent socio-economic downturn, as well as by slow reversal of reforms, accompanied by significant governance risks.

1. THE COVID-19 IMPACT

The pandemic and associated measures also caused **unexpected interruptions and/or significant delays** in the implementation of activities, and contributed to the added marginalization, discrimination, and at times criminalization of vulnerable groups. The subsequent **economic downturn** exacerbated the negative impact of the pandemic, diminishing opportunities for decent

as providers of protection and security services. According to a recent survey, most respondents were confident that the authorities would be easy to contact (87.4 percent in target communities vs. 74.7 percent in non-target communities) and willing to help (71 percent in target communities vs. 60.6 percent in non-target communities) if they were victims of a crime.

COMBATING SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, AND ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE RESPONSE MECHANISMS.

Communities in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts benefited from socio-economic development programmes, which include measures aimed at preventing gender-based discrimination and violence against women and girls. This result was achieved due to the tailored capacity development on gender mainstreaming provided to the local authorities by the United Nations, as well as due to the increased knowledge of women from self-help groups on prevention and combating of violence against women and their meaningful participation in local decision-making. The city of Rubizhne adopted a pioneering programme on preventing and combating sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces (Safe Cities Programme).



employment and access to essential public services, and increasing people's vulnerability to trafficking, exploitation and abuse. The **infodemic** of fake news regarding vaccines also led to increased hesitance for routine vaccinations covering infectious diseases and further complicating advocacy in this regard.

In March 2020, all **entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) in eastern Ukraine were closed** in order to contain the further spread of COVID-19. Since the introduction of the quarantine measures, most of the EECPs remained closed, with only two out of seven EECPs partially operational. When comparing the last 11 months, from 1 April 2020 until 28 February 2021 with the same

period in 2019–2020, it emerges that the total number of crossings decreased by 97.3 percent. It decreased from 12.5 million crossings overall in 2019–2020 to 350,000 in 2020–2021. According to **United Nations estimates, the closure has impacted more than one million people, including over 300,000 elderly persons and 163,000 vulnerable persons**, who have not been able to access services or withdraw cash.

Moreover, access to justice and the guarantee of a public trial were also affected by COVID-19 restrictions. Some courts denied observers and journalists access to premises, and many obstacles to equal access persisted in the digitalization of administration of justice. The **impact on the economic and social rights of groups in vulnerable situations** also risked reversing progress towards the Agenda 2030 and the pledge to leave no one behind. This particularly concerns groups in vulnerable situations, particularly women and girls within these groups, including Roma, persons with disabilities, older persons, those living in long-term care facilities, and persons living in homelessness. In addition, the pandemic exacerbated existing vulnerabilities and created new ones.

2. GOOD GOVERNANCE RISKS

As in previous years, the main challenge remains the **slow pace of reform** to shift the deeply-rooted systemic corruption towards a more efficient political and economic architecture that fully addresses the needs of citizens. While it is important to acknowledge that the Government remains committed to the reform agenda and that there has been tangible progress achieved in 2020, greater efforts are needed, and there remains a risk that hard-won gains could be reversed, as demonstrated by a **Constitutional crisis at the end of 2020**. Beyond the social and economic setbacks from the COVID-19 in,

key obstacles for greater progress include weak political will and lack of ownership over the reform agenda by some political elites, a lack of institutional capacities, as well as insufficient communication to the wider public on the need for reforms across all sectors.

Another obstacle has been the **high turnover of decision makers and government officials, at the strategic and operational levels**, including the replacement of the GoU in May 2020 after only six months into its tenure. In addition, a number of officials holding key positions in critical institutions were dismissed, such as the former Prosecutor-General, the former Governor of the National Bank, and the heads of the State Fiscal and State Customs services. This has resulted in a lack of clarity regarding policy priorities and a discontinuation of dialogue on reform implementation and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **lack of a recent census and social development data combined with limited evidence-based decision-making hampered the GoU in making informed decisions**. Social protection data systems are not inclusive, lacking the capacity to adequately identify and register people belonging to vulnerable groups. The lack of comprehensive and quality data significantly reduces the Government's effectiveness in resource allocation for social protection.

Although not necessarily related to the conflict, partners have raised concerns over the risk of the disruption of essential services during this transitional stage due to multiple reforms taking place simultaneously, most of which are still incomplete and not always synchronized. This has already required adjustments from the United Nations in order to support local authorities and will most likely remain a challenge for a significant period in 2021.

SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

In 2020, the United Nations consolidated its partnership with public, civil and private sector stakeholders, as well as development partners.

The United Nations reaffirmed its partnership with the GoU through engagement with the President and the provision of technical and financial support to the Ministries of Digital Transformation, Education and Science, Health, Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, Social Policy, and Youth and Sports. The United Nations also worked closely with the First Lady of Ukraine in support of

the No Barrier National Strategy and the G7 Biarritz Partnership for Gender Equality; this cooperation led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between United Nations agencies and the First Lady. Within the collaboration around the Biarritz Partnership for Gender Equality, the United Nations facilitated Ukraine's membership in the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC). Having obtained EPIC membership, Ukraine became the second country in the world (after Canada) to reach full tripartite (government, employers' and workers' organizations) EPIC participation.



Another milestone was the launch of the first VNR of the implementation of the SDGs submitted by the Government in 2020. As a result of extensive United Nations advocacy and technical support, the report brought together the Government, development partners and civil society, and identified successes to date as well as challenges in ensuring that the 2030 Agenda is implemented. The United Nations also supported the preparation of the 2020 SDG Monitoring Report.

Ukraine's Ministry of Digital Transformation and the United Nations signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at cementing their partnership in advancing the SDGs for Ukraine based on principles of equitable digital transformation equitable for all.

In 2020, the United Nations established a fruitful cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the All-Ukrainian Youth Centre, aimed at replicating the United Nations' work and lessons learned on social cohesion beyond the eastern Ukraine to the other regions of the country. This work aimed at steering the youth policy towards the promotion of national unity and was instrumental in identifying youth social cohesion as one of the four priorities of the newly adopted Concept of the State Target Social Programme "Youth of Ukraine". This programme, developed with United Nations support, will be a key policy document for implementing youth policies at the national and subnational levels, and will receive state funding for the next five years.

Strong partnerships were established with the Ministry for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories and Kramatorsk and Severodonetsk city in the Project Supervisory Board of the United Nations Affordable Housing Project in order to ensure community ownership and contribute to continued sustainability.

Extensive United Nations expertise provided to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU) enhanced its capacity to support evidence-based policymaking and academic research. Some examples are tailored mentorships for the SSSU, capacity development programmes on data visualization, and support in the development of a communications strategy. Special focus was placed on obtaining gender-sensitive and sex-disaggregated data, such as statistics on unpaid household and care work. Through these interventions, the United Nations strengthened the SSSU's ability to ensure that relevant data are collected, that accountability of the Government is promoted, and that the implementation of the SDGs is adequately monitored and reported. On the policy front, the United Nations continued to advocate for a new census in the country, last held in 2001. An international policy dialogue organized jointly by the SSSU and the United Nations examined the feasibility of holding a census and committed all stakeholders to develop a roadmap for Ukraine, including preparation for a register-based census in this regard. The United Nations also supported the development of a draft law on official statistics in line with international standards in order to replace the current legislation from 1992.

Another example of the United Nations' strong partnership with the executive branch was the provision of technical expertise in aligning national strategies with the 2030 Agenda. Technical advisory units were established in the Prime Minister's Office, which, in close coordination with line ministries, developed the multi-sectoral COVID-19 response strategy and action plans for the socio-economic, health and humanitarian sectors. In addition, **through the Joint SDG Fund, the United Nations initiated an integrated response to the needs of the GoU to optimize resource allocation for achieving national development targets and their alignment with the Agenda 2030**, which would allow for better management of finance flows, i.e. for a strategic change that would enhance the alignment of available resources to long-term development priorities.

Partnerships were also established with the legislative branch, notably with the Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsperson) and the Council on Immigrants' Rights Protection. The United Nations also supported the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Platform on the Health of the Nation and Human Rights, launched and registered in the Ukrainian Parliament. The United Nations also engaged in the health domain with other international organizations and development partners, including the World Bank, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and supported the establishment of the COVAX initiative. Partnerships also continued with the private sector, which provided the means to support nearly 150 hospitals and healthcare facilities throughout the country.

The United Nations continued to work closely with development partners through the ITA-coordination structure. With the EU, the United Nations co-chairs, on behalf of all development partners, the Development Forum of the Prime Minister (the top tier of the ITA mechanism), the Development Platform of the Vice-Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration (middle tier), and 22 sectoral working groups co-chaired by relevant by line ministries and development partners. The United Nations is represented in nearly all sectoral working groups, and co-chairs the groups on health, social policy, education, recovery and reintegration, and youth. The United Nations is also engaged with development partners bilaterally through regular exchanges and dialogues.

At the local level, partnerships were strengthened with oblasts and cities across the country. One notable example of close cooperation was the "Safe Cities for Women and Girls" programme, which brought together local government, public transportation companies, the police and civil society to promote safe transportation options in Rubizhne, Luhansk Oblast.



Dialogues organized by the United Nations brought together civil society, including academia, experts and youth, as well as government representatives. Topics discussed included: challenges and opportunities posed by climate change; the manifestations, consequences and prevention of hate speech; racism and discrimination; COVID-19 assistance to vulnerable groups; and how to ensure inclusive digitalization. The United Nations involved key civil society organizations in internal consultations during the development of a series of analytical documents, such as United Nations Policy Papers on issues that are crucial for the development of Ukraine (i.e. land reform, labour legislation reform), which were further used for advocacy with the Government. Furthermore, the United Nations partnered with the diaspora through the Ukrainian World Congress to harness the potential of this migrant community in promoting economic development in their country of origin.

Partnerships with the private sector and business associations were also expanded, raising awareness of the United Nations' work and mandates. The United Nations partnered with the Chambers of Commerce in Luhansk and Donetsk in advocating for increased youth employment as a driver of national integration and cohesion. In partnership with the Ukrainian Business Coalition, the United Nations facilitated private enterprises in signing a pledge, "For gender equality and against domestic violence", in the workplace. A partnership with SMEs committing to ethical employment, the prevention of exploitation, respect for human rights, and transparency of supply chains was established. In support of public-private partnerships, the United Nations provided strategic advice in the agricultural sector and delivered capacity training to potential entrepreneurs. Finally, the United Nations engaged in resource mobilization from business, both in cash and in kind, particularly for emergency aid programmes and healthcare.

UNITED NATIONS COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

The United Nations increased its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency in line with the expectations set by all United Nations Member States and ongoing United Nations Development System reform.

Common country analysis (CCA). The CCA provides an opportunity for United Nations agencies to come together with key national and international stakeholders to discuss national development challenges and common approaches in the beginning of a new Cooperation Framework cycle, which in Ukraine will start in 2023. The CCA was developed using in-house expertise and fostered a strong sense of joint engagement and ownership among United Nations agencies active in Ukraine, both resident and non-resident.

COVID-19. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations supported Ukraine in ensuring effective emergency management and medical response and recovery, and mobilized partners (donors, IFIs) and resources to address immediate and medium-term emergency response and development needs. Coherence was ensured through specially created strategic and technical-level groups that brought together different United Nations agencies.

Policy Papers. A series of [United Nations Policy Papers](#) was developed on issues that are currently the subject of government reform efforts in Ukraine. The papers present a common United Nations position and provide policy recommendations based on global best practices. They were presented publicly at high-

level launch events, bringing together the United Nations, the Government, civil society and academia. The policy papers served as an effective tool for unified United Nations advocacy. The paper on the census led to strengthened dialogue and communication with national government partners on the need to hold a census in Ukraine, last conducted in 2001. The paper on universal healthcare coverage identified priority issues and suggested policy actions for health reform implementation. Labour law reform was the topic of another paper that helped bring together policymakers, tripartite constituents and academia for open and inclusive discussions on the importance of introducing new legislation aligned with international and EU labour standards. The Land Code policy paper led to the establishment of a constructive dialogue with new counterparts in this area.

Strategic coordination structures. The United Nations continued its efforts to strengthen coherence, efficiency and effectiveness through internal coordination structures, and bi-weekly meetings at the strategic and programmatic levels (United Nations and Programme Management Team, respectively). Retreats were also organized to further discuss the United Nations' role and how development cooperation effectiveness could be increased, bringing together United Nations leadership and expert guest speakers from government, academic and development partners. Meetings of the Results Groups/UNPF Pillars were held and contributed to monitoring, reporting and strategic guidance of the UNPF.

THEMATIC COORDINATION STRUCTURES

Several thematic working groups met regularly to further coordinate the United Nations' work including in the areas of youth, gender, human rights, HIV/AIDS, disability, elections, migration, procurement and crisis communication. The work of some of the working groups is highlighted below.

Youth. This group, chaired by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), provided technical, advisory and capacity-building support to the Government and other stakeholders to promote youth empowerment, engagement and participation in the public life, education, mobility, employment and volunteering, as well as healthy lifestyles. The group also coordinated the United Nations' policy dialogue and was instrumental in

the development of the draft National Youth Strategy 2020–2030 and the Concept of the State Social Target Programme "Youth of Ukraine 2021–2025".

Gender. Gender equality and women's empowerment actions were coordinated by the United Nations Gender Group chaired by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). The Group coordinated the provision of coherent United Nations support to the Government in implementing policy recommendations provided by the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and organized capacity-building activities on future CEDAW reporting. Technical expertise and advice were also

provided to ensure that human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment principals are included in responses to COVID-19.

Human Rights. The Human Rights Working Group, chaired by OHCHR, reviewed and provided feedback on the new National Roma Strategy and Action Plan and the National Human Rights Action Strategy

and Action Plan, provided comments on the draft law on national minorities. The Group also provided contributions to the United Nations Special Procedures and to the Human Rights Council and the Committee on the Rights of the Child sessions, and organized regular United Nations dialogues with civil society organizations on racism and discrimination.

JOINT COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

Joint communication and advocacy efforts were increased in 2020. The most impactful and wide-reaching campaigns are showcased below.

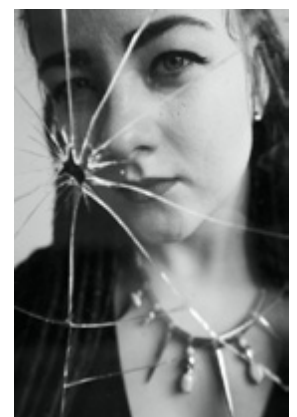
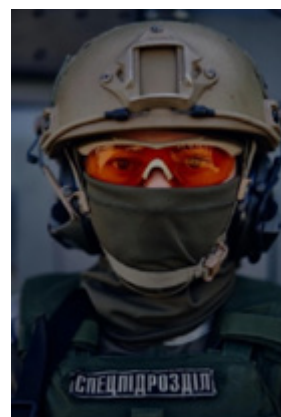


UN Day. UN Resident Coordinator with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

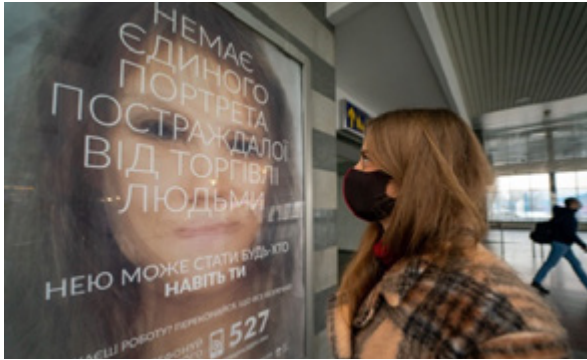
UN75. The United Nations' seventy-fifth anniversary was marked by in-person and digital events. The Resident Coordinator met with the President of Ukraine and, separately, with the Minister of Foreign Affairs; both events widely televised and reported on in the national media, as well as streamed online. These meetings provided opportunities for the United Nations to reiterate key messages on human rights, gender equality, peacebuilding and leaving no one behind. Furthermore, a one-hour concert by the Odessa National Philharmonic Orchestra was recorded, and opening remarks by the Resident Coordinator included in the [video](#) and viewed over 70,000 times. In parallel, the United Nations targeted youth by holding photo and essay contests, and a central square in Kyiv was decorated in United Nations and Ukrainian flags.



Gender. The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence was **launched by the First Lady of Ukraine** and Deputy-Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, and was just one of many events held during the campaign. Interactive theatre performances featuring stories of GBV survivors, advocacy by famous Ukrainian musicians, and illuminated shopping malls in several Ukrainian cities further helped to raise awareness while the **"Break the Circle"** campaign was strongly promoted by national celebrities. The **"Strong. Courageous. Equal"** campaign, launched on International Women's Day, promoted gender equality and women's leadership, while the **"Women, Peace and Security"** event commemorating the 20th anniversary of Security Council Resolution 1325 raised awareness of the important role of women in peacebuilding. Finally, targeted at a younger audience, the online campaign **"Sprovokovala?" ("Did she provoke?")** reached over 1.5 million people on YouTube and generated discussions on the root causes of GBV.



World Humanitarian Day. This day was commemorated through a joint advocacy campaign with the United Nations and its non-governmental humanitarian partners. The campaign was instrumental in portraying the humanitarian community's resilience and sustained ability to deliver support to people in need amid ongoing armed conflict and the pandemic. In total, over 74,000 people viewed the social media posts, and 15 news items were published in national media.



Counter-trafficking. The “Even YOU” campaign communicated trafficking prevention messages across the country using traditional and non-traditional channels, and ultimately reached over half the national population.

OPERATING AS ONE

Implementation of the revised United Nations Business Operations Strategy entered its second year in 2020. The Strategy is a results-based framework that focuses on joint business operations with the purpose of eliminating duplication, leveraging the common bargaining power of the United Nations, and maximizing economies of scale. Falling under the strategy are common services that are implemented jointly or delivered by one United Nations entity on behalf of other entities in the areas of human resources, finance, procurement, administration, human resources, and information and communications technology (ICT).

The Operations Management Team (OMT) and its working groups are responsible for facilitating the development and implementation of the Business Operations Strategy, and in 2020, \$1.2 million were saved, with further savings expected in 2021. Among other achievements, the OMT facilitated the review and extension of long-term agreements according to the business needs of United Nations agencies. Further market research with a view to bringing more, or even all, United Nations agencies under one roof in the capital Kyiv was also conducted and will continue in 2021. In line with the United Nations disability inclusion strategy, the OMT also developed an accessibility plan for United Nations premises and services.

Furthermore, to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on United Nations operations and personnel, the United Nations jointly established a COVID-19 duty of care team to coordinate efforts in responding to the pandemic. The team led the joint procurement and provision of **personal protective equipment (PPE)** and infection prevention equipment for all personnel. Also, the First Line of Defence (FLoD) team was established to provide clinical, laboratory and telehealth services. FLoD is designed to ensure that United Nations personnel and dependents have access to high-quality, reliable health services (and minimize the need for medical evacuations, which is the “second line of defence”). The FLoD in Ukraine provided clinical services and set up a multilingual 24-hour hotline, allowing United Nations personnel to receive information and guidance on COVID-19, be remotely monitored at home, and referred to the hospital, as required.

The OMT also developed a Business Continuity Plan, taking into account the new pandemic context and requiring the implementation of measures to ensure a smooth transition to alternative working arrangements (e.g. telecommuting). Subsequently, the OMT and FLoD conducted joint assessments of infection prevention and control measures in United Nations offices, provided recommendations on an eventual return to the office, and prepared a guide and readiness checklist.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

In 2020, \$231 million were made available for UNPF activities in Ukraine. While \$200 million had originally been budgeted, additional resources were mobilized to strengthen the country’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, translating into a service delivery rate of 115 percent. Most resources were mobilized locally, with only around 6 percent from core funds.

TOTAL UNPF BUDGET 2020

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$214,692,608
Available Resources (Annual)	\$200,025,419
Expenditure	\$230,646,964
Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual))	115%

Strategic Priority 1. SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$10,675,149
Available Resources (Annual)	\$10,270,336
Expenditure	\$7,663,336
Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual))	75%

Strategic Priority 2. EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY AND INCLUSIVE SERVICES AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$30,984,001
Available Resources (Annual)	\$26,996,830
Expenditure	\$68,006,983
Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual))	252%

Strategic Priority 3. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$118,092,568
Available Resources (Annual)	\$113,752,985
Expenditure	\$109,969,558
Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual))	97%

Strategic Priority 4. HUMAN SECURITY, SOCIAL COHESION AND RECOVERY WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON EASTERN UKRAINE

Total Required Resources (Annual)	\$54,940,888
Available Resources (Annual)	\$49,005,267
Expenditure	\$45,006,702
Delivery rate (Ratio of Expenditure vs Available Resources (Annual))	92%

In addition to the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPF) budget, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), comprising United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and national and international NGOs, in its Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) originally estimated that \$158 million would be required in 2020. Following the onset of the pandemic, however, this figure was revised upwards to \$205 million to account for the expected impact of COVID-19 on the humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine for conflict-affected people on both sides of the contact line. The amounts requested and ultimately mobilized in 2020 under the HRP were the

highest since the beginning of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine in 2014.

Furthermore, United Nations agencies in Ukraine partnered on numerous occasions to submit joint funding proposals to various funds and facilities:

- **The United Nations Joint SDG Fund Programme.** “Promoting strategic planning and financing for sustainable development on national and regional level in Ukraine”. The Joint Programme provides an integrated response to the Government’s need to build a consensus around financial flows and reforms linked to the financing of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through engagement at the national and sub-national levels, the Joint Programme aims to produce better ways of managing existing and potential finance flows, and align available resources to long-term development priorities and achievement of the SDGs in Ukraine. A central ambition of the programme is promoting and supporting the establishment of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), which will improve the linkages between public policy execution and ongoing decentralization reforms. The \$1 million programme was approved and will be jointly implemented by UNDP, UNECE, UNICEF and WHO.
- **Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding Partnership (HDPP) Facility** under the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (UNPBSO). The project under the Facility supports further alignment between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors within the context of the Sector Working Group on Recovery and Reintegration to ensure more integrated and effective nexus analysis, planning and programming using tools such as the data portal of the Ministry of Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories and the IDP National Monitoring System. The \$50,000 grant was approved, and the project will be jointly implemented by the United Nations and the World Bank.
- **The Peacebuilding Fund Project**, “Building a constituency for peace in Ukraine by engaging young people to promote social cohesion, national unity and a culture of dialogue”, was approved by the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). The \$2 million project will be jointly implemented by UNDP, UNFPA and OHCHR, with support from the Resident Coordinator’s Office support. Its launch is expected in 2021.

- **Multi-Partner Trust Funds (MPTF).** Three concept notes were submitted to the COVID-19 MPTF: (i) *The Economic Empowerment of Women as a Response to the COVID-19 Crisis in Ukraine (phase I)*, FAO, UNDP, ILO); (ii) *Enabling Risk Communication and Community Engagement for COVID-19 Response and Recovery* (IOM, OHCHR, UNICEF, WHO); and (iii) *Strengthening the Capacities of Healthcare in Donetsk and Luhansk Non-Government-Controlled Areas, Ukraine* (IOM, UNICEF, WHO). While no application was selected, the concepts were retained in the “Catalogue of Solutions”, a

pipeline of quality yet unfunded programmes. Similarly, an application submitted to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities MPTF was also retained in the “Catalogue of Solutions”.

- **The Global Fund.** The United Nations provided technical support to the National Coordination Council on TB/HIV/Hepatitis in successfully submitting funding requests to The Global Fund. Through this support, \$137 million will be available to support essential HIV and TB prevention and care services in 2021–2023 throughout Ukraine.

Chapter 4 Challenges and key United Nations focus in 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to exact a significant toll on the country, overburdening the health system and negatively impacting the economy. Additional lockdowns are to be expected. Limited access to vaccines as well as high vaccine hesitancy rates will hamper the fight to slow the spread of the disease, thus prolonging the period before the country can engage fully in a socio-economic recovery.

Ukraine also continues to face governance challenges, notably the potential roll-back of essential reforms and the risk of escalation in eastern Ukraine, among others. These challenges notwithstanding, in 2021, the United Nations will focus on the following:

The United Nations will ensure an **effective cooperation and partnership with the GoU** to ensure the implementation of the SDGs, their integration in country programming and policy development, as well as the strengthening of SDG data collection and monitoring. To accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations will continue to facilitate a multi-stakeholder participatory approach, raise awareness, mobilize partners and provide coordinated policy advice as well as substantive and technical support.

The United Nations will support the Government in the **implementation of key reforms**, including anti-corruption, judiciary, public administration, decentralization, labour, health, social protection, and services reform and education reforms. It will also support the digital transformation agenda. The United Nations will also support the implementation of the EU Green Deal in Ukraine and promote the green economy and environmental resilience with a focus on SMEs.

The United Nations will continue to support **human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment**. Support will be provided to ensure Ukraine's compliance with its international human rights obligations, including by facilitating access to human rights mechanisms, knowledge and expertise, and ensuring that human rights and gender are mainstreamed into national development plans and policies. The United Nations will also advocate for an inclusive and barrier-free society to ensure that no one is left behind.

The United Nations will work jointly and inclusively with **humanitarian and peace actors** and will contribute towards strengthening the resilience of the population in conflict-affected areas, preventing further escalations, and sustaining peace by further operationalizing the humanitarian, development and peace nexus. The United Nations will continue to join efforts with international development partners through international aid coordination structures.

The United Nations will continue to coordinate its efforts in support of the **national COVID-19 medical and health, socio-economic and recovery response**, including by providing emergency assistance and protection, and essential services to the most vulnerable throughout the country.

The United Nations will maintain current and develop **new partnerships with both traditional and non-traditional partners**, including international organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector and business associations, and the media. The United Nations will explore opportunities provided by internal and external funding instruments, prepare and submit joint funding proposals, and consider the development of a joint United Nations resource mobilization strategy, aligning COVID-19, development and humanitarian response needs and actions with specific financial support options. Country-pooled funding modalities, building on strategic partnerships with the EU, international financial institutions (IFIs) and other actors will also be explored. The United Nations will further promote a broad vision on SDG resource mobilization at the country level, with a view towards creating an Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) in Ukraine.

The United Nations will evaluate the ongoing Ukraine-UNPF 2018–2022 and launch the development of the new **Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023–2027**. In line with the recent reform to the United Nations' development system, as mandated by all Member States, the new Framework will become the most important instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in Ukraine, in support of the 2030 Agenda.

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RESULTS REPORT 2020

