Capital: Kyiv
Official language: Ukrainian
Area: 603,550 km² (2016)
Population: 45,004,645 (2016)
Density: 78 / km²
Independence: 1991
Form of government: Mixed parliamentary/presidential republic
Gross domestic product: 98,628,598,631 USD (2016)
TOGETHER FOR EUROPE! GIZ is working to support the reform process and the establishment of closer ties between Ukraine and the European Union.

Ukraine is a European country with a rich culture, fertile land and huge economic potential. Ukrainian citizens are very well educated and, with a growing IT sector, the country is an increasingly attractive location for innovative technologies.

More than 25 years after its independence the country still faces considerable challenges. But it is also taking advantage of tremendous opportunities.

The signing of the EU Association Agreement laid an important cornerstone for a bright and promising European future. Our aim is to support Ukraine as it moves forward.

GIZ has been working on behalf of the German Government, the European Union and governments of other European countries since 1993 to support Ukraine’s reform efforts and the process of convergence with the EU. This close cooperation has intensified over time, especially since the Revolution of Dignity in 2014. The political and economic problems created by armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine dramatically destabilised the country. We have continued supporting our Ukrainian partners throughout with our friendship and with substantial investment funds from the German Government. This enabled us to come up with tailored solutions immediately following the upheaval which strengthened our partners’ trust in us by demonstrating that we represent stability and are building long-term structures in the country. We focus on decentralisation, strengthening civil society and public administration, energy efficiency and sustainable economic development. We are also helping the Ukrainian Government to manage the crisis in the eastern part of the country.

We are working together to create opportunities for the future and to support social change in Ukraine. Ultimately, a stable, vibrant and economically strong Ukraine will also be a dynamic partner in a common Europe.

SABINE MÜLLER
GIZ Office Ukraine, Belarus Regional Director
WORKING TOGETHER WORLDWIDE

As a provider of international cooperation services for sustainable development and international education work, we are dedicated to building a future worth living around the world. GIZ has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment, energy and the environment, and peace and security. The diverse expertise of our federal enterprise is in demand around the globe, with the German Government, European Union institutions, the United Nations, the private sector and governments of other countries all benefiting from our services. We work with businesses, civil society actors and research institutions, fostering successful interaction between development policy and other policy fields and areas of activity. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is our main commissioning party.

All these commissioning parties and cooperation partners place their trust in GIZ by working together with us to generate ideas for political, social and economic change, develop these into concrete plans and implement the envisaged change processes. Since we are a public-benefit federal enterprise, German and European values are central to our work. We work with our partners in national governments worldwide and with cooperation partners from the private sector, academia and civil society to deliver flexible and effective solutions that offer people better prospects and sustainably improve their living conditions.

The registered offices of GIZ are in Bonn and Eschborn. In 2016 our business volume was around EUR 2.4 billion. Of our 18,260 employees in some 120 countries, almost 70 per cent are national personnel working in the field. In our capacity as a recognized sending organisation, we currently have 643 development workers in action in partner countries. In addition, the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM), a joint operation of GIZ and the Federal Employment Agency, placed 847 integrated and returning experts with local employers abroad in 2016 while providing them with financial support and advisory services.*

* Figures as at 31.12.2016
GIZ AROUND THE WORLD

- **18,260** employees worldwide
  - **12,605** national personnel

- **2.4** billion
  - Volume of business around
  - Of which EUR 149 million
  - Operations in Germany and some countries around the world
  - EUR 315 million from commissions awarded by German public sector clients
  - Total business volume of the GIZ International Services Business Area

As at: 30 April 2017
GIZ IN UKRAINE

GIZ has been working on behalf of the German Government since 1993 to support Ukraine’s transition process. The current priorities of German-Ukrainian cooperation are:

- Good governance
- Energy efficiency
- Sustainable economic development

Cooperation work outside these priority areas includes HIV/AIDS prevention and the effective long-term management of the situation in the east of the country, which focuses on strengthening the capacities of local communities hosting internally displaced people.

At present, GIZ in Ukraine operates on behalf of five German Federal Ministries. Additionally, we work for:

- The European Union (EU)
- The UK Aid from the UK Government
- The Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

Together with our partners, we are promoting EU approximation and the reform process in Ukraine. We also contribute our experience with German business and administrative bodies. We plan and implement projects together with our Ukrainian partners. In this way we are able to combine the strengths of our different partners.

GIZ in Ukraine currently employs more than 300 national and international staff at around 20 locations. There are also 30 integrated and returning experts operating directly in Ukrainian governmental bodies and in the country’s chambers of commerce and industry, universities and NGOs, from where they liaise closely with our projects. Flexibility in the use of experts is one of our major strengths.

*Personnel figures in Ukraine: as at 30.10.2017*
Together with our Ukrainian partners and on behalf of the German Government, we are supporting the transformation process in the country.
We help policy-makers translate their objectives into practice – to make change work
Hennadii Zubko,  
Deputy Prime Minister

Local government reform and decentralisation are of major strategic importance for Ukraine. Fundamental changes are approximating the country’s administrative system to European standards and principles of social organisation. Reform has already borne fruit. The U-LEAD with Europe programme is bringing about positive changes in local authorities throughout the country. These changes are establishing new benchmarks for the quality of economic relationships, services and quality of life.

More than 200 citizens’ service offices have opened throughout the country

Advice on the drafting of a court of auditors law based on international standards and on the setting up of the anti-corruption office

Analysis of the national public finance system to place local authority finances on a sound footing

Building and supporting the PROZORRO online procurement system. Transparent tender award decisions using PROZORRO have already saved the state around €1 billion. The system won the World Procurement Award in 2016.

Over 1,500 local authority employees have participated in initial and continuing professional development and training

More than 100,000 citizens are taking active part in planning the future of their communities

Since the Revolution of Dignity, Ukraine has faced the huge challenge of restoring citizens’ trust in public institutions. The government has created the necessary framework by adopting legal and administrative reforms and by ratifying the Association Agreement with the EU in September 2014 which was endorsed by Member States in the summer of 2017. Stabilisation of public finances, the decentralisation and strengthening of local authorities have the highest priority. GIZ works on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support the Ukrainian Government in its efforts to implement the requisite reforms. Together with our clients, partners and citizens in cities and municipalities we aim to turn the country’s cities and municipalities into growth centres for an economically and democratically strong Ukraine.

The pace of change remains slow in many places not least due to high levels of corruption. However, our partners’ will to reform is strong and the country’s young civil society is committed, diverse and resourceful.

Together with established partners, such as the Ministry of Regional Development, the Ministry of Finance or the National Bank of Ukraine, we also support transparency initiatives and data platforms. In this way we reinforce accountability and contribute to the implementation of international and European standards. All our activities in the fields of democracy, civil society, public administration and decentralisation come under the sector of “good governance”. Our projects are implemented at all levels of government. Our aim is to establish robustly democratic, confident and economically strong cities and municipalities.

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YURIJ MYKOLAISCHYN used to work on German construction sites; now he is passionate about his job as a restorer. Rusty old iron railings and wooden doors found by the 49-year-old among household trash or on the Internet are scattered around his big yard in the city of Lviv in western Ukraine. He and his team give all these objects a new lease of life – with sand blasters, paint and varnish. Since 2011 the GIZ has also lent its support.

Mykolaischyn is a trained metalworker and one of 550 tradespeople who have undergone practical training to qualify as professional restorers. Mykolaischyn found out about the GIZ training on the Internet. He still thinks he was “really lucky” to get such “great training”. “After being trained by experts from Germany, more and more public and private customers have been approaching me,” says Mykolaischyn. With colleagues from other fields of work he has now set up a company and taken on six employees. As a result, Mykolaischyn – once a migrant himself – can now contribute to the economic stabilisation of the region, both as employer and taxpayer.

Family man Mykolaischyn has in fact been working as a restorer since 2004. Balconies, front doors or roof railings and much more – there’s more than enough work to do in Lviv. Work needs to be done on around three quarters of the cultural monuments in the old city. Mykolaischyn now understands what was wrong in the past: “We simply restored everything. In most cases, we simply guessed what kind of technique and material should be used.”
A door from the early 20th century is leaning on the workshop wall. Mykolaischyn takes a painstakingly meticulous approach to restoration. He begins by removing the object and assessing the damage. Then he has to think further: “What colour was the door originally? Over the centuries, things may have accumulated up to seven coats of paint,” says Mykolaischyn. Getting back to the original colour can sometimes mean taking out a black door and putting a green one back in. He strips the paint off coat for coat with a heat gun and treats the surface with a sand blaster before finally zinc coating it against corrosion. After restoring any original decorative features, he applies an undercoat and finish before mounting the door again.

Mykolaischyn has restored around 50 doors in Lviv’s historic centre. About 20 of these were paid for from the funding programmes for restoration set up by Lviv City Administration and GIZ. Their aim is to motivate home owners to participate financially in rehabilitation projects. At the same time, inhabitants learn about the cultural heritage which can be found all around them in Lviv.

What about leaving Lviv to earn more money abroad? Inconceivable for Mykolaischyn now.

But there is another reason as well: Yurij Mykolaischyn has always painted. Many years ago, he wanted to study art, to captivate others with his work. Instead he became an engineer.

But now his dream has finally come true. Strolling past the numerous enotecas and street musicians in Lviv’s lively old city the observant visitor will find Mykolaischyns artwork everywhere. The door of the public prosecutor’s office and the municipal polyclinic. The baroque balcony at number 10 Market Square. He is currently working on one of the gilded elements on the Church of St Nicolas, one of the oldest churches in the city. “I achieve lasting results,” says Mykolaischyn. And that’s what he likes best about his work.
ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Sustainability is our core business
Ukrainian energy consumption is three to four times higher than the EU average and many buildings are in a bad state of repair with poor energy performance. They are particularly uncomfortable in the winter. The systems for supplying heat, hot water and electricity are technically obsolete and Ukraine meet the lion’s share of its needs from imports. Imports of Russian gas have been the cause of recurrent serious political crises in the past and are a source of major economic and political dependency.

Affordable and reliable sources of energy are therefore one of the government’s top priorities. There is enormous potential for improving energy efficiency. If Ukraine were to reduce its consumption of energy to average European levels, it would be able to do without a big portion of the energy it currently imports. On behalf of the German Government, we are currently helping the Ukrainian Government to implement energy-efficiency reforms and the European Energy Efficiency Directive. We are advising our Ukrainian partners in the public and private sectors and helping them to introduce professional energy management. We also provide support for sustainable building and refurbishment and the application of modern and environmentally-friendly technologies. This will enable partners to make much more efficient use of energy. Ukraine will be able to develop positively if it makes more efficient use of energy and achieves greater political stability.

Countries with highest energy intensity

- Russia 0.326
- Ukraine 0.318
- Uzbekistan 0.262
- South Africa 0.239
- Taiwan 0.220
- Kazakhstan 0.209
- Iran 0.206
- Canada 0.197
- China 0.179
- South Korea 0.170
- Venezuela 0.169
- New Zealand 0.162

Establishment of the first regional energy agency in Ukraine

- 72 cities have joined the “Energy-efficient cities in Ukraine” association

Most partners have also joined the European “Covenant of Mayors” and have pledged to reduce CO₂ emissions by at least 20% by 2020

- Since the introduction of energy monitoring in Zhytomyr in 2014, the city’s heat requirements have fallen by around 10% every year

- The introduction of the energy monitoring system in Dnipro has reduced annual energy costs by over 14,000,000 UAH

- To date energy efficiency measures have created around 1,500 jobs
NATALYA BOYKO is director of the Luhansk regional office of Ukraine’s Town and City Association – and her story sounds a bit like a modern Donna Quixote tilting at windmills. Like so many other people, Boyko fled in 2014 from armed conflict in her home city of Luhansk to neighbouring Sievierodonezk, which is where she works today. She had to start all over and rebuild her life from scratch bringing with her only what fitted in a small suitcase. But Boyko refused to be discouraged. Working with the partners from the regional and city administration, she is now implementing the resolutions of the “Covenant of Mayors” and is working on innovative energy projects in the whole region. Conditions are extremely difficult: houses and streets have been destroyed and everyday life has come to a standstill. The fragile security situation and permanent fear of being forcibly displaced mean that the people living close to the occupied territories are no longer renovating their homes and are consequently well below the national average. Nonetheless, Boyko is confident and grateful for support from Germany.

The conflict will come to an end one day. The most important thing we can do now is to raise people’s awareness of energy issues.

Boyko wants citizens to know about the options they have and how much each individual can do. She works with home owner associations and holds conferences; she initiates training courses and workshops and works with schools in parts of the Luhansk Region under Ukrainian administration. She is particularly proud of the energy efficiency weeks which she organises every year and in which she and her team have been able to involve thousands of participants. Being able to reach so many people in such difficult times gives Natalya Boyko the strength to carry on.
ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Energy efficiency is the key to an independent and economically strong Eastern Ukraine.

Once this difficult period is over, Boyko, her team and the people she reaches every day will not only have the strength of will but also the expertise to work together to reconstruct the region.
Local companies operating in the fields of energy efficiency, energy management and environmental certification have been working very much in isolation for a long time. Now, finally, they are able to exchange information and ideas with each other. As a result, they have developed into strong partners for regional business and can now provide much better advice on energy issues.
The structural problems of the Ukrainian economy have become more apparent since the economic and financial crisis. Most of the country’s industry struggles to compete at international level. Production facilities are outdated and productivity is low. Most exports are still agricultural or industrial commodities, such as wheat or crude steel. Ukraine also has one of the most resource and energy-intensive economies in the world. Very little importance was attached to small and medium-sized enterprises in the past. The government looked mainly to large companies in heavy industries such as steel and chemicals to drive the economy. The conflict in the eastern part of the country, which is at the heart of Ukraine’s industry, has exacerbated these problems even further. The EU Association Agreement, however, requires Ukraine to turn its economy round, to use resources ecologically and responsibly and to go a long way towards approximating its commercial regulations and standards to EU standards. This is a prerequisite for a deeper and more comprehensive free trade area.

GIZ is able to draw on the profound and proven expertise it has built up over many years to advise ministries on the development and implementation of sustainable economic strategies and to support our partners’ reform efforts. Our common objective is the sustainable modernisation of the economy, to enhance energy efficiency and to reduce dependency on energy imports to make Ukraine internationally competitive and successful in new markets. It will only be possible to guarantee long-term stability in the European area if Ukraine is economically strong and has a well-educated and trained population. This is why our bespoke solutions are not focused at the government level alone – we also promote specific programmes of individual continuing professional development. Good examples are the Manager Training Programme “Fit for Partnership with Germany” initiated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi), the Internship programme of German business for Ukrainian graduates and students and the programme to qualify internally displaced people from the east of the country for the labour market.

On behalf of the German Government, GIZ helps ministries to develop concepts and strategies for sustainable economic development.

- So far 1,200 young professionals and executives have taken part in the Manager Training Programme “Fit for Partnership with Germany”
- 75 students have completed placements in a total of 47 German companies
- National strategy for the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) completed
- National strategy for waste management developed
- Cooperation agreements for development partnerships concluded with four Ukrainian SMEs
OLEXANDER POPOWITSCH is the owner of the printing company UNISOFT in Kharkiv. He completed the Manager Training Programme “Fit for Partnership with Germany” in 2014. Success came very quickly afterwards. In fact, he signed the first contract with a German publishing company in the same year.

We were so pleased when customs duties were abolished and we were sure that this would be enough on its own to break into new markets. But that wasn’t the case. We realised very quickly that we weren’t getting anywhere and that there were big differences in the structure of businesses in Germany and Ukraine. I took part in the Manager Training Programme in Germany in late 2014 with the specific aim of bridging these differences. The most important thing I learned was that while prices are everything in Ukraine, in Germany it’s professional presentation and clear communication that counts. So, the first thing I did then was to change the way I presented the company. The website is now multilingual and is regularly updated. My employees have free English tuition once a week during their working hours. The sales managers who negotiate with German publishers are also taught German. The reason for this is that, although everyone speaks English in Germany, successful selling depends on being able to communicate in the buyer’s own language.
ANNA VAVENKO undertook a placement in controlling with LEONI Bordnetz-Systeme GmbH in Kitzingen.

"I was able to pick up more expertise during my placement with LEONI a year ago. In accounting and reporting, for example, combined with highly practical SAP work. But above all, I discovered that working in the financial sector is just the right thing for me. When I arrived back, I was offered an accounting job with Philip Morris in Ukraine. That was almost certainly due to the experience I had gained from my placement in Germany. I can put a lot of what I learned there into practice here. And I’m very grateful for that."

KIRILL BRAGA did a placement in the marketing department of agricultural equipment manufacturer John Deere in Mannheim.

"The ‘Internship programme of German business for Ukraine’ is a great opportunity for students and graduates. I did a placement in the marketing department of John Deere. My work included coordinating various marketing agencies which were producing advertising material for the company. I am now a regional sales manager for OSCAR Production Group, a large Ukrainian firm, where I am responsible for the Asia region. The experience I gained from my placement has really boosted my confidence in working in an international setting and dealing with international colleagues."

President Poroshenko wishing the participants in the internship programme success and emphasising how important committed experts are for the future of Ukraine.
Overcoming the effects of conflict and building a future together – these are the objectives towards which we contribute in Eastern Ukraine on behalf of the German Government. Our focus is on strengthening communities and public infrastructure, improving emergency management and providing psychosocial support.
The conflict in Eastern Ukraine has forced 1.6 million people to leave their homes. Many of them have moved to other areas – for example to the regions of Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhya, where approximately 350,000 internally displaced people have settled. This poses great challenges for the host communities. There is not enough accommodation available and local authorities do not have the capacity to provide internally displaced people with humanitarian goods and social services. The sudden influx of such large numbers of people means that life in the community needs to be renegotiated. Local residents have to come to terms with changes in their environment and internally displaced people have to find their place in the existing community. In addition, many need to find ways of dealing with traumatic experiences they made when being forced to leave their home.

The complexity of the challenges facing institutions and municipalities in Eastern Ukraine is reflected in the scope of our activities.

Most of these are carried out by GIZ as transitional aid provided on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

GIZ works, for example, with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society to improve the management of emergencies. We refurbish hospitals, homes for the elderly, schools and kindergartens and help municipalities offer their citizens more efficient services. We support non-governmental organisations providing psychosocial support for internally displaced people, helping them cope with their traumatic experiences. And local residents and internally displaced people meet and share experiences at sports and cultural events funded by GIZ.

The range of our activities is broad, but they share one objective: to provide municipalities, institutions and people in Eastern Ukraine with the knowledge and resources to overcome the effects of the conflict. And to help them build together a future that is worthwhile for everybody.

Pervomaiskyi has almost 40,000 inhabitants and has welcomed 1,400 internally displaced people into their community. It provides a good example of how GIZ's activities interlink with and complement activities that the partner city has initiated on their own. KATERINA and RUSLAN OSTAPENKO are very pleased with the results. In 2014, they had to leave their home in Lubansk so quickly that the wallpaper roller still lies on the kitchen table where they left it on that day. For two years, they were constantly on the move. In 2016, they came to Pervomaiskyi, where they have since found a new home. Ruslan Ostapenko works in a bakery and their eldest daughter visits the newly modernised kindergarten, where she has already made many friends.

When Katerina and Ruslan Ostapenko require a service or support by the city, they go to the new administrative service centre. The centre is completely barrier free; an electronic queuing system reduces waiting times and open rooms and glass doors ensure transparency. All of this was initiated by the city of Pervomaiskyi itself; GIZ contributed IT equipment and software.

"WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO HAVE FOUND A NEW HOME IN PERVERMAISKYI."
Other ways we help prevent conflict between the local population and internally displaced people: for example, we provide support for places where they can meet and get to know each other. One of these is the Palace of Culture in Pervomaiskyi. Here, up to 500 events are held annually in which internally displaced people and the local population participate. GIZ provided a new sound system for the Palace of Culture. Previously, this had to be borrowed at significant cost from Kharkiv, which is 200 km away.

The sound quality is so good that well-known artists now play concerts in Pervomaiskyi. Some people travel all the way from Kyiv to attend these events.

The new chairs have rollers and can be adjusted in height. This means that should there be complications during delivery, doctors can easily and quickly move the expectant mother to the operating theatre.

Schools and kindergartens in Pervomaiskyi were also modernised by GIZ. The picture on the right hand shows one of the secondary schools. GIZ renovated the roof, insulated walls and replaced the windows. A new heating system was also installed. Altogether, this will save around €10,000 annually in energy costs – money that can now be used for other purposes. In addition, GIZ procured new school furniture and modern school boards. Most of the old tables and chairs had been in use since the school opened back in 1966.

In the past, parents had to pay themselves for anything that needed to be renewed or replaced in the school. This caused discontent because since 2014 local parents had to cover the costs also for the children of the internally displaced people.

"The new equipment purchased by GIZ is one very specific way of preventing conflict."
Later on, she worked with people who had participated in GIZ’s youth leader training. Together, they developed the idea for the youth centre.

None of these activities would have been possible without the ideas and the initiative of the people living in Pervomaiskyi. This is why GIZ organises training courses in which people like TETIANA ZAHVATOVA and JEWGENIY KOZYREV learn the skills they need to implement their ideas.

Jewgeniy Kozyrev works for a local non-governmental organisation and has completed the youth leader training. He and fellow participants run the ‘Komora’ youth centre which is supported by the city of Pervomaiskyi and by GIZ.

The city of Pervomaiskyi has provided the youth centre with a communal piece of land on which they can start an urban gardening project.

The city of Pervomaiskyi provides a good example of how GIZ supports municipalities and the people living there in dealing with the effects of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine. An additionally important part of our activities is to strengthen the institutions responsible for protecting the population in emergencies such as fires or accidents but also humanitarian crises. In Kyiv and in Eastern Ukraine we provide equipment and training to firefighters and emergency response teams of our partners, the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.

FINALLY, WE HAVE SOMEWHERE WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM PERVOMAISKYI CAN COME TOGETHER AND EXCHANGE IDEAS.

TOGETHER WITH INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE, WE ARE LITERALLY PLANTING THE FUTURE.

127 DSNS units in 90 cities have been provided with new equipment: protective clothing, breathing protection masks, ambulances, fire extinguishing foam, hydraulic rescue equipment, generators

500 rescue workers are trained in handling the new equipment

Numerous dog handlers were trained in the recovery of injured people

The number of casualties and deaths has fallen by almost a quarter since the project began
HIV/AIDS ADVISORY SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Don’t give AIDS a chance!
The spread of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a serious challenge for Ukraine. The country is affected by one of the fastest-growing epidemics in Europe. More than 220,000 people, or 0.9% of the population between the ages of 15 and 49, are living with HIV. According to official statistics, on average 57 people are diagnosed with HIV, 27 develop AIDS and 20 people die of AIDS-related diseases every day. However, these figures probably do not give the full picture.

The virus is spread by unprotected sex and the sharing of needles used to inject drugs. People who are unable to fully appreciate the risk of infection are most at risk.

Working together with strong partners such as the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, the public health department and UNAIDS we run training courses and design posters and media campaigns to inform people in Ukraine about the dangers of HIV and ways of protecting oneself against it. The good news is that the number of new infections among young people under 30 is falling and society's tolerance for people who are living with HIV has improved.

Irina Soloshenko, teacher from Dnipro

“Before I took part in the interactive GIZ training in Kyiv, I found it difficult to talk to students in health sciences classes about HIV/AIDS. The ‘Join-in Circuit’, to take one example, is a really big help. It not only enables me to pass on the new knowledge I’ve gained about HIV prevention and managing AIDS to students, but also to their parents and other teachers.”

- The “Don’t give AIDS a Chance”! Campaign has already reached 39% of Ukrainians
- 17,400 billboards on HIV prevention have been published
- Training courses and workshops on HIV prevention and continuing professional development of around 10,000 teaching personnel in the Dnipro and Saporischshja regions have already been held at around 1,000 educational institutions
- 15% more requests for HIV tests and counselling have been received since training began in the target region
- Over 2,000 general practitioners have been trained in early diagnosis of and counselling for HIV/AIDS illnesses
- 13,000 children and 830 parents have taken part in the preventive “Fair Play” football programme. We also support the Respublica Music Festival (100,000 guests)
CIM –
ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM – www.cimonline.de) is a joint operation of GIZ and the German Federal Employment Agency. The CIM places managers and technical experts in positions in developing and emerging countries. The experts, whose salaries are topped up by the German Government, work directly for a local employer in the partner country. This means that they are directly integrated in the employer’s structures where they are able to contribute the expertise they have developed over many years and to build specific capacities. The idea is to bring the right people to the right place. The CIM supports the placement of integrated experts by recruiting experts from Germany and other EU Member States. The CIM also supports returning experts from developing and emerging countries who have been trained in Germany and are now returning to their countries of origin.

15 RETURNING EXPERTS AND 20 INTEGRATED EXPERTS ARE CURRENTLY WORKING IN UKRAINE. THEY ARE WORKING DIRECTLY IN THE UKRAINIAN ADMINISTRATION, IN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND UNIVERSITIES OR WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs). THEY ARE CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH OUR PROJECTS.
As a CIM expert I learn something new in my job every day. Incredibly, many reforms have still not been implemented in Ukraine or are only just beginning. Many decisions are taken hidden from the public gaze. Nonetheless, it is still possible to apply a great deal of what I have learned in Europe here in my job as an urban planner. In Leipzig, for example, I worked with associations of home owners who wished to develop their own houses and neighbourhoods as they saw fit. This participative approach is new in Ukraine, but since the rights and obligations of home owners have been strengthened it is now essential to include them in planning.

In this respect, as an independent, competent and responsive organisation, the City Institute is just the right employer. The Institute is also a partner to one of the projects on local authority development and the rehabilitation of historic centres being carried out by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and this is also helpful for our work.

I am particularly proud of our “Streets for Everyone” project. The project encourages all stakeholders – residents, shopkeepers or government representatives – to give their street a facelift.

Not only did we acquire additional funding to do this, it is also a good example of participative planning. I am confident that we will be able to work with all stakeholders to renew more neighbourhoods in the future.

As an integrated expert I can contribute my know-how and the experience I have acquired in the European context. On the other hand, my colleagues have a better understanding of how things work here in Ukraine. In combination this makes for a strong team which can produce lastingly successful solutions.

We were hoping for three things in particular when we applied for an integrated expert: knowledge transfer, strengthening of our capacities and support with fundraising. Stefan does that and a great deal more besides:

Stefan has brought a breath of fresh air to our Institute. He approaches challenges with a completely open mind.

As an employer, we can only benefit from the experience which Stefan has acquired in Leipzig and Romania. Just take the example of the “Streets for Everyone” project. We had never really done anything quite like it before and we had very little previous experience with participative approaches. In that respect, we were lucky to have Stefan. He held workshops and initiated informal exchange platforms over a period of one and a half years. And as if that was not enough, he also initiated several study tours to Leipzig where he could point out things that had already worked there and that might therefore also work in Lviv. Stefan leads results-oriented discussions in a partnership of equals with all stakeholders. This provides us with real added value as dialogue on equal terms with citizens is unfortunately not very common in Ukraine.

Stefan also has an unbelievably big network in the field of town planning. For example, if we need an expert who knows exactly how wide a pavement needs to be or how long traffic lights needs to be switched to red, then you can be sure Stefan will know where to find them. Stefan builds bridges between the right people and implements strategies in Lviv which have already been successful in other European cities. The results we have achieved in the City Institute have been so successful that we have already been approached by other institutes which are so impressed by our results that they would also like to use international experts. In other words, the programme has not only been successful in the Institute itself, but has made a deep impression further afield.
MARYNA RABINOVYCH, 24, studied jurisprudence in Odessa and Hamburg and is now working for the Ukrainian non-governmental organisation “Association of Journalists, European Alternative”

The world of international cooperation opened up for me in Germany. It was important to see my own country from an outside perspective and through the glasses of development policy in order to understand how I could contribute to moving things on.

The job found by CIM allows me to do some really exciting work in a secure position for fair pay. I can also put the things I learned in Germany to very specific use in Ukraine. At the moment I’m working for the “Association of Journalists, European Alternative” NGO in my home town of Odessa. We focus on promoting tourism, but we also launch intercultural initiatives for young people and hold training courses for journalists and student journalists in democracy and press freedom.

The best thing I have experienced was a three-month stay in Greece where I was involved in the Black Sea Cooperation. My experience in EU project management and the knowledge acquired from my degree in European law are useful in the work we are engaged in with EU projects in Odessa. I am also able to use the cooperation analysis and network development tools I learned during a GIZ placement every day.

BY IMPLEMENTING THESE PROJECTS, I CAN NOW MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PART OF ODESSA. I HOPE THAT THE EXPERIENCE I AM GAINING FROM THIS WORK WILL ENABLE ME TO HELP DEVELOP THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION SECTOR THROUGHOUT UKRAINE AS A WHOLE.

I have never regretted my decision to return to Ukraine. The feeling that I can make real changes happen renews my motivation every day.

VICTOR AKSANIUK, Director of the Ukrainian non-governmental organisation “Association of Journalists, European Alternative”

The Migration for Development Programme by CIM and the support it provides to returning experts is of great value for us. Maryna is able to liaise on a day-to-day basis between Ukrainian NGOs and government representatives, on the one hand, and partners from Germany, on the other.

Her experience in EU project management and European law help us to acquire EU funding for future projects and to evaluate completed projects. For example, she wrote the report on a three-year EU project on cross-border cooperation entirely on her own, despite not even being involved at the beginning of the project.

She also learned a great deal during her time in Germany. Our applications have become more professional and precise as a result. At the moment, we are planning a project intended to improve networking between NGOs with a tourism focus in the Black Sea area. Maryna’s work is so valuable for us in this context because she works so professionally.

She analyses the cooperation potential of each of the partners and examines the benefits which a network could offer. Her structured analyses have saved us many problems which would definitely have occurred later without such an evaluation in the early networking phase. Thanks to Maryna’s expertise we are now able to choose partners much more carefully and to build up long-term business relationships.

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GIZ UKRAINE AND THE SDGs

An environmentally sound global economy with decent working conditions for all, and a society free from hunger, poverty and inequality – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is certainly the most ambitious undertaking the international community has ever embarked on. The Agenda revolves around 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a total of 169 targets. The SDGs are based on the following five overarching principles that make the 2030 Agenda truly innovative:

Universally applicable

To achieve sustainable development, every country needs to develop or change. The 2030 Agenda therefore applies universally to all countries of the world – developing countries, emerging economies and industrialised nations alike.

Leave no one behind

All human beings should be able to lead a decent life free from hunger and poverty. In the future, no one should be left behind or excluded from social development.

Integrated goals

The SDGs are by definition integrated and indivisible, and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

Shared responsibility

The Agenda aims through partnerships to preserve the world’s vital natural resources and promote prosperity and peace. Governments, business, civil society groups, citizens, and the scientific and academic community will all play their part in this.

Accountability

Implementation of the Agenda will be reviewed at the national, regional and global levels. Regular progress reports will be published.
GIZ AND THE SDGs

Some eighteen months after the 2030 Agenda was adopted, implementation is in full swing around the world. GIZ’s orientation towards international cooperation for sustainable development means the company is very closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda and is helping achieve its SDGs. This includes supporting BMZ and other German Federal Ministries in implementing the 2030 Agenda in developing countries, emerging economies and industrialised nations – and delivering results. GIZ can also operate on behalf of other clients and co-financiers to implement the 2030 Agenda.

SDGs IN UKRAINE

The Ukrainian Government committed to adjust the Agenda 2030 and its SDGs to the national context. To meet the SDGs on the national level the government will launch new programmes and projects which will contribute to macro-economic stability, environmental balance and social cohesion. The SDGs will be a common ground for further reforms in Ukraine, as confirmed by President Petro Poroshenko at the Sustainable Development Summit in 2015. The Agenda 2030 for sustainable development came into force on 1 January 2016. Since then the Ukrainian Government, and the Ministry for Economic Development in particular, has been working on the implementation of the sustainability goals. For the preparation of the national report – benchmark for Ukraine’s development till 2030 – national and regional consultations were held to discuss the SDGs and to adapt them to the Ukrainian context. The “Programme to Support the Green Modernisation of the Ukrainian Economy”, implemented by GIZ, supported the Ministry in terms of the organisation of the regional consultations. This was carried out in cooperation with the United Nations in Ukraine, particularly the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Through the abovementioned project GIZ also contributed to the identification and definition of selected indicators. Ukrainian ministries which are actively involved in the implementation of the Agenda 2030 had the chance to familiarise themselves with the status of implementation in Germany during a business trip in October 2016.

In the future GIZ Ukraine will thematically take into account the SDGs in all its projects and support Ukraine on its way to sustainable development which leaves no one behind.
As at July 2017

Capital: Kyiv
Official language: Ukrainian
Area: 603,550 km² (2016)
Population: 45,004,645 (2016)
Density: 78 / km²
Independence: 1991
Form of government: Mixed parliamentary/presidential republic
Gross domestic product: 38.628.598.631 USD (2016)
Together for Europe

GIZ in Ukraine

Ми організовуємо тренінги з енергоефективності