

## Ukraine

Emergency type: Protracted Emergency

Reporting period: September-December, 2020

### 2020 HRP Overview



**1.3 million people** the Health Cluster aims to assist in 2020

**21 projects** approved for 2020 HRP

**52,191 people** benefited from healthcare services in 2020



**USD 22,4 million** funds requested

**USD 3,2 million** funds received (15% of requested)

### 2020 COVID-19 HRP Overview



**400,000 people** the Health Cluster aims to assist (in addition to 1.3 m) in 2020

**1,556,889 people** benefited from COVID-related assistance in 2020



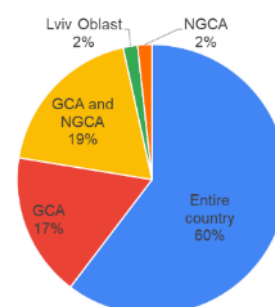
**USD 16,6 million** additional funds requested

**USD 6,9 million** funds received (42% of requested)

### Health Cluster 2020

#### Health Cluster Partners: 54

- International NGOs: 16
- Government/foreign embassies: 10
- National NGOs: 8
- United Nations agencies: 7
- International donors: 6
- International organizations: 4
- Representatives of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement: 3



## Health Cluster – Summary

**Health Cluster continued to provide support to health partners throughout Ukraine and particularly in the eastern conflict area (ECA).** In November, the work of the Cluster was heavily focused on preparations for the next 2021 Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC), however, also included activities such as facilitation of national and sub-national coordination meetings, compilation and analysis of data on the COVID-19 and non COVID-19 health response, facilitation of rapid assessments in COVID-19 designated health facilities and improving planning and information management.

**Health Cluster in partnership with WHO developed COVID-19 projection for ECA.** This projection is part of broader effort by WHO to advise the Government of Ukraine on public health measures. The ECA COVID-19 projection was presented to the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and to the Health Cluster partners.

**Health Cluster and partners finalized Humanitarian Needs analysis (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2021.** As a result of the extensive analysis and planning processes, in 2021 Health Cluster aims to reach 1.3 million people in need of health assistance; this can be possible through the implementation of 20 projects from 16 Cluster partners, with the total requirement of 28 million US\$.

**Health Cluster coordinated two rapid assessments related to COVID-19 preparedness in Luhanska and Donetsk oblasts, GCA:** 1) a rapid assessment in the six newly designated COVID-19 hospitals in Luhanska oblast, GCA & 2) rapid assessment on preparedness of COVID-19 designated laboratories in Luhanska and Donetsk oblasts, GCA.

**Health Cluster introduced new PPE and medical planning and distribution tool for more systematic and coordinated planning of COVID-19 response.** The tool is aimed to improve the flow of information on delivered and planned medical equipment, avoid duplication in the response and ensure more systematic and coordinated planning among the Cluster partners.

**Health Cluster conducted technical review of projects submitted to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund as part of the 2020 Standard Allocation envelop «Supporting sustainability of response in GCA».** Three out of five Health Cluster partners which participated in the competition (International Organization for Migration, Norwegian Refugee Council and NGO Proliska received approval by the Strategic Review Committee.

**Health Cluster conducted annual performance assessment exercise against six core Cluster functions, and the accountability to affected populations.** In total, 15 organizations responded to the survey (35 per cent response-rate), including 10 international NGOs and 4 UN organizations.

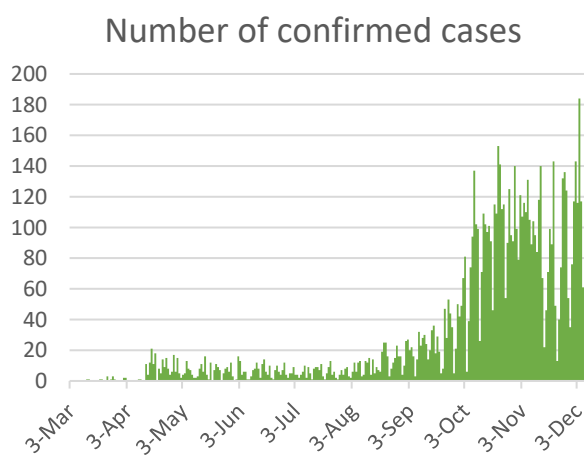
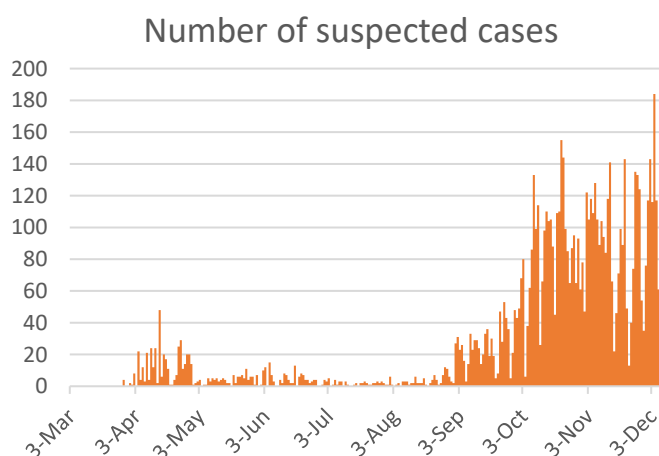
**Health Cluster conducted several Q&A sessions on relevant topics related to healthcare,** including Q&A session on COVID-19, meeting with WHO Regional Director for Europe, Dr Hans Kluge and Q&A session on COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Ukraine. The initiative received good feedback from Cluster partners and will be continued in 2021.



## COVID-19 situation overview

### Epidemiological situation in ECA

**In Government-Controlled area (GCA)** numbers continue to rise. **In Donetsk oblast** number of confirmed cases have doubled since last month (25,792 cases as of 06.12.2020 comparing to 11,235, cases on 01.11.2020). According to the Public Health Center, in Donetsk oblast, test positivity rate is 31%. Number of suspected cases is 26,362 confirmed – 25,792, (thus, case positivity rate is 98%), 15,962 recovered and 522 died as of 6 December. As for health care workers, there are 984 confirmed cases, of which 803 recovered and 14 died. **In Luhanska oblast**, 7,883 suspected cases have been reported, of which 7,088 are positive (90% - case positivity rate, 15% - average test positivity rate), 4,963 recovered and 187 died. As for health care workers, there are 618 confirmed cases, of which 465 recovered and 7 died.



### Donetska oblast, GCA

| Suspected | Confirmed | Recovered | Deaths | Active | 14-day incidence rate | Case fatality rate | Active cases per 100,000 population | Number of available beds | Bed occupancy rate |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 26362     | 25792     | 15962     | 522    | 9308   | 294,5                 | 2%                 | 495,6                               | 3511                     | 40.5%              |

### Luhanska oblast, GCA

| Suspected | Confirmed | Recovered | Deaths | Active | 14-day incidence rate | Case fatality rate | Active cases per 100,000 population | Number of available beds | Bed occupancy rate |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 7883      | 7088      | 4963      | 187    | 1938   | 209,6                 | 2,6%               | 288,2                               | 1402                     | 27.9%              |

**In Non-Government Controlled Area (NGCA)** the situation is less clear than in GCA, especially with Luhansk not able to provide updates on a regular basis. In addition, no case-based data is being provided, limiting the possibility of further analysis. In Donetsk, 11,527 cases have been reported as of 6 December, including 5,619 recovered and 1,090 died. In Luhansk, 1,843 cases have been reported on 6 December, including 1,604 recovered and 151 died. High infection rate among healthcare workers remain one of the major concerns reported in NGCA. For health care workers in Donetsk NGCA, 126 cases have been reported.\*<sup>1</sup>

### Donetska oblast, NGCA

| Confirmed | Recovered | Deaths | Active | New cases including arrived from GCA | New cases including arrived from Russia | Case fatality rate | Cases among health care workers |
|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 11527     | 5619      | 1090   | 4818   | 108* <sup>2</sup>                    | 16*                                     | 9.5%               | 135*                            |

### Luhanska oblast, NGCA

| Confirmed | Recovered | Deaths | Active | New cases, including arrived from GCA* | New cases, including arrived from Russia* | Case fatality rate |   |
|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1843      | 1604      | 151    | 300    | -                                      | -                                         | 8.2%               | - |

<sup>1</sup> \* signifies that the number may not be representative of the real situation due to lack of information available.

<sup>2</sup> \* number may not be representative of the information available.

## Public health situation

**National laboratories' performance in GCA have reportedly improved since the beginning of the pandemic.** There are almost 60 automated RNA extraction stations operating in Ukraine, compared to only one at the beginning of the pandemic. According to the Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal, the number of such stations may reach 68 by the end of 2020. Similarly, the number of PCR tests has increased from 3,500 tests in April to 50,000 tests a day in November, and is expected to grow by 75,000 per day by the end of the year. At the beginning of the pandemic in Ukraine, only 12,500 beds were ready to receive patients. Currently, their number is 54,000. According to the Prime Minister, about 700 ventilators are currently used in Ukraine, while hospitals have almost 5,000 of such devices.<sup>3</sup>

**According to the latest technical review on immunization coverage conducted by WHO covering the period till 1 November 2020,** Ukraine shows a slight decline in annualized immunization coverage by most vaccines but polio, and measles coverage among children at 1 year of age and children 6 year of age has dropped comparing to the previous month and achieved 80% and 87% accordingly.<sup>4</sup>

## Government response

**On December 9, the Government of Ukraine introduced an intensified quarantine from January 8 to January 24, 2021.** Such measures have been adopted to prevent a new wave of morbidity, which may occur following the celebration of New Year and Christmas. According to the resolution "On the introduction of quarantine in order to prevent the spread of acute respiratory disease COVID-19 in Ukraine", from January 8 to 24, 2021, cafes, restaurants, bars (except for delivery and takeaway orders), cinemas, fitness clubs, gyms, swimming pools, theaters, as well as shopping malls will be banned (apart from trade in food, medicines, veterinary drugs, personal hygiene products and household chemicals). During the period of severe quarantine, it will be prohibited to visit educational institutions, trade in non-food products, hold any entertainment, sports or cultural events. At the same time, services such as public transport, grocery stores, pharmacies, banks, postal operators and hotels will continue to operate as usual.<sup>5</sup>

**The Ministry of Digital Transformation is introducing new digital solutions to counter COVID-19. In particular, the ministry reported being engaged in the following activities: simplification of the process of instant hospitalization of COVID-19 patients,** updating and improving the mobile application for self-isolation control "Diia Vdoma", introduction of e-referrals for PCR testing which will allow tracking queues in real time, introduction of QR-codes for tracking contacts with people infected with COVID-19 in public institutions with high risk of spreading the disease.<sup>6</sup>

**Free vaccination of vulnerable groups against COVID-19 in Ukraine might begin in the beginning of the second quarter of 2021.** According to the Minister of Health, Ukraine expects to receive about eight million doses of COVID-19 vaccines as part of the global COVAX initiative. This means that free vaccination of vulnerable groups against COVID-19 in Ukraine is expected to begin in beginning of the second quarter of 2021.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Gov.ua. (2020, November 17). *Prime Minister: Since the beginning of the pandemic, the work of state laboratories has actually been resumed from scratch.* <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/news/premyer-ministr-vid-pochatku-pandemiyi-faktichno-z-nulya-bula-vidnovlena-robota-derzhavni-laboratorij>.

<sup>4</sup> WHO monthly report. November 2020

<sup>5</sup> Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. (2020, December 9). *Cabinet of ministers of Ukraine - Government introduced an intensified quarantine from January 8 to 24.* <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/news/uryad-zaprovadiv-posilenij-karantin-z-8-do-24-sichnya>

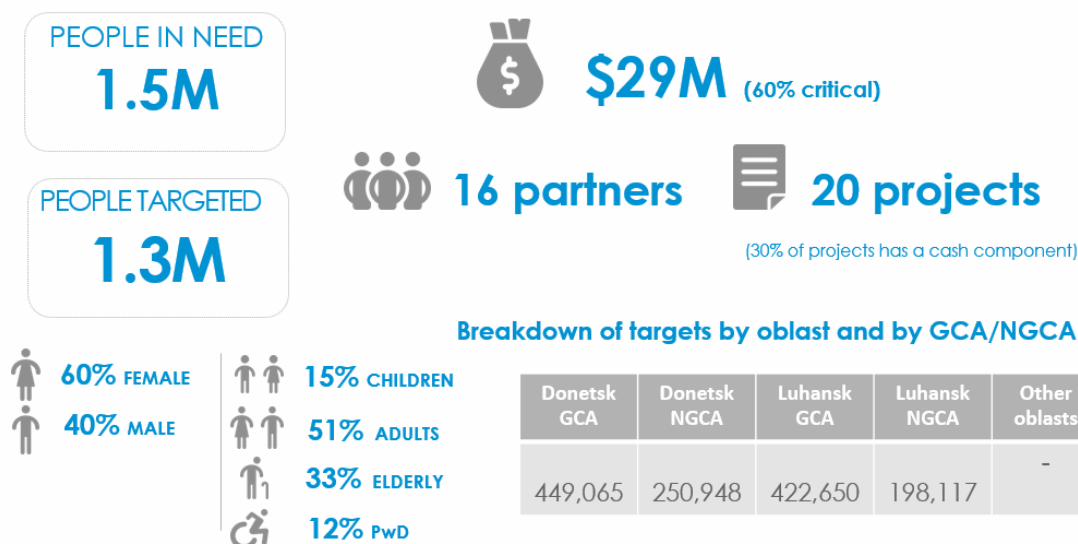
<sup>6</sup> Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. (2020, November 20). *Cabinet of ministers of Ukraine - Ministry of digital transformation is introducing new digital solutions to counter COVID-19, says Mykhailo Fedorov.* gov.ua. <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/news/mincifri-zaprovadzhuye-novi-cifrovi-rishennya-dlya-protidii-covid-19-mihajlo-fedorov>

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Health of Ukraine. (2020, December 5). *Maxym Stepanov: Vaccination against COVID-19 in Ukraine will begin in the first half of 2021.* <https://moz.gov.ua/article/news/maksim-stepanov-vakcinacija-proti-covid-19-v-ukraini-rozpochnetsja-vzhe-u-pershomu-pivrichchi-2021-roku>

## Key Cluster Updates and Initiatives

### 2021 Humanitarian Needs Analysis and Response Planning

For the year 2021 Health Cluster partners will target 1,3 million people out of the total 1.5 million in need, including 198,117 children (15%), 673,598 adults (51%) and 435,857 elderly (33%). More than half (60%) of the response will be focused on female population and twelve per cent (or 158,494 people) on people with disabilities. Around 30% of projects contain a component of cash, with an average of 12% of budget indicated for this activity. This amounts to 1,217,283 USD (or 4% of the total health budget).



### Rapid assessments related to COVID-19 hospital preparedness and lab capacity in Luhanska and Donetsk oblasts

Following the recent increase in COVID 19 cases in Luhansk region (GCA), Health Cluster with partners (MDM, UNICEF and WHO) coordinated a rapid preparedness and hospital capacity assessment in the six newly designated COVID-19 health facilities in Luhansk:

1. Stanitsa Luhanska Rayon Territorial Medical Association (infection department is in Petropavlivka)
2. Novopskovske Rayon Territorial Medical association
3. Svativskiy Multidisciplinary Hospital
4. Luhansk Regional Pediatric Hospital (Lysyhansk)
5. Novoaidarskiy Multidisciplinary Hospital
6. Popasna Central District Hospital

Assessment was based on a WHO validated tool, previously used in Ukraine and other countries, with some adaptation to local context. Data collection took place between 4 November and 15 November 2020. The detailed assessment report is currently being finalized and will be shared in due course.

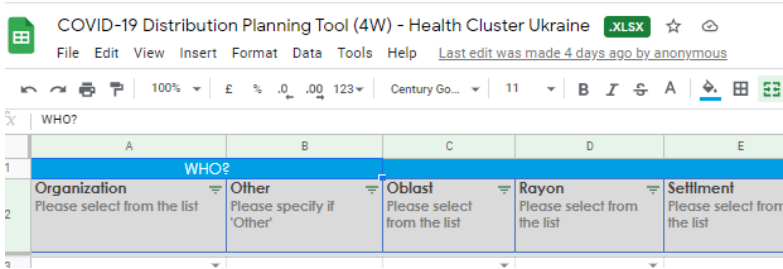
In addition, WHO and Health Cluster initiated a series of laboratory capacity assessment of COVID-19 designated laboratories in Luhanska and Donetsk oblasts, GCA. The assessment is currently on the way and the report is expected to be finalized in January 2021.



**New PPE and medical distribution planning tool (4W) for more systematic and coordinated monitoring of COVID-19 response**

Health Cluster introduced new PPE and medical distribution planning tool for more systematic and coordinated monitoring of COVID-19 response. The tool aims improve the flow of information on delivered and planned medical equipment, avoid duplication in the response and ensure more systematic and coordinated planning among the Cluster partners.

The tool is available in the two formats: [offline excel template](#) and [online google document](#). Partners are expected to provide inputs by mind December and to update it every month.



cluster to affected populations.

In total, 15 organisations responded to the survey (35 per cent response-rate), including 10 international NGOs, 4 UN organizations and 1 organization identified as “other”. 14 organizations which completed the survey are cluster members and one organization is a cluster observer.

The overall coordination performance has been rated as *satisfactory*. The same score has been given to most cluster functions, including informing strategy decision-making of the Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Country Team, planning and strategy development, advocacy, monitoring and reporting on implementation of cluster strategy, accountability to affected populations. One cluster function (undertaking advocacy activities on behalf of cluster participants and affected people) has been evaluated as *good* and one (preparedness for recurrent disasters) as *unsatisfactory*. The summary of outcomes the Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring is available [here](#).

**Health Cluster Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)**

Establishment of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) with focus on the national health reform and the Health Cluster transition. The goal of SAG is to provide technical and strategic oversight to the Health Cluster response in order to streamline priority actions in the affected communities in the eastern Ukraine. SAG will also consider critical issues and present solutions, options and ways forward. Under the coordination of the Health Cluster Coordinator the group shall comprise of representatives from UN agencies, International NGOs, Ukraine Government and authorities.

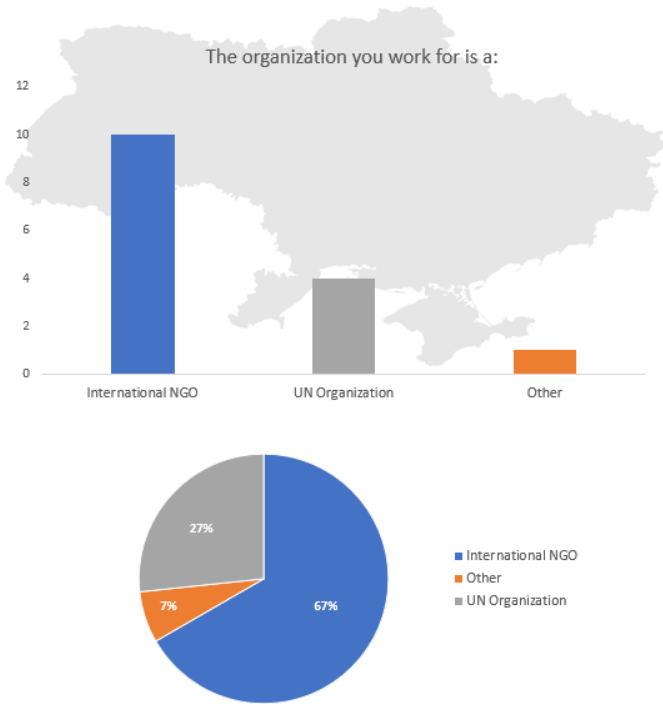
**Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM)**

The Cluster Performance Assessment was implemented through the online survey and aims at assessing the performance of the cluster in achieving its core functions, as agreed by the IAS. It is articulated around the six core functions and sub-functions of the cluster, and the accountability of the



November 26th 2020  
Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring  
Organizations - Ukraine

**15** organizations responded to the survey (35%)



To enrich analysis with research approaches the group will also include some partnerships with international academic institutions.

### Q&A Session on COVID-19

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO conducted a Q&A session dedicated to COVID-19. The session was facilitated by the two WHO experts, Dr. Liudmyla Slobodanyk, National Professional Officer on Vaccine Preventable Infections and Dr. Yurii Zhyhariev, a consultant on Clinical Management within the WHO COVID19 Response Incident Management Team in Ukraine. The session was conducted in Ukrainian/Russian and was attended by 52 participants - representatives of humanitarian organizations. The English summary of the meeting is available [here](#) while the recording in Ukrainian can be found [here](#).

#### Key take-aways:

- If you get sick- stay at home.
- Protect yourself and protect the others.
- Simple things save the life.
- Social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands are the simple precautions that will help protect oneself.

### Health Cluster partners meeting with WHO Regional Director for Europe, Dr Hans Kluge

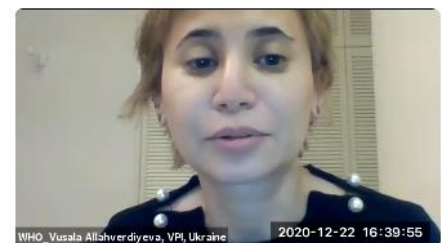


On 16 December Health Cluster organized a meeting with WHO Regional Director for Europe Dr Hans Kluge. Dr Kluge's visit to Ukraine was the first in his role as WHO Regional Director for Europe. The visit coincided with the challenging times of increasing and high number of COVID-19 cases in Europe, including in Ukraine, and had several important tasks such as: the illustration of WHO regional priorities, the appreciation of 2020 achievements, as well as, the discussion of WHO support in Ukraine in its COVID-19 and humanitarian response and health reform efforts. The meeting was attended by 38 participants and provided an opportunity for Cluster partners to ask questions and express opinions on key Health Cluster topics and priorities. Minutes of the meeting are available [here](#).

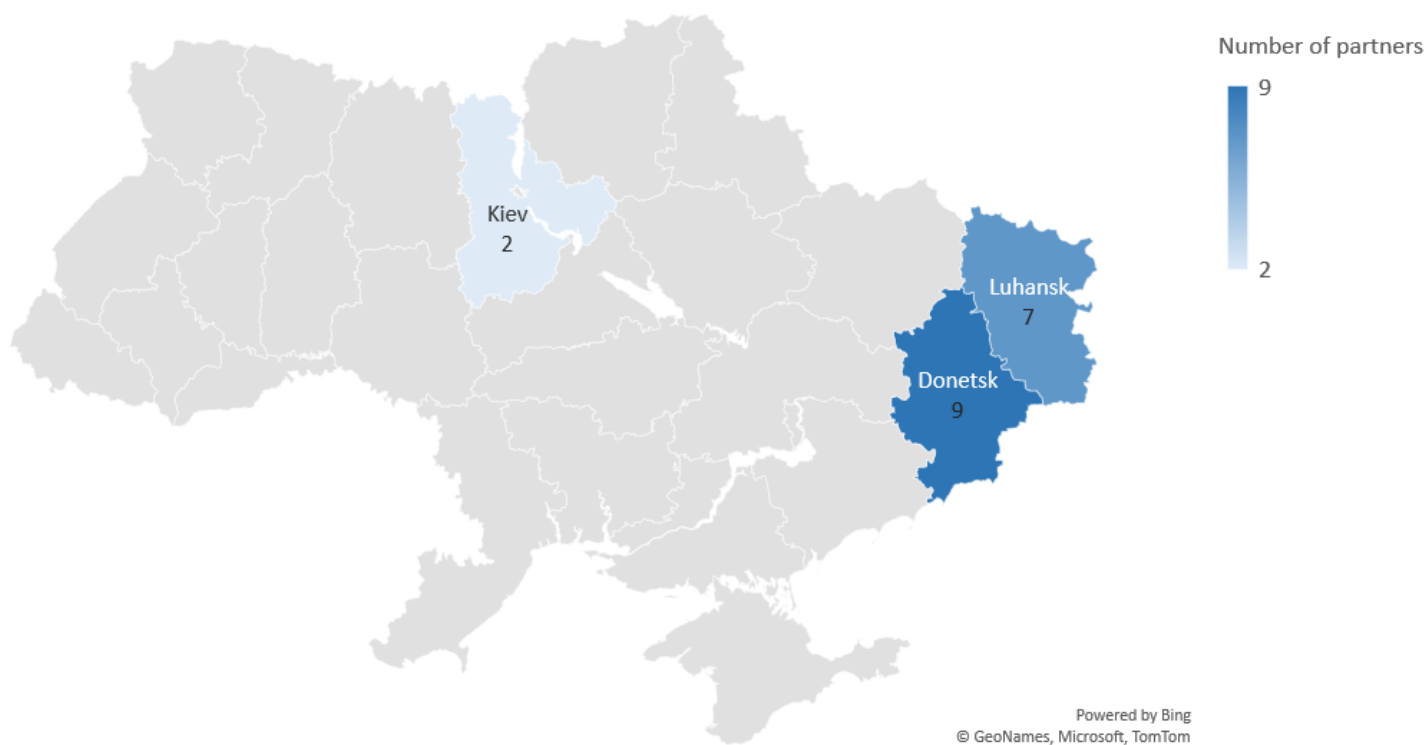
### Q&A Session on COVID-19 vaccination campaign

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO conducted a Q&A session dedicated to COVID-19 vaccination campaign. The session was attended by two WHO experts: Dr. Vusala Allahverdieva, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization Unit expert, WHO Ukraine, and Dr. Siddhartha Sankar Datta, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization Unit Program Manager, WHO Europe.

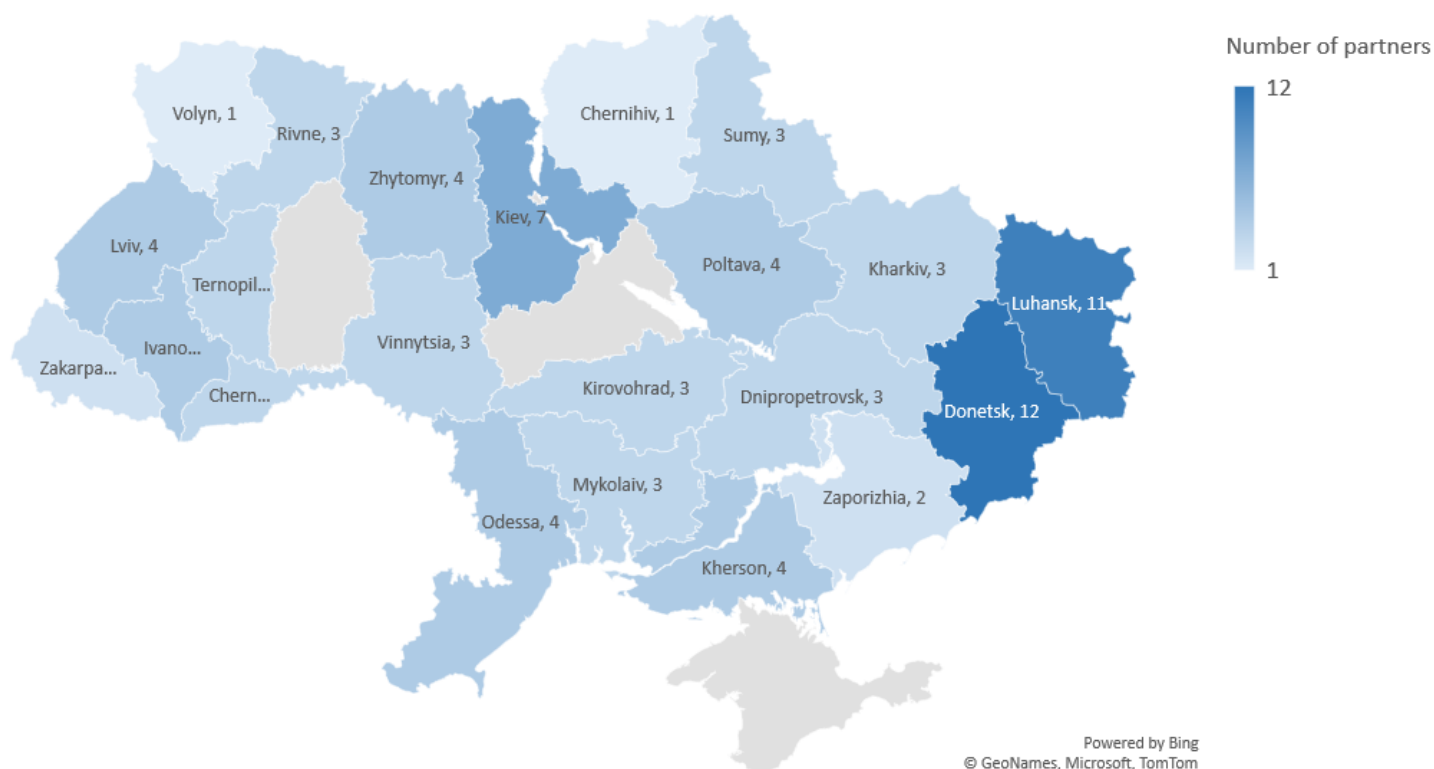
Participants had an opportunity to address questions such as who are the key actors in the COVID-19 vaccination campaign, what is the vaccination timeline and which categories of individuals will have access to the vaccine. Also, what are the possible sources of COVID-19 vaccine in Ukraine and what is the Government of Ukraine's strategy for conducting vaccination in the eastern conflict area, including NGCA. Presentation from the meeting is available [here](#) while meeting recording can be found [here](#).



## Regular Humanitarian Activities (HRP & Non-HRP)



## COVID-19 Response



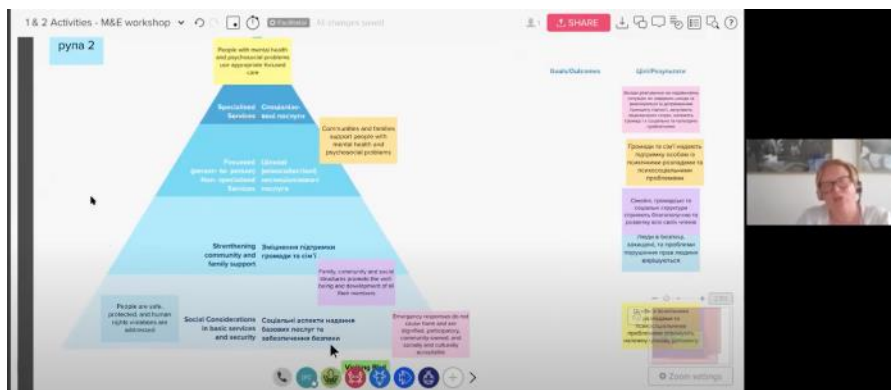


## Update from the MHPSS TWG

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Technical Working Group (MHPSS TWG) continues to regularly conduct monthly coordination meetings at national level and once two months on a regional level (covering partners operating in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts). MHPSS TWG also supported the information management on the online celebration of World Mental Health Day that is being marked annually on October 10.

MHPSS TWG Ukraine, with support of global IASC MHPSS Reference Group finished a Series of online workshops followed by supervision based on needs reported by partners and related with new circumstances that brings COVID-19 pandemic. On September 7, Monitoring and Evaluation framework for MHPSS was worked through the practical 4-hour online training for the main humanitarian stakeholders and closed the series of webinars. Each workshop of Addressing MHPSS aspects of COVID-19 pandemic includes knowledge sharing by national and international actors in Ukraine to facilitate mutual learning. For the accessibility and sustainability of the recourses the series of workshops were recorded and stored together with relevant materials at the global networking platform for sharing recourses and building knowledge amongst humanitarian stakeholders. The workshops and resources from the series can be found [here](https://mhpss.net) at a global networking platform mhpss.net.

Service map of mental health and psychosocial support activities was modified according to the feedback of partners and available [here](#). The map will undergo more changes in accordance to usability and quantitative data from the MHPSS TWG partners.



## Useful Links and Resources

- [Updated Health Cluster Page on Humanitarian Response Info website](#)
- [Ukraine: 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan - At A Glance](#)
- [Ukraine: Policy Paper on Universal Health Coverage in Ukraine](#)
- [Considerations for Implementing and Adjusting Public Health and Social Measures in the Context of COVID-19](#)
- [Prevention, Identification and Management of Health Worker Infection in the Context of COVID-19](#)
- [Setup and Management of COVID-19 Hotlines](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control for the Safe Management of a Dead Body in the Context of COVID-19: Interim Guidance](#)
- [Advice on the Use of Masks for Children in the Community in the Context of COVID-19](#)
- [Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Persons With Disabilities in Ukraine](#)
- [OHCHR report on the Impact of COVID-19 on human rights in Ukraine](#)
- [Disease Risk Factors in Ukraine 2019: Prevalence of Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors in Ukraine](#)
- [Health Assessment of Hospitals and Entry and Exit Crossing Points Situated Close to the Contact Line, July 2020](#)
- [Ukraine: Multi-sector Needs Assessment Government Controlled Areas \(GCAs\) of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts within 20 km of the contact line, July-August 2020](#)
- [Towards a healthier Ukraine: progress on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals 2020](#)
- [Information on drug residues required to implement measures to prevent the emergence and spread of COVID19](#)
- [Ukraine: COVID-19 Response 5W Dashboard as of Q3 2020 \[EN/UA\]](#)

### Contacts

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