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**Public health resilience and recovery in Ukraine: Academic partnerships to improve population health**

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**Background:** Strengthening the public health workforce is among top priorities for the transformation of Ukraine's public health system. As part of the USAID Public Health System Recovery and Resilience Activity, an Academic Partnership Collaborative brought together three Ukrainian universities (National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, I. Horbachevsky Ternopil National Medical University, Sumy State University), two American universities (Temple University and Drexel University), and the All-Ukrainian Association of Public Health Specialists (UPHA) to enhance the competencies of public health graduates in Ukraine.

**Objectives:** The collaborative focuses on strengthening the Ukrainian universities' public health curricula and the teaching and research competencies of the Ukrainian faculty, making the curricular changes in Ukraine better aligned with US and European academic standards. The university partners are collaborating with the newly established UPHA in building partnerships

with peer organizations in the US (American Public Health Association) and Europe (EuPHA) and sharing advancements in public health education with the broader community of public health practitioners in Ukraine to enhance their competencies to improve population health and align with European systems of public health.

**Results:** We have established linkages among all partners via an initial meeting in Uzhhorod, Ukraine in April 2024. We anticipate results by November 2024 to include curriculum review recommendations, coaching on prioritized topics for the Ukrainian partners, faculty development plans, and the establishment of continuing professional development programs in collaboration with UPHA.

**Conclusions:** Through this partnership, selected Ukrainian universities will have an enhanced and sustainable capacity to train the public health workforce and will become leading examples for other public health programs to simulate and collaborate with beyond the project.

**Key messages:**

- Ukraine's resilience and recovery relies upon the strength of the current and future public health workforce; mechanisms for building public health training are essential to a healthy population.
- A collaborative process of strategic activities among American and Ukrainian universities and professional associations can be effective in building a resilient public health system in Ukraine.