



Protection Cluster Ukraine

Quarterly Newsletter

N° 2 | JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2024

Key Figures*



1.3 million

people reached with services



118,000

people with disabilities



476,000

Older people



4,907

Protection Monitoring Assessments (PMT) conducted



14

Trainings conducted



996

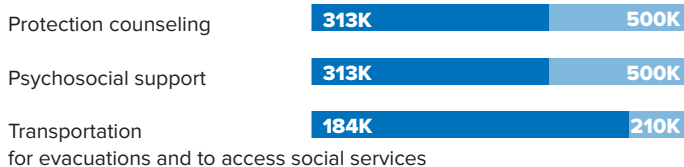
services added to Services Advisor



- 43 INGO
- 3 UN
- 59 NNGO



Funding Received
187.5M (USD)



* Data as of January-September 2024

National Updates

- National Protection Cluster Team participated in the **Global Protection Cluster Conference in Nairobi** from 10-14 June 2024 and presented key thematic and programmatic priorities of the protection response in Ukraine.

- On 2 August, the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster and Protection Clusters organized a **Joint Partner Meeting on Strengthening Livelihoods for Protection Outcomes**, with participation of over 200 colleagues from 70 national and international organizations. Partners recommended further inclusion of livelihoods activities into the **Protection Cluster Services Advisor**, strengthened referrals to livelihoods programmes of IDPs affected by the cuts of IDP allowance, further development of tailored livelihood programmes for people with specific needs.

- Following Health and Protection Clusters' mission to Kharkiv in July 2024, and in line with the global **Health and Protection Joint Operational Framework**, Health and Protection Clusters and AoRs hosted an **inter-cluster workshop** to address the identified challenges and foster stronger collaboration in the areas of rehabilitation and services for people with disabilities, mental health and psycho-social support, disability inclusion and protection mainstreaming in health sector, and inter-sectoral referrals. Outcomes of the workshop and priority actions are available [here](#).

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Reintegration through the Headquarters Coordination on Evacuations, the Protection Cluster with its partners launched the **dissemination of information materials in Donetsk Oblast on evacuation process and services available in destination areas**, so as to enable informed decision-making among IDPs and people remaining in areas close to the frontlines.

- Protection Cluster Strategic Advisory Group endorsed the establishment of the **LGBTIQ+ Communities Technical Working Group** in August 2024.

- On 28 August, Protection Cluster participated in the panel on protection service provision during the **second All-Ukrainian Forum of IDP Councils in Kyiv**, reflecting on practical ways of reinforcing the Cluster's engagement with IDP Councils at national and sub-national level.

- The Protection Cluster supported the **Ministry of Social Policy** in organizing the **advocacy event** on 17 September to present the Ministry's Strategy of relocation of people with disabilities and older people residing in institutions in war affected oblasts and provision of assisted living service for this population group in receiving regions.

Protection Cluster has developed and published the following documents during the reporting period:



- [Protection Analysis Update 2024](#)
- [Guidance on Humanitarian Evacuations of Civilians with Special Considerations for Children](#)
- [Ukraine: Lessons learned - evacuation and support services in Kharkiv](#)
- [Legal Aid Bulletin August 2024](#)
- [Protection Cluster Ukraine Quarterly Newsletter No 1 | June 2024](#)



Protection Cluster Team - Global Protection Cluster Conference - Nairobi, June 2024



Hub Updates

Dnipro Hub

 **562K people reached with protection services**
 **1,542 PMT Assessments conducted**


There has been an increase in evacuations from Donetsk and Kharkiv Oblasts because of the deterioration of security in many villages along the frontline. The main transit centers include Kramatorsk, Pavlohrad, and Kharkiv city, from where some individuals continue to move onward to safer areas in other regions of Ukraine; yet, most evacuees prefer to stay closer to their places of origin. The main protection services are focused on access to documentation, psychosocial support, and counseling; the Protection Cluster has developed information materials about assistance available in destination regions to support informed decision-making and to facilitate access to these services. A review of the inter-cluster Donetsk preparedness plan is also underway to ensure a more effective response.

Kyiv Hub

 **255K people reached with protection services**
 **1,002 PMT Assessments conducted**



48 Protection Cluster partners delivered protection services to 203,000 people (64% non-displaced, 2% returnees and 34% IDPs) in Kyiv Hub covering Cherkaska, Chernihivska, Sumska, Kyivska oblasts and Kyiv-city; those included protection and legal counseling, psychosocial support (individual and group sessions), transportation, awareness raising. Security situation deteriorated in Sumska oblast with targeted attacks on infrastructure, schools/universities, residential blocks and enterprises. Evacuations are ongoing from the borderline hromadas. Occasional instances of people with disabilities living in destroyed, uninhabitable or unfinished buildings were reported. Due to continuous missile attacks on residential areas the death toll of civilians has been steadily growing in Sumska, Kyivska oblasts and Kyiv city. Damages to electricity infrastructure result in power cuts in all oblasts, impacting on internet connection and increasing anxiety and stress, particularly among vulnerable population.

Lviv Hub

 **161K people reached with protection services**
 **838 PMT Assessments conducted**


Departments of Social Policy from six oblasts reported lack of spaces in collective sites for persons with disabilities in Lviv hub. Many people with disabilities are hosted in unsuitable facilities. Partners have noted a significant increase in requests for support from self-evacuees. Newly arrived evacuees require access to basic services, cash assistance, temporary accommodation in collective sites, and psychological support. The capacity of partners to respond effectively to these needs is currently limited.

Odesa Hub

 **197K people reached with protection services**
 **245 PMT Assessments conducted**

The security situation in the region remains difficult, particularly in the Mykolaiv and Kherson regions. The offline in person protection cluster engagement with partners working in the Kherson region was resumed with the dedicated meeting held in Mykolaiv in July, allowing to identify key protection risks and operational challenges, as well as ways of addressing them. At the request of the Protection Cluster, with the support of Charitable Foundation "Right to Protection", an information session on access to state medical guarantees was held. Further cooperation with the Health Cluster is envisaged.

Vinnitsia Hub

 **103K people reached with protection services**
 **1,300 PMT Assessments conducted**

There is an increase in the number of people evacuating from the Donetsk region on their own into the territory of the Hub, while partners are taking active part in providing protection assistance and services to the new arrivals. In cooperation with the local authorities, psycho-social support and legal assistance was provided to people affected by shelling in the region.

In cooperation with the Relief Coordination Center, an information session on humanitarian principles and standards and humanitarian law was held for partners. Charitable Foundation "Right to Protection" held an event on access to state medical guarantees.

Technical Working Group Updates

Age and Disability

ADTWG conducted consultations and promoted inclusive winterization approach via Clusters and Partners by [presenting and communicating key highlights of the updated Note on Inclusive Winterization](#).

The TWG conducted capacity building exercise (3 trainings on inclusion topics for local and international partners), and provided post-training supervision mentoring sessions.

ADTWG participated in Health & Protection Clusters joint Workshop and provided support with consultations for the joint mission to Kharkiv. ADTWG has also focused its efforts on producing technical materials such as the guidelines for Social Rehabilitation. ADTWG continues to mainstream Age & Disability inclusion as an intersectoral theme.

[Yuliia Brodska - HelpAge - yuliia.brodska@helpage.org](mailto:yuliia.brodska@helpage.org)

Legal Aid

Legal Aid TWG brings together more than 25 legal aid providers. It supports the Protection Cluster in mapping out legal aid capacity, conducting meetings with smaller partners in Lviv and Vinnytsia oblasts (with other areas coming next). Every month the TWG releases Legal Aid Bulletin. Since April 2024 five such Bulletins were issued. The TWG held four regular monthly meetings with the focus on:

- **June:** Persons with disabilities, including confirmation of disabilities and accessibility of legal aid.
- **July:** Confirmation of labour experience in situation of martial law and temporary occupation.
- **August:** Property rights in relation to compensation for damaged and destroyed housing.
- **September:** Facts of birth and death registration.

All materials of the group can be accessed [here](#).

[Lidiia Kuzmenko - UNHCR - kuzmenko@unhcr.org](mailto:kuzmenko@unhcr.org)

Housing Land and Property

The working 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 contributed to the review and update of the Shelter Cluster Rental Market Assistance Guidelines. Finally, the working group published a [newsletter](#) with key HLP updates and references to reports and assessments.

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Anti-Trafficking Task Force

Following the meeting between ATTF and General Prosecutor Office, cooperation between counter-trafficking NGOs and specialized counter-trafficking prosecutors was established on the regional level.

On 2 July, ATTF representatives participated in the plenary session of the Council of Europe Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine. The session was dedicated to the issue of trafficking of Ukrainian children, in particular the risks of sexual and labour exploitation of Ukrainian children in the EU. The ATTF experts from Ukraine shared their experiences and highlighted the key challenges faced by children, especially those who cross the border unaccompanied or accompanied by non-family members.

On 30 July, ATTF members conducted various information events dedicated to the World Anti-Trafficking Day and aimed to raise awareness of human trafficking.

In September, UNHCR jointly with IOM start a series of ten trainings for State Border Guard Service on identification of potential victims of trafficking and referring them for assistance.

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