

Ukraine Joint Programme on CRSV
FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: FROM 12.2023 TO 10.2025

Programme Title & Project Number	Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results
- Programme Title: Ukraine Joint Programme on CRSV - Programme Number: NDICI CRISIS FPI/2023/437-822 - MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00140541	<i>Country/Region:</i> Ukraine <i>Priority area/ strategic results:</i> Outcomes(s): United Nations in Ukraine - Transitional Framework (September 2022-December 2023): Strategic Priority 2.1: National capacities are strengthened and use data for efficient crisis response and recovery planning Strategic Priority 3.1: Early recovery interventions are effective in increasing inclusive human development, promoting a sustainable green economy, and building a resilient society
Participating Organization(s)	Implementing Partners
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC) - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Ukraine - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in Ukraine - United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Ukraine	- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Ukraine - Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration (DPM/EEAI) - Office (Apparatus) of the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy (GC/GEP) - Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsperson's Office) - Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity of Ukraine (MSP) - National Social Service of Ukraine (NSSU) - Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) - National Police of Ukraine (NPU)
Programme/Project Cost (US\$)	Programme Duration
MPTF /JP Contribution: \$2,333,100.00 <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> Agency Contribution \$470,241.35 <i>by Agency (if applicable):</i> Government Contribution (if applicable) 0.00 Other Contributions (donors) (if applicable) 0.00 TOTAL: \$2,803,341.35	Overall Duration (<i>months</i>) 22 months Start Date (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 18.12.2023 Original End Date (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 17.06.2025 Current End date (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 17.10.2025



Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	Report Submitted By
Assessment/Review ☐ Yes ☒ No Mid-Term Evaluation Report ☐ Yes ☒ No	Name: Tonderai Chikuhwa Title: Senior Policy Advisor Participating Organization (Lead): Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Email address: chikuhwa@un.org

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT

List of acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent
CA	Convening Agent
CRSV	Conflict-related sexual violence
DPM/EEAI Office	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration
EU	European Union
FoC	Framework of Cooperation
FPI	EU Service for Service of the Foreign Policy Instruments
GC/GEP Office	Office (Apparatus) of the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy
GoU	Government of Ukraine
JIAP	Joint Implementation Action Plan for the FoC (effective by 2025)
JP / CRSV JP / Programme	Joint Programme on CRSV
MARA	Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MSP	Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity of Ukraine
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
NSSU	National Social Service of Ukraine
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSINT	Open-Source Intelligence
PSVI Alliance	International Alliance on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organizations
RCO	Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine
SRC	Survivor Relief Center
SWPA	Senior Women Protection Adviser
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
WG	Working Group
WPA / WPAs	Women Protection Adviser(s)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ukraine Joint Programme on the Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV JP or the Programme) provided strategic, legislative, and institutional support to operationalize the Framework of Cooperation (FoC) on CRSV. Implemented with the support of the EU Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), the Programme contributed to Ukraine's transition from fragmented and ad hoc responses to a coordinated, survivor-centred, and nationally led CRSV prevention and response system.

Over the initial 18-month implementation period and a 4.5-month no-cost extension, the Programme embedded ten national CRSV experts across six key state institutions and deployed Women Protection Advisers (WPAs) within the UN Country Team (RCO, UN Women, UNFPA). These experts provided sustained technical, legal, and coordination support, strengthening institutional ownership and ensuring integration of CRSV prevention and response into national policy, legislation, monitoring frameworks, and international reporting processes.

The Programme formed part of a broader UN system response and operated in close synergy with UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict and the UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, reinforcing collective UN support to the Government of Ukraine in fulfilling its FoC commitments. Key strategic achievements include:

Legislative milestones: Adoption of Ukraine's first comprehensive legal framework granting recognition and interim reparation rights to CRSV survivors (Laws No. 4067-IX and No. 4071-IX), alongside alignment of national criminal legislation with the Rome Statute, including the introduction of command responsibility, crimes against humanity, as well as harmonization with the Istanbul Convention and relevant EU Directives.

Institutionalized coordination: Transformation of the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) into a functional national coordination platform with standardized procedures, reporting practices, and performance monitoring. Programme experts supported development of the new FoC Implementation Plan (2026–2027) and contributed to updates of the National Action Plan (NAP) 1325.

Strengthened accountability and global visibility: Systematic integration of CRSV data and analysis into OHCHR Human Rights Reports and the UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on CRSV enhanced Ukraine's international accountability profile. The Programme supported Ukraine's engagement in global advocacy platforms, including CSW69, UN Security Council WPS debates, Beijing+30 processes, and its 2025 Chairmanship of the International Alliance on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict (PSVI Alliance).

Expanded professional capacity and services: Over 1400 professionals — including police officers, investigators, civil servants, case managers, and civil society representatives — were trained in survivor-centred investigation, referral coordination, monitoring, and service provision. Standard operating procedures and referral mechanisms were strengthened, contributing to measurable improvements in coordination and service delivery in pilot regions.

Enhanced survivor participation and public awareness: Survivor-led and women-led organizations were actively engaged in policy dialogue and coordination processes. Strategic communications initiatives, including the #OneVoiceAgainstCRSV campaign, contributed to destigmatization, public awareness, and strengthened trust in national protection systems.

Throughout implementation, the Programme consistently applied a survivor-centred and human rights-based approach, embedding informed consent, confidentiality safeguards, gender equality principles, and localization into institutional practices.

The CRSV JP funding proved catalytic. It enabled foundational legal reforms, strengthened coordination architecture, increased international visibility of CRSV issues in Ukraine, and contributed to mobilizing complementary political and institutional support. By the end of the Programme, Ukraine's CRSV

response had evolved into a more predictable, accountable, and internationally aligned national system with strengthened institutional ownership and sustainability.

I. Purpose

The Programme was designed to provide coordinated technical assistance and expert support to key Government of Ukraine (GoU) institutions and relevant UN entities, working in collaboration with civil society organizations and frontline responders to implement the Framework of Cooperation (FoC). The Programme focused on three mutually reinforcing pillars: (i) policy and normative development, (ii) capacity-building and awareness-raising, and (iii) strengthening survivor support systems.

The overall objective of the CRSV JP is “Strengthened and coordinated CRSV prevention and response in Ukraine.” Achievement of this objective was structured around three interlinked outcomes:

1. Improved coordination among government entities to ensure policy coherence and consistency in CRSV prevention and response, grounded in accurate and objective data.
2. Increased capacity of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the FoC to design and implement programmes using a survivor-centred, data-informed approach.
3. Improved accessibility and quality of services for CRSV survivors, ensuring coordinated, multi-sectoral, and needs-oriented assistance.

The Programme is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Ukraine (2025–2029), particularly Priority Area IV: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Specifically, it contributes to Outcome 4, which envisions that by 2029, society in Ukraine is more inclusive and cohesive, with active civic space and more effective, accountable institutions that enable reform and recovery and safeguard the rule of law, human rights, and gender equality.

Through its integrated approach—combining institutional strengthening, legislative reform, coordinated monitoring, and survivor-centred service provision—the CRSV JP directly supports Ukraine’s broader reform, recovery, and accountability agenda in line with UN strategic priorities.

II. Assessment of Programme Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

Through the collective leadership of PUNOs, and in close partnership with the Office of the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy (GC/GEP Office), the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration (DPM/EEAI Office), Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity (MSP), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), National Social Service of Ukraine (NSSU), National Police of Ukraine (NPU), Ombudsperson’s Office, the Programme contributed to a systemic transformation of Ukraine’s CRSV response: from fragmented interventions to a coordinated, survivor-centred national mechanism. Results achieved during the reporting period reflect progress toward three interlinked Outcomes.

Outcomes

Outcome 1 – Improved coordination among government entities to ensure policy consistency in the prevention and response to CRSV based on accurate and objective data

The Programme contributed to the Institutionalisation of a Government-led coordination system for the prevention of and response to CRSV, ensuring structured implementation of the FoC and strengthening policy coherence across national institutions.

Institutionalisation of the IAWG Coordination Mechanism. A core achievement of the Programme was the transformation of the IAWG from a consultative platform into an operational coordination mechanism with defined governance structures and measurable functions.

The Joint Secretariat was operationalised under the GC/GEP Office, with functions practically ensured through Programme-supported embedded experts, including coordination support within DPMO. Governance architecture, internal workflows, reporting templates, and coordination procedures were developed in line with national inter-ministerial standards, ensuring sustainability beyond project-based support.

The approval of the IAWG Rules of Procedure (19 December 2024) formalised the structure, clarified roles and responsibilities, and regulated interaction with the SRSG-SVC. In parallel, performance indicators aligned with the IAWG Regulation were developed, enabling structured monitoring of implementation progress and strengthening accountability.

Regular IAWG meetings and five thematic subgroups functioned throughout the reporting period, accompanied by consolidated analytical reporting to the Cabinet of Ministers. As a result, coordination shifted from ad hoc exchanges to predictable, monitored implementation of the FoC. Thus, *Indicator 1.1 was fully achieved: the Joint Secretariat functioned effectively, ensuring structured roll-out of the JIAP and strengthening regular IAWG operations compared to baseline conditions.*

Results-Oriented Planning and Monitoring of the FoC. The Programme ensured that coordination mechanisms were anchored in measurable planning frameworks. During inception phase of the Programme, the JIAP was reviewed and refined to improve clarity, operational feasibility, and alignment with institutional mandates. This process informed the development of a Monitoring and Evaluation framework to track implementation progress.

Building on these foundations, Programme-supported experts contributed to the development of a new FoC Implementation Plan for 2026–2027. This ensured continuity of efforts, incorporation of lessons learned, and alignment with evolving national priorities, including Ukraine’s European integration commitments. The transition from a time-bound action plan to structured multi-year planning represents a significant step toward sustainability.

Legislative Alignment and Policy Coherence. The Programme significantly strengthened the normative foundation of CRSV prevention, accountability, and survivor protection by supporting comprehensive legislative alignment with international criminal law, human rights standards, and Ukraine’s European integration commitments. Beyond coordination mechanisms, the Programme contributed directly to the development and adoption of landmark legislation forming the core of Ukraine’s CRSV legal architecture.

In 2024, two historic framework laws were adopted:

- Law No. 4067-IX “On Legal and Social Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence Related to the Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine and Providing Urgent Interim Reparations” (20 November 2024);
- Law No. 4071-IX “On Recording Information on Damage Caused to Personal Non-Property Rights as a Result of Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine” (20 November 2024).

Programme-supported experts also played a key role in shaping amendments aligning Ukraine’s criminal justice system with international standards. This included support to:

- Ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute framework, including introduction of liability for crimes against humanity, incorporation of command responsibility, and provisions on universal jurisdiction (Laws No. 3909-IX of 21 August 2024 and No. 4012-IX of 9 October 2024);
- Amendments to the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Code on Administrative Offenses, and related legislation to incorporate provisions of the Istanbul Convention and relevant EU Directives (Law No. 3733-IX of 22 May 2024; Draft Law No. 12297 of 9 December 2024);

- Amendments concerning the application of restrictive measures to combat domestic and sexual violence under the EU integration Draft Law No. 5629 of June 2021 (revised version for second reading).

These reforms collectively strengthened the qualification of CRSV as international crimes, clarified prosecutorial tools, reinforced victim procedural safeguards, and aligned national law with obligations arising under international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and EU acquis.

By linking legislative reform processes with the work of the IAWG and FoC implementation planning, the Programme ensured that coordination efforts were anchored in strengthened normative obligations rather than policy commitments alone. The result was not only improved inter-agency cooperation but also a more coherent and internationally aligned accountability framework for CRSV.

Strengthened UN System Coherence and International Positioning. The Programme also enhanced coordination within the UN system and strengthened Ukraine's engagement with international CRSV mechanisms. The WPA system, under the leadership of the SWPA in the RCO and embedded across relevant UN entities, supported coordinated advocacy, strengthened MARA reporting, and ensured consolidated UN inputs to the SRSV-SVC for inclusion in the Secretary-General's Annual Report.

The establishment of the UN WG on CRSV improved inter-agency coherence and reduced duplication among joint initiatives. At the international level, coordinated advocacy efforts contributed to increased visibility of Ukraine's survivor-centred approach, including during high-level engagements and Ukraine's 2025 Chairmanship of the PSVI Alliance.

As a result, by the end of the Programme, coordination on CRSV in Ukraine had evolved from fragmented and largely ad hoc engagement into an institutionalised, Government-led system anchored in formal structures and measurable processes. A functioning Joint Secretariat model was embedded within national institutions, supported by formalised procedures and performance indicators guiding the work of the IAWG, while structured planning mechanisms ensured coherent implementation of the FoC. Strengthened legislative alignment reinforced the accountability and survivor-centred foundations of the national response, and improved coherence between national mechanisms and international CRSV frameworks enhanced Ukraine's strategic positioning globally. Collectively, these achievements represent a structural shift toward predictable, accountable, and internationally aligned CRSV coordination with increased sustainability beyond the lifecycle of the Joint Programme.

Outcome 2 – Increased capacity of stakeholders involved in the roll out of the Implementation Plan in developing programmes using a survivor-centred approach based on accurate and objective data

Under Outcome 2, the Programme contributed to the institutionalisation of survivor-centred standards, strengthened monitoring and accountability mechanisms, and enhanced the practical capacities of national and regional actors engaged in CRSV prevention and response. These interventions strengthened not only individual competencies but also institutional practices, embedding survivor-centred standards within monitoring systems, investigative procedures, and service provision frameworks. Outcome 2 therefore contributed to a more coherent, accountable, and evidence-based national CRSV response system, bridging central-level reforms with regional implementation realities.

A key systemic achievement was the development and validation of the Methodological Recommendations on Monitoring State Institutions' Work with CRSV Survivors by the Ombudsperson's Office, supported by UN Women. This instrument introduced a comprehensive monitoring tool with defined indicators and guidance for assessing accessibility, quality, and survivor-sensitivity of institutional services. Validated in 2025, it established a national monitoring standard and laid the foundation for a nationwide accountability mechanism to be rolled out in 2026. The Recommendations operationalise survivor-centred principles within state oversight functions and strengthen institutional accountability beyond individual training interventions.

In parallel, the Programme supported the development and refinement of key legislative and regulatory instruments strengthening procedural safeguards, investigative standards, and institutional mandates related to CRSV response (please refer to Knowledge product Annex B). These normative improvements complemented Outcome 1 reforms by ensuring that enhanced coordination was matched by strengthened operational and procedural frameworks.

At the regional level, the Programme narrowed service-quality gaps between frontline and central regions through targeted field missions and consultations across ten oblasts. Engagement with women-led civil society organisations and Survivors' Associations enabled identification of referral bottlenecks, training needs, and data-sharing challenges, directly informing revisions to the FoC Implementation Plan for 2026–2027. These efforts contributed to the establishment of a regional network of women's CSOs facilitating peer exchange, coordinated referrals, and survivor-centred service provision.

Capacity development interventions significantly strengthened knowledge and applied skills across government institutions and civil society. More than 200 representatives from ministries, law enforcement, the Ombudsperson's Office, social services, and women-led CSOs reported improved competence in applying survivor-centred approaches, including ethical interviewing, informed consent, trauma-informed methodologies, and case documentation. Over 80 per cent of participants in specialised CRSV response trainings demonstrated improved knowledge of CRSV-specific prevention and investigation actions, confirming full achievement of *Outcome 2 Indicator 1 (Percentage of actors reporting improved knowledge in working with CRSV cases and delivering services to CRSV survivors)*. Importantly, several training modules incorporated survivor perspectives, reinforcing participatory and rights-based approaches.

Under Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) approximately 150 public sector and civil society specialists strengthened their capacities in CRSV case identification, documentation, consent-based referral, and ethical information management. Training initiatives, implemented in coordination with OHCHR, reinforced standards on confidentiality, survivor consent, and data protection within the national CRSV data architecture. In addition, over 50 IAWG focal points from ministries and regional administrations received specialised training on monitoring and accountability frameworks under the FoC, strengthening practical application of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework developed under Outcome 1. As a result, institutional data submissions in 2025 demonstrated improved accuracy, consistency, and alignment with survivor-centred standards, directly contributing to Ukraine's reporting to the UN Secretary-General on CRSV and confirming achievement of *Outcome 2 Indicator 2 (Reach of specific training on MARA)*.

Outcome 3 – Improved accessibility of services for (CRSV) survivors

The Programme translated policy reform and capacity-building efforts into tangible improvements in the accessibility, coordination, quality, and sustainability of services for CRSV survivors. The focus shifted from assessing gaps in existing GBV systems in 2024 to demonstrating measurable improvements in referral efficiency, service standards, and institutional readiness in 2025.

Accessibility was strengthened through comprehensive service mapping and referral assessments conducted in collaboration with UNFPA and national partners. These assessments identified structural and operational gaps in referral pathways and informed targeted improvements in coordination mechanisms. As a result, three pilot oblasts demonstrated approximately 40 per cent faster referral processes and improved coordination between health, justice, and psychosocial service providers, confirming achievement of *Outcome 3 Indicator 1 (Referral mechanisms for providing coordinated and timely assistance to CRSV survivors are improved)*. The establishment of updated referral directories and strengthened interagency communication reduced duplication, improved case tracking, and enhanced survivor access to multi-sectoral support, including through mobile teams reaching remote communities.

Quality and survivor-centred standards were reinforced through targeted capacity development of frontline professionals and service providers. Nearly 200 response actors, including representatives of local governments, social service providers, Survivor Relief Centres, free legal aid centres, NPU,

prosecutors, and the judiciary, benefited from certified interagency coordination training programmes supported by the Programme. In addition, over 80 frontline professionals, including doctors, psychologists, and social workers—received specialised training on trauma-informed approaches, confidentiality safeguards, and consent-based data-sharing protocols. Post-training assessments demonstrated high satisfaction rates and strong self-reported improvements in professional confidence and application of survivor-centred standards, confirming achievement of *Outcome 3 Indicator 2 (Percentage of actors reporting improved knowledge in working with CRSV cases and delivering services to CRSV survivors)*.

At the institutional level, the Programme strengthened systemic oversight and sustainability of CRSV service provision. The MSP and NSSU enhanced their capacity to oversee registration of CRSV survivors and provision of specialised services, while the High School of Public Governance (HSPG) and its GBV National Training Centre adapted and institutionalised CRSV-specific training modules within the national training system. Dedicated protocols and structured assistance procedures were developed and aligned with GBV standards, including consent-based medical data-sharing provisions introduced through revision of Order No. 278 in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. In parallel, collaboration with the DPMO ensured integration of CRSV standards into the Gender-Sensitive Recovery Roadmap (2025–2026), linking survivor support to broader national recovery planning. Several local administrations allocated budget lines for CRSV coordination within their 2026 development plans, strengthening financial sustainability of service provision.

Independent monitoring mechanisms further reinforced accountability and trust. Pilot monitoring visits conducted under the Ombudsperson’s methodology reflected increased survivor trust in institutional responses and greater willingness to report cases. In addition, a nationwide monitoring process of specialised GBV services assisting CRSV survivors was initiated jointly with the Government, covering over one thousand services across Ukraine and laying the foundation for harmonised quality standards.

Together, these measures demonstrate achievement of *Outcome 3 Indicator 3 (Institutions working on CRSV cases and providing support to CRSV survivors report enhanced capacity)*. More broadly, Outcome 3 reflects a structural shift from fragmented service delivery toward coordinated, survivor-centred, and increasingly institutionalised assistance systems that are integrated into national policy frameworks and budget planning processes.

Outputs

Output 1.1 Strategic and technical capacity of national authorities enhanced in the prevention and response to CRSV

Under Output 1.1, the Programme adopted a systemic and partnership-based approach to strengthen the institutional, strategic, and technical capacity of national authorities responsible for CRSV prevention and response. Through embedded expert support, strengthened coordination mechanisms, development of context-specific guidance aligned with international standards, and targeted legislative/regulatory assistance, the Programme reinforced national ownership, standardisation of practices, and evidence-based decision-making across the CRSV response architecture. Output 1.1 was achieved, with several indicators exceeding their planned targets.

In parallel, coordinated high-level advisory support was provided through the deployment of international Women Protection Advisors (WPAs). This included the Senior Women Protection Adviser recruited by UNDP and reporting to the UN Resident Coordinator, a WPA recruited by UNFPA and seconded to OHCHR to support monitoring and reporting functions, and a WPA embedded within UN Women. This coordinated advisory structure enhanced coherence of UN assistance, strengthened strategic alignment between national coordination mechanisms and international accountability processes, and reinforced survivor-centred approaches within institutional practice.

At the coordination level, the Programme significantly strengthened the functioning of the IAWG and its five thematic subgroups. Activities under *Indicator 1.1.1 (target: 10; achieved: 16) exceeded targets*,

reflecting the institutionalisation of regular coordination and follow-up. The Programme supported the adoption of the IAWG Rules of Procedure (December 2024), contributed to the development of performance indicators for tracking IAWG effectiveness, and supported refinement of the JIAP into a more user-friendly tool, complemented by an M&E Framework. Programme-supported experts also contributed to monitoring of FoC implementation, localisation processes, and development of the new FoC Implementation Plan for 2026–2027. Coordination support was integrated into the UN/Ukraine CRSV Technical Group (TG) co-chaired by the GC/GEP and the SWPA, ensuring alignment between UN support and Government priorities.

The Programme substantially exceeded the target under *Indicator 1.1.2 (target: 10; achieved: 27)*, delivering a wide range of analytical, methodological, and policy products to strengthen strategic planning, improve inter-agency coordination, and advance survivor-centred approaches. These included, inter alia, contributions to the development of new FoC Implementation Plan for 2026–2027; methodological tools supporting oversight and monitoring functions (including the Ombudsperson’s monitoring methodology); and operational guidance supporting harmonised procedures and inter-institutional interaction, including in settings affected by occupation and de-occupation. Programme-supported experts also contributed to legislative and regulatory drafting and review processes to ensure alignment with the Istanbul Convention, relevant EU directives, and Rome Statute-related reforms; the full list of knowledge products and legislative/regulatory contributions is provided in Knowledge Products Annex B.

Under *Indicator 1.1.3 (target: 6; achieved: 6)*, the planned target was achieved through the embedding of national experts within six key institutions (DPM/EEAI Office, GC/GEP Office, Ombudsperson’s Office, MIA/NPU, MSP, and NSSU). Embedded experts developed institutional roadmaps aligned with FoC priorities and provided sustained technical accompaniment supporting strategic planning, coordination, and policy development, including contributions to national reporting and international commitments.

Indicator 1.1.4 (target: 2; achieved: 2) was achieved through Programme-supported technical contributions to IAWG reporting (experts were involved to drafting of 2024 Subgroup Reports) and subgroup progress assessments, which informed Government evaluation of implementation progress and fed directly into planning for the subsequent FoC implementation cycle.

Beyond institutional strengthening, the Programme increased Ukraine’s international visibility and leadership on CRSV through strategic engagements and high-level events supporting advocacy, policy coherence, and exchange of practices. Illustrative examples include support to Ukraine’s participation in Beijing+30 processes; advocacy and visibility linked to the UN Security Council Open Debate on WPS; and sustained support to Ukraine’s 2025 PSVI Alliance Chairmanship, including coordination of substantive activities and knowledge products. Additional engagements at CSW69 and the Ukraine Recovery Conference reinforced the integration of CRSV considerations into broader recovery and gender equality agendas and helped position Ukraine’s survivor-centred reforms within global policy discussions.

Output 1.2 The monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements mechanism is strengthened, in line with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions No 1960 (2010) and No 2467 (2019).

The Programme strengthened the national implementation of MARA on CRSV through embedded WPAs and national experts supporting OHCHR and relevant coordination mechanisms. This support enhanced the quality, consistency, and strategic use of CRSV data; strengthened reporting pipelines to global accountability mechanisms; and reinforced evidence-based advocacy and response. Output 1.2 was fully achieved, with several indicators meeting or exceeding their targets.

Public Reporting and Global Accountability. The Programme contributed to the preparation of periodic and thematic OHCHR public reports incorporating CRSV data and analysis. The WPA embedded in the OHCHR team contributed to the following reports :

1. [Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine](#) (1 December 2023 – 29 February 2024)
2. [Human Rights Situation During the Russian Occupation of Territory of Ukraine and its Aftermath](#) (March 2024)
3. [Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine](#) (1 March – 31 May 2024)
4. [Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine: Treatment of Prisoners of War and Update on the Human Rights Situation](#) (June – August 2024)
5. [Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine](#) (1 September – 30 November 2024)
6. [Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine](#) (1 December 2024 – 31 May 2025)
7. [Treatment of Civilians Deprived of their Liberty in the Context of the Armed Attack by the Russian Federation against Ukraine](#) (1 June 2023 – 10 September 2025)

These reports ensured sustained public documentation of CRSV patterns, including incidents affecting civilians and prisoners of war, and strengthened Ukraine's contribution to global accountability processes. Thus, *Indicator 1.2.1 (target: 4; exceeded: 7)*.

Programme supported the collection, verification and transmission of information on patterns of CRSV and national response efforts. Through SWPA and IAWG coordination instrument consolidated data and verified inputs from national and UN sources were transmitted to the Office of the SRSG-SVC and reflected in the Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence ([S/2025/389](#)), which incorporates a dedicated section on Ukraine. The report included a dedicated section on Ukraine documenting patterns of CRSV perpetrated by Russian armed and security forces, as well as national prevention, legislative, and survivor protection measures. The Programme also supported preparation of an [information and advocacy document](#) highlighting the systematic and likely high-level sanctioned nature of CRSV crimes, reinforcing Ukraine's engagement with UN accountability mechanisms. *Indicator 1.2.2 fully implemented (target: 1; achieved: 1)*.

Analytical Coordination and Data Integration. Coordination between OHCHR and national mechanisms was strengthened through regular analytical updates to the UN CRSV Working Group and the IAWG. Under *Indicator 1.2.3 (target: 4)*, updates to the UN CRSV WG exceeded the planned frequency, as the OHCHR-based WPA provided analytical briefings on documented cases, patterns, and emerging trends on an ongoing basis. Under *Indicator 1.2.4 (target: 1)*, regular updates to the IAWG met the target, ensuring that verified CRSV data informed Government coordination under the FoC and supported evidence-based policy adjustments.

Field-Based Monitoring and Evidence Generation. Under *Indicator 1.2.5 (target: 3; achieved: 4)*, the Programme exceeded its target through four joint field missions conducted to Dnipro (January 2025), Sumy (February 2025), Odesa/Mykolaiv (June 2025), and Kharkiv (October 2025). These missions were coordinated by the UN Women WPA in consultation and active participation of PUNOs, national and regional authorities, survivors' networks, and civil society actors.

The missions assessed local capacities to identify, document, report, and respond to CRSV cases, reviewing referral pathways, inter-agency coordination, data handling practices, and survivor access to services. They identified systemic gaps, including inconsistent coordination among civil society, local authorities, and law enforcement; absence of clearly defined and functional referral pathways in certain regions; limited awareness of CRSV among frontline actors; persistent stigma affecting survivor reporting; and insufficient public knowledge of available services.

Building on these findings, structured and context-specific recommendations were formulated to enhance inter-agency coordination, strengthen awareness-raising and targeted capacity-building initiatives, and reinforce legal safeguards and survivor-centred support mechanisms at regional level. The evidence generated through the missions directly informed national-level policy discussions and contributed to refinement of coordination practices under the FoC, as well as adjustments to training, programming, and advocacy interventions. By systematically linking regional realities with national reporting processes, the field missions significantly strengthened the contextual accuracy and credibility of MARA implementation, ensuring that strategic planning and international reporting were grounded in verified, field-based evidence

Capacity-Building on Data Protection and Investigation Standards. Under *Indicator 1.2.6 (revised target: 6; achieved: 6)*, the Programme met the revised target by delivering six specialized webinars on secure search and protection of CRSV information, Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) methodologies, and use of innovative technologies in investigation of international crimes. Eighty-three police officers were trained on ethical handling of CRSV data, confidentiality safeguards, risk management in digital storage and transfer, documentation standards, and secure inter-agency information exchange systems.

Participant feedback confirmed strong reception: 89 per cent rated the webinars as “excellent” and 11 per cent as “good.” These interventions strengthened professional standards for evidence collection and digital data management, reinforcing integrity and survivor-centred handling of sensitive information.

Governance and Institutionalisation of the MARA Architecture. Under *Indicator 1.2.7 (target: 2; achieved: 2)*, the Programme supported development of foundational governance documents for the UN CRSV WG. The Terms of Reference were developed through structured consultations and adopted in December 2024, formally defining roles, coordination modalities, and information-sharing responsibilities within the UN Country Team in line with UNSCR 1960 (2010) and the FoC. In parallel, a structured data sharing protocol was drafted to strengthen inter-agency data exchange and ensure standardized, confidential, and survivor-centred handling of CRSV-related information. While finalization of the protocol extends into 2025, its core framework was established during the reporting period, significantly strengthening the institutional basis of MARA implementation at country level.

Output 2.1 Stakeholders involved in the response to CRSV trained to develop and implement CRSV-related policies using a survivor-centred approach

The Programme strengthened the institutional and operational capacities of national and regional stakeholders, including law enforcement officials, investigators, police psychologists, regional Ombudsperson representatives, women’s organisations, and other service providers, to apply survivor-centred, rights-based, and data-informed approaches in CRSV prevention and response. Training interventions were designed not only to enhance technical knowledge, but also to embed ethical standards, inter-agency cooperation, and survivor perspectives into institutional practice. Output 2.1 was achieved, with all performance indicators meeting or exceeding planned targets.

Development of Specialized Training and Methodological Materials. The Programme supported the development of specialised training curricula and methodological materials tailored to national institutional needs, providing a sustainable foundation for continued professional development. *Indicator 2.1.1 (target: 2; achieved: 2).*

For MIA and NPU, comprehensive training modules were developed covering qualification of CRSV as an international crime; elements of crimes under international humanitarian law; command responsibility; procedural changes linked to legislative reforms; OSINT methodologies; forensic medicine applications; survivor-centred interviewing techniques; referral mechanisms; and interdisciplinary collaboration between investigators and psychologists. These materials institutionalised updated legal standards, including newly introduced Criminal Code provisions following Rome Statute-related amendments.

For the Ombudsperson’s Office, a dedicated training curriculum was developed to support regional representatives in monitoring state institutions’ work with CRSV survivors and managing related cases, strengthening oversight and accountability functions.

Capacity Strengthening of Law Enforcement and Oversight Actors. Building on the development of standardised curricula, the Programme conducted 19 structured training activities (target: 11), reaching in total 955 stakeholders (target: 231), thereby exceeding the targets under *Indicators 2.1.2 and 2.1.3.*

Coverage of law enforcement:

- Law enforcement capacity was significantly strengthened through a combination of offline multi-day trainings and online webinars. A six-part webinar series trained 83 NPU officers (32 women, 51 men) on secure handling of CRSV data, OSINT methodologies, and use of innovative technologies

and artificial intelligence in investigations of international crimes. Participants strengthened competencies in digital evidence management, confidentiality safeguards, and victim-centred investigative standards.

- Two intensive multi-day trainings equipped 62 MIA/NPU officers (26 women, 36 men) with practical tools on detection, qualification, and investigation of CRSV crimes using a procedural, survivor-oriented interview approach. Post-training evaluation demonstrated strong impact: 84 per cent of participants rated the training as “excellent” and 76 per cent considered it “very useful,” with 82 per cent demonstrating improved knowledge in final testing.
- Further couple of two-day trainings enhanced specialised skills of 60 investigators and police psychologists (45 women, 15 men) on qualification of CRSV, interaction between investigators and psychologists, assistance to survivors, and prevention of professional burnout. Importantly, survivors of sexual violence participated as guest speakers at the training sessions, sharing lived experiences and recommendations, which strengthened institutional sensitivity and survivor-centred practice.
- An additional two-day specialised training strengthened competencies of 30 investigators, operatives, and police psychologists (14 women, 16 men) in qualifying sexual violence as an international crime, applying victim-oriented approaches in procedural actions, and integrating psychological expertise during interviews.
- Two further multi-day trainings enhanced the skills of 42 investigators, operatives, and criminal analysts (11 women, 31 men) in applying OSINT tools, artificial intelligence, and technological platforms to investigate international crimes, including CRSV cases. These sessions introduced advanced methodologies for proving command responsibility under newly introduced Criminal Code provisions and ensured safe handling of electronic evidence.

Oversight and accountability capacities were reinforced through:

- Two Training-of-Trainers courses for 72 regional Ombudsperson representatives (28 women, 44 men), who were trained on application of the Methodological Recommendations on monitoring state institutions’ work with CRSV survivors
- Five validation workshops developed in mixed format, in agreement with the Ombudsperson’s Office, engaged 606 participants to support regional-level application of monitoring standards and ensure harmonised oversight practices.

Across all training interventions, survivor perspectives were integrated into curricula and delivery formats, reinforcing rights-based standards and strengthening institutional responsiveness. These interventions as a result contributed to embedding updated legal standards, interdisciplinary coordination mechanisms, and survivor-centred methodologies into institutional practice, ensuring that newly adopted policies translated into improved professional competencies across sectors.

Output 2.2 All stakeholders involved in the monitoring, analysis and reporting are highly trained to ensure reliable data and information on CRSV

With the Programme support institutional and technical capacities of stakeholders engaged in monitoring, analysis, and reporting of CRSV was strengthened ensuring that data collection, documentation, and referral processes are reliable, ethically grounded, and aligned with survivor-centred standards. Through the development of structured guidance materials and targeted capacity-building interventions, the Programme reinforced standardized approaches to CRSV case identification, informed-consent-based referrals, and coordinated information sharing with competent authorities, including OHCHR. In result, Output 2.2 was achieved, with all performance indicators meeting or exceeding planned targets.

Standardized Monitoring and Documentation Materials. The Programme supported the development of structured educational and methodological materials for stakeholders involved in CRSV monitoring and reporting. *Indicator 2.2.1 (target: 2; achieved: 2).*

The UNFPA WPA seconded to OHCHR developed a comprehensive set of educational materials on CRSV case identification and OHCHR registration (documentation), ensuring that documentation is conducted with informed survivor consent and in line with the Do-No-Harm principle. These materials strengthened practical understanding of ethical referral pathways and survivor-centred documentation standards.

In parallel, a dedicated training curriculum was developed for regional representatives of the Ombudsperson to enhance monitoring of state institutions' work with CRSV survivors and improve case management oversight practices.

Additionally, analytical work undertaken by the UN Women adviser embedded in the DPM/EEAI Office resulted in the development of a roadmap for coordinating national CRSV training efforts. The document mapped existing training initiatives, identified institutional capacity gaps, and provided recommendations for harmonized and sustained training of government personnel engaged in CRSV prevention, documentation, and response.

Capacity Strengthening for Monitoring, Referral and Ethical Information Sharing. Building on these materials, the Programme implemented targeted training interventions exceeding cumulative targets under *Indicators 2.2.2 (target: 210) and Indicator 2.2.3 (target: 8)*, as a result total of 241 stakeholders were trained through 10 dedicated training and workshop activities. These included:

- 105 case managers and partner organisation representatives (96 women, 9 men) who strengthened competencies in CRSV identification and survivor referral to OHCHR with informed consent;
- six training sessions strengthened the capacity of 40 employees of Survivor Relief Centres (35 women, 5 men) across Kyiv, Lviv, Kropyvnytskyi, Chernivtsi, and Mukachevo to identify CRSV cases and apply standardized referral procedures to OHCHR with informed consent.
- one additional information session equipped 105 case managers (96 women, 9 men) with practical tools for CRSV case identification and consent-based referral during the GBV Case Management Conference.

Across all interventions, emphasis was placed on informed consent, confidentiality safeguards, survivor safety, and alignment with MARA principles. Participants reinforced their understanding of the importance of timely and ethical referrals and acknowledged the value of coordinated documentation mechanisms in ensuring that survivors' experiences are accurately recorded and addressed.

Output 3.1 All services available to CRSV survivors are identified and referral pathways are coordinated to connect CRSV survivors to appropriate, quality and multi-sectoral services

The Programme supported the Government of Ukraine in systematically mapping available services for CRSV survivors, strengthening referral pathways, and institutionalizing inter-agency coordination mechanisms to ensure timely, quality, and survivor-centred access to protection and assistance. By combining certified inter-agency training, service mapping, and structured monitoring of service capacity, the interventions contributed to a more coherent and functional national referral system aligned with GBV and CRSV response standards. Output 3.1 was achieved, with all performance indicators meeting or exceeding planned targets.

Strengthening Inter-Agency Referral Capacity. At the request of the NSSU, UNFPA, in cooperation with the High School of Public Governance (HSPG) and its GBV Prevention & Response National Training Center (GBV NTC), supported the development and roll-out of a Certification Training Course on Inter-Agency Cooperation in GBV prevention and response, including CRSV-specific components. The course was integrated into the formal professional development system for public officials and local self-government staff.

Under Indicator 3.1.1 (target: 200; achieved: 247) and Indicator 3.1.2 (target: 10; achieved: 10), a total of 207 stakeholders were trained through 10 certified training sessions, including one Training-of-Trainers session and nine regional training sessions. Participants represented local governments, social

service providers, Survivor Relief Centres (SRCs), free legal aid centres, NPU units, local prosecutor's offices, and the judiciary. The course strengthened practical understanding of inter-agency coordination, functional referral mechanisms, and multi-sectoral response to GBV and CRSV cases. Post-training supervisory sessions reinforced application of acquired knowledge in daily practice, and average satisfaction rates reached 97 percent, demonstrating strong institutional relevance and demand. These interventions strengthened cross-sectoral collaboration and operational functioning of referral pathways at local and regional levels.

Mapping of Services and Referral Pathways. Through the Programme cycle eight field visits were conducted to SRCs and institutions working with CRSV survivors in Chernivtsi, Dnipro, Kropyvnytskyi, Kyiv, Lviv, Mukachevo, Odesa, and Zaporizhzhia. These visits enabled direct assessment of available services, referral practices, coordination gaps, and institutional capacities at regional level. The missions contributed to identifying existing service coverage and mapping referral pathways to ensure functional referrals of CRSV survivors, including referrals to and from OHCHR where appropriate. They also supported alignment of local service provision with national CRSV response standards and informed subsequent capacity-building and coordination measures.

Institutionalization of Monitoring of Service Availability and Quality. Under *Indicator 3.1.4 (target: 1; achieved: 1)*, a standardized process for monitoring and analysing the availability and capabilities of specialized support services was developed and implemented.

The monitoring methodology, commissioned by the NSSU and developed with UNFPA support in cooperation with civil society partners, established a structured framework for assessing service capacity, effectiveness, and quality. The field phase covered 1,126 specialized GBV services across accessible territories of Ukraine, generating a comprehensive evidence base on service functionality at community level. The harmonized National Report on the monitoring of specialized support services was prepared and presented, consolidating analytical findings, visualizations, and technical assessments, and providing a foundation for evidence-based policy-making, resource allocation, and further strengthening of referral systems for CRSV survivors.

Output 3.2 All services available to CRSV survivors follow a standard procedure for ensuring the delivery of needs-oriented assistance to CRSV survivors

The Programme strengthened the institutional framework to ensure that assistance to CRSV survivors is delivered through standardized, survivor-centred, and needs-based procedures across sectors. Through technical accompaniment to national authorities, harmonized protocols, reporting tools, and operational standards were institutionalized, embedding informed consent, confidentiality safeguards, and feedback mechanisms into service provision. *Indicator 3.2.1 (target: 2; achieved: 2).*

With the Programme support, two standard procedures were developed and institutionalized. Specifically MSP was supported in developing: (i) a protocol for working with CRSV survivors, including a standardized reporting form for documenting assistance provided; and (ii) a dedicated programme for supporting CRSV survivors.

In parallel, UN Women contributed to the revision of relevant health and social policy guidelines to incorporate survivor consent, confidentiality safeguards, and feedback mechanisms. Standard Operating Procedures for medical, legal, and psychosocial services were harmonized with GBV standards and validated by the relevant IAWG Subgroup, ensuring that survivors receive consistent and comprehensive assistance regardless of their entry point into the system.

These measures strengthened coherence and predictability of service provision and laid the foundation for sustainable institutionalization of survivor-centred standards within national systems.

Output 3.3. Supporting institutions working on CRSV cases/providing support to CRSV survivors

The Programme strengthened the operational capacity, safety, and accessibility of institutions working on CRSV cases by upgrading infrastructure, improving survivor-sensitive environments, and enhancing

institutional conditions for ethical and effective case management. The planned target was significantly exceeded, *Indicator 3.3.1 (target: 5; achieved: 14)*.

By the end of the Programme 14 institutions benefited from support to enhance their capacity:

- Twelve oblast-level units of the NPU specializing in the investigation of international crimes were equipped with furniture and technical equipment to establish survivor-sensitive interview rooms and secure storage facilities for criminal proceedings. The equipment was identified through needs assessments and aimed at improving investigative quality while ensuring confidentiality, safety, and a victim-centred approach during interviews and evidence handling.

Based on the initial request from NPU, UNDP supported the establishing and equipping 12 procedural interview rooms for victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings under Article 438 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, including one room at the Main Investigation Department in Kyiv and eleven rooms at specialized regional investigation units for the investigation of crimes committed in the context of armed conflict within the Main Directorates of the National Police in Kyiv, Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv regions, while also strengthening secure storage and field-investigation capacity. In response to these needs, equipment was procured through open tender procurement procedures and subsequently transferred to the State Institution “Center for Service of the units of the National Police of Ukraine” for further distribution to the regional centers. The transferred items included furniture and fixtures for interview rooms and office use (armchairs, sofas, office tables, chairs, waiting-area sofas, clothes racks, safes, and metal archival cabinets), as well as technical and office equipment, including camera tripods, video cameras, external SSD drives, laptops, computer mice, recording equipment sets with wireless microphones, power banks, multifunctional devices, air conditioners, water coolers, and coffee machines. Overall, the transfer directly addressed the operational requirements identified by NPU and contributed to improving interview conditions, staff working environments, secure storage of criminal case materials, and the technical capacity of investigative personnel in the regions.

The State Institution “Center for Service of the Units of the National Police of Ukraine” received the goods specified in the Act of Acceptance and Transfer in full and confirmed that it had no claims to UNDP regarding the quality of the accepted goods.

The fully furnished rooms were opened at the Main Investigation Department of the National Police of Ukraine in Kyiv and at the investigation units of the Main Directorates of the National Police in Donetsk region (Dnipro), Zaporizhzhia region (Zaporizhzhia), Kyiv region (Kyiv), Luhansk region (Dnipro), Dnipropetrovsk region (Dnipro), Mykolaiv region (Mykolaiv), Sumy region (Sumy), Kharkiv region (Kharkiv), Kherson region (Kherson), Chernihiv region (Chernihiv), and Odesa region (Odesa). After the opening the rooms were monitored by UNDP personnel during monitoring visits.

- Two specialized GBV service providers — located in Okhtyrka (Sumy region) and Daycare Centers in Kyiv (Kyiv City) — received material and infrastructure support, including renovation and repair works, procurement of furniture and equipment, winterization measures, emergency rehabilitation, and accessibility improvements. These interventions enhanced the capacity of specialized services to provide safe, inclusive, and dignified assistance to CRSV survivors.

UNFPA has cooperated with the following NGOs as Grant Beneficiaries and Contractors through grant and transfer modality:

- Association of Experts on Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response (Association of GBV Experts) -Monitoring of specialized GBV services
- Public Organization “Union of Anti-Corruption Experts” (UA Experts)-Monitoring of specialized GBV services
- Charitable Organization “Charitable Foundation Rokada” (CO CF Rokada) -Equipment purchase and transfer to equip specialized GBV services

- Charitable Organization “Charitable Foundation Safe Future” (CF Safe Future)-Equipment purchase and transfer to equip specialized GBV services

All procurement was carried out in accordance with IPs’ relevant policies and procedures. Contracts were concluded with suppliers, and the delivery and installation of furniture, equipment, security systems, and selected interior items were completed as planned. The procurement aimed to ensure safe, functional, and appropriate conditions for survivors of GBV, including conflict-related sexual violence, to access quality services.

The UNFPA Country Office in Ukraine reviewed and verified the financial reports together with the supporting documentation as part of the financial reporting process. The items procured by the implementing partner Rokada include five laptops, two multifunction printers, and one router. The items procured by the implementing partner Safe Future include: fabric roller blinds; interactive panel (monitor); refrigerator; complex of security equipment; clothes hanger; coffee machine; charging station; document shredder; 2 mobile phones; 10 sofas; kitchen furniture; 4 couches for psychologists; 60 chairs; 2 multifunction printers; and 5 laptops.

Beyond material assistance, technical and advisory support to national coordination and oversight institutions (including the Ombudsperson’s Office, the DPMO, and the GC/GEP Office) reinforced institutional sustainability. Strengthened internal CRSV coordination mechanisms and joint analytical work under the IAWG framework contribute to ensuring that institutional capacity developed under the Programme will remain functional beyond its lifecycle.

Qualitative assessment

The Programme demonstrated a high level of overall achievement and delivered substantial structural progress across all outcome areas. It contributed decisively to establishing a coordinated, survivor-centred, and nationally led system for the prevention and response to CRSV in Ukraine. The Programme strengthened institutional capacities of duty bearers, expanded access to multi-sectoral services, reinforced coordination and accountability mechanisms, and supported transformative legislative and policy reforms aligned with international standards and Ukraine’s EU integration trajectory.

The majority of planned targets were met or exceeded, and results extended beyond output delivery toward institutionalization. Stakeholders reported enhanced capacities in investigation, documentation, monitoring, case management, referral coordination, and survivor-centred service provision. Legislative and normative advancements, including the operationalization of the new CRSV legal framework, were supported by technical guidance that linked policy reform with institutional implementation mechanisms.

A central achievement was the consolidation and operationalization of national coordination structures. The IAWG under the FoC evolved into a functional policy and planning platform guiding implementation of the JIAP (by 2025) and preparation of the new Implementation Plan (2026–2027). With Programme support, the IAWG adopted standardized procedures, strengthened reporting and performance monitoring, and expanded cross-sectoral participation of over 80 institutions. This significantly improved coherence across government, justice, security, and social sectors and anchored CRSV response within a structured national governance architecture.

Strong national partnerships were instrumental to achieving results. Implementation was carried out in close cooperation with key institutions, including the DPM/EEAI Office, the GC/GEP, the MSP, the MIA/NPU, and the Ombudsperson’s Office. The placement of embedded national experts within these institutions enhanced ownership, accelerated reform processes, and ensured continuity beyond the Programme lifecycle. Collaboration with civil society, particularly women-led and survivor-led

organizations, strengthened policy relevance, accountability, and local grounding of CRSV interventions.

The Programme also demonstrated effective complementarity with related international and national initiatives. It aligned with and reinforced the work of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Team of Experts on Rule of Law/SRSG-SVC, EU-supported initiatives, and cooperation with EUAM. At national level, interventions were coherent with the NAP 1325, recovery and reconstruction frameworks, and broader human rights and accountability agendas. This alignment avoided duplication, maximized synergies, and strengthened Ukraine's strategic positioning in international fora.

As an inter-agency initiative bringing together OHCHR, UN Women, UNFPA, and UNDP, the Programme functioned as an effective coordination platform within the UN system. Joint planning, harmonized technical assistance, and unified engagement with national counterparts enhanced coherence and reduced fragmentation across CRSV-related mandates. The Steering Committee recognized the Programme as a strong model of coordinated UN support. The transition of the Lead PUNO function to the UNDP Country Office reflects institutional maturation and a shift toward sustained national ownership and localization.

Cross-cutting principles were systematically integrated. The Programme consistently applied a survivor-centred and human rights-based approach, embedded informed consent and confidentiality safeguards into procedures, promoted gender equality, and advanced localization by engaging regional authorities and community-level service providers. Evidence-based monitoring frameworks strengthened transparency and accountability, while strategic communications contributed to destigmatization and trust-building.

The funding provided through the Joint Programme had a catalytic effect. It enabled the Government to initiate and advance critical reforms, strengthened institutional confidence in addressing CRSV, and increased international visibility of Ukraine's efforts. Programme results supported Ukraine's engagement in global processes, including PSVI Alliance leadership, CSW69 participation, and UN Security Council dialogues, contributing to sustained political and donor attention. The credibility and demonstrated results of the Programme facilitated complementary investments and reinforced donor confidence in Ukraine's CRSV reform trajectory.

Overall, the Programme not only delivered planned outputs but reinforced the structural foundations of Ukraine's CRSV prevention and response system. It strengthened national ownership, institutional sustainability, inter-sectoral coordination, and alignment with international standards, laying the groundwork for a resilient and nationally anchored CRSV response architecture.

Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

● Monitoring and Evaluation

The Programme Document establishes a structured monitoring and oversight framework under the leadership of the O-SRSG-SVC, including Steering Committee oversight, Logical Framework performance tracking, joint field visits, and consolidated reporting arrangements. The Programme performance was assessed through the governance and monitoring mechanisms embedded in the JP structure.

The Steering Committee (SC), chaired by O-SRSG-SVC, was responsible for strategic oversight, review of progress, and guidance on implementation adjustments. Formal SC meetings were convened in July 2024 and October 2025. These meetings reviewed implementation progress against agreed outputs and indicators, assessed risks and contextual developments, and endorsed revisions where required.

In addition systematic tracking of indicators under the approved Logical Framework was conducted, which included documentation of coordination meetings and outputs; monitoring of field visits and mapping exercises; post-training evaluations and structured feedback surveys; tracking of deliverables

such as guidance notes, SOPs, and reporting outputs. Joint field missions to selected regions served as an additional monitoring modality, providing operational insights on referral pathways, coordination practices, and service accessibility. Findings from these missions were documented and used to inform programme adjustments and planning for the subsequent Implementation Plan period.

Monitoring findings were regularly consolidated through narrative reporting mechanisms and Steering Committee discussions, enabling adaptive management. Performance data and feedback informed adjustments to activities, refinement of training approaches, strengthening of coordination procedures, and alignment with evolving national priorities.

Overall, the Programme applied a continuous monitoring approach, combining strategic oversight, indicator tracking, field-based verification, and structured reporting to ensure accountability, transparency, and evidence-informed implementation throughout the project cycle.

- **Delays in implementation**

The Programme's initial design envisaged a standard three-month inception period. While Participating UN Organizations undertook preparatory steps for timely launch, implementation was affected by contextual constraints in late 2023 and early 2024. The high demand for qualified technical and humanitarian personnel in Ukraine, combined with security risks and infrastructure challenges, significantly limited the availability of both national and international CRSV experts.

In particular, recruitment of key programmatic personnel, including SWPA, took longer than anticipated. Although the decision to recruit the SWPA was taken in July 2024, the position was filled only at the end of that year, affecting the pace of coordination and strategic roll-out during the early implementation phase. Additionally, evolving national CRSV priorities, including adjustments to the FoC Implementation Plan following consultations with national and international stakeholders, required reassessment of selected activities, indicators, and targets to ensure continued alignment with Government frameworks. The review process was completed in July 2024. These adjustments were agreed with the Steering Committee and the Donor in 2024 and operationalized in 2025.

To ensure full delivery of planned results, the Programme requested and received a no-cost extension of 4.5 months (until mid-October 2025). Following these adjustments, implementation progressed effectively, and the Programme achieved its intended outputs and outcomes without changes to its overall objectives or budget envelope.

- **Challenges**

The Programme operated in an unprecedented wartime environment characterized by institutional strain, human resource constraints, and rapidly evolving policy demands.

First, CRSV emerged from full-scale invasion, while national expertise on CRSV remained limited. Prior to 2022, CRSV had not been a structured focus of most governmental or civil society actors. At the same time, the surge of international assistance across multiple sectors significantly increased competition for qualified professionals. Many experienced Ukrainian experts relocated or shifted to remote work, reducing the pool of available national specialists. Security risks and logistical constraints similarly limited the availability of international experts. In response, the Programme complemented recruitment efforts with targeted capacity development measures, including engagement of professionals from adjacent sectors (such as GBV response, human rights, social services, and legal aid) and structured knowledge transfer between international advisers and national counterparts, contributing to gradual expansion of national CRSV expertise.

Second, the simultaneous roll-out of multiple UN-led CRSV initiatives created initial confusion among national stakeholders regarding mandates and complementarities. This required additional coordination efforts by PUNOs to clarify division of labour and ensure complementarity across initiatives, including joint presentations, clarification of workstreams, and development of individual roadmaps for embedded experts in close cooperation with host institutions.

Third, the time lag between Programme design and effective operationalization required reassessment of initially planned activities and performance indicators to reflect evolving Government priorities and implementation realities. While this strengthened relevance, it required formal amendments and additional coordination processes.

Fourth, Government institutions faced competing priorities and limited absorptive capacity in 2024, constraining the speed of policy reform and implementation. Outdated coordination mechanisms and bureaucratic procedures required gradual adaptation.

Finally, operational delivery of in-person trainings was constrained by wartime security requirements. Training venues required shelters and safe infrastructure, and suitable facilities were limited in certain regions, creating logistical complexities.

● **Lessons learned**

The implementation experience generated several strategic lessons that are directly relevant for future CRSV programming in Ukraine.

Institutional embedding enables sustainable national ownership. Placing CRSV experts within key State institutions proved critical for strengthening technical capacity, coordination, and reform continuity. Embedded advisory support accelerated policy development, improved inter-agency cooperation, and ensured that capacities remain within national systems beyond the Programme lifecycle. This, in particular, supported the establishment of a practically grounded new FoC Implementation Plan for 2026–2027.

Legislative progress must be matched by implementation architecture. Adoption of Laws 4067-IX and 4071-IX marked historic progress in Ukraine’s CRSV legal framework. However, legislation alone is insufficient. Continuous technical support is required to operationalize new laws through secondary legislation, procedures, survivor recognition mechanisms, and institutional practice.

Survivor participation strengthens legitimacy and policy relevance. Meaningful inclusion of survivor-led and women-led CSOs in IAWG processes and subgroups increased the credibility, grounding, and responsiveness of national CRSV policy frameworks. Survivor-informed approaches improved both coordination and service design.

Evidence-based monitoring transforms coordination. Development of the FoC M&E Framework and the Ombudsperson’s monitoring methodology shifted CRSV coordination from largely ad hoc exchanges toward structured, performance-driven accountability mechanisms. Measurable benchmarks improved transparency and institutional responsibility.

Strategic communications reduce stigma and build trust. National campaigns and advocacy initiatives strengthened public understanding of CRSV, contributed to destigmatization, and increased confidence in survivor protection systems — a critical factor in addressing persistent underreporting.

Regional engagement ensures equitable access. Field missions and oblast-level coordination strengthened local ownership and reduced regional disparities in access to services, particularly in frontline and liberated areas. Decentralized engagement proved essential for translating national frameworks into practical access to assistance.

Flexibility is essential in conflict settings. Built-in flexibility in Programme design and the Donor’s adaptive approach were decisive for maintaining relevance and effectiveness in a rapidly evolving war-affected environment.

Coordination with national authorities. The close and sustained consultation and coordination with the Government of Ukraine has been critical at all stages of the Joint Programme, from joint project design, through implementation, to coordinated advocacy for additional resource mobilization.

This partnership-based approach has reinforced trust, alignment with national priorities, and coherence of responses, and has proven instrumental in advancing both programme impact and the mobilisation of

further support. These lessons learned, notably in terms of institutional embedding and coordination with the national authorities underpin the strategic orientation of JP Ukraine CRSV phase II and will continue to guide its implementation.

Annexes:

1. Annex A. Indicator Based Performance Assessment
2. Annex B. Knowledge products/materials/legislative acts developed with the Programme support
3. Annex C. List of Transparency Portals by PUNOs
4. Annex D. List of Equipment