Energy consumption in Ukraine is extremely high compared with countries in the European Union. Smaller local authorities in particular suffer from the high energy costs that make up the second largest item of expenditure in the municipal budget after staffing. The high costs are due to antiquated supply systems and the dependence on expensive energy imports from other countries. This has led to a drastic increase in energy prices since 2015. In order to reduce energy consumption and, in turn, the cost, a fifth of all public buildings are due for energy upgrades by 2020. However, smaller towns and communities often lack the financial and human resources to carry out the necessary renovation measures. With no municipal energy managers, they lack the specialist knowledge to develop convincing project proposals that are eligible for funding or to produce sound databases for energy use in individual public buildings.

**Successful energy management in Ukrainian municipalities**

Small communities reduce their energy consumption in public buildings with the help of local energy service providers

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**The challenge:** Small towns with big problems

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**Project title:** Energy Efficiency in Municipalities II

**Commissioned by:** German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

**Implemented by:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

**Lead executing agency:** Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Housing and Communal Services of Ukraine

**Project area:** Ukraine

**Overall term:** 05/2017 to 04/2020

**Contact:** Gregor Broemling/Gregor.Broemling@giz.de

Successful energy management in Ukrainian municipalities

**Our approach:** Lower energy consumption and more effective service providers

GIZ has been commissioned by the German Government to help Ukrainian communities to save energy systematically and on a large scale. In a clear and transparent manner, GIZ demonstrates energy savings potential in the municipalities and, using comprehensible cost-benefit considerations, conveys the practical measures that can be implemented. Municipal staff discover more about the benefits of, options for and instruments of energy management through further training and advisory services. For example, they learn which applications and sectors use excessive energy and which technologies they can employ to restrict consumption. In addition to this technical know-how, GIZ also raises awareness of efficient energy use and teaches project management skills.

**In trainings, experts learn more about new methods of energy management**
Besides town councils, external service providers such as auditors and building engineers are also involved in the project. Training courses teach them how to carry out energy audits and retrofit projects to international standards – including planning, preparing and implementing the activities. With their improved services they can help municipalities to save energy and money. Local people benefit from upgraded public buildings, such as properly heated classrooms and community centres. At the same time, owing to the savings in energy costs, the municipalities can invest in alternative services – to the advantage of all residents.

Our results:
20 communities are just the beginning

GIZ is helping 20 small towns to develop their energy management systems. To achieve this, GIZ is strengthening external energy service providers: three-week courses developed by GIZ teach Ukrainian organisations, engineers, architects and energy auditors more about energy upgrading of buildings. In the first half of 2018, twelve pilot firms have already been successfully trained and are now themselves helping local authorities to save energy. In addition, these authorities can obtain grants for external services such as energy audits and the production of retrofit plans.

As part of the project, GIZ has established a regional network of experts and developed an online platform providing information on municipal energy management and the practical experiences of various towns. This benefits other municipalities and energy service providers as well as the 20 communities.

Svyatoslav Pavlyuk: “Small communities learn to use services properly”

Svyatoslav Pavlyuk, Executive Director of the association “Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine”, is very familiar with the activities of the “Energy Efficiency in Municipalities II” project and reports:

“The launch of this kind of project is very important for Ukraine. The project supports small municipalities, which so far have received insufficient attention from technical assistance programmes.

In addition, this project goes a step further by facilitating the development of new local markets – energy efficiency services providers, new local jobs, a new comfort level inside the buildings and reduced energy costs among the consumers. As a result, small towns will establish professional energy management systems and will learn how to properly use the services of the external local companies and entrepreneurs.”

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