



IMPACT SUMMARY



Support to Ukraine's Reforms for Governance Program

Funded by Global Affairs Canada, Implemented by Alinea.

The SURGe Program team applies international best practices and engages Ukrainian experts to foster capacity and enable sustainable progress toward good governance. Through a series of Reform Projects, this Program supports the government of Ukraine to make its systems and services responsive to the needs of citizens, with a focus on the country's most vulnerable. This work extends to central government planning by building capacity for results-based management, gender equality and social inclusion at the national level.

Key Reform Areas



Child Protection

Criminal Justice



Crisis Communications

Retaining Access to School
Education



Improved Management of
the GoU Reform Agenda

Food Security



Humanitarian Assistance
Governance

Prevention of Human
Trafficking



Child Protection

Through our support to the child welfare system reform, we work to prevent children from entering institutional care and ensure that each child is raised in a family or family-like environment. Since the war began, the program has been extended to support the government's crisis response, ensuring safety of children living in institutions.

Areas of Focus

Evacuation and Tracking: Developed a procedure for safe evacuation of children living in institutions and reinforced state system to track their whereabouts.

Community Capacity Building: Created a national capacity-building platform (socialacademy.gov.ua) to provide easy access to self-education on effectively managing social and child protection systems to local specialists across the country.

Access to Support: Created a one-stop model where citizens can report a case of an illegally displaced child or other war crime committed against a child and seek help.

Key Results 2022-2023

- 7,134 children evacuated from institutions are being tracked following the developed procedures and tools
- Over 2,000 representatives of communities registered and underwent courses at the national online capacity-building platform
- 1,025 citizens submitted reports on war crimes committed against children through the state portal childrenofwar.gov.ua, and 5 Centers established under Parliamentary Human Rights Commissioner

Criminal Justice

With a focus on rehabilitation, SURGe helped improve Ukraine's corrections system by establishing a probation system in 2015. Starting at a baseline of zero, the system now handles 60,000 probation clients per year, effectively moving those low-risk offenders away from incarceration.

The procedures and IT tools elaborated by the SURGe team help probation and penitentiaries function in war conditions.

Areas of Focus

Corrections System Management in War Conditions. Introduced special procedures to implement alternative sanctions in wartime conditions, and to maintain data collection on the status of penitentiary institutions to support timely and well-informed decision-making on corrections system operations- these have enabled continuous functionality of the corrections system throughout the invasion.

⋮

Maintaining Prisoners of War: Provided expert support defining the legal status and ensuring appropriate conditions for detention of Prisoners of War according to International Humanitarian Law.

Key Results 2022-2023

- Helped improve and roll out the Unified Register of Convicts and Detainees, storing assessments and case plans of all convicts and enabling prompt processing of data for making evidence-based decisions
- More than 5,000 convicts received humanitarian aid to deal with food and water shortages caused by supply break at the beginning of war
- 1,000 correctional and probation staff are trained on the newly-approved rehabilitation tools and programs for the convicts
- 98 penitentiary institutions and pre-trial detention centers are being assessed for timely evidence-based decision-making with regards to their management
- Developed a mobile application "Probation in a smartphone" to keep contact and track the whereabouts of more than 50,000 probation clients

Crisis Communications

In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, SURGe works on designing and delivering communications campaigns aimed at countering Russian fakes and disinformation. We contributed to the launch of the “Umbrella for Ukraine” campaign targeting citizens of Western countries to apply pressure on their governments to protect the sky over Ukraine and provide military assistance.

Area of Focus

Crisis communications: Created awareness about the critical need for air security through social media campaigns developed for western audiences; increased international understanding that Ukraine is a legitimate stand-alone nation, to refute Russian propaganda.

Key Results 2022-2023

- Reached 2.3 million people with the “Umbrella for Ukraine” campaign.
- Created over 50 videos for the campaign’s social media channels to debunk Russian propaganda and promote international support to Ukraine.

Retaining Access to School Education

Before the war, SURGe worked with government institutions and local school principals to set standards and requirements that ensure quality education and safe, inclusive learning environments for all students.

During wartime, digital learning centres were established in war-affected communities to renew access to education for children.

Areas of Focus

Access to education: Worked with liberated communities to help young Ukrainians continue learning during wartime by establishing digital learning centres, especially in locations where schools are too damaged to use.

Mental Health Supports: Created capacity building materials for teachers on how to communicate with children about the war and how to help displaced students adapt to a new school.

Education quality assurance: Assisted in developing quality assurance and education quality assessment instruments to ensure that even in circumstances of war minimum quality standards are met as much as possible.

Key Results 2022-2023

- Created refugee-ed.sqe.gov.ua – a dedicated website about the Ukrainian school system and curriculum to help teachers abroad work more effectively with Ukrainian children forced to leave their communities
- More than 400 school principals completed a 4-day training on creating a safe and inclusive environment in schools during wartime
- Over 1,500 school principals successfully attended online seminars on ensuring the quality of the educational process in wartime conditions
- By establishing 16 Digital Learning Centers, restored educational spaces in 10 war-affected communities, which renewed access to educational activities for more than 11,000 children

Improved Management of the Government of Ukraine Reform Agenda (1300)

SURGe strengthens the capacity of the GoU to plan and implement a national reform and recovery agenda that responds to the needs of its citizens, including women, marginalized and vulnerable groups, using results-based management (RBM) and citizen-centred strategic planning and policymaking processes at the national level, including applying the gender-based analysis plus (GBA+) approach.

Areas of Focus

Capacity Building of the Civil Servants: Supporting civil servants in using result-based and citizen-centred (GBA+) approaches for designing and managing sectoral reforms and strategies.



Digitalizing Policy Planning and Monitoring Processes: Rolling out PROJECTUA, the RBM IT Tool developed by SURGe, which is a digital platform for government wide planning and monitoring of the consolidated national reform agenda.



Integrating GBA+ and RBM in the Government Machinery: Working on the legal framework and GoU capacity to integrate gender equality and results-based planning into policy-making processes.

Key Results 2022-2023

- Delivered consultation and support to 16 Ministries on developing the Action Plan 2023-2024 for the implementation of the National Strategy for Barrier-Free Environment in Ukraine by 2030, based on principles and tools of RBM
- Enhanced functionality of PROJECTUA components to prepare the launch of the pilot deployment software in MinRestoration and SCMU
- Ensured ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the Annual Plan 2023-2024 for the Barrier-Free Strategy in Ukraine in the PROJECTUA
- Provided assistance in structuring the early National Recovery Plan under social and child protection sections presented later during URC2022 in Lugano, Switzerland, in July 2022

Food Security

SURGe contributed to the national food security plan, which was adopted by the Government of Ukraine to ensure food safety for its citizens during war time.

In the early days of the Russian war against Ukraine, SURGe established the national Victory Gardens movement: thousands of Ukrainians have taken food security into their own hands by planting gardens in backyards and other available local land.

Areas of Focus

Public Engagement: Structured a comprehensive Victory Gardens communications campaign to raise awareness of the impending problem and encourage citizens to plant Victory Gardens and produce their own food.

:

Resourcing Victory Gardens: Seeds, tools and instruction were provided to residents in communities to enable them to grow, provide and preserve food for themselves as well as vulnerable members of the community.

:

Building Capacity of Local Authorities on Food Security: Developed local policies and solutions to ensure communities have sufficient food during the war and recovery, piloted them with selected communities for further scaling-up across the country.

Key Results 2022-2023

- 53% of Ukrainians know about the Victory Gardens initiative, and 82% of those believe it is needed
- Around 76,000 people in 20 oblasts received agricultural inputs and equipment provided by SURGe and partners
- 166 communities across the country adopted local programs on food self-sufficiency based on the tools developed by SURGe
- 11,000 people received food assistance, in the form of vegetables grown by pilot communities in 2022

Humanitarian Assistance Governance

With the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, SURGe designed and launched the Humanitarian Assistance Governance initiative with its main focus on preventing the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. The war has left millions of Ukrainians without homes and regular access to food, water and medicine. The initiative was also focused on establishing good governance mechanisms for strong connections with donor organizations in the international community and with civil society organizations (CSO) in Ukraine.

Areas of Focus

Humanitarian Assistance: Developed an architecture to govern the provision of humanitarian assistance, which was used by SURGe for receiving and distributing humanitarian aid received from GAC and other donors to address the needs of the most vulnerable groups within first months of war.



Connected Ukrainian CSOs with International Donors to support provision of humanitarian aid for Ukrainians through the newly-developed SmartAid^{UA} Partners IT system.

Key Results 2022-2023

- Provided emergency support to 51 bomb shelters in communities under active bombardment, 26 shelters for IDPs in the west and center of Ukraine, 27 hospitals, six childcare institutions from the cities under attack, 10 prisons in the cities under siege, and one evacuated prison
- Through the financial contribution of Global Affairs Canada, provided humanitarian assistance for 1,285,000 CAD worth of food, medicine, and water to 111,769 direct beneficiaries
- Delivered approximately CAD 25 million worth of medical equipment and other supplies donated by our partners, which benefitted 300,000 civilians

Prevention of Human Trafficking

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, more than six million refugees – the vast majority of whom are women and children – have crossed borders into neighboring countries. Human trafficking is one of the biggest risks for women and children fleeing Ukraine.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Social Policy (MSP) of Ukraine and the Government Gender Commissioner, SURGe undertook a set of actions to ensure girls and women crossing the border are not involved in risky and dangerous situations.

Areas of Focus

Information Campaign: Thorough traditional and digital forms of communication, SURGe helped to inform Ukrainians fleeing the country about the dangers of human trafficking and practical ways to avoid becoming a victim.



Strengthening Anti-Trafficking Policies: SURGe supported National Police and MSP in the development of policies to combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Key Results 2022-2023

- More than 10 million people reached by a campaign to prevent those who were travelling abroad due to the war from falling into trafficking situations
- 100,000 leaflets were distributed at border crossing points
- Created two new online tools - the SafeWomen website and the SafeWomen chatbot, accessed by more than 500,000 people

Completed Reform Projects:

Administrative Services

Border Infrastructure Development

Public Investment Governance

eHealth



@SURGeUkraine



@SurgeUkraine