

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) IN UKRAINE



OVERVIEW

In 2022, IOM WASH has reached 2,4 million people, in all oblasts of Ukraine, with the exception of Crimea.

The main activities include the production and distribution of safe water through repairs and rehabilitation of municipal and decentralized systems, and installation of household, institution and municipal-level water treatment systems; the improvement of sanitation systems through supporting municipal wastewater treatment plants, rehabilitation of decentralized sewage systems, and solid waste management; the preposition and distribution of non-food items (NFI), including for personal hygiene, for cleaning and disinfection of institutional facilities, for the care of the most vulnerable (bedridden, children, and people with special needs), and household appliance such as laundry equipment and electric water heaters; and, finally, the repair and upgrade of central and district heating systems, including alternative solutions design.

WASH PRESENCE IN UKRAINE

Total number of
people reached:
2,4 million



1,9 million

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SAFE WATER

139,600

PEOPLE REACHED WITH
IMPROVED SANITATION SERVICES

177,500

PEOPLE REACHED WITH
HYGIENE ITEMS AND SERVICES

326,400

PEOPLE REACHED WITH
HEATING SYSTEM REPAIRS

APPROACHES

In Ukraine, the WASH programme focuses on delivering customized and appropriate solutions, according to the challenges that different areas of the country are facing during the conflict.



IOM provided critical high-power diesel generators to Zhytomir water management utility (vodakanal), necessary to ensure the functionality of the water supply and wastewater treatment services. Photo credits:IOM

WEST AND CENTRAL OBLASTS

In locations that are hosting a large number of internally displaced and where the systems are being confronted with an increased demand of safe water and sanitation services, interventions focus on **sustaining the existing municipal systems** through the repairs and replacement of old and damaged equipment, including the provision of water treatment chemicals. In addition, IOM intervenes in Border Crossing Points (BCP), improving the existing water supply and sewage systems for travellers, and provides non-food items (NFI) to internally displaced people in collective centres to ensure minimum standards of **wellbeing and dignity**. In these areas, IOM provides support for regular operation and maintenance (O&M) activities, necessary to run the water, wastewater, and heating systems, and looks at solutions that allow for scalability, ensuring sufficient service coverage to the increased population.

NORTHERN, EASTERN AND SOUTHERN OBLASTS

In areas heavily impacted by the conflict and that sustained infrastructural damages, IOM focuses on **reestablishing the functionality of existing municipal and decentralized systems** to ensure the reliability of the service, through large scale repairs where possible, and through targeted rehabilitations. In addition, IOM looks at innovative and more sustainable solutions that increase **resilience** against energy outages and diminish dependency to solid fuel and electricity. NFI support in these areas aims at assisting those in locations where the regular supply chain and markets, therefore availability of items, and purchase power of the affected people, have been affected by the conflict.



IOM, through its partner Water Mission, provided the Mykolaiv water management utility (vodakanal) with a modern reverse osmosis (RO) treatment system. Photo credit: IOM



IOM provided water treatment systems to families in the war-affected community of Kayta, in the North of Kyiv. Photo credit: IOM

NEWLY ACCESSIBLE AND HARD-TO-REACH AREA

WASH interventions in areas close to the frontline are directed to provide basic assistance to the most in need, by delivering aid through multiple distribution modalities, including inter-agency (IA) convoys in areas that are not reachable and as part of the joint UN rapid delivery approach; and working with partners and the local communities where direct implementation is not possible due to accessibility challenges. In these areas, IOM rehabilitates and delivers equipment and machinery necessary to **restore decentralized water and wastewater systems**, and looks at immediate and short-term **life-saving solutions** to ensure the provision of the service, for example by drilling boreholes, while planning for longer term infrastructural repairs.



SUB-NATIONAL CLUSTER COORDINATION FOR THE CENTRAL AND NORTH REGIONS

Since February 2022, the national WASH Cluster has been functional in coordinating humanitarian WASH interventions, and IOM contributes in the overall structure by being an active member of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), participating in the thematic technical working Groups (TWiGs), and leading the sub-national WASH cluster for the North and Central oblasts. Due to the complexities of the Ukrainian context, the cluster had adopted a multi-pronged approach by simultaneously assisting the affected people, through conventional humanitarian interventions, while also working with the governmental entities. At the sub-national level, IOM supports active actors and other WASH partners with the purpose of a stronger and meaningful response, by strengthening the engagement and participation of local authorities, with a focus on effective communication for a contextualized and efficient response.



IOM and the Ukrainian association of water supply and sewage enterprises “Ukrvodokanalekolohiia” signed a memorandum on cooperation to help ensure that affected people have access to well-functioning water and sanitation services. Photo credits: Ukrvodokanalekolohiia



IOM repaired the main water supply facility in Bila Tserkva, in the outskirts of Kyiv.



IOM distributed hygiene items throughout Ukraine, reaching 177,500 internally displaced and war-affected people in 24 oblasts in 2022.

INNOVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION

Frequency controllers are an efficient tool to mitigate such indirect damage and preserve equipment. To support water supply to people and enterprises, IOM installed frequency controllers at the main water supply facility in the town of Bila Tserkva, Kyiv Region. This allows the facility to remotely monitor the system and gradually suspend operations when electricity is disrupted. Working at decreased levels during periods of low demand, the equipment will be able to serve much longer. Moreover, these units help reduce electrical expenses by allowing to adjust operations based on daily water consumption.

The savings enable the water utility company to pay the salaries of its staff, whose work is more important now than ever. In addition, IOM repaired multiple wastewater pumps, replaced pipelines, modernized the water quality laboratory, and is currently installing a mechanical filtration system for wastewater.

“We estimate cost savings of 5 per cent thanks to this intervention, and we are very grateful to IOM and our international partners. You are here and we see your support through our every step during this horrific war,” said Tetiana Boiko, the director of the water utility in Bila Tserkva.

Over 250,000 residents in Bila Tserkva and the region, including more than 30,000 displaced people, will benefit from the modern water supply system.

IOM WASH UKRAINE STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2025

Response - Provide timely and life-saving water, sanitation, hygiene and heating services to vulnerable people affected or displaced by the conflict.

Recovery - Provide improved access to WASH services by supporting the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing water, sanitation, hygiene and heating infrastructure and systems.

Resilience - Provide sustainable access to WASH services by supporting the scaling and efficient restoration of existing water, sanitation, hygiene and heating infrastructure and systems.



More stories:

<https://rovienna.iom.int/stories/drops-hope-bringing-back-drinking-water-war-affected-people-ukraine>

<https://twitter.com/IOMUkraine/status/1564917610201980928>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6970281633753014272>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qL8M52QrF9c>

<https://www.facebook.com/IOMUkraine/posts/pfbid08Zp7m8MN9reS-DzTkmz2mztY9uUPfgEM1WKu42B6uGSgk4Xc71shJEMUtDJFDHGjXI>

Contact details



IOM Ukraine



IOM Ukraine



IOM Ukraine



Website