

Results of the international parallel performance audit on the topic:

«CIVIL PROTECTION IN COMMUNAL INSTITUTIONS OF GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION»

Ms Iryna Yurshevska, State Auditor, Accounting Chamber of Ukraine







GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE OF THE AUDIT



Audited entities:

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

local departments, administrations, divisions of construction, education and science, educational institutions (**49 audited entities** in total) in 10 regions

Key audit procedures:

- online testing of organisation of civil protection in 3103 educational institutions (25 per cent of the total) in 5 regions;
- inspected the condition of shelters in 89 educational institutions in 10 regions;
- audited the use of the subvention for the implementation of 61 projects (21.6 per cent of the total) with a funding amount of UAH 462.5 million (≈ EUR 11.8 million) (32 per cent of the total amount of the distributed subvention).

GENERAL CONCLUSION



IN GENERAL, SECURITY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED IN GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS DO NOT GUARANTEE A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT - PARTICIPANTS IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS REMAIN VULNERABLE

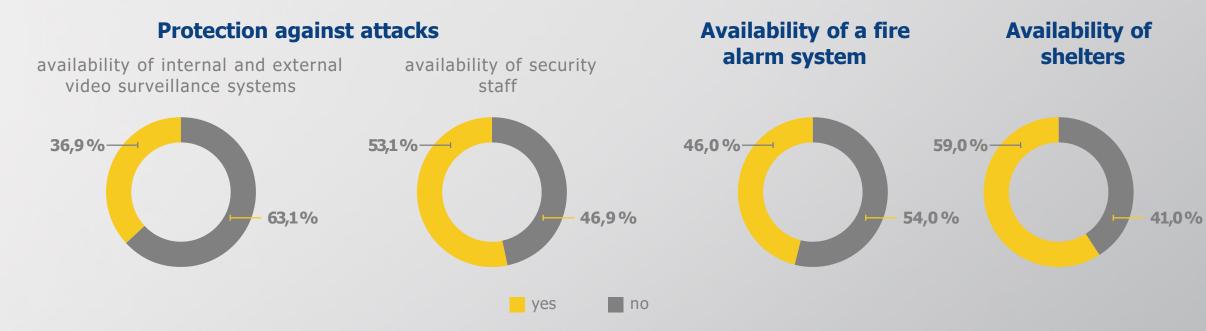
PROJECTS TO EQUIP SHELTERS IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WERE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF BUDGET FUNDS





KEY QUESTION 1.

Does the current system of civil protection of educational institutions protect participants in the educational process from threats in educational institutions?*





Other shortcomings in the organisation of a safe environment:

inadequate first aid, lack of unimpeded access for people with special needs, risk of students not acquiring basic safety skills in distance learning





^{*} According to the results of online testing of 3103 educational institutions

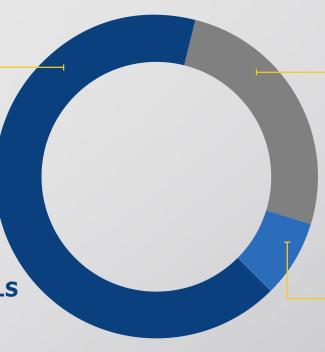
KEY QUESTION 2.

Are shelter projects being implemented properly?

8 117 schools

had their own shelters for **2306.2** thousand students and staff

THE STATE OF SHELTERS IN SCHOOLS AT THE BEGINNING OF 2023





did not have their own shelters for **926,5** thousand students and staff

946 schools

had unsuitable shelters for **227,9** thousand students and staff





THE STATE OF USE OF SUBVENTION FUNDS

In 2023, UAH 1.5 billion (≈ EUR 38.4 million) will be allocated from the state budget to local budgets for the provision of safe conditions in schools



UAH 1,493.6 million (≈ EUR 38.3 million)

amount of subvention allocated to projects (99.6 per cent)

UAH 1 101,4 million

(≈ EUR 28,2 million)

The amount of subvention used (73.4 per cent)

UAH 398,6 million (≈ EUR 10,2 million)

the amount of unused subventions returned to the state budget (26.6 per cent)



Violations and deficiencies totalling UAH 445.3 million (\approx EUR 11.4 million) were identified, of which UAH 202.7 million (\approx EUR 5 million) was eliminated





THE STATUS OF THE PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION

1

Incompleteness of projects

Out of 309 projects, only 192 were completed by the end of 2023 (62 per cent) 2

Failure to provide new places

Out of 93.4 thousand planned places, only 22.8 thousand were provided (24 per cent)

3

General insecurity of participants in the educational process at the end of 2023

More than 1.134 million participants in the educational process (33 per cent) are not provided with shelters





MAIN PROBLEMS AND DEFICIENCIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES, PROVISION AND USE OF SUBVENTIONS

- Ineffective control and coordination by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and relevant education authorities
- unclear definition of funding sources, indicators and goals of the Concept of security of educational institutions
- neglect of security planning by heads of educational institutions
- insufficient funding of security systems by the founders of educational institutions
- incompleteness of the civil protection system
- inefficient mechanism for granting subventions
- low level of use of subvention funds





KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



Updating the Security Concept

Identify clear indicators and key indicators of a safe educational environment



Security protocols

Introduce clear security protocols to prevent unauthorised access to educational institutions



Sanitary and hygienic requirements

To develop regulatory documents on sanitary and hygienic requirements in civil defence buildings



Requirements for new shelters

To establish requirements for the use of subvention funds for the construction of new shelters only if they are classified as civil defence buildings





IMPLEMENTED RECOMMENDATIONS



Improving the process of allocating and using funds

amendments to the procedure and conditions for granting the subvention, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in April 2024

the subvention for shelters will be allocated only to educational institutions that provide full-time and/or mixed form of education

requirements have been established for the use of subvention funds for the construction of new shelters only if they are classified as they are classified as civil defence buildings



Strengthening security

implementation of the project 'Educational security service'

Additional security and safety measures were provided in 402 general secondary education institutions in nine regions of Ukraine with the involvement of 539 officers of the National Police of Ukraine

the Methodology for assessing security risks in the education system related to the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which applies to educational institutions of all types and forms of ownership, was approved





Results of a parallel audit of civil protection systems in schools in Ukraine and Hesse

The results of the parallel audit conducted by the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine and the Hessian Court of Auditors, the Federal Republic of Germany are set out in the Joint Statement signed on 21 January 2025 within the framework of the 22nd meeting of the Europe Working Group Darmstadt.

In Ukraine, the audit covered 3103 schools in five regions, and 282 schools in Hesse.

The purpose of the study is to identify deficiencies in the systems of protection of educational institutions from emergencies, analyse the existing legal framework and provide recommendations for improving the situation.

The study highlighted key differences, challenges and recommendations for improving civil protection systems in both regions.

The parallel audit proved to be efficient. Thanks to the same audit standards and methods, both audit institutions achieved comparable results, identified important shortcomings and developed specific recommendations for action at the state and local levels.





Key results of the comparative analysis

Shelters

In Ukraine, almost 60 per cent of schools have suitable shelters, while in Hesse they are virtually non-existent (due to post-Cold War policies)

Evacuation plans

In Ukraine, 98 per cent of schools have evacuation plans and 90 per cent practice them.

In Hesse, there are practically no such measures.

Electricity supply

In Ukraine, 67 per cent of schools have an emergency power supply, while in Hesse only 36 per cent do.

Alert systems

Two thirds of schools in Ukraine have panic buttons, while in Hesse only about an eighth of schools are equipped with alarm systems.

Fire safety

In Hesse, fire safety is at a high level. In Ukraine, 54 per cent of schools did not have adequate fire protection systems and 7.8 per cent did not have primary fire extinguishing equipment.







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