



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Narrative Progress Report

# STRENGTHENING NATIONAL AND LOCAL CAPACITIES FOR EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF SECURITY, JUSTICE AND REINTEGRATION SERVICES IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED AREAS OF UKRAINE

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# Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>ADR</b>	Alternative dispute resolution
<b>ATO</b>	Anti-Terrorist Operation
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organisation
<b>CSS</b>	Centre for safety and security
<b>CSWG</b>	Community security working group
<b>DV</b>	Domestic violence
<b>EWS</b>	Early warning system
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FLAS</b>	Free legal aid system
<b>GCA</b>	Government-controlled area
<b>ICT</b>	Information and communication technology
<b>IDP</b>	Internally displaced person
<b>JFO</b>	Joint Forces Operation
<b>NGCA</b>	Non-government-controlled areas
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organisation
<b>NSJU</b>	National School of Judges of Ukraine
<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>SCORE</b>	Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index
<b>SES</b>	State Emergency Service
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and gender-based violence
<b>SGF</b>	Small grants fund
<b>ToT</b>	Training of trainers
<b>UN RPP</b>	United Nations Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

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# Executive Summary

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In its third year of implementation, the Project took major steps forward in enhancing gender-responsive community security and social cohesion, promoting peace and stability, increasing civic engagement, improving access to justice as well as strengthening the institutional capacity of the security providers in the conflict-affected communities of Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts.

Looking at the long-term trends from SCORE (2017 – 2021), Programme’s community mobilization and dialogue efforts have contributed to the improved levels of community cooperation (+1) and sense of agency (+0.7), gender equality mindset (+0.6), and social tolerance towards various vulnerable and marginalized groups, including different ethnic and religious minorities (over 1 point on 0-10 SCORE scale).

Similarly, social proximity to other groups improved, including people with different political views (by 0.5 points on average), preparing the grounds for dialogue, greater social cohesion, and reconciliation. Moreover, positive trends are observed in the level of pluralistic Ukrainian identity, measured as a degree to which one believes that everyone, despite their ethnic and cultural background, is an integral part of Ukrainian society, reaching 6.9 and 7.3 in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, respectively.

The perceptions of personal safety were seeing positive trends, especially among women (from 3.9 in 2019 to 4.1 in 2021 for women, and from 4.2 to 4.6 among young women), following the Project’s extensive support to the rule of law institutions and security providers, as well as the implementation of gender-responsive local community security projects.

In 2021, the Project further supported the work of the Geoinformation System to Monitor, Analyse and Evaluate Conflicts – an innovative web-based tool that allows residents of the conflict-affected

communities to identify local conflicts and seek their further settlement. As of today, 41 conflict analysts (29 women) and 36 mediators (27 women) are involved in the work of the Geoinformation system. Since the launch of the platform, 546 conflicts were registered in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, out of which more than 44% were resolved and 30% are in process of resolution.

A progress was made towards the introduction of alternative dispute resolution procedures to improve the quality of legal services and facilitate access to justice for citizens. Overall, 24 (17 women) representatives of the National School of Judges of Ukraine received the necessary knowledge and skills in judicial mediation, and already built capacities of 19 (11 women) judges in the mediation procedure. In addition, 28 (23 women) Free legal aid system employees increased their skills in ADR procedure to further teach this course to other FLAS workers.

The Project commissioned a survey on the needs and prospects for enhancing capacity of the local general courts and the FLAS in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts on armed conflict related cases in implementing transitional justice in Ukraine. Based on its results, the recommendations were provided to increase the capacity of local general courts and the FLAS in cases related to armed conflict in the implementation of transitional justice in Ukraine, as well as on possible ways to overcome challenges while implementing the legislation on transitional period.

The Programme took significant steps towards empowering young people to implement and promote their peacebuilding initiatives in the conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine through an innovative online platform, “FUNdraiser”.<sup>1</sup> During the reporting period, 154 young people (112 girls) submitted applications via the platform, and 25 teams registered to raise money for their

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<sup>1</sup> This activity is co-funded by the Government of Denmark.

projects. Moreover, 5 initiatives on public safety and social cohesion were selected to receive further funding and mentorship support.

Moreover, 130 events were organized by the “Ambassadors of Peace” network, engaging some 6,500 (67% girls) conflict-affected boys and girls.<sup>2</sup> In addition, a dedicated booklet was created to summarise the experience and consolidate the best practices of the network.

More than 20 ex-combatants from Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr oblasts presented ideas at the “Veterandvzh 2.0” hackathon held at the end of October 2021. Seven winners received financial support to implement social projects in their communities. In addition, to facilitate the networking of active ex-combatants across the country, a peer-to-peer mentorship programme continued its work, engaging 32 (9 women) new mentees and 12 mentors from 5 target oblasts to share and exchange their experience in reintegration.

As part of the work on strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine, the Project contributed to the development of a mobile application, “e-Veteran”, which will help ATO/JFO ex-combatants get information about facilities providing medical and psychological care, book dates of their visits, etc. In addition, 4 veterans’ spaces in Dnipropetrovsk (Pavlohrad and Novomoskovsk communities) and Zhytomyr oblasts (Berdychiv and Novohrad-Volynskiy communities) received necessary office equipment to support their work on facilitating veterans’ reintegration and interaction with the community.

Meaningful progress was made towards strengthening social cohesion, promoting civic engagement and citizen participation in the local decision-making processes. The reporting period was highlighted by the launch of a new capacity-building programme called “Local Innovation Laboratory” aimed at promoting the use of innovative approaches and tools in local

development. Within this programme, 40 local leaders (34 women) already underwent a two-day training session on innovative ecosystems for community development.

More than 400 participants from all over Ukraine developed practical solutions to battle gender-based violence, from innovative games to prevent street violence, to chatbots for social media, during the Hack for Locals 3.0: “Together against violence” contest which was held online on 26-28 November 2021. In 2021, the hackathon was dedicated to the “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” Global Initiative. The 4 projects were selected to receive grants and mentoring support for the implementation of the ideas they developed at the hackathon.

To enhance the provision of specialized services to domestic and gender-based violence survivors, the Project, in cooperation with UNFPA and the local authorities, supported the refurbishment of a shelter in Bakhmut (Donetsk Oblast), as well as a day-centre in Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk Oblast).

48 Community Security Working Groups operated in the target communities of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr oblasts, providing space for a police-community dialogue, information exchanges, and interaction among local authorities, security providers and community members to address identified security issues. Overall, the groups involve some 1,100 active participants (59% women). The latest survey shows that 85% of CSWGs members feel that their voices are considered in improving community security and 91% of them are convinced that these groups are making positive changes, as well as contributing to gender equality (87%), youth engagement (84%) and inclusivity (86%). Apart from the CSWGs, 10 advocacy groups were established in Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr oblasts<sup>3</sup> to help ATO/JFO ex-combatants participate in the local decision-making process and promote veterans’ agenda locally. Notably, 42 gender-responsive community profiles developed by the CSWGs on

<sup>2</sup> This activity is co-funded by the EU and the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.

<sup>3</sup> Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (Dniprovske, Kamianka, Novolativka, Novomoskovsk, Pavlograd, Shyrokye communities) and Zhytomyr Oblast (Andrushiv, Berdychiv, Novohrad-Volynskiy, Popilnia and Zhytomyr communities).

a participatory basis have enabled civil society activists in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts to advocate for and adopt solutions for the most pressing security issues identified in their community. In addition, two dedicated manuals on the establishment of a CSWG in the community and the application of a community profiling tool were developed. The summarized experience and best practices will be specifically important for the implementation of the Project's activities in transit and host communities in other regions of Ukraine to mobilize the war-affected population there.

To enhance the transparency of police activities, increase public confidence in the police and support the implementation of security projects together with the public, a multifunctional dialogue space was created on the basis of the Patrol Police Department in Donetsk Oblast, and essential furniture and office equipment provided. Furthermore, the service areas of the two local police offices in Luhansk Oblast<sup>4</sup> were refurbished and outfitted with necessary furniture and equipment to introduce the principles of openness and transparency in their work. In addition, to increase the mobility of "Polina" police groups in response to domestic violence, one specialized car was handed over to each of the police groups working in Mariupol, Donetsk Oblast, and Sievierodonetsk, Luhansk Oblast.

Moreover, a sports hub in Sievierodonetsk, Luhansk Oblast, was created to conduct various sports activities engaging police officers and community members. Such activities aim to strengthen the interaction between police and the community, increase trust in the police and improve sports and educational activities of the police officers.

As part of the comprehensive support to ensuring public safety and security in the conflict-affected communities, the Project supported the establishment of a Training Centre of the State

Emergency Service of Ukraine in Berdiansk, Zaporizhzhia Oblasts. The received equipment enabled the SES employees to conduct professional training programmes for firefighters and rescuers in the community. Moreover, the Project facilitated the establishment of the Centre for Safety and Security in Markivka community (Luhansk Oblast)<sup>5</sup> through the provision of construction materials and technical equipment to conduct repair works on the premises of the future centre. The Main Department of the SES in Zaporizhzhia Oblast received 18 medical kits to ensure quality first aid provision to the local population. In addition, 11 local firefighting brigades<sup>6</sup> and 2 CSSs<sup>7</sup> in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts received specialised firefighting and IT equipment and firefighting clothes to increase their capacity to respond effectively to emergencies.

The Programme also supported the creation of the modern press studios for the SES Departments in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The facilities will hold press conferences and information sessions for citizens about possible emergencies and discuss the most critical issues of civil protection in the region. Furthermore, to quickly perform tasks and respond to calls, the rescue and diving unit of the SES Department in Zaporizhzhia Oblast received a specialized vehicle to allow the rescuers to reach incident sites more quickly. In addition, the required IT and video surveillance equipment was delivered to Sartana, Siversk and Volnovakha (Donetsk Oblast), Kreminna and Popasna (Luhansk Oblast) to support the implementation of the local security plans, and Krasnorichenske community (Luhansk Oblast) received necessary construction materials for renovation of the fire station.

During the reporting period, the Project supported the implementation of 30 grant initiatives to promote conflict transformation, enhance community security and access to justice as well

<sup>4</sup>Novoaidar and Sievierodonetsk.

<sup>5</sup>Bondarivka village.

<sup>6</sup>Andriivka, Berestove, Dmytrivka and Mykolaivka in Bediansk raion, Zaporizhzhia Oblast; Morozivka, Mykilske Velykotsk, Zorynivka in Milove community, Mostki village in Svatove community, Nevske and Prostore villages in Bilokurakyne community, Luhansk Oblast.

<sup>7</sup>Mykolaivka and Sartana in Donetsk Oblast.

as facilitate ATO/JFO ex-combatants reintegration back into the civilian life, directly benefitting over 61,000 people (59% women), including children, youth, IDPs and persons with disabilities. Moreover, the support was provided to 11 mini-initiatives to

facilitate ex-combatants' reintegration into the local communities, enhance community security and social cohesion as well as promote Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus activities directly benefitting over 4,800 people (55% women).

# Context Overview

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The war in Ukraine has already resulted in significant loss of life, unprecedented displacement, internally and towards neighbouring countries, and devastating destruction of infrastructure. The security situation and the overall operational environment have deteriorated rapidly since the outbreak of war on 24 February 2022. The UN Ukraine Flash Appeal shows that at least 15.7 million people are in immediate need of emergency assistance and protection<sup>8</sup>.

According to the latest estimates, over 8.4 million people have already left Ukraine as refugees and over 7.1 million moved within the country, mostly to the western oblasts<sup>9</sup>. Many of those displaced are women and children. They leave behind shattered landscapes: as of 8 June 2022, over 1,800 education facilities, 656 medical institutions, 256 factories and enterprises, 111 administrative buildings, and 203 cultural buildings were damaged or destroyed. The total amount of direct documented infrastructure damages is \$103.9 billion, while the overall economic losses from the war exceed \$564 billion<sup>10</sup>. Satellite imagery-based building damage assessments indicate that, for example, in Mariupol, an estimated 32% of buildings were damaged<sup>11</sup>. According to State Emergency Services (SES), over 300,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the territory of Ukraine, almost half of the country, currently requires demining<sup>12</sup>. It has been widely reported that mines, booby-traps and improvised explosive devices were left behind, posing a significant danger to the civilians and returnees<sup>13</sup>. Public information and explosive ordnance risk education will be crucial complements to the disposal of mines and unexploded ordnance.

The civilian toll of the ongoing military offensive continues to grow. As of 27 June, the number

of civilian casualties stands at 10,631 – including 4,731 killed – according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, civilian casualties are the highest in the country, with OHCHR reporting 6,029 casualties (2,773 killed and 3,256 injured). In the rest of Ukraine, OHCHR reports 4,602 civilian casualties. The actual figures might be, however, considerably higher, as the receipt of information from some locations, where intense hostilities have been going on, has been delayed and many reports are still pending corroboration. This concerns, for example, Mariupol (Donetsk Oblast) and Popasna, Lysychansk, and Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk Oblast), where there are allegations of numerous civilian casualties.<sup>14</sup>

As the conflict intensified, many Project's target settlements in eastern Ukraine have become an area of active military fighting and relentless shelling. Some of the war's most shocking moments have occurred in Mariupol, one of the region's largest and most bombarded cities. The most severely affected locations also include Volnovakha in Donetsk Oblast, and Lysychansk, Popasna, Rubizhne, and Sievierodonetsk in Luhansk Oblast.

The ability of local authorities and service providers to sustain a minimum level of services has also been severely hampered in war-affected areas, as employees have fled or can no longer access their workplaces. The forced displacement has placed an additional burden on local service providers in host and transit communities, including administrative services, healthcare, mental health, and social services, and those concerned with ensuring access to justice. According to the

<sup>8</sup> Ukraine Flash Appeal (March - August 2022), OCHA, <https://bit.ly/3xQj8YL>

<sup>9</sup> Ukraine Data Explorer, OCHA, <https://data.humdata.org/visualization/ukraine-humanitarian-operations/>

<sup>10</sup> Damages to Ukraine's Infrastructure, Kyiv School of Economics (18 April 2022), <https://kse.ua/russia-will-pay/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.unitar.org/maps/countries/107>

<sup>12</sup> 'Almost half of the territory of Ukraine needs demining', State Emergency Service of Ukraine, <https://bit.ly/3v8Qj8c>

<sup>13</sup> Ukraine: Humanitarian Impact Situation Report, OCHA, <https://bit.ly/3KbjFHh>

<sup>14</sup> Ukraine: civilian casualty update 27 June 2022, OHCHR, <https://bit.ly/3ytkJUs>

OCHA/REACH Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA)<sup>15</sup>, IDPs face difficulties accessing information about the availability of assistance, housing, legal aid, information about evacuation and transportation, information on the registration process, and employment opportunities. As a result, over 5.5 million people have already returned to their places of residence, though 12% (est. 666,000) of returnees may consider leaving their homes once again due to the war.<sup>16</sup>

The ongoing crisis is revealing further exacerbation of gender inequities, particularly among women facing multiple forms of discrimination. According to a Rapid Gender Analysis by UN Women and CARE<sup>17</sup>, the threat of gender-based violence – including conflict-related sexual violence, sexual exploitation and abuse and human trafficking – has risen exponentially since the war began. Women are particularly reliant on social support, access to which is hindered especially in the NGCA and war-affected areas. Key population groups, including those directly war-affected, survivors of war crimes, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and women providing care for children, the elderly, and sick, are at increased risk of mental disorders and psychological distress. Mental health and psychosocial support services will be critical to address trauma and stress disorders. Provision of assistance to SGBV survivors is a particular concern: rape has emerged as a weapon of war, and a toxic, hyper-masculine environment has led to a sharp increase in the incidence of conflict-related sexual violence, sexual exploitation and abuse and human trafficking.

The impact of the war on provision of social services is acute. Most of IDP households with vulnerable members include older persons (51%), with women comprising the majority<sup>18</sup>. In many cases, IDPs have had to make desperate choices, forced to leave sick, infirm, or disabled relatives behind as they seek to escape the war themselves, and take children to safer places. In the directly war-affected areas of the country, the Government



Borodianka, Kyiv Oblast, 6 April 2022.  
Photo credit: Oleksandr Ratushniak / UNDP Ukraine

reports little visibility regarding damage and destruction of inpatient facilities – hospices, care homes, day centres and dormitories – or the fate of their occupants; care givers and staff of social service providers are now displaced, and it is not clear what services are available, where and for whom. Over 2.7 million persons with disabilities in Ukraine have limited or no access to emergency information, shelters and safe havens, and many have been separated from their support networks and unable to relocate to safer areas<sup>19</sup>.

The pre-war estimates from the UNDP-supported SCORE survey indicate that the levels of contact, the readiness for dialogue and social proximity to the displaced population were relatively lower in areas which are now facing a massive influx of IDPs<sup>20</sup>. To ensure productive cooperation and prevent potential inter-group tensions, there

<sup>15</sup> Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) of Conflict-Affected Areas, REACH, <https://bit.ly/3K9OrAr>

<sup>16</sup> Ukraine — Internal Displacement Report — General Population Survey Round 6 (17 – 23 June 2022), <https://bit.ly/3yxLOpG>

<sup>17</sup> Rapid Gender Analysis of Ukraine, UN Women, <https://bit.ly/3a4IBW0>

<sup>18</sup> Ukraine — Internal Displacement Report — General Population Survey Round 6 (17 – 23 June 2022), <https://bit.ly/3yxLOpG>

<sup>19</sup> Ukraine: 2.7 million people with disabilities at risk, UN committee warns, <https://bit.ly/3xUFDvX>

is a need for social cohesion and community integration interventions involving both the arrivals and host community members.

The war has also had a devastated impact on Ukraine's economy and people's livelihoods. According to the ILO, over 4.8 million jobs have been lost since the start of the war, equal to 30% of pre-conflict employment in Ukraine. This number might further increase to 7 million jobs as a result of the escalation of hostilities<sup>21</sup>. Early UNDP projections suggest that if the war deepens and expands, up to 90% of the population of Ukraine could be facing poverty and vulnerability to poverty by the end of 2022, and 30% of the people are likely to require life-saving assistance<sup>22</sup>. The World Bank forecasts that Ukraine's economy is expected to shrink by 45.1% in 2022. The exact magnitude of the contraction will depend on the duration and intensity of the war, and the levels of destruction of productive capacity, damage to arable lands, and labour supply<sup>23</sup>. The UNDP analysis also suggests that development setbacks

for Ukraine will be significant, including increased inequalities and poverty rates; the country's economy, its social fabric, and the environment will also suffer. Eighteen years of socio-economic achievements in Ukraine are at risk, and to mitigate such dramatic development setbacks, an effective humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach will be critical<sup>24</sup>.

Following Russia's invasion, Ukraine has submitted its application for EU membership status. On 23 June 2022, EU member governments decided to grant EU candidate status to the country. The path to joining the EU might be long and would require that steps are taken in a number of areas, including strengthening the rule of law, improving human rights, anti-corruption and structural economic reforms. The present Project will contribute to the practical implementation of these priorities in the areas of community security, local governance, access to services, early recovery and stabilization in the war-affected areas of Ukraine.

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<sup>20</sup> Lviv and Zakarpattia Oblasts. Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index – Ukraine (2021), UNDP-USAID-Seed, <https://bit.ly/3KmzA5z>

<sup>21</sup> The impact of the Ukraine crisis on the world of work: Initial assessments, ILO (11 May 2022), <https://bit.ly/3y9yGqn>

<sup>22</sup> The Development Impact of the War in Ukraine: Initial projections, UNDP, <https://bit.ly/3xNBekW>

<sup>23</sup> Europe and Central Asia Economic Update, World Bank, <https://bit.ly/38hGko0>

<sup>24</sup> The Development Impact of the War in Ukraine: Initial projections, UNDP, <https://bit.ly/3xNBekW>

# PROJECT'S RESPONSE TO THE WAR IN UKRAINE

With the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Project had to reprogramme some of its planned activities to respond to the immediate needs of the war-affected women and men from its target areas. These activities include:

- Emergency response to the frontline communities, where hostilities are ongoing, as well as transit communities receiving the first waves of IDPs.
- Enhancing the capacity of local authorities and civil society to address the critical needs of the communities which receive most IDPs (western and central regions of Ukraine).
- Improving the capacity of the security providers (State Emergency Service, National Police) to respond and prepare for emergencies.
- Supporting justice institutions (FLAS and local courts) in improving their capacities to deliver timely and high-quality legal and judicial services to IDPs as well as other vulnerable groups in transit and host communities.

Since March 2022, the Project has provided the following emergency assistance to the war-affected communities throughout Ukraine:

1. Transfer of equipment for rubble removal for the SES and rescue brigades (volunteers) in Novohrad-Volynskiy and Zhytomyr (Zhytomyr Oblast).
2. Provision of household equipment and kitchen utilities for the IDPs' temporary shelter in Pavlohrad, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.
3. Delivery of food items and hot meals for IDPs and local population from vulnerable groups in Novohrad-Volynskiy (Zhytomyr Oblast).
4. Conducting webinars for some 100 psychologists on how to help overcome the negative outcomes of war and mental well-being.



Special equipment provided to emergency workers in war-torn Zhytomyr Oblast to rescue people trapped under the rubble of buildings destroyed by shelling.

Photo credit: Pavlo Petrov / UNDP Ukraine

## Output 1.

# STRENGTHENED MECHANISMS FOR CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION THROUGH THE PROVISION OF EFFECTIVE AND INNOVATIVE SERVICES

### Output 1.1.

## Early warning mechanisms are enhanced

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### **ACTIVITY 1.1.1. STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF MECHANISMS THAT CAN BE USED TO PROVIDE EARLY WARNING FOR SECURITY AND CONFLICT-RELATED ISSUES**

The Project developed a methodology for establishing an early warning system (EWS) at the local level which was piloted in 4 communities of Donetsk (Sartana and Volnovakha) and Luhansk (Popasna and Stanytsia Luhanska) oblasts. The aim of the system is to help identify signals of social tensions and conflicts, if not addressed at an early stage, forecast and draft scenarios of conflict development and further response plans. In total, 12 (7 women) monitoring specialists were selected among local activists and trained to identify and analyse signals of potential conflicts according to the developed methodology. During the reporting year, the monitors identified and analysed over 370 conflicts, most of them related to the provision of services, interaction with local authorities and Armed Forces, education, religion and other issues.

Further piloting of the EWS methodology for conflict monitoring at the community level should be continued to receive sustainable results, however this is currently not impossible due to ongoing military actions in the communities of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The methodology will be further expanded to other communities in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Lviv and Zakarpattia oblasts to better understand conflict dynamics caused by the ongoing war and internal displacement. The EWS allows to analyse the existing conflicts and develop recommendations for stabilising the situation and their further management, predicting the dynamics of conflicts and the possibility of their transition to different phases.

Furthermore, the Project continued implementing its innovative web-based tool called “Geoinformation System to Monitor, Analyse and Evaluate Conflicts” which allows community members to submit identified conflict situations through an interactive web platform and seek further resolution. The system proved to be an effective early response mechanism in addressing conflict situations with the support of dedicated mediators and advisors (more details on the Geoinformation system application are available under Activities 1.2.2 and 1.2.3).

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**ACTIVITY 1.1.2. PROMOTE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FUNCTIONING OF EARLY WARNING MECHANISMS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

The results of the work and best practices of the Geoinformation system to monitor, analyse and evaluate conflicts were presented during the conference “Do communities need dialogue, and how to work professionally with conflicts: the experience of the Geoinformation system’s specialists and partners”. The event was held during 3-6 December 2021 in Sviatohirsk (Donetsk Oblast) and was attended by more than 130 representatives of the Ministry for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, local authorities and civil society of Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

During the conference, the participants discussed the achievements of the Geoinformation system regarding conflict transformation and dialogue building and opportunities for further expansion of the system throughout Ukraine. It was also noted that since the platform launch, 546 conflict notifications were registered, out of which more than 44% were resolved, and 30% are in the process of resolution.

In addition, during February 2022, a series of roundtables were conducted in 7 communities of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts<sup>25</sup> aimed at presenting effective methods of conflict transformation to the local authorities and civil society. The meetings were attended by the specialists of the Geoinformation system as well as representatives of the Ministry for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, regional and local authorities and NGOs. The participants discussed the best practices of the Geoinformation system and its contribution to strengthening social cohesion through the introduction of modern methods of conflict analysis, monitoring, and resolution.

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<sup>25</sup> Illinivka, Kostiantynivka and Manhush of Donetsk Oblast; Milove, Novoaidar, Sievierodonetsk and Svatove of Luhansk Oblast.

## Output 1.2.

## Alternative conflict resolution mechanisms strengthened

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### ACTIVITY 1.2.1. CARRY OUT NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON PEACEBUILDING, MEDIATION AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION/ SCORE

The Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index for Eastern Ukraine (SCORE) is an analytical tool designed to improve the understanding of societal dynamics in Ukraine, including in non-government-controlled areas. This helps to identify strategic entry points for policies and programmes that contribute to strengthening social cohesion.

In 2021, the annual SCORE survey was conducted from January to May and covered about 19,000 face-to-face interviews, which included a nationally representative sample (at the oblast level) and additional boosters (Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (GCA), ‘contact line’ residents, 18 urban centres, ATO/JFO veterans, youth and adolescents, persons with disabilities, the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea coastline regions). The survey also included interviews from the NGCA, however a different method was applied to conduct them (computer-assisted telephone interviewing).

After a series of validation meetings with the local authorities, NGOs and CSOs in Donetsk, Luhansk and Kherson oblasts, the SCORE team prepared a series of analytical briefs that covered the topics of defining and measuring social cohesion, COVID-19 vaccination tendencies, and perceptions of land reform. This year’s flagship report – SCORE Ukraine 2021 Trends Report: An investigation of socio-political, civic and economic trends – was also released, analysing regional trends in Ukraine using data that the team has collected since 2016 ([Annex 3](#)).

In September 2021, SCORE 2021 results were presented to all stakeholders and made available to the public. The results of the survey are available in the form of interactive maps and dashboards on the official [SCORE website](#).

Also, with the support from the Project, additional data collection and analysis were carried out for the two vulnerable groups that the UN RPP is working with. This analysis resulted in briefs on Reintegrating ATO/JFO Veterans and Empowering Persons with Disabilities in eastern Ukraine (Annex 4).

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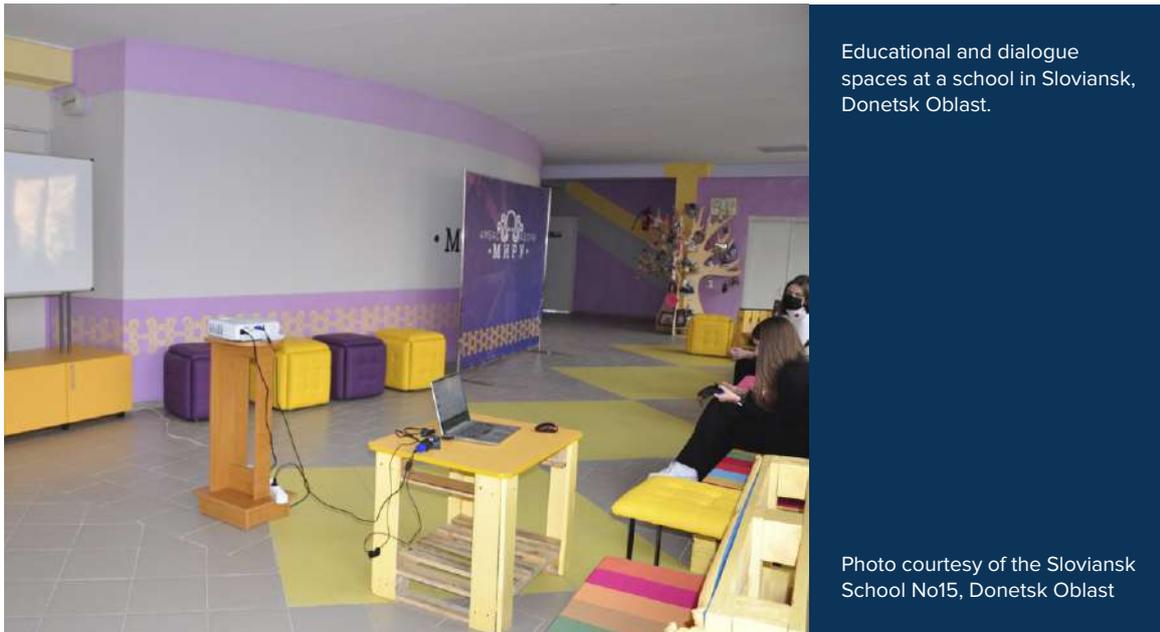
### ACTIVITY 1.2.2. SELECT AND TRAIN COMMUNITY MEDIATORS

During the reporting period, the Project continued supporting the network of Ambassadors of Peace in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The ambassadors present a community of mediators promoting social cohesion and non-conflict and tolerant interaction in the society, built on the principles of human rights, gender equality, inclusiveness and participation. Moreover, the network is actively working towards implementing the educational reform in the communities of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, namely the concept of the “New Ukrainian school”<sup>26</sup>. The idea clearly outlines the key competencies that students should master at school. Among them are civic and social competencies which include the ability to act in conflict situations, connected with various forms of discrimination, appreciate cultural diversity, understand the ideas of democracy, justice, equality, human rights, prosperity and healthy lifestyles, and equal rights and opportunities.

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<sup>26</sup> <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/npas/249613934>

To support the network in their educational activities, the Project provided 3 schools in Bakhmut, Sloviansk and Verkhniotoretske of Donetsk Oblast, with the necessary equipment and furniture<sup>27</sup> to organize ambassadors' spaces at schools which will serve as educational and dialogue spaces for young people. The educational spaces were created using modern ICT tools and in accordance with the principles of universal design. On the basis of these spaces, the ambassadors plan to conduct various informal educational events, debates, cinema clubs and other extracurricular activities for students.



Educational and dialogue spaces at a school in Sloviansk, Donetsk Oblast.

Photo courtesy of the Sloviansk School No15, Donetsk Oblast

Furthermore, 41 conflict analysts (29 women) and 36 mediators (27 women) from Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts have been engaged in the work of the Geoinformation system for Monitoring, Analysis, Evaluation and Resolution of Conflicts. Among these experts are local civic activists, including representatives of vulnerable groups, sociologists, employees of the local authorities, etc. The analysts and mediators of the Geoinformation system undergo constant training, which includes basic learning, skills testing and additional capacity-building activities, under the following broad topics:

- **Peaceful methods of conflict resolution:** mediation, negotiations and dialogue (conflict identification and analysis; negotiations and mediation; dialogue process, etc.).
- **Geoinformation system as a mediation tool** (dialogue process, roles of mediators and facilitators; instruments of the system to be used in a dialogue process and mediation).

Notably, the selection of the mediators is conducted by the expert group of the Geoinformation system and includes two stages:

- **Technical selection** (review of documents, certificates and motivation letters).
- **Skills testing and interviewing of potential candidates.**

After the selection process is completed, the expert group provides successful candidates with recommendations regarding additional training, necessary for their future work in the system.

<sup>27</sup> This activity was co-funded by the Government of Switzerland.

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### **ACTIVITY 1.2.3. SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLATFORM FOR MEDIATORS IN WHICH TO EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICES**

During the reporting year, the Geoinformation system for Monitoring, Analysis, Evaluation and Resolution of Conflicts continued its work in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts through a [dedicated platform](#). The platform allows residents of the target region to submit identified potential conflict situations and to seek further resolution with the support from the conflict analysts and conflict mediators. The platform also presents visual data about the number and geography of the identified cases as well as the main categories of the conflicts. In 2021, the system's experts analysed 86 conflicts, prepared 80 expert conclusions, and organized 42 dialogue events and 20 expert meetings, which were attended by 462 persons (304 women). Notably, 87 conflicts were resolved through the system in 2021. Most of the conflicts related to housing services, municipal property, environmental issues, and infrastructure.

As of December 2021, 155 cases, which could potentially escalate into conflicts, were mapped on the website and analysed. In addition, the platform also showcases best practices of the work of the Geoinformation system on conflict resolution. Among them are, for example, ensuring sustainable water supply in Chernihiv community of Zaporizhzhia Oblast, landfill cleaning in Illinivka community of Donetsk Oblast or settling issues regarding the construction of the regional hospital in Sievierodonetsk, Luhansk Oblast. The above-mentioned issues have been resolved through mediation and dialogue process with all the stakeholders and with the support of the experts of the Geoinformation system.

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### **ACTIVITY 1.2.4. PILOT OTHER FORMS OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Introduction of the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedure, namely mediation, is one of the priorities of the Strategy for the Development of the Justice System and Constitutional Judiciary in Ukraine for 2021-2023, and the National Strategy for Human Rights. During the reporting year, the Project continued its work towards judges' capacity to effectively use this procedure in courts. In this regard, the Project jointly with the National School of Judges of Ukraine (NSJU) organized a series of Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions on judicial mediation. The ToT aimed to create a sustainable basis for the professional development of judges of local courts in alternative dispute resolution. Over the training course, 24 (17 women) NSJU trainers gained new knowledge on mediation to further teach this course to judges. As of December 2021, 8 trainers who completed the ToT course conducted 2 approbation mediation training sessions for their colleagues. As a result, 19 judges (11 women) increased their knowledge and skills in the mediation procedure, its phases, negotiations specifics, conflict factors and psychological aspects of working with the parties. In addition, the Project has developed an online learning course on judicial mediation, which is available on the NSJU website.

Furthermore, the Project, in partnership with the Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Provision developed and organized 2 ToT sessions on mediation for representatives of the free legal aid system (FLAS). In total, 28 (23 women) FLAS employees received the necessary knowledge on ADR and its integration into legal aid procedures to further teach this course to other FLAS workers.

During the previous implementation periods, the Project piloted school reconciliation services, the primary purpose of which is to resolve conflict situations by students themselves through peer mediation. In 2021, to further disseminate the positive experience of creating such mechanisms in schools, the Project organized a training course on mediation for school psychologists from Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. During April – June 2021, 29 (all women) school psychologists underwent 3 training modules and increased their knowledge in mediation environment and its application in school environments. While creating the school reconciliation services, the leading role is played by school psychologists who, having mastered the necessary skills, can teach students to become school mediators for conflict resolution, which, in turn, will help prevent various forms of delinquency among children.

### ACTIVITY 1.2.5. STRENGTHEN ENGAGEMENT OF YOUTH THROUGH INNOVATIVE PEACEBUILDING INITIATIVES

The Project continues working toward the empowerment of young people by implementing and promoting a network of peacebuilding initiatives in the conflict-affected regions of Ukraine. An innovative online platform, “FUNdraiser”<sup>28</sup>, is available to help young people from the Project’s target regions build fundraising strategies to implement community security and social cohesion initiatives at the local level.<sup>29</sup> The platform contains a set of game tools and over 120 helpful educational and informational resources for young activists, youth organisations and other stakeholders. The first result of the work of the platform was the Fundraising Challenge. A total of 154 young people (112 girls) submitted applications via the FUNdraiser platform, and 25 project teams registered to raise money for their projects. At the final of the Fundraising Challenge, which was held on 6 August 2021 in Sviatohirsk, five winning teams out of 13 were selected to present their public safety and social cohesion initiatives. The winning projects were focused on the improvement of public spaces and landscaping of the village of Rozdolne, and to provide pre-owned laptops and computers for education to teachers and children from low-income families in Mariinka, both in Donetsk Oblast. These teams were provided with grant funding and mentorship support to implement their ideas.

Moreover, the Project further contributed to peacebuilding and improving social cohesion through engaging conflict-affected young people in local educational and capacity-building initiatives of the network of “Ambassadors of Peace”.<sup>30</sup> During 2021, 130 events were held by the network in the communities of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Over 12,500 young people (67% girls) took part in these events, among which were the Laboratory of Ambassadors for Peace on Conflict Transformation, the Laboratory of Tolerance, the dialogue action “Culture of peace as the basis for the development of civil society in Ukraine”, the Peace Workshop for Children, the Debate4HumanRights, “Youth Human Rights and COVID-19” short training sessions, and more. In addition, a series of events lasting a whole week were dedicated specifically to the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2021. During these events, participants increased their understanding and awareness of issues of non-violent communication, dialogue facilitation, inclusion, volunteering, development of tolerance, promoting sustainable development and the SDGs, gender equality, climate change prevention, and other issues. A dedicated booklet was created to summarise the experience of the network and consolidate best practices of the activity of Ambassadors of Peace. The booklet includes the history of the creation and development of the network, and describes the principles, goals and success stories of network members in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (Annex 5).



Public debates event for young people, organized by the network of “Ambassadors of Peace”.

Photo credit: Oleksandr Simonenko / UNDP Ukraine

<sup>28</sup> This activity is co-funded by the Government of Denmark.

<sup>29</sup> FUNdraiser – YouTube channel. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd8KPTly0yGkMp5lqKOePxQ/videos>

<sup>30</sup> This activity is co-funded by the EU and the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.



Public debates event for young people, organized by the network of “Ambassadors of Peace”.

Photo credit: Oleksandr Simonenko / UNDP Ukraine

The members of the network are determined to further develop their activity in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, as well as to share their experience and best practices with other communities throughout Ukraine. In addition, the ambassadors plan to expand their activities and thematic areas, taking into account the new needs of community members and responding to the current crisis. It is also planned to further support the organizational development of the NGO “Ambassadors of Peace”, in particular with the elaboration of a network development strategy. The ambassadors also plan to be actively involved in the development of local policies and programmes aimed at strengthening social cohesion, peacebuilding and promoting sustainable development, gender equality and tolerance in the conflict-affected communities.

Output 1.3.

## **Pilot initiatives for supporting vulnerable populations suffering adverse effects from the armed conflict are launched**

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### **ACTIVITY 1.3.1. CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF DAMAGE TO AND DESTRUCTION OF HOMES AND PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND**

### **ACTIVITY 1.3.2. PROVIDING SUPPORT TO PROSPECTIVE CLAIMANTS OF COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY**

The issues of loss or damage to civilian property, caused by the armed conflict, and procedure for compensation connected with the use of private real estate of civilians for military purposes remain relevant for the conflict-affected regions of Ukraine.

In this regard, the Project supported the Ukrainian Institute for Human Rights implementing the initiative to develop two alternative mechanisms to protect the rights of the property owners. The first mechanism foresees the development of an administrative compensation procedure for the damage caused to the civilians whose property was used for military purposes during the conflict. The second one implies the initiation of positive case law on the issue (so-called strategic litigation). Currently, trials are underway in 5 cases regarding the usage and damage of civilian property (3 of them are related to women-owners); in one of these cases, a decision of the court of the first instance was received. In addition, the Project included an advocacy component, in particular, work with parliamentary committees, which are considering two alternative proposals designed to regulate these public relations.

This activity was suspended after the Russian military invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

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### **ACTIVITY 1.3.3. ASSESSMENT OF VULNERABLE GROUPS AT LOCAL LEVEL**

As part of its comprehensive support for promoting social cohesion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding in eastern Ukraine, the Project works to facilitate ex-combatants' reintegration into society.

Based on the experience and lessons learned gained during the previous years of implementation, the Project developed a methodology of the peer-to-peer mentorship programme. The document aimed at promoting the peer-to-peer mentorship approach among different actors who work on veterans' reintegration and can improve veterans' experience in pursuing self-development – in receiving higher education, finding a new job or starting/expanding their own business. Initially, the presentation of the methodology was scheduled for April 2022. However, due to the Russian large-scale military invasion of Ukraine, it was decided to postpone it as the developed document did not reflect the new priorities of all interested parties. Upon consultations with the stakeholders, the Project will update and finalize the peer-to-peer mentorship methodology for its further implementation through various projects by CSOs, educational institutions and businesses.

Furthermore, the Project has conducted complex research on providing medical assistance to the ex-combatants in Ukraine. The study included a comprehensive desk review of the legislation and available national and regional programmes of medical rehabilitation and support, as well as a survey of the ex-combatants, medical staff, representatives of national and regional authorities and NGOs working with veterans in the 3 selected oblasts<sup>31</sup>. The research covered the issues of available medical services and programmes for veterans, their accessibility, and veterans' satisfaction with the received services.

The study aimed to provide a set of recommendations for developing the national policy document on providing medical care for ex-combatants. Although the research was conducted before the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine in February 2022, the analysis presented in the report will remain relevant in the post-war period and will provide evidence-based recommendations for future programmes and policies for ex-combatants. As the number of veterans increases, their need for quality medical care and further rehabilitation will become even more acute.

#### **ACTIVITY 1.3.4. SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE GROUPS IN TRANSFORMING CONFLICTS AND RECEIVING EFFECTIVE SERVICES THROUGH PILOT INITIATIVES**

To further support ex-combatants to reintegrate into their communities, the Project conducted the second hackathon for ATO/JFO ex-combatants – ‘Veterandvzh’. In 2021, the leading topic of the event was the engagement of veterans in the life of communities and practical cooperation with different actors at the local level. The ‘Veterandvzh 2.0’ took place in Kyiv in October 2021 in a hybrid format and was explicitly targeted at ex-combatants with little experience in project management. The event was joined by the representatives of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs, local authorities, and veterans’ CSOs. For several days, 20 ex-combatants worked in 16 teams to develop project ideas for social change in communities. Before presenting their ideas at the hackathon, the participants had the opportunity to work with professional mentors from various fields who helped them improve their projects. As a result of the pitch presentations and competitive selection process, 7 projects were supported (3 from Luhansk Oblast, 1 from Zaporizhzhia and 3 from Zhytomyr oblasts). The winning projects were focused on such topics as ensuring various services for ex-combatants (sport, rehabilitation, digital learning), improving infrastructure facilities for veterans and other community members, etc. Unfortunately, due to the Russian military invasion of Ukraine, only one initiative remained relevant and received grant support from the Project.



Presentations of projects during the “Veterandvzh 2.0” hackathon.

Photo credit: Serhii Minenko / UNDP Ukraine

Furthermore, the Project continues implementing the peer-to-peer support programme to help the ex-combatants build links with the local authorities, law enforcement bodies and other stakeholders. The programme helps facilitate the networking of active veterans across the country, empower ex-combatants to excel in their professional development and establish meaningful community participation. During the reporting year, 12 ATO/JFO veterans became mentors of the programme, and 32 (9 women)

<sup>31</sup> This activity was co-funded by the Government of Switzerland.

mentees from Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr oblasts were engaged. The mentors worked with the participants to mobilise the ex-combatants and share and exchange their positive reintegration experience. Although the peer-to-peer programme is more applicable to the post-war period, some of the programme's approaches can be used in the rehabilitation of veterans with disabilities and in working with other war-affected groups. The Project will assess such needs throughout the country and implement the mentorship approach for ex-combatants' reintegration.



An ex-combatant from Lysychansk sharing the story of the «Veterans of ATO of Luhansk Region» NGO about promoting justice and the rights of youth.

Photo credit: Danylo Pavlov, Serhii Korovainyi / UNDP Ukraine

Moreover, to promote the institutional development of the veterans' CSOs, the Project supported the creation of 10 motivational success stories of the civil society organizations working with ATO/JFO ex-combatants from Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (Annex 6). The videos showcase the results of the NGOs initiatives and the success stories of the ex-combatants, who benefitted from these projects. In addition, the stories of the CSOs were published in the Reporters – a well-known national online media – to reach a wider audience.<sup>32</sup>

The Project is further working towards improving the provision of medical and psychological services to ex-combatants. With this in view, 25 psychologists, (16 women) learned innovative methods of working with veterans and their families, namely cognitive and procedural therapy for ex-combatants. Notably, the 7-day training programme was a part of the Ukrainian-American Programme for Overcoming Psychological Trauma and Concomitant Conditions Related to Participation in Armed Conflicts.



Adaptive climbing wall for children with disabilities in Sloviansk, Donetsk Oblast.

Photo credit: Artem Gertman / UNDP Ukraine

<sup>32</sup> <https://ngodonbas.reporters.media>

To support the rehabilitation and social engagement of children with special educational needs in Donetsk Oblast, the Project, in December 2020, supported the instalment of an adaptive climbing wall in the premises of Donbas State Pedagogical University. In 2021, the classes of inclusive groups were held for 90 children (44 girls), including two permanent groups of children with special educational needs, consisting of 12 boys and 3 girls.



Training session for the psychologists working with ex-combatants.

Photo credit: Zhanna Chmut / UNDP Ukraine

In 2021, the Project continued enhancing the capacities of the military hospitals in the target regions. In particular, the Project provided the rehabilitation centre for veterans and their families in Berdychiv raion, Zhytomyr Oblast, with training equipment for sport rehabilitation. The centre is designed to provide medical assistance to 100 persons at once and was equipped to be able to render much-needed services for the veterans.



Final pitching of the “Local Innovation Laboratory” project, aimed at promoting the use of innovative approaches and tools in local development.

Photo credit: Antonina Poluhina / UNDP in Ukraine

Furthermore, the Project has launched a capacity-building programme called “Local Innovation Laboratory” to promote innovative approaches and tools in local development.<sup>33</sup> The laboratory’s activities were focused on awareness-raising and capacity development of civic activists so that they can use effectively innovative methodologies and tools – such as design thinking, user research,

<sup>33</sup> This activity was co-funded by the EU and the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.

crowdsourcing and experimentation – to implement innovative and practical solutions for the community development, based on the participatory approach. During the reporting year, 96 (78 women) from the target communities formed 12 teams (7 from Donetsk and 5 from Luhansk oblasts), and 40 participants (34 women) underwent a 2-day training session on innovative ecosystems for community development. As a result, the participants developed 12 projects which were presented at the final pitching event that took place on 3 December 2021 in Kramatorsk, Donetsk Oblast. The developed initiatives will be further supported through the Project’s SGF. Notably, this activity has supported local NGOs and CSWGs in finding new solutions to address pressing security and development issues in the local communities through active civic engagement and co-creation.

The Project, in cooperation with UNFPA and the local authorities, supported the refurbishment of the premises of a shelter in Bakhmut (Donetsk Oblast), as well as a day-centre in Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk Oblast) for survivors of the gender-based and domestic violence. The main function of the facilities is not limited to providing physical assistance to GBV and domestic violence survivors, but also comprehensive social, psychological, medical and primary legal support, accompanied by awareness-raising activities, aimed at preventing repeated cases of violence against women and girls. The shelter in Bakhmut will function as a structural unit of the city’s Social Services Centre for Families of Children and Youth and can accommodate 10 people.

### **ACTIVITY 1.3.5. RAISE AWARENESS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL ABOUT LESSONS LEARNED FROM LOCAL SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE GROUPS**

With the Project’s support, the international conference “Mental Health: Ukraine. The World. The Future” was conducted in Kyiv on 29 October 2021 in a hybrid format. The conference aimed to share experience and best practices and find common vision for the creation of the effective system of medical and psychological rehabilitation for ATO/JFO ex-combatants in Ukraine. The event brought together representatives of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine, representatives of other Ministries and government agencies, leading researchers, experts and psychologists. International experts from the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom and Poland joined in the discussions as well. The conference covered cognitive processing therapy for dealing with traumatic events, scientific approaches to selecting the best practices of psychosocial care, standards in psychotherapeutic work with trauma, and the latest innovations in providing psychological assistance to ex-combatants and people whose psychological state has been affected by the armed conflict.



International conference  
“Mental Health: Ukraine. The  
World. The Future”.

Photo credit: Oleksandr  
Ratushniak / UNDP in Ukraine

Due to the long-lasting armed conflict in eastern Ukraine and the Russian large-scale invasion, the issue of providing qualified psychological assistance to ex-combatants will remain urgent, and there will be a growing demand among professionals for improved mental health methods for providing psychological support.

Furthermore, the Project presented the key findings and recommendations of the study on community-based reintegration of ex-combatants and the assessment of social reintegration of ex-combatants in local communities, which was conducted in the previous reporting period. The online presentation took place on 16 March 2021 and included a panel discussion with the key experts in the field of the reintegration of veterans. The event brought together various stakeholders, including ATO and JFO veterans, representatives of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine and local authorities, and NGOs working in this field. The issues discussed covered the social adaptation of ex-combatants, their medical and psychological rehabilitation, and the veterans' image in the society.



Moreover, the Project supported the organization of the annual innovation contest “Hack for Locals”, which took place online during 26-28 November under the UN Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme.<sup>34</sup> The “Hack for Locals 3.0: Together against violence” was held in partnership with national and international stakeholders, including the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast Administrations, and was dedicated to the “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” Global Initiative.

During the hackathon, more than 400 participants came up with practical solutions for overcoming the problem of violence in Ukraine and increasing community security and social cohesion. More than 50 teams joined the hackathon, of which 35 reached the semi-finals. The proposed solutions and innovations covered a wide range of areas – from prevention of various forms of violence in public spaces, providing support to violence survivors online, to interactive solutions that offer game formats to combat violence. As a result of extensive work and fruitful discussions, the four winning projects were selected to receive financial and mentoring support to implement their innovative ideas in the communities of Ukraine:

<sup>34</sup> This activity was co-funded by the EU and the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.

- **First place went to the team “v-checkers”.** They presented a project for an innovative entertaining and educational video game “Violence Checker”. The game simulates several situations in how violence occurs in public places. The player witnesses violent incidents, and is offered several solutions for resolving the problem, as well as being given explanations about the right and wrong ways to resolve a given situation.
- **The team “Et cetera” was in second place** with its project for a fairy-tale-based game called “The Step” that helps students to prevent and resist violence online and offline.
- **Third place was shared by two teams – IT-Battalion and Girls\_Power.** IT-Battalion presented its project for a chatbot for the military “App for combating sexual violence” for the most popular social messengers, including Facebook, Instagram and Telegram. It provides anonymous informational, psychological, and legal support to violence survivors, incident witnesses and those who are simply trying to understand how to combat violence. The chatbot will be an extension to a bot that is already fully operational on the website: invisiblebattalion.org. The Girls\_Power shared the third place with their project for a gamified online quest “Live without illusion”, the mission of which is to help the characters overcome violence in their relationships.

An additional prize from partners Jooble was awarded to the team of the NGO “Girls”, which presented a project for an educational platform called “Healthy\_girls” for young people on the TikTok network. Unfortunately, due to the outbreak of war in Ukraine, only 2 winning teams were able to implement their projects (Et Cetera and Girls\_Power).

Ultimately, a pilot programme on innovation development named “Co-create With the Locals” has been launched to enhance the capacities of civil society activists in co-developing, testing and implementing innovative and practical solutions for their communities, using the tools of social innovation and collaboration. Joint work to develop innovative ideas, the use of methodologies to test and validate their hypotheses, and day-to-day collaboration with mentors produced some new and creative local community development projects. The pilot programme included training and mentorship components and engaged 28 (23 women) participants from nine oblasts<sup>35</sup> who jointly worked on the co-creation of innovative solutions on community security and social cohesion issues. As a result, 23 project proposals were developed, 10 of which received financial support for their implementation.<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Chernihiv, Zhytomyr and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts.

<sup>36</sup> This activity was co-financed by the EU.

Output 1.4.

## Improved efficiency and accountability in courts, prosecution offices, and police in resolving conflicts generally, and those emanating from the armed conflict in particular

### ACTIVITY 1.4.1. CAPACITY BUILDING AND THE INTRODUCTION OF BEST PRACTICES TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF COURTS AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

From April to August 2021, the Project carried out a survey on the needs and prospects for enhancing the capacity of the local general courts and the free legal aid system (FLAS) in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts on armed conflict-related cases in the implementation of transitional justice in Ukraine. The purpose of the study was to assess the capacity-building needs of local general courts and local secondary free legal aid offices dealing with civil and criminal cases during the application of transitional period policy in Ukraine, as well as in terms of the quarantine restrictions. Based on the results of the study, the Project has prepared a report which describes the context, identified needs and opportunities to increase the capacity of local general courts and the FLAS in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in cases related to armed conflict in the implementation of transitional justice in Ukraine, challenges of the implementation of legislation on the transitional period, as well as possible ways to overcome them ([Annex 7](#)).

Furthermore, based on the recommendations of the study on the availability of court cases and archives of the local Departments of Justice, the State Migration Service, the State Labour Service of Ukraine and the Pension Fund of Ukraine, that remained in NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, the Project supported a pilot initiative in 3 local general courts<sup>37</sup>. The initiative aimed to digitize incoming procedural documents and specific categories of archival cases. Based on the results of this pilot activity, the Project planned to further evaluate the need to implement such a system in the rest of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. However, with the beginning of the large-scale war on 24 February 2022 further implementation of this initiative was suspended.

Moreover, the Project completed the research aimed at identification and analysis of the best practices in the conflict-related judicial cases on sexual and gender-based violence. The study was developed in response to the NSJU's request to increase the capacity of local courts operating in eastern Ukraine or working with the conflict-related cases. The study focused on the practice of judicial decisions (of both national and international courts) on encroachment on sexual freedom and inviolability as a violation of the laws and customs of war. Based on the study results, the Project developed guidelines for judges of the local general courts on such trials.

The Project continues providing the necessary capacity-building support to local judicial institutions to enable them to provide quality and timely services to the conflict-affected population. During the reporting period, 21 (15 women) judges-speakers<sup>38</sup> of the local general courts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts improved their communication skills by participating in a 2-day training programme on effective communication with the media and civil society. Through the training programme, the judges received necessary skills to enable them to effectively present information and interact with the media and public.

<sup>37</sup> Donetsk Oblast: Artemivsk city and raion court (Bakhmut), and Ordzhonikidze district court of Mariupol; Luhansk Oblast: Sievierodonetsk city court.

<sup>38</sup> A judge of a local court appointed for sharing information with the media.

In addition, the Project organized and conducted 3 multidisciplinary workshops for representatives of the law enforcement bodies and the justice sector (judges, prosecutors, FLAS lawyers) from Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. The events took place on 7, 9 and 10 September 2021 in Berdiansk and Sviatohirsk and gathered 59 (29 women) participants, who were able to increase their knowledge and improve cooperation in domestic violence prevention and response.

The aim of the workshop was to identify problematic issues in the interaction and challenges faced by law enforcement agencies and the justice sector in implementing legislation on prevention of and response to domestic violence, using a survivor-centred approach. In addition, the events helped develop recommendations for the law enforcement agencies and the justice sector aimed at unifying the application of current legislation in this sphere and, ultimately, expanding access to justice for domestic violence survivors.

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#### **ACTIVITY 1.4.2. SUPPORTING MONITORING OF COURT PROCEEDINGS RESULTING FROM THE ARMED CONFLICT**

Independent monitoring of legal and justice services provided to the public is a prerequisite for ensuring their quality, availability, and accessibility to all people, including vulnerable and marginalized groups. Therefore, the Project is assisting civil society in building their capacity to assess conflict-related judicial cases, develop recommendations, and implement them to streamline the judicial process.

Through its small grants scheme, the Project supported the implementation of a civic initiative on creating and developing an effective network of students to monitor the court proceedings on the independence of judges in conflict-related cases. As a result, 28 (21 women) students of universities of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts underwent respective training programme and received the necessary knowledge to monitor trials. Based on the results of such monitoring, up-to-date information regarding compliance with the standards of a fair trial was collected, and the main problems in ensuring the right to a fair trial were identified. Due to the beginning of the Russian military invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, further implementation of this activity was suspended.

## Output 1.5.

## **Grants support to strengthened mechanisms for conflict transformation through the provision of effective and innovative services**

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During the reporting period, the Project continued implementing the small grants scheme as an effective instrument for engagement and empowerment of the local communities. Based on the results of the expert evaluation, the implementation of 9 projects facilitating conflict transformation was supported. More specifically, the projects aimed at reducing conflicts in the target communities of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts through alternative or innovative approaches to dispute and conflict prevention and resolution, and conducting community conflict analysis to prevent new and resolve existing conflicts. To date, all the projects have been successfully implemented reaching more than 8,800 (61% women) beneficiaries.

In addition, 4 projects were supported to facilitate ATO/JFO ex-combatant's reintegration in Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk and Zhytomyr oblasts, benefitting directly 445 (140 women) people. The projects covered the areas of medical and psychological rehabilitation and social adaptation of veterans, enhancing cooperation between ATO/JFO veterans, youth and police to increase public safety and promotion of social reintegration of ATO/JFO ex-combatants through training and various group activities (Annex 8 – List of the supported projects within the SGF).

Furthermore, in 2021, the Project supported 11 civil society mini-initiatives in the communities of Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts. The instrument of mini-initiatives is often used to mobilise communities where the public sector is underrepresented or when an initiative group is formed and works on its challenge; however, it has not yet reached the stage of creating a CSO. The initiatives focused on increasing community security and social cohesion, facilitating ex-combatants' reintegration as well as promoting Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus activities, and benefitted some 4,800 people (55% women) people, including youth, children, ex-combatants and persons with disabilities (Annex 9 – List of the supported mini-initiatives within the SGF). For example, a Cultural and Family Hub "The Magic World of Childhood", was created at a preschool educational institution in Shchastia, Luhansk Oblast, to promote inclusive services for the conflict-affected boys and girls with special education needs. The Hub was outfitted with special education equipment to provide children with disabilities with inclusive education services and treatment and became a space where parents could also get therapy and expert support in family relationships.

Output 2.

## **STRENGTHENED PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY SECURITY THROUGH GREATER INSTITUTIONAL AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED AREAS**

Output 2.1.

### **Increased awareness of public attitudes, human rights redress mechanisms, and security risks by policymakers, the public, and particularly the youth**

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#### **ACTIVITY 2.1.1. MEASURE THE PERCEPTION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES OF KEY SECURITY AND JUSTICE ISSUES, ALONG WITH THEIR EXPERIENCES IN ACCESSING JUSTICE, THEIR SECURITY CONCERNS AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO OBTAIN REDRESS**

Since 2017, the UN RPP has commissioned 4 surveys of citizens' knowledge of, attitudes toward and experience with justice and security issues in the conflict-affected communities in eastern Ukraine. The latest "Security and Justice in Ukraine" survey was completed in 2021 with a particular geographic focus on the conflict-affected areas in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, as well as on Zaporizhzhia and Kherson oblasts. The purpose of the survey was to observe the dynamics and key developments since the last assessment. Another focus of the survey was to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on different spheres of life – community development, human security, and access to justice – especially for the representatives of vulnerable groups. The survey was conducted with 5,125 (56% women) respondents aged 18 and over<sup>39</sup>. Notably, for the first time, respondents in the NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk were surveyed through an online survey.

The annual Security and Justice Survey, supported by the Project, is one of the key monitoring instruments and analytical tools for the whole Programme. It provides unique data (at relevant levels of disaggregation) that allows tracking the progress of the key national reforms in the conflict-affected

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<sup>39</sup> 1,001 respondents come from Zaporizhzhia Oblast (21.2%); the same number was interviewed in Kherson Oblast (21.2%); 1,195 respondents came from GCA Donetsk Oblast (25.3%), and 913 from GCA Luhansk Oblast (19.3%). An additional 307 (6.5%) and 304 (6.4%) respondents came from communities close to the 'contact line' in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts respectively.

regions and assessing the impact of different development interventions related to reintegration, community security, the rule of law and human rights. Since the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, the territories of the Project's target regions became a centre of hostilities and are being most heavily affected by the ongoing war. Some target communities became non-government-controlled territories, while others are now at the frontline. Intense and escalating hostilities continue to cause casualties among civilians, as well as massive destruction of critical infrastructure in the region. Therefore, the results obtained within the fourth Security and Justice Survey can serve as a pre-war baseline, while the new assessments are required to evaluate the current situation and align the UN RPP interventions according to the new needs and challenges of the affected regions.

Apart from that, the Project supported local security service providers by improving their capacity to deliver emergency services more efficiently. During the reporting period, 18 medical kits were delivered to the Main Department of the State Emergency Service in Zaporizhzhia Oblast to ensure quality first aid provision to the local population by the SES rescuers. Moreover, the Project transferred training medical mannequins and educational information stands to Donetsk and Luhansk Universities of Internal Affairs to improve their technical capacity and create opportunities for conducting quality first aid trainings for students.

The capacity-building support also included learning activities conducted for security service providers. In November 2021, the Programme held 4 two-day training sessions for police officers of the preventive sector of the Main Department of National Police in Luhansk Oblast on protection of human rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of persons with disabilities in policing and ethics of communication with them. As result, 82 police officers (29 women) increased their awareness of the rights, freedoms and interests of persons with disabilities, international practices and modern approaches on work with persons with disabilities as well as preventive methods against the violence in relation to them. In addition, the participants received necessary information on existing nosological forms of disability and descriptive characteristics of the disabilities of such people, basics of ethical communication between police and persons with disabilities.

Furthermore, in November – December 2021, the Project held 3 training sessions, “Trust-building inside a community. Community policing”, in Melitopol and Berdiansk, Zaporizhzhia Oblast. Overall, 46 (25 women) representatives of police units, including community police officers, local authorities and civic activists gained an understanding of the process of security mapping and elaboration of joint activities to address security concerns at the local level, and improved their skills in using community policing mechanism to increase community security. More specifically, the participants learned about the legal and methodological basis of the community policing principle, and shared their experience in implementing community policing projects, including results reached in the implementation of the Community Police Officer initiative<sup>40</sup>. Notably, the training sessions were held upon the request from the local police units with the view to the importance of strengthening cooperation between police and community.

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### **ACTIVITY 2.1.2. UNDERTAKE AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGN TO FOCUS ON SECURITY CHALLENGES AND REDRESS MECHANISMS**

The Project is working on identifying and raising awareness about the best practices and challenges faced by the community members and civic activists in their efforts to address local security issues and enhancing social cohesion. In this regard, a networking meeting of the Community Security Working

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<sup>40</sup> In 2020, a national project entitled “Community Police Officer” was launched in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts with the aim of strengthening cooperation between police officers and community residents so as to meet the security needs of each particular community.

Groups (CSWGs) of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts was held on 28-30 June 2021 in Kreminna, Luhansk Oblast, as a hybrid event. During the meeting, some 60 representatives of the CSWGs summarized the interim results of the work of the CSWG network, brainstormed on coordination mechanisms of CSWGs at the regional and national levels, and discussed the experience in implementing participatory budget projects in the target communities. Based on the results of the group discussions, the participants identified the main priorities for the CSWG network activity for 2022, namely:

- 1. Gender mainstreaming in local development** (analysis of local policies and gender-responsive budgeting practices in communities, accumulating best practices of gender mainstreaming in local budgeting).
- 2. Implementation of innovative approaches** (proactive use of the CSWG network's platform, accumulating best practices of using innovative approaches in community development).
- 3. Involvement of vulnerable groups and ATO/JFO ex-combatants** to CSWG activities.
- 4. Transformation of CSWGs** from dialogue platforms to effective advocacy platforms.
- 5. Partnerships building** with local security institutions and creating further sustainable cooperation.



Interregional conference on participatory budgeting, 7-8 October 2021, Sviatohirsk, Donetsk Oblast.

Photo credit: Artem Hetman / UNDP in Ukraine

Another awareness-raising event, supported by the Project, was the “Interregional conference on participatory budgeting” held in Sviatohirsk, Donetsk Oblast, on 7-8 October 2021 in a hybrid format. The participatory budget, as one of the tools of participatory democracy, helps ensure equal access for all stakeholders to the community development process to ensure citizen participation in decision-making. The conference brought together the most active representatives from Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, so that they could learn how local participatory budgets work and exchange experience in the implementation of the participatory budget projects. The participants discussed the existing challenges and problems as well as best practices and opportunities for the local communities in using this instrument. As a result of the productive discussions, a set of recommendations and next steps was developed by the participants, including:

- establish the institute of mentoring;
- develop a project management training system;
- use an integrated approach while planning/implementing participatory budget projects;

- create a platform for implementation/support of participation budget;
- ensure monitoring and evaluation as well as public reporting on the implemented projects;
- create a ‘bank of ideas’ for future projects;
- conduct exchange visits on participatory budgeting for activists and local authorities to other oblasts and communities.

The Project continued working towards identifying and developing positive narratives to raise awareness about the challenges faced by the conflict-affected people, namely youth, ex-combatants and their families, as well as draw attention to the problem of domestic violence. In the previous implementation period, a series of comic books was developed to help visualise and communicate the stories of vulnerable and conflict-affected people. In 2021, the Project distributed 12,000 hard copies and online versions of the comic books to its partners, namely the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine, CSOs working in the related areas and the CSWGs. Notably, the Institute for Modernization of Education approved the use of all four comic books in extracurricular educational processes in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, particularly through the La Strada mediator network. In addition, the comic books were awarded the title of “[Social Project of the Year](#)” for a series of social paintings by contemporary Ukrainian authors. The Project also created a [website](#) where comics can be downloaded in two languages to reach a wider audience. Moreover, the comic books were presented to 39 government partners and human rights workers during a dedicated online meeting on 15 June 2021 and to a broader audience at the Comic-Con Ukraine festival in Kyiv on 5 September 2021, which gathered more than 40,000 participants.



Four comic books on social topics, developed by the Project, were presented at Comic-Con Ukraine, Kyiv, 5 September 2021.

Photo credit: Oleksandr Ratushniak / UNDP in Ukraine

## Output 2.2.

## Improved capacities and practices of law enforcement and local authority service providers to carry out community policing and discharge their responsibilities to citizens

### ACTIVITY 2.2.1. TRAINING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ON COMMUNITY POLICING, IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW, INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, AND THE PRINCIPLES AND NORMS OF GENDER EQUALITY

In 2020, the Project supported the opening of child-friendly ‘green rooms’ at the police departments in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts for interviewing children who are witnesses and victims of crimes, including domestic violence, as well as those who have committed violence. To further support the capacity building of police officers working with children in the ‘green rooms’, the Project conducted a series of 2-day educational training sessions in Sievierodonetsk and Mariupol in May 2021. Overall, 32 (19 women) juvenile prevention officers of the Main Departments of National Police in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts increased their skills in conducting child-friendly interviews, studied psychological and legal features that must be considered by police officers and received recommendations for effective communication with children, following the principle of “do no harm”. Notably, the educational programme was based on methodological recommendations for interviewing children who have witnessed and/or became victims as well as committed violence and was conducted by an experienced trainer with the involvement of a psychologist.

Furthermore, the Project supported the two local police offices in Luhansk Oblast<sup>41</sup> aimed at introducing the principles of openness and transparency in their works. This included the outfitting of the service areas of the police offices with necessary furniture and equipment, and minor repair works. The creation of such spaces significantly improved the quality of the provision of police services to the community. To develop this direction, it was also planned to introduce primary communication groups in the territorial police departments which included personnel who conduct primary interaction with visitors at police departments. To support this initiative, a training session on effective communication was organized on 11-12 August 2021, which helped 15 police officers from Luhansk Oblast improve their communication skills, learn about the principles non-conflict interaction and specifics of communication with different social, age and gender groups.

Since 2017, the National Police of Ukraine launched the “Polina” project in some regions of the country, aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The essence of this project is that special mobile police groups are created in cities with a high population density, which include employees of various police departments: district officers, juvenile prevention and investigators (women and men). Members of these mobile groups receive necessary training in the field of SGBV prevention and counteraction. In particular, such project was launched in Sievierodonetsk of Luhansk Oblast and Mariupol of Donetsk Oblast, as well as in other regions of Ukraine. To increase the mobility of the “Polina” groups in their response to SGBV and domestic violence, the Project provided one specialized vehicle to each of the police groups operating in Mariupol and Sievierodonetsk. In addition, during the reporting period, 20 police officers (5 women) from Zaporizhzhia Oblast were equipped with the necessary knowledge on psychological approaches of working with survivors of domestic violence and abusers.

<sup>41</sup> Novoidar and Sievierodonetsk.

### ACTIVITY 2.2.2. BUILD THE CAPACITIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO CARRY OUT COMMUNITY POLICING THROUGH ADDITIONAL METHODS

The high level of public trust in police is one of the most important indicators of the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies. In this regard, the implementation of the community policing principle and building trust in the police are closely interlinked. With this in view, the Project supported the creation of a multifunction dialogue space – a unique premises for meetings with CSO representatives, local activists and community members – at the Department of Patrol Police in Donetsk Oblast by procuring furniture and office equipment. The primary purpose of this dialogue space is to enhance the transparency of the police’s work, increase the level of public trust in the police, as well as discuss and plan the implementation of joint projects with the community members. The dialogue space was designed to hold various meetings with the citizens, local authorities, SCOs and international organizations, and organize thematic training events and awareness-raising campaigns.

Furthermore, the Project has supported the creation of a sports hub in Sievierodonetsk, Luhansk Oblast, to conduct various sports activities involving police officers and community members. Such activities aim to strengthen the interaction between police and community, increase trust in police and improve sports and educational activities of the police officers. The Project purchased and transferred sports and other equipment, furniture and air conditioning systems to equip the sports hub and the police offices, which are located at the same premises.

Moreover, the Project provided technical assistance to the Main Department of the National Police in Donetsk Oblast by supporting the overhaul of the premises of the several services working in the field of child protection in Kramatorsk (the Kramatorsk Children’s Service, the Probation Service, the Juvenile Prevention Department, the Police District Office and the “Polina” mobile group). The provided support included procurement of construction materials, namely gutter system, construction mixtures, and bulk and liquid materials. Notably, these institutions render their services not only to the city residents, but also to the people from other settlements of Donetsk Oblast, including children and other vulnerable groups.



Participants of a forum on violence prevention in Kyiv discuss joint efforts to address various forms of violence in Ukraine.

Photo credit: Oleksandr Ratushniak / UNDP in Ukraine

The SGBV/DV remains one of the most widespread and, at the same time, underreported types of offence in eastern Ukraine. To address these issues, a range of activities were undertaken, including capacity building for the various actors who have a mandate for SGBV/DV prevention and response, as well as raising public awareness about SGBV/DV issues. To this end, the Project organized a Forum on

Domestic Violence Prevention and Response, which was held on 16-17 September 2021 in Kyiv.<sup>42</sup> The event attracted over 100 representatives of central and local authorities, law enforcement agencies, and the courts and representatives of NGOs from Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts who support local communities in SGBV/DV prevention. The event served as a dialogue platform between various actors to develop a shared vision for addressing different forms of violence in Ukraine and the conflict-affected regions in particular. The forum focused on sharing experiences and discussing effective practices for preventing and combating SGBV/DV, raising the issue of violence against vulnerable groups, including people with disabilities, and how to prevent it. In addition, judicial practices for combatting violence and determining the criminal punishment for offenders were discussed at the forum, along with possible methods to achieve effective interagency cooperation to prevent and combat SGBV/DV in Ukraine. Based on the results of the discussions, further activities will be planned to address SGBV/DV – primarily to build the capacity of security providers and strengthen coordination between all actors involved in SGBV/DV prevention and response.

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### **ACTIVITY 2.2.3. SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL SECURITY PLANS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

During the previous implementation period, the UN RPP supported the development of integrated security plans for 6 communities in Donetsk (Sartana, Siversk and Volnovakha) and Luhansk (Krasnorichenske, Kreminna and Popasna) oblasts<sup>43</sup>. To further support the implementation of these security plans, the Project provided the required IT and video surveillance equipment to Kreminna, Popasna, Sartana, Siversk and Volnovakha communities. Moreover, the Project supplied necessary construction materials to Krasnorichenske community for the renovation of the fire station.

To assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the integrated security plans, a dedicated training programme on effective monitoring and assessment was organized for representatives of the local authorities and CSOs from the above-mentioned communities in November 2021. Overall, 18 (13 women) participants learned about the goals and objectives of monitoring and evaluation, mastered monitoring and evaluation methods, learned to develop monitoring tools and frameworks, gained skills in preparing and conducting focus group discussions and monitoring plans.

In addition, the Project facilitated the development of local security plans in 7 communities of Zhytomyr Oblast<sup>44</sup> to improve public safety and security and support the reintegration of ATO/JFO veterans. The security plans were developed jointly with representatives of the target communities and approved by the local authorities. Moreover, through its SGF, the Project supported 7 activities related to the reintegration of veterans, envisaged in these plans. The supported activities covered social adaptation and psychological rehabilitation of veterans, including creating community spaces for ex-combatants and youth, establishing a psychological support room, or support for public institutions providing assistance to the veterans and their families.

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<sup>42</sup> This activity is co-funded by the EU and the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.

<sup>43</sup> Development of integrated security plans was funded by the EU within the UN RPP.

<sup>44</sup> Baranivka, Chervone, Nova Borova, Novohrad-Volynskyi, Semenivka, Vysoke and Zhytomyr.

## Output 2.3.

## Broader and more effective application of mechanisms for coordinating between citizens, law enforcement bodies, local authorities and other stakeholders to promote community security

### ACTIVITY 2.3.1. BUILD THE CAPACITIES OF COMMUNITY SECURITY WORKING GROUPS AND SUPPORT THEIR FUNCTIONING

Currently, 48 Community Security Working Groups (CSWGs) are active in Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts<sup>45</sup>. During the reporting period, these groups served as dialogue platforms to build trust and enhance social cohesion, coordinate the community security activities of all stakeholders, advocate for and empower vulnerable groups in the community, fundraise to implement security initiatives and projects, and develop leadership among active community members. Overall, 1,100 (59% women) representatives of the local authorities and self-government bodies, community service providers, NGOs and community leaders, and representatives of the education, culture, social services sectors, as well as the private sector, are actively participating in regular meetings of the working groups. A network of CSWGs is active in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts to facilitate dialogue and exchange best practices between the groups about community mobilization and tackling numerous challenges related to community security, social cohesion, and project development and implementation. Apart from the CSWGs, 10 advocacy groups were established in Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr oblasts<sup>46</sup> to help ATO/JFO veterans participate in the local decision-making process and promote veterans' agenda locally. Each advocacy group works on specific proposals to be submitted to the local authorities to improve veterans' reintegration opportunities and achieve sustainable results.

During the reporting year, the members of the CSWG network held several strategic planning sessions and identified the key priorities of their work for the next year – namely gender mainstreaming into local policies and programmes, implementation of innovative solutions to local security problems, and engagement of vulnerable groups in CSWG activities. In addition, a web portal for the CSWG networks has been created to raise awareness about the activities, tools and approaches used by the working groups and their networks in the target communities.<sup>47</sup>

Moreover, 42 community profiles, developed on a participatory basis by the CSWGs members, are actively used to advocate for solutions to security issues identified at the local level. To ensure further enhancement of the accessibility, systematization and comparability of the information collected, and to increase the level of stakeholder awareness, a dedicated website has been developed to present the achievements and best practices of community profiling to a broader audience.<sup>48</sup> The website presents statistics on the key social, economic, civil and community security indicators, security threats identified, initiatives proposed, and the results of public opinion surveys on social, legal and security services. Importantly, each community is provided with the opportunity to create its online profile on this platform, which is owned and managed by the community itself. In the medium term, the portal could

<sup>45</sup> 16 in Donetsk, 16 in Luhansk, 9 in Zaporizhzhia and 7 in Zhytomyr oblasts.

<sup>46</sup> Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (Dniprovske, Kamianka, Novolativka, Novomoskovsk, Pavlograd, Shyroke communities) and Zhytomyr Oblast (Andrushiv, Berdychiv, Novohrad-Volynskyi, Popilnia and Zhytomyr communities).

<sup>47</sup> <https://merega.org.ua/wp-login.php>

<sup>48</sup> <https://partnercommunities.in.ua/community>

become a comprehensive dialogue platform for each community and include separate pages for the CSWGs, gender profiles, self-help groups, local newspapers, local youth groups, etc.

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### **ACTIVITY 2.3.2. PROVIDE SUPPORT TO EX-COMBATANTS TO REINTEGRATE INTO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND BUILD LINKS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT BODIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS**

In February 2021, the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine launched an online information system, “e-Veteran”. The system is designed specifically for ATO/JFO veterans and provides comprehensive information on available psychological support services and sanatorium and resort treatment. The Project contributed to the development of a mobile application, “e-Veteran”, which is a part of this informational system. The app will help ex-combatants get information about institutions providing medical and psychological care, submit online requests for treatment, book their visits, etc.

As part of the work on strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine, the Project provided the regional departments of the Ministry in Dnipropetrovsk, Zhytomyr and Zaporizhzhia oblasts with the necessary office equipment. In addition, 26 (14 women) representatives of the Ministry’s regional departments underwent a dedicated training programme and improved their communication skills to interact with the local authorities on issues of veteran reintegration in the context of decentralization process, as well as received new knowledge on monitoring and evaluation of the government and regional target programmes and projects.

In addition, the Project transferred office equipment to support the activities of 4 veterans’ spaces in Dnipropetrovsk (Pavlohrad and Novomoskovsk communities) and Zhytomyr (Berdychiv and Novohrad-Volynskyi communities) oblasts. The veterans’ spaces were created on the basis of existing veterans’ organizations, and are designed to facilitate veterans’ community collaboration and strengthen ex-combatants’ capacity to implement their community activities.

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### **ACTIVITY 2.3.3. PROMOTE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FUNCTIONING OF CSWGS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

On 30-31 November 2021, 30 civil activists – members of the CSWGs – participated in the 10th national Civil Society Development Forum, organized by ISAR Ednannia NGO in Kyiv. The Forum has become the largest national platform for inter-sectoral dialogue, where the exchange of ideas and learning of best practices are flourishing. The event focused on the role of civil society in building democracy, protecting human rights, strengthening social cohesion and national unity, and attracted about 1,800 participants from all over the country – representatives of the central and regional authorities, foreign embassies, CSOs, international organizations, etc.

At the Forum, the CSWGs members actively promoted the Community Security and Social Cohesion Networks as effective tools of local democracy, dialogue and advocacy platforms for interaction between the local authorities and the civil society, presented lessons learned, best practices and innovative approaches toward strengthening community security, access to justice, community mobilization at the local, regional and national levels. The specially organized interactive zone at the forum called “Together we are in Safety: CSWG Network” provided for the interaction with quests, including competitions, community mapping tool presentations, promo and knowledge products on community mobilization for community security.



Members of the CSWGs sharing their experience with the participants of the 10th Civil Society Development Forum, 30-31 November 2021, Kyiv.

Photo credit: Yaroslava Nemes / UNDP in Ukraine and Antonina Polukhina / UNDP in Ukraine

In addition, to summarize and share its experience, the Project has developed two knowledge products on establishing a CSWG and developing and applying a community profiling tool. Upon their finalization, the manuals will be further shared with the Project stakeholders – local authorities, security services providers and civic activists – throughout Ukraine. In the current situation, the summarized experience and best practices will be specifically important for implementing the Project’s activities in transit and host communities to mobilize the war-affected population there.

#### **ACTIVITY 2.3.4. BUILD THE CAPACITY OF SAFETY AND SECURITY CENTRES**

To strengthen the security and safety of the target communities, the Project is providing its constant support to the operation of the State Emergency Service in Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

During the reporting year, the Project supported the establishment of a training centre for the SES unit in Berdiansk, Zaporizhzhia Oblast. More specifically, the following technical assistance was provided to the training centre:

- **construction materials for minor repair works of the premises** (windows and doors, construction mixtures, lighting, electrical and sewer equipment, etc.).
- **office furniture** (14 tables, 32 chairs, 6 cabinets) and
- **IT equipment** (6 computers, a monitor, 2 TV panels, audio equipment) to outfit the training classes.
- **specialised firefighting equipment** (4 sets of compressed air breathing apparatus for firefighters).

The establishment of the training centre will create proper conditions for the professional training of both SES rescuers and firefighters of local fire brigades located along the Sea of Azov coast. The provided equipment will significantly increase the technical capacity of the centre and enable SES staff to conduct professional training programmes for firefighters and rescuers.

In addition, a specialized car was transferred to the Main Department of the SES in Zaporizhzhia Oblast to improve the mobility of its rescue and diving unit, ensuring a rapid response to emergencies along the Sea of Azov coastline.

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### ACTIVITY 2.3.5. SUPPORT THE SAFETY AND SECURITY CENTRES IN CARRYING OUT THEIR MANDATES

The Project further works towards strengthening the capacity of the Centres for Safety and Security (CSS) and local fire brigades, both by providing technical support and improving the necessary skills and abilities of rescuers, supporting them in fulfilling their respective powers.

During the reporting year, the Project supported the establishment of a Centre for Safety and Security in Bondarivka village of Markivka community (Luhansk Oblast) by providing construction materials for repair works on the premises of the future CSS.<sup>49</sup> In close cooperation with the local authorities, the creation of the CSS in Markivka will ensure a timely response to emergencies, such as wildfires, and other security threats in the area.

Moreover, two local CSSs in Donetsk Oblast (Sartana and Mykolaivka) increased their technical capacity by receiving modern professional equipment for firefighting, such as floating motor pumps and mobile lighting installations.

In addition, technical assistance was provided to 11 settlements in Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, in which local firefighting brigades were created<sup>50</sup>. The local firefighters received much-needed equipment and special firefighting clothes to provide rescue services to their communities more effectively.

Furthermore, the Project initiated an assessment of the current situation and opportunities for further development of the local firefighting brigades and CSSs in Donetsk, Luhansk oblasts and the Sea of Azov region of Zaporizhzhia Oblast. The assessment aimed at identifying the most appropriate ways to support the local authorities in achieving sustainability and effectiveness of these actors. The focus of the study was on the following areas:

- Activities carried out by CSSs and firefighting brigades.
- Current capacities of the CSSs and firefighting brigades.
- Cooperation with government agencies, local authorities and other organizations.
- Current security needs of the local communities.
- Challenges faced by the CSSs and fire brigades in their work.

The assessment results will underpin the development of relevant recommendations for communities planning to establish local CSSs or volunteer firefighting brigades based on their needs.

One of the important functions of the State Emergency Service is providing prompt information to the public through the media about emergencies that are forecasted or occurred, determining their classification, scale and possible consequences, as well as ways and methods of protection against them. Timely information about emergencies and threats is essential to avoid or reduce their negative consequences and, most importantly, save lives. Each SES regional department has a unit responsible for communication with media and citizens and informing the population on emergencies. With the outbreak of the armed conflict in 2014, the equipment of the SES press services in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts was damaged or lost due to the hostilities and the Service relocation. Thus, recognizing the urgent need to create and equip modern press studios to enable the regional SES departments to hold press conferences on informing the public about emergencies and broadcasting meetings with the public on discussion of the most pressing civil protection issues, the Project provided the necessary IT, video and audio equipment for the press studios of the Main Departments of SES in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

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<sup>49</sup> This activity is co-funded by the EU.

<sup>50</sup> Andriivka, Berestove, Dmytrivka and Mykolaivka in Bediansk raion, Zaporizhzhia Oblast; Moroziivka, Mykilske Velykotsk, Zorynivka in Milove community, Mostki village in Svatove community, Nevske and Prostore villages in Bilokurakynne community, Luhansk Oblast.

Output 2.4.

## **Grant support for strengthened personal and community security through greater institutional and citizen engagement in conflict-affected areas**

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During the reporting period, the Project continued implementing the SGF – an effective instrument for engaging and empowering local communities to act for and participate in their development. This was done by supporting local initiatives to enhance community security, access to justice and social cohesion.

During the reporting year, the Project supported the implementation of 13 civic initiatives focused on community security, and 4 access to justice initiatives in the target communities of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr oblasts. Among the supported community-based initiatives was, for instance, the creation of a Child Centre “Safe Territory” in Troitske community, Luhansk Oblast. The Centre was designed to organize and conduct extracurricular activities to increase the level of personal and public safety for the local girls and boys, increasing trust and enhancing coordination between the children and the security service providers through creating comfortable conditions and equipping the out-of-school educational institution in the community.

Another notable example included conducting an advocacy campaign to develop safe cycling infrastructure in Prymorsk, Zaporizhzhia Oblast. The project covered the creation of the concept of and development of the cycling infrastructure of Prymorsk community in cooperation with Prymorsk City Council and community members.

To date, the implementation of all projects’ activities has been completed benefitting directly over 52,000 people (59% women), including children, youth, IDPs and persons with disabilities. The total number of beneficiaries under this Output since the start of the Project is over 124,000 conflict-affected residents of the target oblasts (57% women).

# Lessons Learned

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## 01

The ongoing crisis is revealing further exacerbation of gender inequities, particularly among women facing multiple forms of discrimination. According to a Rapid Gender Analysis by UN Women and CARE<sup>51</sup>, the GBV threat – including conflict-related sexual violence, sexual exploitation and abuse and human trafficking – has risen exponentially since the war began. In this regard, a multi-sectoral coordinated response to GBV needs to be strengthened, especially in small communities. The representatives of the key GBV response actors require regular capacity-building support to increase their knowledge of GBV standards and overcome gender stereotypes.

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## 02

Enhanced communication, cooperation and partnership between local authorities and communities should continue to be fostered via the establishing dialogue platforms and formats such as CSWGs and advocacy groups, as well as other dialogue meetings. These mechanisms proved to be effective and sustainable to mobilize community members to address the most pressing security issues in their settlements. The dialogue platforms will enable the local decision-makers to capture the different needs of all community members, including vulnerable groups, and to tailor the response to the flagged community issues in the local policies, making them more gender-responsive and inclusive.

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## 03

Access to justice in remote settlements was reduced significantly, especially in the context of the ongoing war. In view of this, the respective interventions should be performed, including technical assistance, to enable FLAS lawyers to render their services to all conflict-affected people, including via digital communication and remote means, reaching the most vulnerable women and men.

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## 04

The Project should focus on the preventive kind of activities as well (during and after the war). This will allow, for example, to avoid the situation of data and case materials loss, as well as ensure the prompt deployment in the context of evacuation of the local authorities.

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<sup>51</sup> <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2022/05/rapid-gender-analysis-of-ukraine>

# Changes to Risks and Analysis

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## 01

While the Project aims to support the target communities, which have been directly affected by the war, many of these areas remain in close proximity to the frontline and could face renewed fighting. In this regard, the Project will implement its activities under the guidance of the UN Department for Safety and Security and the authority of the UN Designated Security Official.

Ongoing liaison with formal authorities and community leaders will also be held to secure a safe environment for Project staff and implementing partners. Building capacities of community security providers and supporting the establishment of community-based security systems for each target area is essential for limiting security risks. Physical risk can also be mitigated by fielding national third-party contractors residing in or near the target areas which may become off-limits to the Project staff.

Risk assessment and mitigation will be addressed through the regular political economy and security analysis and consultations with key partners and security service providers. Tested business continuity and security plans and standard operating procedures are in place and updated regularly to mitigate the impact of existing and potential threats to the Project staff.

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## 02

Replacement of local or regional government leaders, or the inability of local governments to function due to the war, constitutes another risk, which can be mitigated by identifying and aligning with key community members who can support and promote ongoing community participation in the implementation of Project activities.

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## 03

The availability of sufficient and well-qualified contractors and NGOs, as well as suppliers willing to deliver equipment to the war-affected areas, may delay some of the Project activities. The speed of required procurement and payment mechanisms will be mitigated through enhanced UNDP operational capacity supported by the Project resources. The appropriateness of community engagement modalities will be assured through rapid conflict analysis of the target areas and participatory dialogue with local authorities and community leaders.

Annex 1.

**Results Framework of the “Strengthening national and local capacities for effective delivery of security, justice and reintegration services in conflict-affected areas of Ukraine” Project**

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
<b>Key Intendent Outcome:</b> to bolster institutions and mechanisms that provide community security and justice and resolve conflicts most relevant to the region’s conflict affected population, thereby increasing social cohesion										
The overall level of personal security in eastern Ukraine (by oblast)	4.4 [2018] Donetsk Oblast	4.6 Donetsk Oblast	4.1 Donetsk Oblast	4.8 Donetsk Oblast	4.1 Donetsk Oblast	5.0 Donetsk Oblast	4.2 Donetsk Oblast	5.5 Donetsk Oblast	SCORE	In 2021, the average level of personal security was 4.2 in Donetsk Oblast, 4.8 in Luhansk Oblast and 4.5 in Zaporizhzhia Oblast.  Personal security is measured as the extent to which one feels safe from violence in daily life.
	4.7 [2018] Luhansk Oblast	4.9 Luhansk Oblast	4.6 Luhansk Oblast	5.0 Luhansk Oblast	4.6 Luhansk Oblast	5.2 Luhansk Oblast	4.8 Luhansk Oblast	5.5 Luhansk Oblast		
	4.3 [2019] Zaporizhzhia Oblast	NA	NA	5.0 Zaporizhzhia Oblast	4.3 Zaporizhzhia Oblast	5.2 Zaporizhzhia Oblast	4.5 Zaporizhzhia Oblast	5.5 Zaporizhzhia Oblast		
Percentage of those that believe the courts would likely side with the most powerful person in a dispute	78.4% [2018]	76%	73.9%	72%	73.9%	67%	73.6%	67%	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
Percentage of those that believe the police would likely side with the most powerful person in a dispute	77.9% [2018]	74.8%	73.9%	72%	74.8%	67%	51%	67%	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
Percentage of conflict-affected population who believe that they will be able to get justice if victim of a crime	51.1% [2018]	53%	53.8%	56%	53.8%	60%	48.8%	60%	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
Increased SCORE index on the “level of neighborhood support”	4.7 [2018] Donetsk Oblast	4.9 Donetsk Oblast	5.3 Donetsk Oblast	5.1 Donetsk Oblast	5.3 Donetsk Oblast	5.3 Donetsk Oblast	4.8 Donetsk Oblast	5.3 Donetsk Oblast	SCORE	In 2021, the average level of neighbourhood support was 4.8 in Donetsk Oblast, and 5.4 in Luhansk Oblast.
	5.4 [2018] Luhansk Oblast	5.6 Luhansk Oblast	5.4 Luhansk Oblast	5.8 Luhansk Oblast	5.4 Luhansk Oblast	6.0 Luhansk Oblast	5.4 Luhansk Oblast	6.0 Luhansk Oblast		
<b>Project Intermediate Outcome 1: Strengthened mechanisms for conflict transformation through the provision of effective and innovative services</b>										
Cumulative number of conflict transformation institutions with improved capacities to resolve and transform ongoing conflicts featuring members of the community	0 [2019]	2	0	4	6	4	6	4	Project community mappings and project reports	In total, 6 conflict transformation institutions (Donetsk Oblast – 3, Luhansk Oblast – 3) improved their capacities to resolve and transform ongoing conflicts featuring members of the community.
Increased SCORE Index on “readiness for dialogue towards all groups”	6.7 [2018] Donetsk Oblast	6.8 Donetsk Oblast	7.4 Donetsk Oblast	7.0 Donetsk Oblast	7.4 Donetsk Oblast	7.2 Donetsk Oblast	7.2 Donetsk Oblast	7.5 Donetsk Oblast	SCORE	In 2021, the average levels for dialogue and perceived (lack of) threat from all groups were 7.2 in Donetsk Oblast, and 7.5 in Luhansk Oblast.
	6.1 [2018] Luhansk Oblast	6.3 Luhansk Oblast	7 Luhansk Oblast	6.5 Luhansk Oblast	7 Luhansk Oblast	6.7 Luhansk Oblast	7.5 Luhansk Oblast	7.0 Luhansk Oblast		

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
<b>Project Output 1.1: Early warning mechanisms are enhanced</b>										
Cumulative number of Community Safety Networks established at the local level that are fully functional and provide spaces for members of the community to formulate and address their grievances in cooperation with local institutions (disaggregated by oblast).	9 [2018]	2	0	4	0	4	2 Donetsk Oblast 2 Luhansk Oblast	4	Project community mappings	As of December 2021, Community Safety Networks have been established in Sartana and Volnovakha in Donetsk Oblast, Popasna and Stanytsia Luhanska in Luhansk Oblast.  To date, all these communities are occupied by the Russian Federation. Thus, further approbation of early warning mechanisms' is currently suspended.
Cumulative number of persons that actively use the information produced by CSNs and other early warning mechanisms	0 [2018]	40	0	40	0	40	43 (28 women)	40	Project community mappings and project reports	As of December 2021, some 43 community representatives (28 women) took part in the testing of early warning mechanisms.  To date, all four target communities are occupied by the Russian Federation. Thus, further approbation of early warning mechanisms' is currently suspended.
<b>Project Output 1.2: Alternative conflict resolution mechanisms strengthened</b>										
Cumulative number of mediators with increased knowledge and skills on conflict resolution mechanisms (disaggregated by oblast and gender)	0 [2018]	10	8 (3 – women) Donetsk Oblast 17 (10 – women) Luhansk Oblast NA Zaporizhzhia Oblast NA other oblasts	25	13 (8 – women) Donetsk Oblast 17 (10 – women) Luhansk Oblast NA Zaporizhzhia Oblast NA other oblasts	40	64 (47 – women) Donetsk Oblast 34 (24 – women) Luhansk Oblast 7 (5 women) Zaporizhzhia Oblast 44 (32 women) other oblasts	40	Project interviews/ reports of meetings with legal aid providers and police	In 2021, some 119 mediators (90 women) increased their knowledge and skills on conflict resolution mechanisms through capacity building activities organized by the Programme.
Cumulative number of mediators actively engaged in community mediation at the local level (disaggregated by oblast and gender)	0 [2018]	5	6 (2 – women) Donetsk Oblast 7 (2 – women) Luhansk Oblast	15	11 (9 – women) Donetsk Oblast 12 (5 – women) Luhansk Oblast	20	11 (9 – women) Donetsk Oblast 12 (5 – women) Luhansk Oblast	30	Project interviews/ reports of meetings with legal aid providers and police	As of December 2021, 23 mediators (14 women) were actively engaged in community mediation at the local level.

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
Cumulative number of community projects and local initiatives initiated and implemented by youth in a gender-sensitive manner	0 [2018]	1	7 Donetsk Oblast	4	9 Donetsk Oblast	5	9 Donetsk Oblast	5	Data collected on the basis of project records and CSOs records	Overall, 18 community projects and local initiatives were developed and implemented by youth in a gender-sensitive manner.
			7 Luhansk Oblast		9 Luhansk Oblast		9 Luhansk Oblast			

### Project Output 1.3: Pilot initiatives supporting vulnerable populations suffering adverse effects of the armed conflict

Cumulative number of persons assisted in claiming compensation for property damaged during the armed conflict	0 [2018]	0	0	5	5 (3 women)	5	5 (3 women)	5	Project records, administrative data from CSOs	In 2020 – 2021, the Project assisted 5 representatives of vulnerable population (3 women and 2 men) in claiming compensation for the use of private property by military forces and law enforcement bodies during the armed conflict. While this pilot activity was marked by positive developments and required further advocacy efforts in 2022, its second phase has been cancelled due to the large-scale invasion of the Russian Federation into Ukraine.
Cumulative number of members of vulnerable groups benefitted from pilot initiatives (disaggregated by oblast, gender and age)	0 [2019]	0	0	0	0	500	0*	500	Project interviews and reports	*While pilot initiatives were expected to continue in 2022, the second phase of this activity has been cancelled due to the large-scale invasion of the Russian Federation into Ukraine.

### Project Output 1.4: Improved efficiency and accountability in courts, prosecution offices, and police in resolving conflicts generally, and those emanating from the armed conflict in particular

Cumulative number of court cases related to the conflict monitored	0 [2018]	0	3	30	8	45	20	45	Data collected on the basis of project, court and CSOs records	The monitoring activities were limited due the closure of courts resulted from COVID-19 pandemic and respective quarantine restrictions.
Cumulative number of CSO representatives with an improved capacity to monitor the transparency of court proceedings	0 [2018]	0	0	15	28 (21 women)	20	28 (21 women)	20	Data collected on the basis of project, court and CSOs records	Overall, 28 community members (21 women) improved their knowledge and skills in monitoring the transparency of court proceedings.

### Project Output 1.5: Grants support to strengthen mechanisms for conflict transformation through the provision of effective and innovative services

Cumulative number of local initiatives to strengthen mechanisms for conflict transformation, implemented with small grant support	0 [2019]	2	0	20	22	20	39	20	Project records, data from the grant administration company	Overall, 39 conflict transformation and legal aid initiatives were supported by the Project, with 38 of them already completed. In addition, the Project supported 17 veterans' mini-initiatives to facilitate ex-combatants' reintegration into the local communities.
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Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
Cumulative number of beneficiaries of local initiatives to strengthen mechanisms for conflict transformation, implemented with small grant support	0 [2019]	600	0	10 000	25 234 (25.3% women)	10 000	35 205 (34.6% women)	10 000	Project records, data from the grant administration company. Monitoring reports	To date, over 35,000 members of local communities (34.6% women) benefited from conflict transformation and legal aid projects and micro-initiatives.

## Project Intermediate Outcome 2: Strengthened personal and community security through greater institutional and citizen engagement in conflict-affected areas

Percentage of population feeling safe at home (disaggregated by time of the day, oblast and gender)	88.6% (overall)	90% (overall)	89% (overall)	91% (overall)	89% (overall)	92% (overall)	87% (overall)	92% (overall)	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
	90.4% (day)	92% (day)	91.3% (day)	93% (day)	91.3% (day)	94% (day)	87% (day)	94% (day)		
	76.4% (night)	79% (night)	77.8% (night)	81% (night)	77.8% (night)	83% (night)	81% (night)	83% (night)		
	70.5% (women at night) [2018]	72% (women at night)	72.4% (women at night)	74% (women at night)	72.4% (women at night)	77% (women at night)	78% (women at night)	77% (women at night)		
Percentage of population feeling safe in their communities (disaggregated by time of the day, oblast and gender)	81.1% (overall)	84% (overall)	81% (overall)	85% (overall)	81% (overall)	87% (overall)	77% (overall)	87% (overall)	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
	84.8% (day)	86% (day)	85% (day)	87% (day)	85% (day)	89% (day)	86% (day)	89% (day)		
	49.5% (night)	54% (night)	54.7% (night)	56% (night)	54.7% (night)	60% (night)	57% (night)	60% (night)		
	38.2% (women at night) [2018]	43% (women at night)	42.4% (women at night)	45% (women at night)	42.4% (women at night)	48% (women at night)	48% (women at night)	48% (women at night)		
Percentage of members of community security working groups who feel their voices are taken into account in improving community security	73.8% [2018]	75%	84.8%	80%	83.7%	85%	85.1%	85%	Survey of participants of CSWGs	As of December 2021, the proportion of population who confirm that their voice is heard in community dialogues is 85.1%, including 86.3% among women, 86.0% among persons with disabilities, and 83.0% among IDPs.

## Project Output 2.1: Increased awareness of public attitudes, human rights redress mechanisms, and security risks by policymakers, the public, and particularly the youth

Percentage of population who consider available formal, informal, alternative or traditional dispute mechanisms as just, among those who experienced a dispute in the last 48 months	32.7% [2019]	NA	NA	42%	40.2%	45%	45.2%	50%	Security and Justice Survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
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Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
Percentage of population who are confident about the protection of their rights by security and justice institutions (disaggregated by age, oblast and gender)	38% [2018]	42%	44.5%	45%	49%	48%	44.7%	48%	Security and Justice survey	The data for Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts were collected in June-September 2021.
Cumulative number of persons reached by information and awareness-raising campaigns on security challenges and redress mechanisms	0 [2019]	2 000	10 000	15 000	19 800	20 000	35 966	20 000	Project records and media monitoring	During the reporting period, over 16,100 persons were reached by the information campaign focused on security challenges and redress mechanisms.

## Project Output 2.2: Improved capacities and practices of law enforcement and local authority service providers to carry out community policing and discharge their responsibilities to citizens

Cumulative number of local community policing units	0 [2018]	1	0	8	20	8	34	8	Data collected on the basis of local authorities' administrative reports and project records	In 2021, the Project created a Multifunction dialogue space in Mariupol on a base of Patrol Police Department, and supported 13 local community policing units in the following locations:  Donetsk Oblast: Cherkaske, Kramatorsk (Shabelkivka village), Manhush (2 police stations in Yalta and Bilosaraiska Kosa villages), Myrne, Sartana, Vuhledar (Nikolske village).  Luhansk Oblast: Kreminna, Lozno-Oleksandrivka, Milove, Nyzhnioteple, Shchastia, Stanytsia Luhanska.  * This activity is co-funded by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.
Cumulative number of community policing services (of which women community policing) in place and operating in rural areas and close to the contact line	0 [2018]	2	0	7	18	7	18	7	Data collected on the basis of project records and administrative data from LSGBs	* This activity is co-funded by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland.
Cumulative number of local communities who developed comprehensive long-term security plans and strategies	1 [2018]	3	1	7	7	10	14	10	Data collected on the basis of project records and administrative data from LSGBs	During the reporting period, the Project supported the development of comprehensive long-term security plans for 7 target communities in Zhytomyr Oblast.  * This activity is co-funded by the EU.
Cumulative number of community police officers with improved knowledge and skills in mediation, community policing and communication	344 [2018]	400	360	550	433	700	613 (110 women)	700	Project reports	In 2021, 180 police officers (70 women) improved their knowledge and skills of effective communication, community policing, psychological aspects of work with SGBV/DV survivors and abusers, peculiarities of work with people with disabilities to provide security services more effectively and responsively.

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
<b>Project Output 2.3: Broader and more effective application of mechanisms for coordinating between citizens, law enforcement bodies, local authorities and other stakeholders to promote community security</b>										
Cumulative number of Safety and Security Centers that benefited from technical assistance and capacity building support	0 [2019]	10	11	15	15	18	18	20	Project records, monitoring reports	To date, the Project provided technical assistance and capacity building support to the Centres for Safety and Security in the following locations: Andriivka, Bilozerske, Cherkaske, Illinivka, Khlibodarivka, Lyman, Mykolaivka, Novodonetske, Novohrodovka, Novotroitske, Ocheretyne, Sartana, Shakhove, Siversk, Soledar and Sviatohirsk in Donetsk Oblast; Bondarivka village in Luhansk Oblast.
Cumulative number of community security working groups established and fully functioning (by oblast)	4 [2018] Donetsk Oblast	15	15	15	16	15	16	15	Project records, CSWGs registration forms and meeting minutes	As of December 2021, a total of 48 CSWGs were functioning in the Programme's target communities to provide space for discussions, information sharing and for raising security and development concerns among local authorities, security providers and communities at the grass-root level.
	5 [2018] Luhansk Oblast	15	15	15	16	15	16	15		Donetsk Oblast: Avdiivka, Dobropillia, Druzhkivka, Krasnohorivka, Manhush, Mariinka, Myrnograd, Novhorodske, Pokrovsk, Sartana, Siversk, Sloviansk, Soledar, Svitlodarsk, Velykonovosilkivskiy raion, Volnovakha, Vuhledar.
	0 [2019] Zaporizhzhia Oblast	3	8	7	9	7	9	7		Luhansk Oblast: Bilovodsk, Krasnorichenske, Kreminna, Lozno-Oleksandrivka, Lysychansk, Milove, Novoaidar, Nyzhnia Duvanka, Popasna, Pryvillia, Shchastia, Sievierodonetsk, Stanytsia Luhanska, Triokhizbenka, Troitske, Zolote.
	0 [2019] Zhytomyr Oblast	0	0	7	7	7	7	7		Zaporizhzhia Oblast: Berdiansk, Berdiansk raion, Kyrylivka, Melitopol, Nove, Pryazovske, Prymorsk, Semenivka, Yakymivka. Zhytomyr Oblast: Baranivka, Chervone, Nova Borova, Novohrad-Volynskiy, Semenivka, Vysoke, Zhytomyr. This activity is co-funded by the EU and the Government of Denmark.
Cumulative number of ex-combatants, youth and women, participating in civic initiatives aimed at increasing their participation in local community security	0 [2019]	120	145	400	3 115	500	3 882	500	Data collected on the basis of project records and data from partner organizations	During the reporting period, 455 ex-combatants and 312 youth representatives took part in the activities targeting these specific groups in Dnipro and Zhytomyr oblasts.
Cumulative number of safety audits conducted by the CSSs (disaggregated by oblast)	6 [2018]	10	6	20	6	20	6	28	Data collected on the basis of project records and data from partner organizations	The activity was limited due to COVID-19 pandemic and respective quarantine restrictions.
Cumulative number of local volunteer fire and rescue brigades who benefited from targeted technical assistance and capacity building	0 [2019]	16	0	16	16	17	17	17	Data collected on the basis of project records and data from partner organizations	To date, 17 local firefighting brigades benefitted from target technical assistance and capacity building. Zaporizhzhia Oblast: Andriivka, Berestove, Chervone Pole, Dmytrivka, Mykolaivka, Novopetrivka, Novotroitske, Osypenko (Berdiansk raion) Luhansk Oblast: Bilokurakyne (2 teams), Kamianka, Mistky, Morozivka, Mykilske, Nevske, Velykotsk, Zorykivka.

Indicators	Baseline	Target (2019)	Actual (2019)	Target (2020)	Actual (2020)	Target (2021)	Actual (2021)	Target (2022)	Means of verification	Comments
Cumulative number of local volunteers with improved knowledge and skills on responding to emergency situations	0 [2019]	40	0	100	57	170	128	170	Data collected on the basis of project records and training feedback forms	In 2021, 71 local volunteers (all men) improved their capacity in responding to emergency situations.

### Project Output 2.4: Grants support to strengthen personal and community security through greater institutional and citizen engagement in conflict-affected areas

Cumulative number of local initiatives on community security and civic engagement, implemented with small grant support	0 [2019]	12	0	35	45	40	58	40	Project records, data from the grant administration company	Overall, 58 community security and civic engagement initiatives have been supported and implemented within the Project.
Cumulative number of beneficiaries of local initiatives on community security and civic engagement, implemented with small grant support	0 [2019]	40 000	0	80 000	90 309 (51 796 women)	100 000	124 430 (71 457 women)	100 000	Project records, data from the grant administration company	To date, over 124,000 members of local communities (57.4% women) directly benefited from community security and civic engagement initiatives.