



*International Medical Corps staff gather during a ceremony to commemorate delivery of an ambulance and five vehicles to local doctors in Chernihiv, Ukraine.*

International Medical Corps, which has a history in Ukraine stretching back to 1999, has been operating continuously in the country since 2014, when we began providing medical, mental health and protection services, and infection prevention and control (IPC) programs in response to the conflict in the southeast. Following the Russian invasion in February 2022, we expanded our operations throughout the country, with programs in health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), protection, gender-based violence (GBV), nutrition, food security and livelihoods, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

International Medical Corps currently has operations in Chernihiv, Dnipro, Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa and Vinnytsia. From these operational hubs, International Medical Corps also provides material support in the way of food, non-food items (NFIs), and medical supplies and equipment to Donetsk, Kharkiv and Mykolaiv.

### **International Medical Corps Response—Ukraine**

In response to the crisis in Ukraine, International Medical Corps is conducting programs in health, MHPSS, GBV, nutrition, and WASH. As the situation is different in differing areas of the country, International Medical Corps is providing context-based programming based on the security, access and needs brought about by the invasion in each region. In each context, we are approaching our emergency response in a tailored way to meet the specific needs of the people, working closely with the communities to assess and respond to those needs.

In liberated zones, we are focusing on stabilization and recovery efforts. Our response philosophy is to rehabilitate, repair and support the healthcare system, ensure access to emerging MHPSS, protection and WASH needs, and ensure that the local population has access to basics such as food, shelter, water and cash. In high-risk zones, we are focused on preparation measures ensuring that the healthcare and social systems can remain resilient to any shocks if and when conflict occurs. We are also focused on providing services to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and residents. In accessible zones, International Medical Corps is focused on ensuring the safety and well-being of IDPs in the region.

### **GBV**

Across all the regions we work, we are observing that women and girls lack a safe female-friendly space for reporting GBV and seeking care. This lack of access to safe spaces for seeking care is further compounded by a lack of access to

## **FAST FACTS**

### **Our Impact**

- 57 hospitals, primary health centers, mobile and static medical units supported
- 2.9 million beneficiaries
- 86,060 WASH and NFI items distributed
- 53,661 medical services provided
- 14,600 health consultations delivered
- 877 MHPSS services delivered
- 606 infection and prevention and control (IPC) kits distributed
- 516 people trained in psychological first aid

### **Our Footprint**

- With a history in the country stretching back to 1999, we have operated continuously in Ukraine since 2014, in response to conflict in the east, providing medical, mental health and protection services, and IPC programs

services to which to refer GBV survivors. This is coupled with an absence of available information within the community itself and among public servants about what services could support a survivor with their healing and recovery.

Women have been reluctant to speak about GBV, but data from 2019 indicates that roughly 70% of Ukrainian women have experienced some form of violence, with 30% reporting direct physical or sexual violence. In recent months, there have also been multiple media reports of conflict-related sexual violence. Our assessments show that GBV—including sexual violence, domestic violence, intimate partner violence and sexual exploitation and abuse—is prevalent and has been further exacerbated during this war.

Our approach to preventing and responding to GBV is to engage and support women's rights organizations (WROs) to strengthen their capacity and help them scale to increase their reach. To do this, International Medical Corps has launched the first response-wide Fund for Women's Rights Organizations in Ukraine. We have put out a call for expressions of interest through various networks, including the GBV Sub-Cluster and the Women's Consortium of Ukraine. The Fund, totaling approximately \$3 million, enables International Medical Corps to reach a more diverse range of women-led, girl-led and women's-rights organizations for effective and quality GBV prevention and response programming. This approach—which will draw on the existing reach and community buy-in of WROs—will enable International Medical Corps to more effectively access women at risk, and survivors, of GBV.

We will complement this approach with effective information dissemination on GBV services, reporting mechanisms and training for frontline staff on GBV safe spaces and ethical referrals. International Medical has conducted GBV training for all MHPSS staff, to enable the integration of important GBV messages within upcoming MHPSS activities, and within all future training for staff, partners and authorities, to facilitate referrals from GBV activities to MHPSS and from MHPSS to GBV services. This will contribute to a more holistic response for GBV survivors.

International Medical Corps has also designed and developed GBV information material to be included in all upcoming distributions and across all areas of operation and numerous sites accessed by IDPs. The information provides IDPs with key contacts to report incidents of GBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and to seek support.

### **Health**

Across the country, we see different problems based on the local context. In areas that have seen active conflict, primary healthcare service points have been damaged or destroyed, and there is limited access to pharmaceutical treatments and laboratory services. This lack of access to medications is particularly troubling due to the age distribution and prevalence of non-communicable diseases in many areas that have seen conflict. This has led to a high incidence of complications like cerebrovascular diseases, ischemic heart diseases and complications of diabetes mellitus. In high-risk areas that have not yet seen conflict, there is limited medicine stock to manage acute illnesses. There are also concerns that the water supply of hospitals could be disrupted if conflict arises, due to their reliance on the city's main water supply.

To help alleviate these problems, International Medical Corps is supporting 11 primary healthcare centers in Irpin and 14 in Bucha that provide services for up 40,000 patients a month, distributing pharmaceuticals and medical equipment and financing laboratory services through a partnership with a private network of laboratories. As we continue the rehabilitation of infrastructure for one damaged health facility in Irpin and four in Bucha, we are guaranteeing access to specialized outpatient consultations by fully financing the functioning of one clinic in Irpin and one in Browary—leading to more than 6,000 specialized outpatient consultations in June. Additionally, we are providing medicines and equipment, and drilling boreholes to ensure access to water at numerous sites across the country.

### **MHPSS**

International Medical Corps' assessments have found that there are a significant number of mental health providers in Ukraine, but access to them is blocked due to the high cost of services. There is also a lack of community-based interventions. We also have observed that tension is growing between host communities and IDPs.

To alleviate the growing tensions between host communities and IDPs, International Medical Corps will focus on community-based interventions that work to lessen the strain. Our MHPSS team is providing training in psychological first aid (PFA), as well as providing training in "Doing What Matters in Times of Stress—Self-Help Plus" to key community members, such as teachers, city council members, religious leaders and local organization staff members. International Medical Corps is also providing ongoing training for hospital staff at the Chernihiv Neuropsychiatric Hospital.

### **Nutrition**

Recent assessments by our team found that IDPs in Odesa oblast are experiencing a shortage of complementary foods and, in some areas, there is a shortage of food rations for adults. In Stryi, an area with relative stability but many IDPs, the main problem observed by our Nutrition team is a shortage of fresh foods such as fruits and vegetables.

To meet the needs above, the Nutrition team is exploring possibilities of delivering fresh foods in Odesa and Stryi for six months. We are also exploring how to provide cash support to pregnant and lactating women with infants. Lastly, in

collaboration with local government and healthcare workers, we will focus on programs focused on infant and young-child feeding in emergencies.

## WASH

International Medical Corps' WASH specialists have observed the need for filtration devices in many areas throughout Ukraine, because local water sources have been shown to have high levels of salinity, iron and other minerals of concern. We have also identified the need for water trucking in many areas, including Bucha and Odesa.

To meet these needs, we are procuring multiple mini water-treatment plants, with the capacity of purifying 4,000 liters of water per day. We plan to install these treatment plants in Dnipro and Chernihiv, and will tailor them to filter the specific minerals found at each site, to meet the requirements of the local government and WHO.

## International Medical Corps Response—Poland

In Poland, International Medical Corps is working in health, MHPSS and GBV.

On the health front, International Medical Corps' team in Poland has identified numerous challenges for Ukrainian refugees with disabilities, including problems with effective outreach campaigns, language barriers, lack of physical access and lack of utilization of available services, due to refugees' unfamiliarity with the local system. In response, we have launched a partnership with a rehabilitation foundation in Warsaw to increase access to rehabilitation services and assistive devices. We have also met with officials from the Warsaw municipality to collaborate on improving physical accessibility for persons with disabilities, and are continuing our coordination with WHO.

In Poland, our MHPSS team is conducting training and workshops on service mapping and referrals. We are also providing Problem Management Plus and Self-Help Plus training sessions, along with PFA training for service providers. We provided service mapping and referral pathway workshops in Warsaw, Krawkow and Wroclaw, with participation by Polish NGOs and public institutions on regional and municipality level in Poland that provide MHPSS services as a part of health, protection and education sectors for Ukrainian refugees.

Under our GBV programming, we are planning to distribute to women and girls dignity kits that will include sanitary pads, underwear, toothpaste, toothbrushes, laundry soap, bedsheets and blankets. We are also working with UNHCR to plan numerous training-of-trainers sessions about GBV. These trainers will then begin providing local organizations with training in Ukrainian and Polish.

Ukraine Crisis Response				
<b>57</b> health facilities supported		<b>53,661</b> medical services provided		<b>14,600</b> health consultations delivered
<b>184</b> health kits distributed	<b>86,060</b> WASH and NFI items distributed	<b>877</b> MHPSS services delivered	<b>659</b> people trained in PFA and PSS	<b>2.9 million</b> beneficiaries
<b>29</b> reproductive health kits distributed		<b>606</b> infection and prevention kits distributed		<b>11,526</b> people received WASH and NFI assistance