

# MSH IN UKRAINE

**MANAGEMENT SCIENCES FOR HEALTH (MSH) is a global nonprofit advisory organization that provides governments, health organizations, and the private sector with the strategies, tools, and management support to effectively and efficiently deliver high-functioning health systems.**

Photo Credit: MSH/SAFEMed

For more than a decade, MSH has partnered with the Government of Ukraine, civil society, and private-sector partners to strengthen the country's health system so everyone who needs it can have access to timely, affordable, and quality health care. Our work focuses on strengthening the governance and management of Ukraine's pharmaceutical systems to enhance transparency and advance policies that improve the availability of quality-assured medicines and other essential commodities to prevent, diagnose, and treat tuberculosis (TB), HIV and AIDS, and other health needs.

MSH quickly pivoted and scaled operations to support the country's supply chain management and logistics for COVID-19-related vaccines and commodities and is working to ensure an uninterrupted supply of humanitarian medical supplies following the Russian military invasion of Ukraine.

## OUR APPROACH

In partnership with the Government of Ukraine and private-sector partners, we have established effective policies, addressed gaps in supply chains for medicines and commodities, and strengthened leadership and management within the public and private health sectors, all of which has been critical in preventing deaths and controlling infectious diseases.

## KEEPING MEDICINES FLOWING DURING WARTIME

*Russia's invasion of Ukraine has had devastating consequences for its citizens, as well as core institutions in the health care sector, with hundreds of facilities decimated from bombing and other attacks. MSH's years-long partnership with the government to implement the USAID-funded Safe, Affordable, and Effective Medicines (SAFEMed) for Ukrainians Activity laid the groundwork to help the country adapt swiftly to tackle these challenges.*

MSH is providing technical support to design, coordinate, and monitor the supply chain system necessary to deliver a substantial proportion of the humanitarian medical assistance arriving in Ukraine from governments and private donors in Europe and North America. At the request of the health ministry, MSH identified and contracted 10 public and private warehouses to store and sort goods coming into Ukraine, as well as 3 private-sector logistics providers to distribute the goods to health care facilities across the country. The supply chain was quickly put in place due to the existence of an agile commodities information system, developed with MSH's support over the last several years, that manages supply and demand of state-purchased medicines. The government and its institutions relied on these data systems to facilitate the distribution of more than 11,000 tons of supplies worth around \$461 million to health care facilities throughout all regions of the country.

### Safe, Affordable, and Effective Medicines (SAFEMed) for Ukrainians Activity

Funded by USAID and the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), SAFEMed supports the ongoing efforts of the Government of Ukraine to transform its health care system to effectively meet the needs of its citizens. Through SAFEMed, MSH provides technical and legal assistance to strengthen and systematize public procurement of medicines and health commodities, support sustainable pharmaceutical financing, and strengthen pharmaceutical management and the supply chain. SAFEMed activities improve access to safe and affordable medicines for the Ukrainian population while supporting anticorruption, decentralization, and integration of health services across national and subnational levels and sectors.

SAFEMed is playing an important role in supporting Ukraine's emergency medical supply chain during the Russian military invasion of Ukraine, ensuring that humanitarian medical supplies reach the people who need them most.

Key achievements include:

- Helping to establish and strengthen Ukraine's Medical Procurement Agency. During its first full year of operations in 2020, the agency procured medicines and commodities using the government's electronic system for transparent central purchases, achieving savings of more than \$100 million.
- Pioneering an award-winning public-private approach to deliver HIV and TB medicines directly to 355 health facilities in hard-to-reach regions. The model is scaling up nationwide and helped establish Ukraine's state-managed distribution of medical humanitarian aid.
- Scaling COVID-19 vaccination campaigns, including contracting a private logistics company to provide warehousing and distribution services for vaccines requiring ultra-cold chain and facilitating delivery of more than 1.2 million+ doses of vaccines.
- Establishing the legal framework for expanding HIV treatment and care services, allowing pharmacies to distribute HIV treatment directly to patients.



We continue to support a strong supply chain for an uninterrupted delivery of health supplies and essential commodities. Photo credit: MSH/SAFEMed

### Building Capacity for National Public Health Institutes

With funding from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), MSH is strengthening leadership and management capacity of national public health institutions and/or CDC alumni across seven countries, including Ukraine. National public health institutes and their staff provide surveillance for emergency preparedness and outbreak response and are focal points for partnerships and information sharing with national and international health security stakeholders.

## SOURCES OF SUPPORT

*In addition to the Government of Ukraine, our partners include the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).*

*February 2023*

 MSHHealthImpact

 Management Sciences for Health

 ManagementSciencesForHealth

For more information on our work in Ukraine, please visit [www.msh.org](http://www.msh.org) or contact us at [communications@msh.org](mailto:communications@msh.org).