Missile strikes on the city of Odesa resulted in casualties and destruction of critical port infrastructure. At least one person was killed, and 22 others were injured in the attack, which also severely damaged the city’s historic Transfiguration Cathedral. The strikes left debris in the streets, blocking roads and damaging power lines. In the past few days, 26 port facilities and five ships were damaged or partly destroyed in southern Ukraine.

The UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Ukraine Denise Brown condemned the attacks, emphasizing that they violate international humanitarian law by targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure, including cultural heritage sites. WHO is supporting emergency medical teams in Odesa to help those affected by the attacks.

Moreover, the damage to infrastructure in the region poses a challenge as Ukraine faces the upcoming winter. Although some progress has been made in restoring power grids, the country’s growing debt crisis in the electricity sector and logistical challenges may hinder full recovery.
Top UN official in Ukraine Denise Brown was in Odesa to assess the toll of a week of attacks that have killed civilians, destroyed agricultural infrastructure and damaged sites, including the city’s historic cathedral.

In preparation for winter, Ukraine has already completed about 60% of the planned work to restore power grids damaged during massive attacks conducted by the Russian Federation.

Each region is expected to participate in the development of mental health protection measures for its citizens. Reduced productivity at work due to mental health problems can cost the world more than US$ 1 trillion each year.

More than 200,000 water purification tablets were distributed in regions affected by the attack on the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant.

The flooding of settlements and other potentially dangerous sites in the Kherson region as a result of the Kakhovka Dam destruction put a strain on medical facilities in the affected areas. Almost 700 volunteer doctors will bolster the work of medical facilities in the Mykolayiv and Kherson regions.

The European Union allocated more than €4.6 million to Ukraine for health-care projects as part of the EU4Health.

The WHO Representative (WR) in Ukraine continued high-level engagement with the Ministry of Health (MoH), authorities and partners in Kyiv.

The WR and the Incident Manager (IM) went on a mission to the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine to meet with WHO teams. In the Kharkiv region, they visited a newly opened modular primary health-care clinic in Izyum, and the village of Pidvysoke, where a primary care outreach team for chronic diseases and noncommunicable diseases is operating. The WR and the IM also visited Mykolayiv and Odesa to assess current challenges and urgent needs. In all locations, the WR and the IM held meetings with local authorities.

The Ukraine delegation participated in Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, which concluded on 7 July, and discussed the environmental impact of the war, including the Kakhovka Dam explosion. The Conference Declaration calls upon the health and environment sector to work together to tackle climate change and implement the One Health approach.
The MoH and the HeRAMS team met on 26 July to discuss the HeRAMS Ukraine Baseline Report 2023: Operational status of the health system, November 2022–May 2023. The meeting was productive, and the parties agreed to proceed with data updates and further align the questionnaire with the MoH’s evolving strategy. For more information, click here.

The all-country data quality assurance verification exercise is scheduled to start on 1 September 2023 and end on 31 August 2024. This follows the pilot series of verification visits in the Donetsk, Kharkivsk, and Zaporizhzhya oblasts between 6 March and 21 April 2023, which demonstrated data variation of only 6.37%. For more information, click here.

Preparations are under way to expand data collection to capture an exhaustive network of public health service delivery units. In August and September, data will be collected for additional health facilities in the City of Kyiv and in the following oblasts: Zhytomyr, Vinnytsya, Cherkasy, Poltava, Khmelnytsky, Rivne, Kirovohrad, Volyn, Lviv, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattya. The data will be used to map and analyse services for HeRAMS. For more information, click here.

The WHO Country Office conducted a health needs assessment in the front-line areas of seven oblasts on 6–20 June. A total of 1642 people participated in the survey. The survey found that 48% of the respondents had sought health care in the past three months. Of those, 12% faced difficulties in accessing health-care services, with the main barriers being cost, insufficient staff, and unavailability of needed services.

Most of the respondents (93%) had access to local pharmacies, and 86% were able reach a pharmacy on foot within 30 minutes. However, 12% faced difficulties in accessing medicines, mainly due to unavailability and high prices. Pain medicines and antibiotics were the most difficult for the respondents to obtain.

Future health concerns were also explored, with 50% of the respondents expressing worries about the cost of medicines and treatment. Dental problems (37%), coronary vascular diseases (26%) and mental health problems (23%) were the top health-related concerns.
UKRAINE COUNTRY OFFICE ACTIONS

Health service delivery

• On 11–13 July HIV specialists from the WHO Country Office and the Centre for Public Health of the MoH of Ukraine visited health facilities in the Poltava region to assess opportunities and challenges for HIV testing coverage in primary health facilities and to provide technical support for HIV testing optimization. *The visit was made as part of the financial support and within the framework of the project “Strengthening HIV/AIDS treatment in Ukraine within the framework of the U.S. President’s Emergency Initiative for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)”.*

• On 13 July WHO provided a large number of medical kits to support health-care workers in the Dnipropetrovsk region. The kits will cover the needs of more than 100,000 people, providing essential care for chronic illnesses, injuries and other conditions. The Dnipropetrovsk region plays a critical role in addressing the growing health needs in eastern Ukraine due to the ongoing war and the Kakhovka Dam destruction.

• On 17 July WHO visited the Odesa Regional Centre for Emergency Medical and Disaster Medicine to enhance preparedness and support the operations of local emergency medical teams. WHO donated defibrillators, emergency kits, resuscitation devices, pulse oximeters, thermometers, and bag valve masks for emergency vehicles to provide emergency care for patients.

• On 18 July the WHO team visited the Mykolayiv City Hospital, where it conducted a training for the laboratory staff on antimicrobial resistance detection and the implementation of EUCAST (European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing) on equipment that was provided by WHO to support the operations of the bacteriology laboratory.

Mental health and psychosocial support

• WHO organized a training under the mhGAP programme attended by 29 primary health-care specialists.

• Mobile community mental health teams provided 1162 consultations for patients with severe mental Health conditions.
Bringing hope to communities: WHO installs new modular primary health-care clinic in Izyum in Kharkiv region

To address the destruction caused by the full-scale invasion and ensure access to essential health-care services, WHO has partnered with the MoH of Ukraine to identify a sustainable rapid solution to bridge the gap in medical services in the affected territories and ensure an adequate emergency health response. The project aims to support communities and ensure the provision of health-care services in remote areas affected by the war, where primary health-care facilities have been damaged. As part of this larger initiative, a new modular primary health-care clinic has been installed in Izyum in the Kharkiv region to replace a clinic destroyed during the war. The structure will serve as an outpatient health facility, providing primary medical care to over 10,000 people. The clinic will be staffed by medical professionals who previously worked at the damaged facility, ensuring continuity of care. It will have three examination rooms and a vaccination room, where approximately 12 health-care workers – three doctors and nine nurses – will be able to work simultaneously.

The temporary clinic comprises six prefabricated modules, combined to form a fully functional health-care facility. It is equipped with essential amenities, including electricity, water and sanitation infrastructure, waiting rooms and examination rooms. Additionally, the clinic is supplied with a generator and air fans to ensure a proper environment for health-care delivery.

Primary health-care centres are amongst the many facilities partly or fully damaged during the war. Of the 40 primary health-care facilities assessed by WHO at the MoH’s request, 15 were damaged in the seven regions identified by the MoH for the project: Kherson, Zaporizhzhya, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy, Kyiv, and Odesa. To ensure continued access to essential health services and the infrastructure to support them, WHO will deliver prefabricated modular structures to places where primary care facilities have been damaged or become inadequate or unsafe to use. These prefabricated modules are a temporary solution to ensure the full operational capacity of existing or currently damaged facilities. The modules can function as health-care facilities for over 10 years.

As part of the first stage of the project, two structures have been installed in the Kharkiv region, and seven more modules will be distributed soon, in line with the MoH’s priority list for the most affected regions. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Ukraine Humanitarian Fund is providing the financial support for this project.
Operational support and logistics

As of 23 July, WHO received in its warehouses in the city of Kyiv, in the Kyiv oblast and in Lviv medical supplies with a value of over US$ 85.46 million and a total weight of over 3375 metric tonnes. They included Trauma and Emergency Surgery Kits (TESK) 2019, a WHO Trauma Bag, Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHKs), biomedical and IT equipment, as well as other items.

Between 17 July and 23 July, medical supplies and equipment with a total value exceeding US$ 674 132.21 and a total weight of more than 6.3 metric tonnes were delivered to 20 oblasts across Ukraine. They included IEHKs, trauma/surgery supplies (TESK 2019 etc.), personal protective equipment, and medicines.
As of 30 June, 94 reporting Partners have reached 5,001,005 people in 2,248 settlements across 24 oblasts through health humanitarian assistance. For more information, please see the Health Cluster Activity Dashboard.


- The Health Cluster launched the Health Cluster Assessment Tracker (HCAT). The HCAT is a public online dashboard that provides easy access to the Health Cluster’s database of all available assessments and resources related to the health response to the humanitarian emergency in Ukraine. Humanitarian partners can use the tracker to sort through the many assessments, datasets, questionnaires, and tools uploaded to the database.
- The Health Cluster participated in the OCHA-led intersectoral gap analysis of the humanitarian response to identify possible needs/gaps and any areas that might be underserved. The outcome of the analysis will inform a review of current response priorities and support the planning for the upcoming cycle.
- The Kyiv subnational hub, launched at the end of June together with the nongovernmental co-coordinator hosted by International Medical Corps, met with the health authorities of the Cherkaska (on 18 July) and Sumnska (on 13 July) oblasts. The Health Cluster and the Departments of Health agreed on further cooperation and the way forward in collectively responding to the oblast-specific health needs and to any identified gaps.
- The Odesa sub-national cluster continues collaborating closely with the health authorities in responding to the Kakhovka Dam destruction immediate, mid- and long-term health needs. Within the efforts of strengthening the collective coordination of the response, partners and the Department on Health of Khersonska exchanged on the mobile medical team outreach and capacities at the bi-weekly Odesa sub-national cluster meeting, held on 18 July.
Social media:
In the period from 17 July to 22 July, the WHO Country Office created six Twitter posts, six Facebook posts and six Instagram posts, which received a total of Twitter 23,250 impressions and reached 13,600 Facebook users. The topics covered included: launch of a nationwide measles vaccination campaign for children; Dr Jarno Habicht and the WHO team’s visit to the Odesa Regional Centre for Emergency Medical Aid and Disaster Medicine and Mykolayiv City Hospital, where WHO provided equipment to the bacteriology laboratory, and to the Mykolayiv Regional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; WHO HIV experts’ visit to health-care facilities in the Poltava region to assess capacity and challenges in terms of HIV testing coverage.

Media:
- News about WHO installs new module clinic for primary health care in Kharkiv region was widely published in national media: lb.ua, interfax.com.ua, censore.net,

e-Learning platform

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<th>OpenWHO.org: Free online courses in Ukrainian supporting health emergency response</th>
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<td>Total number of Ukrainian language courses</td>
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Key links and useful resources

- **Online courses and knowledge transfer platform**
  For updated interactive, web-based, online courses, click [here](#).

- **Emergency medical teams (EMTs)**
  For updated EMT network activities, click [here](#).

- **WHO publications and technical guidance**
  For updated WHO publications and technical guidance on technological hazards and health risks in Ukraine, click [here](#).

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