



Protection Cluster Ukraine Quarterly Newsletter

N° 1 | JUNE 2024

KEY FIGURES*


 **747,654** people reached with services

 **76,000** people with disabilities

 **284,000** older people

 **8,215** PMT assessments conducted

 **458** services added to Services Advisor

 **26** trainings conducted by the Protection Cluster

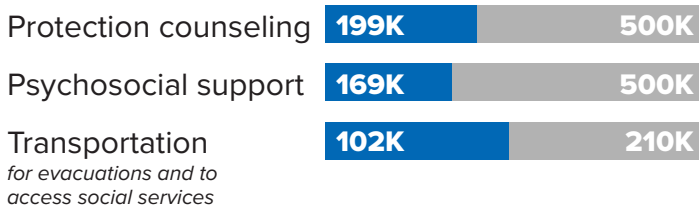


- 34 INGO
- 2 UN
- 41 NNGO



187.5 M
funding received (USD)

TOP PROTECTION ACTIVITIES



* Data as of January-May

NATIONAL UPDATES

Protection Cluster stepped up its engagement on humanitarian evacuations, including regular participation in HQ Coordination chaired by the Ministry of Reintegration and collaboration with the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) on evacuation of people with disabilities. In this context, the Protection Cluster conducted mapping of humanitarian organizations implementing [home-based care and assisted living activities](#). On 18-19 April, Protection Cluster organized Peer-to-Peer Workshop on Evacuations for humanitarian NGOs, CSOs and volunteers conducting evacuations in frontline oblasts. Outcomes of the event are available [here](#).

Following the entry into force of the amendments to the CMU resolution 332 on 1 March, the Protection Cluster launched a dedicated tool for the partners to monitor the impact of the changes in the IDP allowance policy. The first [overview of findings](#) based on over 3,000 responses from partners was issued on 2 May and thereafter presented to the MoSP, HCT, ICCG and relevant Clusters. While protection partners will continue awareness raising, counseling, legal assistance and referrals in relation to IDP allowance, it is key for development actors to expedite long-term rental and employment support. Protection Cluster worked with the MoSP to develop scripts to strengthen referrals of IDPs affected by the cut of the IDP allowance to employment centers and social protection mechanisms.

Senior Advisory Group (SAG) membership was revamped to engage national NGOs, Gender and Disability Inclusion, and MHPSS focal points. In addition to the regular members, the following NGOs were selected to be part of the SAG: Right to Protection, CF SSS, East-SOS, DRC, IRC and NRC.

On 18 March, Protection Cluster and Areas of Responsibility (AoR) held a **joint briefing for the Core Humanitarian Donors Group** highlighting topline, protection risks and key priorities in Ukraine, including child protection, gender-based violence, mine action and house, land and property issues.

Protection Cluster 2024 publications:

1. [Guidance on Provision of Protection Assistance to Former Combatants.](#)
2. [Recommendations on cooperation between humanitarian organizations and IDP Councils.](#)
3. [Good Practices: IDP Councils.](#)

HUB UPDATES

Dnipro Hub

316K PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT. SERVICES

4,014 PMT ASSESMENTS CONDUCTED

Following an increase in evacuations from frontline areas in Kharkivska Oblast, the hub developed a preparedness plan, conducted expedited capacity mapping among protection partners in the region and directly engaged with them to ensure effective coordination of the protection response and information dissemination on conditions in safer areas. Consequently, joint Lessons Learned were prepared with GBV and CP AoRs.

Kyiv Hub

148K PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT. SERVICES

1,472 PMT ASSESMENTS CONDUCTED

Sumska oblast continues to have a fragile security situation in the borderline hromadas. Evacuations are underway from villages within a 10 km zone, with mandatory evacuations of families with children. Some families refuse to evacuate, as they fear losing their jobs or income and prefer to remain in areas under shelling. In Chernihivska oblast, Protection Cluster is mobilizing partners to respond to the increased reports of older people and people with disabilities abandoned due to lack of social services, including home based care and assisted living.

Lviv Hub

99K PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT. SERVICES

1,184 PMT ASSESMENTS CONDUCTED

Oblasts in western Ukraine continue to receive evacuees from conflict zones. Rivnenska and Volynska oblasts continue receiving organized evacuations from Donetska oblast, while Lvivska oblast is receiving people arriving on their own. However, free spaces in officially registered collective sites are limited, and suitable conditions for people with disabilities and low-mobility are very restricted. Humanitarian funding cuts in the West have led to difficulties for partners in providing protection services and ensuring access to basic needs.

Odesa Hub

122K PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT. SERVICES

216 PMT ASSESMENTS CONDUCTED

The Odesa Hub is focused on responding to air strikes and the resulting emergency situations, to which the partners have devoted substantial effort. Interventions are also focused on providing assistance to IDPs, returnees, and war-affected populations. Parts of the Mykolaiv and Kherson regions are in high-risk zones, which greatly complicates service delivery. Additionally, there is a large number of highly vulnerable populations in these areas.

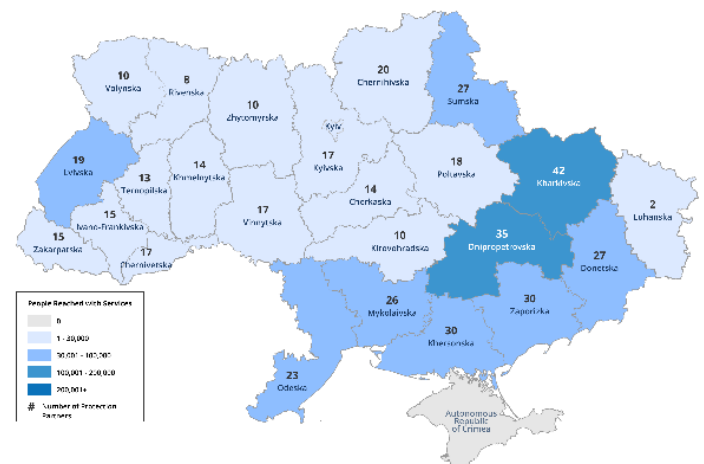
Vinnitsia Hub

150K PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT. SERVICES

1,329 PMT ASSESMENTS CONDUCTED

The main interventions in the Vinnitsia Hub include provision of psychosocial support and promotion of social cohesion. The Hub is also planning activities to support IDPs during collective site consolidation process. Caritas Ukraine started its humanitarian program in Vinnitsia with a view to responding to the needs of IDPs and local residents.

PEOPLE REACHED WITH PRT SERVICES & ASSISTANCE



CONTACT US

[Protection Cluster Ukraine Webpage](#)
[Child Protection](#) | [GBV](#) | [Mine Action](#)

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Housing Land and Property

The group held meetings each month, featuring updates and information on Ukrainian laws and trends with an HLP rights component and presentations covering emergency, durable solutions, and long-term development HLP and housing topics. In addition, the working group developed and published an information note for shelter and legal assistance humanitarian partners related to a critical change in the Ukrainian government compensation mechanism for damaged housing and developed and delivered a session to Protection Cluster partners on HLP in Ukraine. Finally, Key Messages and Recommendations note was developed for the HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy on the prioritized protection issue of compensation in Ukraine.

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Anti-Trafficking Task Force

The ATTF continues to be an important platform for exchange of information and coordination of Counter Trafficking (CT) activities of various humanitarian responders, ensuring the link with governmental CT response.

In April-May, the IOM and OSCE conducted counter-trafficking simulation exercises for stakeholders from 12 regions of Ukraine. 123 stakeholders of the National Referral Mechanism for victims of trafficking practiced skills in identifying and referring trafficking survivors and assisting them utilizing a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach.

In May, the Group of Experts responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by the Parties visited Ukraine. During their visit, they met with a wide range of state counter-trafficking stakeholders, ATTF co-chairs, and civil society organizations to discuss the current trafficking trends in Ukraine and issues with the provision of assistance to trafficking survivors. They also visited the IOM Rehabilitation Centre for victims of trafficking and state-run facilities in the Lviv region.

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Age and Disability

Age and Disability TWG is focused on addressing the challenges of accommodating older people and people with disabilities after evacuation, improving accessibility, providing home-based care and assisted living, promoting deinstitutionalization, facilitating social rehabilitation, including age and disability in programming, and other topics through discussions, trainings, and technical materials. Age and Disability TWG conducted 3 meetings and informational events and issued 3 newsletters.

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Legal Aid

In 2024 Legal Aid WG prepared materials on social benefits available to civilian prisoners released from detention facilities in occupied territories or in the Russian Federation. Thematic discussions were arranged on property rights in connection to compensation for damaged or destroyed property, challenges in accessing compensation procedures, child protection in the civil process in the situation of martial law, and access to IDP allowances and respective legal aid provision.

Legal Aid WG has published a [Legal Aid Bulletin](#) in May 2024.

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Case Management Task Force

The Protection Case Management Task Force finalized and disseminated revised Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs) and forms for Ukraine, providing Protection Cluster partners a common framework and guidance for protection case management service delivery based on global standards, tailored to the Ukraine context. From 29 April to 3 May, UNHCR, IOM, and NRC facilitated a joint Protection Case Management Foundation training reaching 25 participants representing different organizations and regions throughout Ukraine.

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UKRAINIAN IDP COUNCILS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The IDP Councils in Ukraine are an example of successful representation of IDPs' interests that can be used in other contexts with large-scale, protracted internal displacement crises. This recommendation is contained in the **March 2024 Independent Review of the Humanitarian Response to Internal Displacement [report](#) prepared by The Humanitarian Policy Group.**

The report states that the format of IDP Councils, pioneered by the Ukrainian Charity Foundation “Stabilization Support Services”, is one possible avenue toward more systematic and comprehensive participation of IDPs in decision-making.

In many cases, the Councils involve a mix of IDPs and civil servants working on relevant tasks. This allows for smoother interactions between IDPs and state bodies, and helps build mutual understanding and trust. IDPs receive trainings both on rights and on how to engage with government policy and planning process.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Protection Cluster Partners Retreat
August - Date to be confirmed

National Protection Cluster Coordination Meeting
Every 2nd Wednesday of the Month

Monthly Information Management Clinic
Every 4th Friday of the Month



The report highlights that the Councils must be **inclusive and representative of the IDP population**

– in particular, women, girls, and persons with disabilities. Members of the IDP Councils should be involved in shaping top-level objectives for the Humanitarian Response Plan or similar instruments, and solutions strategies.

“The international attention and recognition of the importance of the efforts of the IDP Councils inspires us to work even harder for the benefit of people affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Our main objective now is to support and train the members of the Councils, to facilitate the exchange of experience between them and all interested experts. Of course, if our experience proves useful and helps IDPs abroad, it will make us happy,”

Olha Ivanova, Program Director at the CF “Stabilization Support Services”, commented on the report’s findings.

The first IDP Councils were established on a pilot basis in 2019, and since 2023, they have been included in Ukraine’s national strategy on IDPs and long-term solutions. Thanks to the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, as of March 2024, IDP Councils have been established in nearly 1,000 communities (at the level of settlements, raions, and oblasts).

Primarily, IDP Councils play a consultative role, interacting directly with local administrations and self-government authorities to ensure that IDPs’ rights are respected and that their specific needs are taken into account in various government programs and services.



[IDP Council Best Practices](#)

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