



2022

ECOCLUB ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT ECOCLUB



Ecoclub is a non-governmental organization in Rivne that has been working for more than 20 years to preserve the environment. More than 15 of them are in the field of energy saving, because it is energy that has the most detrimental effect on the environment. We believe that nature is a value in itself, regardless of the practical benefit to humans.

Our mission: Creating safe environments by influencing policy and strengthening communities.

Vision of the Ecoclub:

We believe that an indestructible environment and nature are values in themselves. The sustainable development of society will ensure the harmonious development of mankind without harming nature.

We are encouraged by people with:

- 1) dissemination of knowledge about the importance of environmental protection;
- 2) engagement to participate in the formation and implementation of energy and environmental protection policies;
- 3) solidarity and cooperation, which will allow considering the value of the environment at all levels of human existence.

We believe that increasing energy efficiency and spreading renewable energy sources are vital measures to prevent further environmental destruction, including climate change. Such measures are of urgent importance for the development of Ukraine.

Ecoclub values:

We work for a secure future with sustainable and affordable energy.

We preach non-violence and tolerance and treat different views with respect.

We maintain our independence from political parties and business interests.

We are aware of the impact of our actions on the environment and make efforts to reduce its negative consequences.

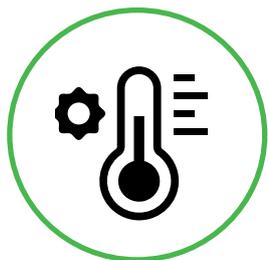
The full-scale war in Ukraine has shown that everything that the Ecoclub has been working on for more than 20 years – the transition of communities to the use of RES, energy efficiency, adaptation to climate change – is important for the future green reconstruction of the country.

By 2023, the strategic goals of the organization were:



Goal 1.

Communities are aware of the need and benefits of low-carbon development and are investing in it.



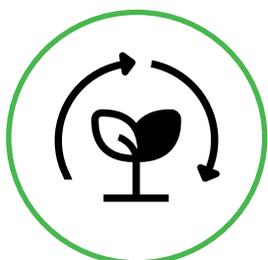
Goal 2.

Climate change (CC) is integrated into national and local development policies through public demand and the participation of all players.



Goal 3.

Local civil society organizations (CSOs) are a driving force for change and a channel for the dissemination of best practices and solutions in the field of climate and energy.



Goal 4.

Ecoclub is a permanent, responsible, influential environmental protection organization in Ukraine.



■ BOARD OF ECOCLUB

Despite a difficult year, the organization continued to change and develop. The Board helped us not to lose the focus of our attention on achieving strategic goals and to work for the preservation of the environment in the conditions of Russia's open war.

In the first days of the open Russian invasion, the Board together with the members of the organization made a decision to provide humanitarian aid to Ukrainian communities. Since then, the humanitarian direction has become an integral part of daily work.

In 2022, there were changes in the composition of the Management Board. Onoshko Anatolii, a private entrepreneur and former executive director of NGO Ecoclub, left its membership.



Oleh Hetun, Head of the Board

Private entrepreneur in the field of organizing active recreation (salves, corporate parties, quests, etc.). Another direction of his work is the installation of industrial GPG monitoring systems on commercial vehicles.

Oleh devotes part of his time to the public sphere: working with children and youth at PLAST-NSOU, protecting the environment together with the Ecoclub, organizing water tourism competitions and adventure races. Received a master's degree in environmental science.



Oksana Holovko, member of the Board

Candidate of agricultural sciences (specialty Ecology), head of the research sector of the Derman-Ostroh National Nature Park.



Tetiana Tsykun, member of the Board

Research associate at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Institute of Ecology, Evolution and Diversity. The field of professional activity is ecology, forest phytopathology, genomics, population genetics of phytopathogens and tree pests.

Actively volunteered in the Ecoclub during 2002-2005.

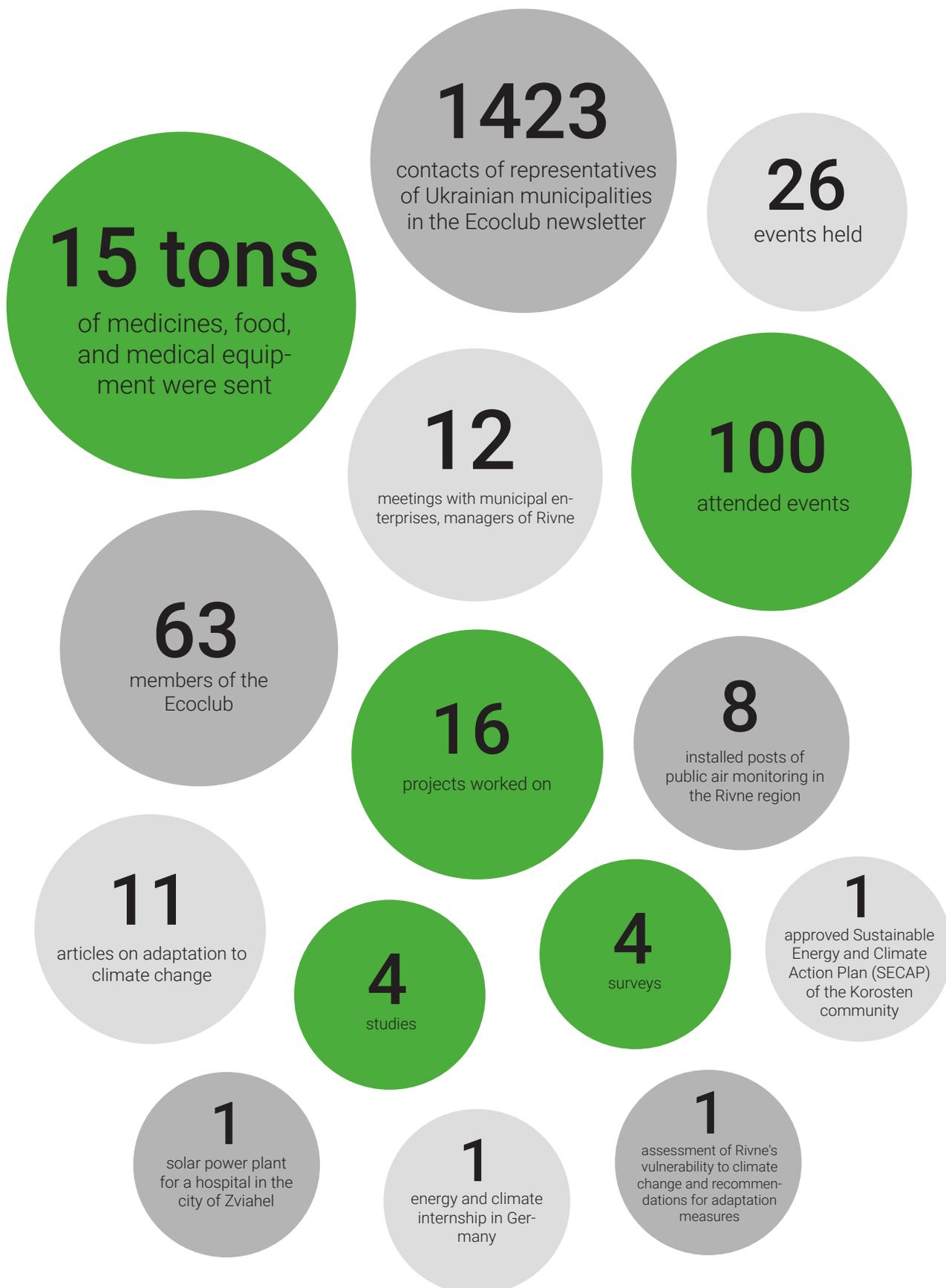


Oksana Pohl, member of the Board

Bachelor of Geoinformation Systems and Technologies of the National University of Water Management and Nature Management. Bachelor of Geography at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich and Land Management at the Technical University of Munich. A master's student in anthropogeography and sustainable development at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich.

In 2022, Oksana, together with other volunteers, founded the [Help For Rivne](#) initiative. Its purpose is to help the residents of Rivne with humanitarian aid during a full-scale war.

■ YEAR IN NUMBERS



FORWARD



The European Union, which is the leader of reforms in Ukraine, recognizes the protection of the environment and climate as one of the fundamental principles of the unification of nations. This report therefore reflects the public's efforts to ensure that Ukraine prioritizes green reconstruction (which, by the way, has already begun), including climate action, on its way to a prosperous and democratic future.

Andriy Martyniuk,
executive director of the NGO Ecoclub

In 2022, Ukrainians continue to fight for their right to a future that includes not only human rights and freedoms, but also fair elections and the opportunity to live in a free country. These aspirations give Ukraine a decisive opportunity to win a full-scale war against the monstrous Russia, which would rather drag everyone into the medieval darkness of the absolute power of the retrogrades.

However, the future that Ukrainians are fighting for has another dimension that is often forgotten: a clean and safe environment with natural biodiversity and a stable climate that allows human life to flourish. The aggressor's extensive exploitation of mineral resources not only provided it with the means to attack Ukraine, but also contributed to the deepening of the climate crisis, which threatens the survival of our planet as we know it.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT



Goal 1. Communities realize the need and benefits of low-carbon development and invest in it.

The tasks that we set:

- development of financial instruments to stimulate investments in low-carbon development (cooperatives, revolving funds, local budget support programs);
- transition of Ukrainian municipalities to 100 % RES;
- the ability of communities to make a fair transition to low-carbon development, reducing the impact on ecosystems;
- supporting the goals of low-carbon development of communities in local politics, applying solutions based on the use of natural ecosystems.

■ Solar power plant for a hospital in Zviahel

For a long time, Ukrainian municipalities lived in conditions of massive power outages. Medical facilities are the most vulnerable to Russian attacks on Ukrainian energy infrastructure. Therefore, in October 2022, NGO launched the Solar Aid For Ukraine project. It is designed to provide critical infrastructure facilities with electricity, even if the power supply is disconnected from the grid.



Result: In December 2022, the Ecoclub installed a solar power plant (SPP) for a hospital in the city of Zviahel, in the Zhytomyr region. Its capacity is 32.4 kW. Funds for the installation of the SPP – 840 thousand hryvnias – were received within the framework of the Sustainability4Ukraine campaign from [CSR.Ukraine](#) and [Dobro.UA](#).

In the first month, the SPP generated 800 kWh of energy. This amount is enough for a month of continuous operation of one artificial lung ventilation (ALV). More details in the [video](#).

■ Development of preliminary feasibility studies for Ukrainian municipalities

In 2022, Ecoclub developed 30 preliminary feasibility studies (pre-feasibility studies) for municipalities. Of them:

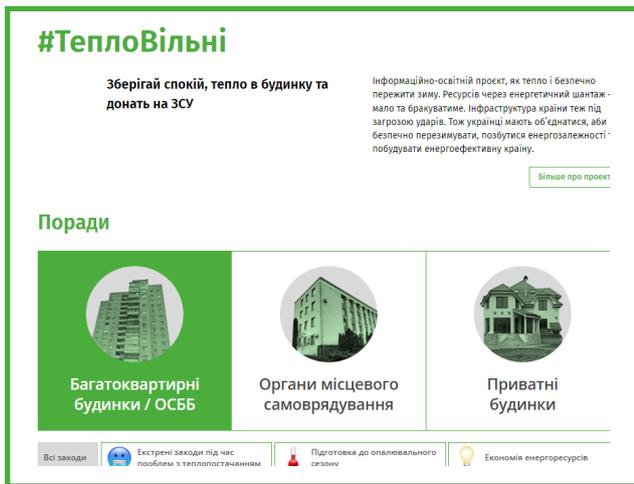
- 26 – the establishment of SPP for hospitals (Ovruch, Poltava, Selydove, etc.);
- 2 – the cultivation of energy plants to provide boiler plants with biomass of sustainable origin (Kolomyia and Domanivka);
- 1 – the installation of SPP: production of electricity from renewable sources for the needs of urban electric transport (Sumy);
- 1 – the installation of SPP: electricity production for the needs of the municipal water supply enterprise (Zviahel).



Preliminary feasibility studies is a document that contains information on the technical and economic feasibility of project implementation. With the help of the developed documents, Ukrainian municipalities can develop their ideas, attracting supporters and funding.

Result: The Ecoclub presented the preliminary feasibility studies to donor organizations, financial institutions, and banking institutions.

Information campaign on preparation for winter #TeploVilni



In August 2022, the Ecoclub surveyed Ukrainians about what information they lack regarding preparation for the heating season. More than 250 Ukrainian men and women took part in it.

The survey showed that people lacked information from the government on how to prepare for and survive the 2022-2023 heating season. So we started the informational and educational project #TeploVilni.

Together with the involved experts, we prepared tips for residents of private and multi-apartment buildings, local government units, and how to survive the winter warmly and safely in the conditions of war.

Result: Published text and visual materials, [filmed videos](#) and recorded first episodes of podcasts (search on [Apple Podcast](#), [Google Podcast](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#), [Anchor](#)). Campaign materials have 770,000 views as of December 2022.

More about the project on the [#TeploVilni page](#).

The project was carried out within the framework of the Environmental Policy and Advocacy Initiative for Ukraine (EPAIU), which is carried out by the International Renaissance Foundation with the financial support of Sweden.



Goal 3. Local civil society organizations (CSOs) are a driving force for change and a channel for the dissemination of best practices and solutions in the field of climate and energy.

The tasks that we set:

- support of the Ukrainian Climate Network;
- participation and support of other public networks and mechanisms of civic participation, including CLEEN and the Energy Transition Coalition.

Conference: How the windows of opportunity for the development of green energy are closed in the conditions of war



In conditions of open war, the state restricts producers of renewable energy, in particular, owners of solar power plants. Instead of restrictions and underproduction, green energy can be exported to EU countries.

The Energy Transition coalition, headed by Nataliia Lytvyn, Ecoclub project coordinator, held a press conference How windows of opportunity for the development of green energy are closed in war conditions. During the event, it was found out:

- Why do associations raise the topic of electricity export to the EU and what is the role of RES in this process?
- What are the volumes of system restrictions for SPP starting from March 2022?
- What is the EU taxonomy and how will the decision of the members of the European Parliament affect Ukraine?

Result: together with five specialized associations, the Coalition sent two joint [appeals to the members of the European Parliament \(In Ukrainian\)](#). Their content is the need to exclude gas and nuclear energy from the EU taxonomy.

Taxonomy is a classification system that establishes a list of environmentally sustainable types of economic activity that allow scaling sustainable investment.



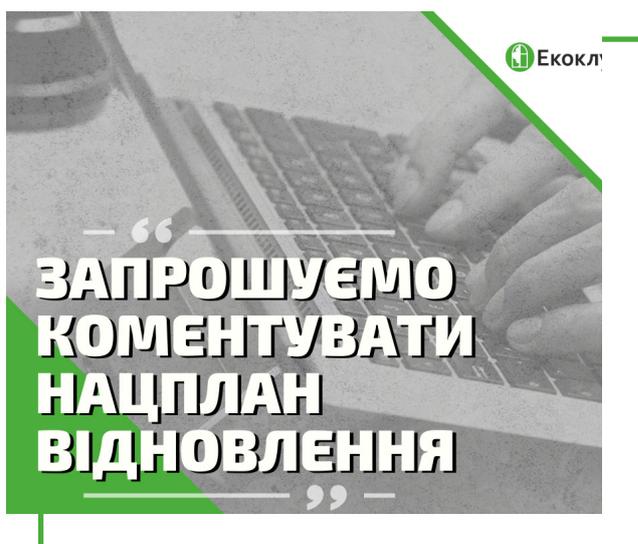
■ Participation in the working groups of the National Council on issues of the country's recovery

In Ukraine, the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the War was created. It is a consultative and advisory body under the president that develops a plan of measures for post-war reconstruction and development. In May 2022, Ecoclub employees became members of three working groups:

- Energy security: promoted support for energy efficiency and RES in communities.
- Construction, urban planning, modernization of cities and regions: advocated the position of mandatory preservation and development of central heating with the transition to the use of climate-neutral fuel.
- Environmental security: promoted the Environmental impact assessment in Ukraine, taking into account the assessment of vulnerability to climate change and adaptation measures in Ukraine's post-war reconstruction plans.

Result: the proposals of the Ecoclub were partially included in the National Recovery Plan of the country.

■ Comments of municipalities to the Ukraine's Recovery Plan



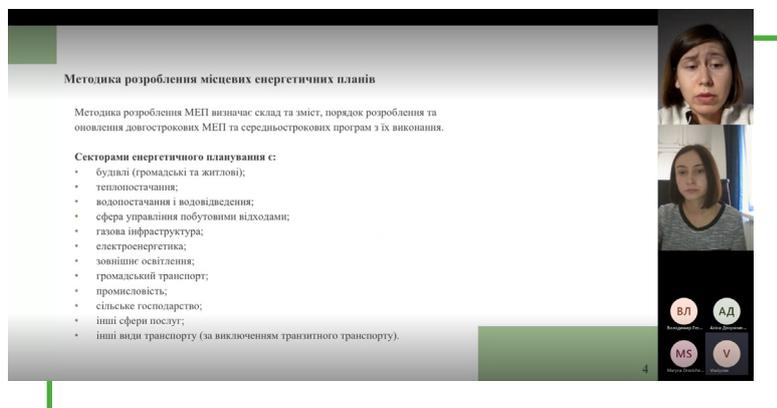
The National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine developed a ten-year recovery plan. During the preparation of the document, the involvement of municipalities in the development of sections was limited. Therefore, the Ecoclub initiated the collection of proposals from local government representatives regarding housing restoration, energy efficiency development, and centralized heat supply.

We invite you to comment on the national recovery plan

Result: the collected comments were sent to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in September 2022.

■ “Methods for developing local energy plans” discussion

The new [Law on Energy Efficiency provides](#) for the development of Local Energy Plans (LEPs). It will oblige municipalities to plan the amount of energy consumption reduction and increase energy efficiency on the ground.



Energy independence of the community. Instructions for switching from gas to biomass in heating

In December 2022, Ecoclub held an online event for representatives of Ukrainian municipalities with the involvement of experts to comment on the procedure for developing LEPs. Five representatives of local self-government bodies took part in the discussion.

Result: proposals were made to the Ministry of Development of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure of Ukraine regarding changes to individual items aimed at improving the Methodology.

■ Instructions for communities “How to switch from gas to biofuel and become energy independent”

The heating season of 2022-2023 and the aggravation of the energy crisis due to the Russian war may be an impetus for Ukrainian communities to reconsider approaches to building heating.

Understanding the potential of municipalities for the use of biomass, the Ecoclub together with the involved experts of the Energy Transition Coalition developed the instruction “Basic steps for the implementation of heat energy production projects using biofuel.”



The instructions explain how communities can start using biomass, where to buy it, how to transform existing boiler houses or build new ones that will run on RES.

Result: the manual was [downloaded](#) by more than 100 interested parties.

■ Participation in the global movement regarding the embargo on Russian energy carriers



Russia continues to receive funds for the sale of fossil fuels, which allows it to wage war against the population and destroy the infrastructure of Ukraine. Therefore, Ecoclub initiated and supported a number of appeals to representatives of the governing bodies of the European Union, companies of European countries and Japan regarding the embargo of Russian gas, coal and oil.

During May 2022, together, Ekodia (Ecoactin) and Ekoltava [met](#) with representatives of the government and business of the EU countries, and talked with the advisors of the Prime Minister of Finland.

Result: together with 450 organizations from 49 countries of the world, [we signed a letter](#) calling on the world to stop trade and impose a complete embargo on Russia's fossil energy sources. Signatories include CAN International, World Council of Churches, Rainforest Action Network and 350.org.

■ Dialogue between authorities and the public for climate neutrality of Ukraine

During 2022, the Government of Ukraine developed the Ukraine Recovery Plan. The document is designed to determine the vector of the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. The participation of local governments in commenting on and implementing national policies is extremely necessary: it will depend on them what measures and projects to implement on the ground.

On November 16-19, in the city of Truskavets, the Ecoclub held a Dialogue between authorities and the public for climate neutrality of Ukraine.



The event was attended by representatives of local government, central executive authorities, the public sector, experts in the field of energy and adaptation to climate change.

Result: the methods and methods of involvement of local self-government bodies, public organizations in the formation of national policy in the field of energy efficiency and RES, the Recovery Plan were discussed.

"I liked the open atmosphere and the participation of many communities the most. The event was useful, it is important to hear people working in the real world with real people," **Andrii Andrushevych, senior analyst of the Resource and Analysis Center Society and Environment.**

"Thanks to the correct selection of participants, I believe that the format of the event was successful: frank messages were heard, participants were open to discussion," **Volodymyr Perehudov, senior coordinator of GIZ Ukraine.**

"The event was useful, as it allowed to gather various participants: representatives of local and executive authorities, active public organizations and experts in the field of energy and climate. This made it possible to objectively form opinions regarding the assessment of the current attitude of citizens to climate neutrality and further opportunities for the promotion of policies and the implementation of relevant technologies," **Yuliia Usenko, head of the Ukrainian Investment and Sustainable Development Agency.**

■ **Ecoclub newsletter for Ukrainian municipalities**

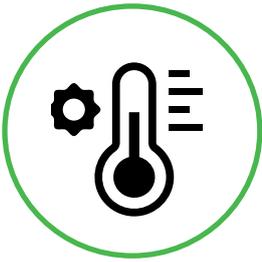
The Ecoclub newsletter for Ukrainian municipalities is a biweekly digest containing:

- descriptions of communities' experience in implementing energy and climate projects;
- comments of the Ecoclub and activists regarding the development of energy and climate policies;
- descriptions of competitions and opportunities in the field of energy and climate.

[REVIEW](#)

As of December 2022, 1,422 people have signed up for the newsletter.

ADAPTATION AND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS



Goal 2. Climate change is integrated into national and local development policies through public demand and the participation of all players.

The tasks that we set:

- promoting an ambitious and fair national climate policy and taking into account the opinion of communities and the public in it;
- formation of high standards of vulnerability assessment and preparation of community adaptation measures to climate change;
- informing the population in order to create a demand for climate policy (local teams, campaigns, pre-election races).



Participation in COP27

In November 2022, Ecoclub employees took part in the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27 (Conference of the Parties) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

During the conference, we talked about the devastating Russian war, and drew the attention of the world community to the importance of abandoning the purchase of Russian energy carriers. Also, we attended and participated in the organization of events held in the Ukrainian pavilion. Together with members of the CAN Network, we awarded Russia with the Fossil of the Day anti-reward. This is a satirical award given to countries that are signatories to the Paris Agreement that do not comply with its terms.

The Paris Agreement is an international agreement within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which aims to keep the rise in global average temperatures well below +2 °C from pre-industrial levels.

Result: With the support of the [Global Solar Council](#) and the [Solar Energy Association of Ukraine](#), part of the funds were collected for solar panels for critical infrastructure buildings. Nataliia Kholodova, Ecoclub project coordinator, helped prepare the event "Impact of Russia's war against Ukraine on European climate policy and ways of development."

■ Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Korosten



Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) was adopted in Korosten

In 2021, the Korosten community began to develop a new action plan for sustainable energy development and climate. In 2022, the document was adopted at a session of the city council, later it was approved by the Joint Research Center of the European Commission.

Ecoclub developed SECAP together with the Korosten City Council and the Energy-Efficient Cities of Ukraine Association. Representatives of the city council, departments were involved in the process.

Result: by adopting the SECAP, the community received an energy development plan for the next 10 years and an opportunity to become more attractive to investors in the energy sector.

■ Study “Ambition of Action Plans for Sustainable Energy Development and Climate of Ukrainian Communities”



As of September 2022, 311 Ukrainian municipalities have become signatories of the European Commission’s Agreement of Mayors. They have committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing energy consumption by developing the SECAP.

Ecoclub analyzed 163 documents in the main part of the study, including 67 SECAP and 96 SECAP from the 268 municipalities (according to the Ukrainian version of the Agreement of Mayors website as of October 29, 2021).

[READ THE RESEARCH](#)

The analysis of the documents showed that emissions reduction occurred in 18 communities during the development of the document. The largest is in the city of Khmilnyk, where 32 % is planned (see the infographic at [this link](#)).

Result: The Ecoclub formed a list of recommendations that municipalities should take into account during post-war reconstruction. Including:

1. Post-war reconstruction must take into account the need for a rapid transition to low-carbon development and adaptation to climate change.
2. Municipalities need support in climate action.
3. It is necessary to create framework conditions to stimulate community participation in achieving climate neutrality.

During the preparation of the study, the Ecoclub conducted an interview with the employee of the Myrnohrad City Council, the head of the department for innovation policy and investment activities of the executive committee, Denys Tomaza. We asked about the experience of Myrnohrad in the developed SECAP and the fight against climate change.

We also collected the opinions of Artur Obidnyk, an employee of the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine, that shows the future of energy planning in Ukrainian municipalities as the Ministry sees.

■ Study “Assessment of vulnerability to climate change of the Rivne community and recommendations for adaptation measures”



Оцінка вразливості до зміни клімату Рівненської громади та рекомендації щодо заходів з адаптації

To fulfill the obligations of the Covenant of Mayors in 2022, the city of Rivne started the development of SECAP. A climate risk assessment and adaptation plan are part of the action plan. In order to assess how vulnerable the Rivne community is to climate change, Ecoclub conducted research.

Assessment of the vulnerability of the Rivne community to climate change and recommendations for adaptation measures

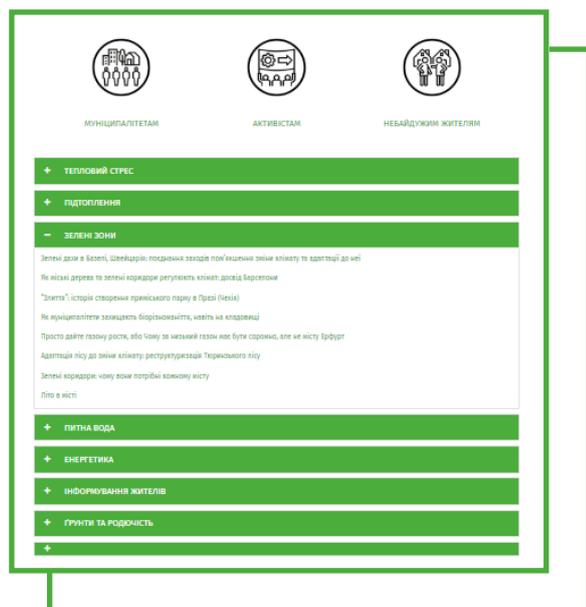
[READ THE RESEARCH \(In Ukrainian\)](#)

As part of the research, we asked how residents assess the impact of climate change on their lives. We also collected their opinions on the readiness of the community's infrastructure for such challenges. 369 respondents took part in the survey (55.7 % – women, 44.3 % – men).

The survey showed that the vast majority of respondents (91.6 %) notice climate change, 19.8 % noticed a significant climate change. Only 2.2 % believe that the climate has not changed over the past 10-15 years. During heat waves, 50 % of respondents felt exhausted or weak, and about 30 % experienced sleep disturbances and headaches. Therefore, 65 % of respondents want to receive notifications about the threat of heating and personal control measures on their personal phone.

Result: recommendations on measures for adaptation to climate change became the basis for the development of Rivne's SECAP until 2030.

Continuation of information on adaptation to climate change



The Ecoclub wants Ukrainian municipalities to be aware of possible risks and damages to the environment, socio-economic status, which they may experience due to climate change.

Therefore, during 2022, we updated the website section “Adaptation to climate change with informational materials.”

Result: 11 articles were published, which are designed to explain to municipalities, activists, concerned residents the risks associated with climate change and how to adapt to them:

- [Public gardens as part of a sustainable city landscape](#)
- [BIOVEINS: connection of green and blue infrastructures](#)
- [Increasing the fertility of wheat in Kazakhstan](#)
- [Villages in Moldova are thriving thanks to the restoration of water bodies](#)
- [Green roofs in Basel, Switzerland: combining climate change mitigation and adaptation measures](#)
- [How urban trees and green corridors regulate the climate: the experience of Barcelona](#)
- [Solar stations as promotion of climate-resilient energy in Moldova](#)
- [“Merger”: the story of the creation of a suburban park in Prague \(Czech Republic\)](#)
- [Economics of heavy rain and stormwater management in Copenhagen, Denmark](#)
- [Funding for fire prevention programs in Dorset, UK](#)
- [Temporary accumulation of flood waters in agricultural areas in the Middle Tisza basin, Hungary](#)

SAFE INDUSTRY

Since the beginning of the war, more than 2,200 crimes against the environment, which are part of war crimes, have already been recorded. The damage caused exceeded 37.4 billion euros (data as of November 2022). By destroying the country's ecosystems, the aggressor worsens the quality of life of Ukrainians. Therefore, even during an open Russian war, protection of the environment is more timely than ever. That is why we did not stop responding to challenges and continued to work in this direction, even in such a difficult time for the country.

In 2022, we voted for the right to a clean environment in the communities of Rivne and Horodok, and also demanded that the government of Ukraine would not change the process of environmental impact assessment during martial law.

■ Development of public air monitoring in Rivne region



Together with the international project Clean Air for Ukraine with the support of the Czech non-governmental organization Arnica, they initiated the development of a network of public air monitoring posts in the Rivne region.

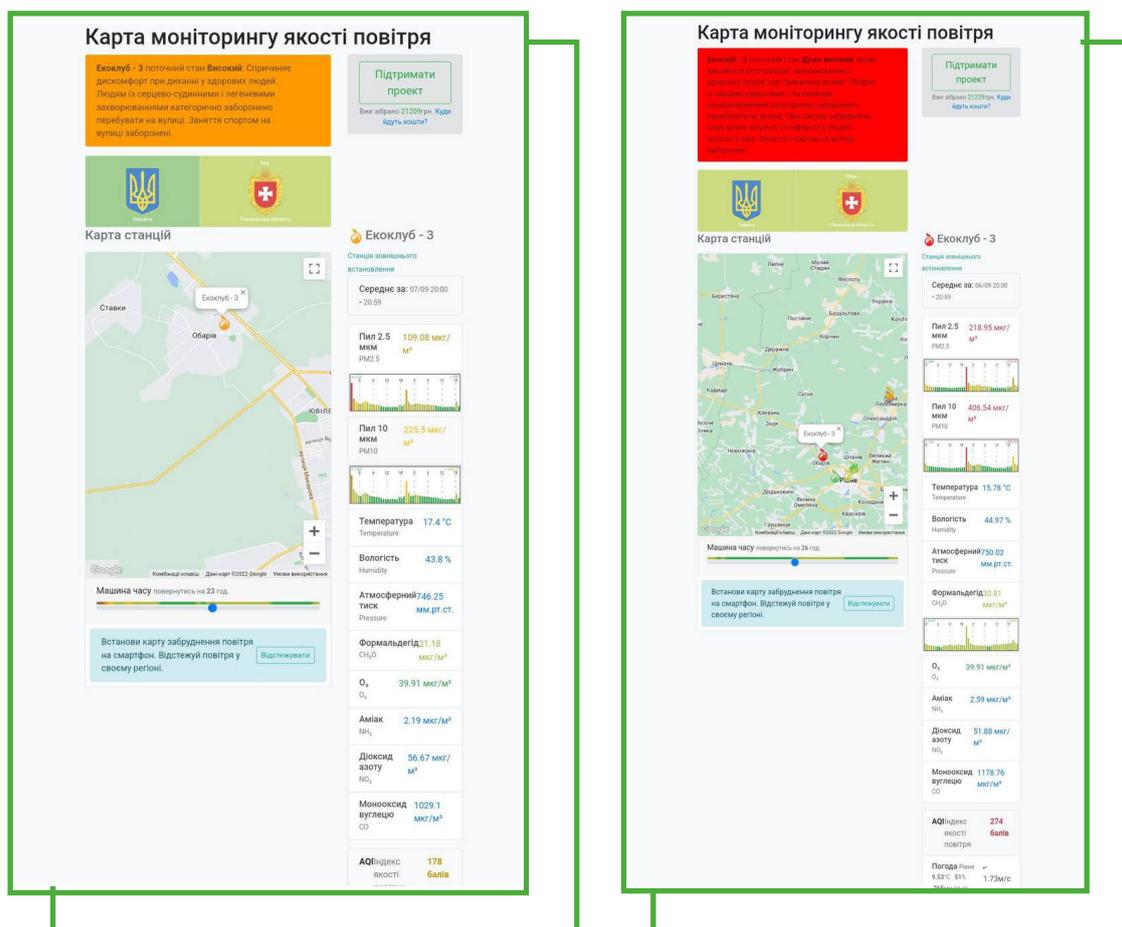
Eight public air quality monitoring stations were installed in Rivne, Ostroh, and the village of Horodok (Rivne district).

Map of air quality monitoring

Thanks to the devices, residents of the region receive information about air pollution by formaldehyde, nitrogen oxide, dust, and will learn about the level of radiation online in real time. Until now, only state monitoring posts were installed in the Rivne community, which did not transmit information online in real time.

The advantage of public monitoring stations is that they are modern air assessment tools. Such devices allow you to quickly find out information about the state of the air, show reliable data on several main pollutants in real time. Independent and operational monitoring is especially important during a time of full-scale war, Russian nuclear blackmail.

Result: the posts have repeatedly helped to clarify the state of the air in communities, in particular, during dry burning (see screenshots below).



[Check air condition in Horodok and Ostroh.](#)

■ Appeal to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development regarding the termination of support for Kronospan

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has shown support for Ukraine since the beginning of the open Russian war, but the international woodworking corporation Kronospan remains its client. Factories are still operating in Russia and Belarus, company representatives have not expressed any position regarding a full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Therefore, together with the non-governmental organization Ecoaction, we appealed to the EBRD to stop cooperation with companies that finance Russia's war against Ukraine with their taxes.

[READ THE LETTER](#)

Ecoclub also sent a letter of appeal to the International Woodworking Company Kronospan regarding the termination of two factories in Belarus and six factories in Russia (the corporation has been a client of the EBRD since 2003: during this time it received more than 800 million euros of investments).

■ Courts for a clean environment in Rivne and Horodok communities



On July 1, 2022, the Ecoclub won in court against the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Rivne Regional State Administration (hereinafter – the Department). At the court hearing of the woodworking plant Kronospan in Horodok, the positive conclusion of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) was canceled*.

Consideration of the case lasted almost two years. At first, the courts made an illegal decision to return the lawsuit to the Ecoclub.

Subsequently, the duration of the trial was affected by the state of war in Ukraine and the participation in the trial of many participants.

The court indicated that the conclusion on the safety of the Kronospan plant in Horodok was issued without a thorough analysis and due attention to the comments of the public, so the document needs to be revised.

[DETAILS OF THE COURT DECISION](#)

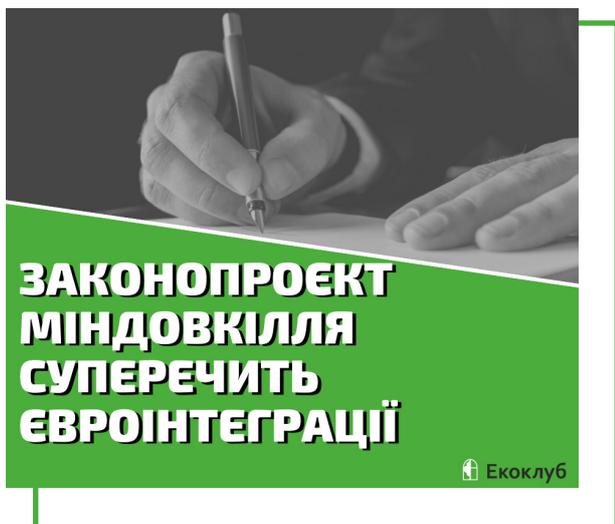
This case of the Ecoclub against the Department is one of the few in Ukraine when the court considered the issue of compliance with the entire EIA procedure and the safety of the planned activity.

Despite the victory in the Rivne Regional Administrative Court, the Lviv Administrative Court of Appeal upheld the appeal filed by the Kronospan woodworking enterprise.

Result: the Supreme Court did not satisfy the cassation appeal of Ecoclub and sided with Kronospan. Ecoclub no longer has the opportunity to cancel the conclusion of Kronospan's EIA in Ukrainian courts.

**Environmental impact assessment (EIA) is a state tool for assessing projects that may threaten the environment, which should ensure the achievement of environmental standards and public participation in decision-making regarding such projects.*

■ The position of the Ecoclub and other NGOs regarding the law on amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Environmental Impact Assessment”



On August 26, 2022, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine published for public discussion the draft law “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Environmental Impact Assessment. The project provided for a number of systemic changes to the current law.

The Ecoclub believes that the proposed changes would create risks for the fulfillment of environmental requirements in the process of Ukraine's acquisition of membership in the European Union.

Together with other environmental organizations, the Ecoclub has published a position on changes to the law.

We called on the drafters of this law to review the proposed changes for compliance with the directive and to involve all interested stakeholders in the process.

[VIEW POSITION](#)

Organizations - signatories:

- NGO Center for Environmental Initiatives Ecoaction;
- NGO Black Sea Women's Club;
- Resource and Analysis Center Society and Environment.

■ Webinar “Clean air in Rivne and Horodok: how to achieve it”

On the eve of a full-scale war, on February 23, 2022, the Ecoclub held a webinar for residents of the Rivne and Horodok communities.

Result: we told why clean air is important, who is responsible for it in the community and region, where to complain about pollution. Explained what public air monitoring posts are, how they work and whether they show true data.

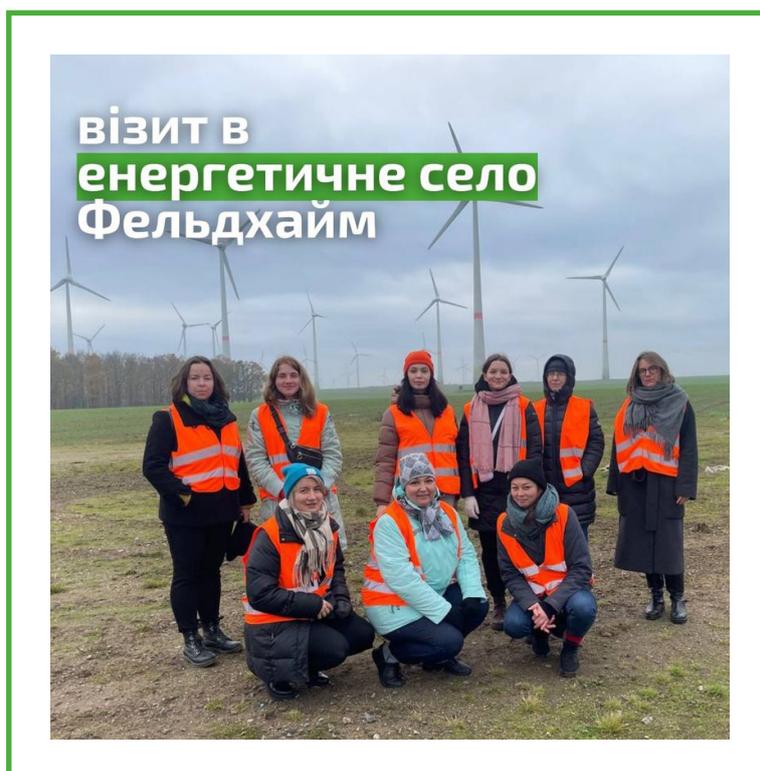


23 people took part in the webinar.

SUPPORT OF OTHER NGOs AND INITIATIVES

■ Energy and climate internships in Germany

Goal 3. Local civil society organizations (CSOs) are a driving force for change and a channel for the dissemination of best practices and solutions in the field of climate and energy.



In the fall of 2022, the Ecoclub thanks to the German charitable organization Austausch e.V. announced a competitive selection for internships in Germany (Berlin and other cities), which lasted for six weeks.

Topics of internships: sustainable development of communities; green reconstruction of Ukraine; energy efficiency and renewable energy; adaptation to climate change.

According to the results of the competition, Ecoclub selected five participants from Ukraine:

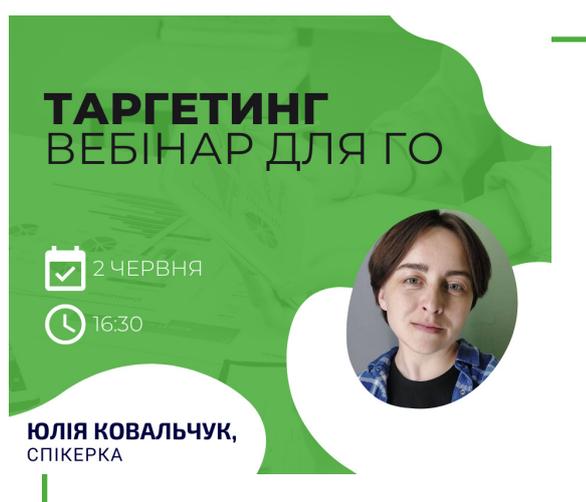
- Olena Kondratiuk. Internship topic: analytics in the field of energy and green recovery.
- Halyna Zhuravska. Internship topic: development and implementation of community energy and climate plans.
- Alina Abramenko. Internship topic: communication in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and climate.
- Yevhenia Deviatkova. Internship topic: waste sorting, promoting the idea of zero emissions.
- Maria Holiuk. Internship topic: green solutions for adaptation to climate change, spatial planning.

The results of the internship were presented by the participants at the conference “Strengthening the involvement of civil society in the green reconstruction of Ukraine”, which took place on December 9 in Berlin. The event also discussed how local initiatives can be more involved in the reconstruction process and what ways for this already exist in Ukraine.

Result: trainees published a number of articles:

- ✓ Maria Holiuk: [Biodiversity in urban landscapes;](#)
- ✓ Olena Kondratiuk: [Energy communities as a tool for the transition to renewable energy sources;](#)
- ✓ Yevhenia Deviatkova: [Together to zero waste: how the city of Berlin promotes reuse.](#)

■ Webinar for NGOs on setting up advertising campaigns



Targeting webinar for NGOs
Yuliia Kovalchuk, speaker

On June 2, 2022, Ecoclub held an online webinar for public organizations on how to effectively set up advertising campaigns in social networks.

Involved expert – targetologist Yuliia Kovalchuk explained how public organizations can attract funds and people thanks to targeted advertising, how to determine the target audience. During the event, the expert explained how to increase the effectiveness of her projects using targeting.



DEVELOPMENT OF ECOCLUB



Goal 4. Ecoclub is a permanent, responsible, influential environmental protection organization in Ukraine.

Despite the full-scale invasion, we did not stop the activities of the organization, but directed all our efforts to its functioning and development. During 2022, we continued to actively switch to electronic document management, developed and updated existing policies.

For about 10 years, Ecoclub was guided by the Code of Ethics and had a developed Gender Equality Policy. Over time, the organization team realized that these two documents did not include other possible types of discrimination. Therefore, we set a new goal – to develop a document that would maximally cover various types of discrimination and describe the mechanisms of their prevention.

We believe that the developed policy is sufficiently complete and can be replicated in other public organizations.

[READ THE POLICY \(In Ukrainian\)](#)

We continuously improve the level of knowledge of the English language, which significantly helped in communication with international partners during business trips. This allowed us to continue talking about the impact of the Russian war on the state of the environment in Ukraine, to look for interested parties who are ready to contribute to overcoming the climate crisis and join the green reconstruction of the country.

■ **Strategic planning of the organization**

In September 2022, strategic planning of the organization for three years was carried out. For this, we brought in an expert in building strategies, Oleksandra Baklanova.

During the first day, the Ecoclub team formed a chronology of the organization's successes from the moment of its creation until now. It also identified strengths and weaknesses that should be avoided.

During the second day, on the basis of previous work, the work on strategizing was completed: the main directions of activities for the next three years were worked out. The goals and intermediate results of the activities were also determined.



Result: developed strategic goals of the Ecoclub for 2023-2025:

- Ambitious improvements in energy efficiency and the deployment of RES are a common part of post-war community development plans.
- Climate change (CC) is integrated into Ukraine's post-war reconstruction plans and into national and local development policies thanks to public demand and the participation of all players.
- Local CSOs are a driving force for change and a channel for the dissemination of best practices and solutions in the field of climate and energy.
- Ecoclub is an established, responsible, influential environmental protection organization in Ukraine that is constantly improving.
- The Rivne community develops considering the ideas of green post-war recovery and implements nature-oriented solutions.
- Local governments bear and are aware of responsibility for damage to the environment.

■ Participation in the Stockholm+50 conference

In June 2022, Ecoclub employees attended the Stockholm+50 conference – a meeting for public activists, government officials and stakeholders from around the world.

Within the framework of the conference, we met with the Minister of the Environment of Sweden, Anika Strandhall. During the conversation, we emphasized the priority needs of our country – the status of Ukraine's candidate for membership of the European Union, the involvement of Europe in the green reconstruction of the country, the established system of accounting for Russian crimes against the environment, the restoration of the environmental impact assessment procedure. The details of the meeting were discussed here.



Also, at Stockholm+50 Nataliia Kholodova, Ecoclub project coordinator, addressed the European Commissioner for Environmental Protection Virginijus Sinkevičius. She drew the commissioner's attention to the fact that the European Union should become a model for the introduction of environmental reforms for Ukraine during post-war reconstruction. More details at [this link](#).

■ Advocacy visit to Brussels



On July 11-15, Ecoclub representatives, at the invitation of partner organizations Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Kyiv and Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union, together with colleagues from Ukrainian civil society organizations, took part in an advocacy visit to Brussels.

Subjects of messages reported to partners:

- the introduction of an embargo and the world's refusal to use Russian energy carriers;
- support in the green reconstruction of Ukraine;
- increasing the institutional capacity of local authorities;
- the importance of maintaining and improving SEA and EIA procedures;
- preservation of the central heating system in cities;
- adaptation to climate change.

Result: exchanged views on the situation in Ukraine, climate and energy threats and human rights violations, as well as the impact of the Russian war on the environment and development of the country.

More about the results of the visit [here](#).

■ Speech at the panel discussion “Key messages from the regions”



On May 5, 2022, a dialogue of leaders and a panel discussion “Key messages from the regions” took place in preparation for the international meeting Stockholm 50+. More than 160 participants joined the event.

During the event, Andrii Martyniuk, Executive Director of the Ecoclub, appealed to representatives of governments and public figures of European and North American countries to restore the well-being of the planet, taking into account a fair energy transition and preserving the climate.

During the speech, the executive director of the Ecoclub talked about:

- risks due to dependence on fossil fuels (in particular, Russian);
- the danger to the world of nuclear terrorism (capture and shelling of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, the largest in Europe);
- the need to rebuild both Ukraine and the planet, guided by the principles of sustainable development – with clean, safe energy, restoration of nature and preservation of the climate.

Of the environmental conference Stockholm+50, which took place in Sweden in June 2022, [here](#).

■ Communication

In 2022, changes took place in the communication department of the organization. A press officer, a communicator, an SMM manager and a specialist in attracting supporters of the organization are involved in communications at the Ecoclub.

This year, during strategic planning, we reviewed the implementation of the communication strategy, whether the completed tasks correspond to the communication goals. Approaches to defining new communication goals for the next three years were also evaluated.



In October, an audit of the Ecoclub's communications with communities was conducted, the results of which will be taken into account when planning communication activities for the next year.

■ Number of followers in social networks:

- [Facebook](#) – 6,053 followers
- [Twitter](#) – 171 readers
- [Instagram](#) – 1,440 followers
- [Telegram](#) – 116 subscribers
- [LinkedIn](#) – 208 followers

175 articles and more than **300 posts** in social networks have been published. More than **20 editions** of the digest for Ukrainian municipalities have been sent. Ecoclub employees have participated three times in the national telethon “The only news: **live broadcasts and video stories** on [Channel 5](#), [1+1](#) and Suspilne”.



HUMANITARIAN AID

■ Humanitarian aid to communities

The full-scale invasion of Russia forced Ukrainian municipalities to work in new conditions. For more than a month, Ecoclub put all projects on hold, but the team quickly adapted to new challenges and began helping Ukrainian communities. On March 28, Oksana Pohl, a member of the organization's board, created the [Help For Rivne](#) initiative. Already on March 3, 2022, the first shipment of necessary items arrived in Ukraine.

All received aid was sorted by Ecoclub and sent according to the requests of municipalities. Since then, thanks to the efforts of Oksana and other volunteers, we have helped more than fifty Ukrainian communities that are suffering from enemy shelling or have found themselves in a difficult situation as a result of the war.

During the operation of the initiative:

- we cooperated most with hospitals and doctors;
- medicines were sent to the frontline regions of the country;
- German schoolchildren collected 25,000 euros and transferred them to the needs of Ukrainians;
- sent about 400 kilograms of fodder for abandoned animals to occupied Avdiivka;
- at least 1,276 children received better conditions of stay in kindergartens thanks to the sent heaters;
- we sent an ultrasound machine to a medical facility in the Mykolaiv region (received thanks to doctor Alice Spiekermann);
- sent two X-ray machines and one ventilator to a medical facility in Donetsk region (they were handed over by Solomiia Moroz and a team of medical doctors from Munich);
- bought special food for a girl named Nika, which was difficult to find in Ukraine. She will use it for a year and a half.



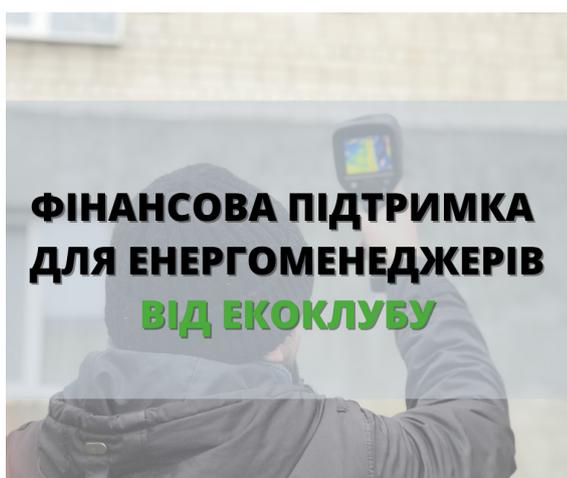
- [Report of the Ecoclub on assistance to communities \(February 25 - May 10\)](#)
- [Report of the Ecoclub on assistance to communities \(May 10-August 1\)](#)

- ✓ 170,000 euros collected to the account of WirWerk
- ✓ 10 tons of aid received
- ✓ 15 tons of aid sent
- ✓ 50 municipalities received assistance
- ✓ 10 sent medical equipment (X-ray, ventilators, ultrasound)
- ✓ 1,000 children's books sent
- ✓ 70 paramedic backpacks sent

During this difficult time, our organization was helped by volunteers who unloaded aid, sorted medicines, searched for the necessary items abroad and sent them to the frontline areas of the country, organized familiarization events for internally displaced Ukrainians. The Ecoclub team thanks everyone who joined!



■ Financial assistance to energy managers



Ecoclub helps energy managers who find themselves in difficult conditions due to the war. They can receive one-time assistance in the amount of 100 euros in the hryvnia equivalent. We support those who are in the zone of fierce hostilities, in the occupied territories or in the cities that suffered from the aggressor's missile and bomb attacks.

Financial support for energy managers

Result: From the beginning of the invasion until December 2022, Ecoclub helped more than 30 energy managers of Ukrainian municipalities. The total amount of assistance: 3 thousand euros.

We invite you to read the stories of the energy managers, what they worked on before the open war and what their work is focused on now:

[Support of energy managers: Pavlo Riabchuk](#)

[Support of energy managers: Volodymyr Synytsia](#)

[Support of energy managers: Antonina Riabokon](#)

[Support of energy managers: Yana Bondarenko](#)

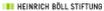
[Support of energy managers: Oleksandr Karpenko](#)

Read more stories on the Ecoclub [website](#).

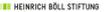
We sincerely thank the information support of the energy agency Energie- und Umweltzentrum Allgäu gemeinnützige GmbH, Klaus Hoppe Consulting and other colleagues!

FINANCIAL REPORT

RECEIPTS OF FUNDS

■	UAH 3 068 369,40		Formation of structural changes in the coal regions of Ukraine
■	UAH 1 570 801,19		Strengthening of the public network EkoNet
■	UAH 1 462 012,62		Panorama Global
■	UAH 1 281 453,24		Implementation of low-carbon approaches to heating among Ukrainian municipalities and preparation of Ukrainian society for the reduction of energy supplies
■	UAH 1 200 000		Closing the circle: a fair energy transition developed by capitals and regions
■	UAH 1 091 426,44		Increasing the institutional capacity of the Ecoclub in the light of post-war reconstruction and acquiring the status of a candidate for
■	UAH 840 000		Sustainability4Ukraine: NGO Ecoclub
■	UAH 504 939,57		Strengthening of democratic procedures for environmental protection of Ukraine
■	UAH 438 823,5		Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights
■	UAH 415 656,2		Ensuring responsibility for environmental requirements of the new Kronospan plant under construction
■	UAH 334 568,51		Development of the ecofeminist movement
■	UAH 319 773,1		Grassroots foundation für Umweltschutz und Menschenrechte gemeinnützige GmbH
■	UAH 297 000		Advocacy of mechanisms to support RES generation in wartime
■	UAH 28 740		Support of the Ukrainian Climate Network

Financial assistance during war

■	UAH 189 190		Institutional support in war conditions for the NGO Ecoclub
■	UAH 83 146,76		Charitable contributions
■	UAH 66 341,40		Humanitarian support for victims of hostilities and other persons
■	UAH 66 341,40		International charitable organization DRA e.V.
■	UAH 60 000		Energy-efficient cities of Ukraine Association
■	UAH 13 518,63		WirWerk fund
■	UAH 1000		Assistance to energy managers

Consulting services

■	UAH 77 800		NGO Center of Environmental Initiatives Ecoaction
■	UAH 28 784		NGO AGENCY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SYNERGY

Additionally

■	UAH 360 833,68		Exchange rate difference
■	UAH 2 354,96		Membership fees
■	UAH 258,64		Bank interest

TOTAL - UAH 13,903,133.24

COSTS

■	UAH 4 895 575,19	Salary
■	UAH 1 313 344,5	Consulting services
■	UAH 777 120,84	Preparation of research, analysis, climate energy plans for cities
■	UAH 715 823,07	Aid during the war
■	UAH 641 406,5	Organization and holding of events
■	UAH 471 637,29	Business trip
■	UAH 397 282,17	Information services, media support, design
■	UAH 361 266,5	Office and administrative expenses
■	UAH 348 309,09	Equipment
■	UAH 171 800	Legal services
■	UAH 152 250	Services of experts
■	UAH 89 349,04	Delivery of humanitarian aid
■	UAH 60 000	Charitable assistance
■	UAH 49 017,21	Banking services
■	UAH 32 100	Staff training
■	UAH 15 285	IT services
■	UAH 6 039,78	Exchange rate difference

TOTAL - UAH 10,497,606, 18

PARTNERS



HOW TO SUPPORT THE ECOCLUB

You can support Ecoclub in several ways:

1. [Subscribe](#) to the Ecoclub newsletter. In it, we inform about current news and events from the life of the organization, development opportunities.
2. [Subscribe](#) to Ecoclub's biweekly digest for Ukrainian municipalities working towards energy independence and adaptation to climate change.
3. [Become a member](#) or volunteer of the organization.

Ecoclub members – are people who support the goals and activities of the organization. They attend events, help in their organization, participate in the information distribution of materials, and can participate in the management of the organization.

By joining the activities of the Ecoclub, you become part of the changes in society. In particular, those that are designed to reduce the impact on the environment and act to preserve it. The presence of members of the organization strengthens its activities and helps to influence the acceleration of processes.

The opinion of the public and activists is especially important during a full-scale Russian war: the country is planning post-war reconstruction, so we must make every effort to make it green, barrier-free for all segments of the population and friendly to the environment. Ecoclub started working on this in 2022 and will continue to work in this direction. Learn how to [become a member](#) of our Ecoclub.

Each member of the organization:

- will receive a membership card and a branded souvenir;
- will receive an electronic newsletter with news, opportunities, useful materials and research;
- will have priority participation in Ecoclub events, contests, internships;
- will have access to office resources;
- will receive the possibility of consultations/recommendations and other support from Ecoclub experts.

You can also become a volunteer of the organization. We invite volunteers to Ecoclub events, participate in the preparation of street actions, eco-master classes, all-Ukrainian information tours, and also invite you to join our training sessions.

One of the options for supporting the Ecoclub is to make a charitable contribution. By supporting us financially, you will help to work on activities that do not involve the areas of work of the Ecoclub.



ecoclubrivne.org

