

Strong cities. Strong Ukraine.

Sustainable urban development is delivering efficient investments and a better quality of life in Ukrainian cities



The challenge: areas of potential remain untapped

In recent years, the Ukrainian government has initiated numerous reforms in the areas of decentralisation and local self-government which have strengthened cities to take greater responsibility for tasks and resources. Nevertheless, urban service provision and infrastructure are often inadequate. To date, there is no national framework for integrated urban development that provides guidance for state and municipal actors. In addition, many Ukrainian cities have not yet succeeded in coordinating measures across urban areas, achieving consensus among stakeholders through participatory formats, or increasing the effectiveness of public funds by pooling resources. In order to address these challenges, Ukrainian cities increasingly want to make use of an approach that experts call “integrated urban development”. Plans that follow this strategy promote sustainable development, social balance and diversity in social. If this fails, enhanced cultural and structural quality and economic growth will prove extremely hard to come by.

Project name:	Integrated Urban Development in Ukraine II
Commissioning party:	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland
Implementing organisation:	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Lead executing agency:	Ministry for Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine (Minregion)
National partners:	City councils
Project area:	Lviv, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Kyiv/Podil, Poltava, Melitopol and Kharkiv
Overall term:	11/2019 – 10/2023
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Our approach: performing new tasks better

On behalf of the German government and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, the project is working to improve living conditions in the Ukrainian cities of Lviv, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Poltava, Kharkiv and Melitopol, as well as in Podil in Kyiv. Together with representatives of the cities, civil society, national institutions as well as national and international experts, GIZ is improving the conditions for a successful and integrated urban development policy.

Urban management and procedures are optimised by developing and using modern planning instruments such as *Integrated Urban Development Concepts (IUDCs)* or *Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs)*.



Cities and regions develop ideas for cooperation

Infrastructure projects and their financing are planned. Employees receive appropriate training and locals are being involved every step of the way. In Zhytomyr, for instance, the city's defining landmark – an old water tower – is being transformed into a lively community meeting-point. In Poltava, a new inclusive children's playground is reviving a neglected park and bringing new energy to the city. In Vinnytsia, the creation of traffic islands and other safety measures have helped to reduce road accidents by 70 percent in just one and a half years. A new tram line will help to create a modern urban space that combines leisure, living and working.

Through an urban learning network, experiences are shared, disseminated and fed into the national policy process.



Inclusive playground in Peremoga Park, Poltava

Our results: tens of thousands of people are getting involved

The project builds on the experiences and results of the predecessor project “Integrated Urban Development in Ukraine”, in which basic planning documents were prepared in six cities between 2016 and 2019. This led to six integrated urban development concepts being drawn up and adopted, from which four sustainable mobility plans and transport models were derived.

Since 2016, more than 2,100 employees from the partner cities have participated in the “Qualification 2030” training programme. Around 60,000 local people took part in public events and, together with the city, set development priorities which were laid down in Integrated Urban Development Concepts. Training and further training opportunities for urban planners have been improved – for instance, learning modules in urban development were developed together with the Technical University of Lübeck and are now offered to Master's students at the Technical Universities of Poltava and Chernivtsi. Two white papers with reform proposals and a concept for public administration in the field of urban planning activities were handed over to the partner ministry and form the basis for further improvements to the policy framework.



„Qualification 2030: New thinking. New acting“ in municipalities



Mykola Kostytsia: „A transformation in city management“

Mykola Kostytsia is Director of the Department of Economic Development of Zhytomyr City Council. He has been working with GIZ on the issue of urban development since early 2016 and describes what has changed since then:

„For me, the project “Integrated urban development in Ukraine II” is a transformation of consciousness, approaches and actions in city management. This is the most systematic project for the transformation of Ukrainian cities and people involved in this process, and so requires the engagement of many actors. The project brings to life modern European urban practices of management and participation process.“

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