



SUMMARY

Green recovery for Ukrainian communities

Guideline “Green recovery for Ukrainian communities” / authors: O. Kondratiuk, N. Lushnikova, M. Holiuk and O. Lyaschuk.

The given handbook provides information about the post-war recovery of Ukraine, considering energy and climate aspects European integration within the framework of the European Green Deal; the role of local government in the process of developing and ensuring the capacity and independence of communities. The handbook is recommended for local self-government authorities to increase awareness in the field of the green post-war recovery.

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SUMMARY

The full-scale war of Russia against Ukraine has been going on for more than 10 months. Only the infrastructural losses of Ukraine as a result of the war are more than \$136 billion. A long post-war recovery is required for Ukraine. The first version of the Ukraine's Recovery Plan was presented on the International Ukraine Recovery Conference that took place in Lugano at the beginning of July 2022. The approaches to the recovery have to be inclusive which means they must be based on the cooperation of central bodies of executive power, local self-government authorities and civil society, taking into consideration the needs and interests of different social groups. Additionally, the recovery must be sustainable and innovative, and consider the challenges and risks connected with climate change in order to fulfill climate obligations of Ukraine and ensure community capacity. Local self-government as to play a major role in the post-war recovery of Ukraine as they produce more than half of all greenhouse gas emissions in the country.

The civil society, in its turn, has formulated seven principles of green recovery:

1. Sustainable and systematic solutions.
2. Transparency, participation of communities and civic society in decision making.
3. Use of the best available technologies and practices.
4. Sustainable and resilient development of cities and regions.
5. Decarbonization and decentralization of energy industry.
6. Development of resilient and decentralized agrifood systems.
7. Ensuring the preservation of ecosystems and natural wealth of Ukraine.

On June 23, 2022, EU granted Ukraine an official status of a candidate for the EU membership. Ukraine is obliged to implement the EU legislation, including the documents related to energy and climate policy.

The objective of the European Green Deal is to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent. 27 EU member-states have committed to jointly achieve it by 2050. The European Green Deal is included into the six designated priorities of the EU for 2019-2024, and it has initiated the changes aimed at the environmental protection, which will be beneficial both for citizens and the economy.



The European integration of Ukraine and the European Green Deal are complicated and complex processes that will determine the development of our country for a long time. The active role of Ukrainian municipalities in these processes will make it possible their recovery and development. However, for the participation to be as effective as possible, there is a need to improve the institutional capacity of communities and participate in the formulation and implementation of measures within the European integration processes.

Such activities as networking (the Association "Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine", Ukrainian Energy Transition Coalition, Race To Zero, etc.), support of the decentralization reform, improvement of the management structure and attraction of additional funding will contribute to increased capacity of communities. The presence of ecological capital in communities will create opportunities for adaptation to climate change and increase the awareness of residents as regards environmental issues.

The described examples of green projects in Europe and Ukraine in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, biogas, and adaptation to climate change can be considered and implemented in the green post-war recovery of communities. Communities should be ready to attract financing for the implementation of green projects and prepare the required documentation, including a pre-feasibility study.

The consideration of the green recovery principles, the EU legislation and experience of European countries in realization of green projects will **help communities make the post-war recovery green and attract the EU finance.**



In addition, at the moment, there are opportunities for the implementation of certain green projects to improve energy efficiency, apply renewable energy sources and adapt to climate change, support and de-occupied regions of Ukraine. The considered examples of the green projects will make it possible to understand which actions communities can start make today and which steps will require more time and resources.