

# Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Transport



UNEP, together with WWF-Ukraine, and Ukrainian ministries, has launched a GEF-funded project to integrate biodiversity conservation into Ukraine's transportation infrastructure planning. A part of the global GRID IP program, this initiative focuses on the Kyiv-Chop highway (M06). The project, set for GEF approval in November 2024, aims to improve policies, demonstrate integrated planning, and manage knowledge for sustainable infrastructure development. By balancing infrastructure needs with biodiversity conservation, this project contributes to Ukraine's sustainable development and environmental protection efforts.

## Institutional support and capacity building

UNEP has been providing institution and capacity support to Ukraine to respond and recover from the environmental impacts of the ongoing conflict. UNEP's support includes in-person training on contaminated site assessment for Inspectorate and the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection; Online training on remote environmental assessment; and data collection for the SEI and other governmental and non-governmental officials; and an in-person training on soil and water sampling for officials from the Institute of Climate Smart Agriculture of the National Agrarian Academy of Science of Ukraine and the Ministry of Defense.

## The Carpathian Convention



The Carpathian Convention, supported by UNEP, is focusing on Ukraine's green recovery and addressing war-related environmental models. At the seventh Conference in 2023, members adopted a biodiversity framework and mandated cooperation with Ukraine. Ukraine will host the next conference in 2026 and lead the Convention for three years. Key initiatives include a GEF-funded project to enhance Ukraine's protected areas network and sustainable forest management, and a proposed "Carpathian Peace Natural Park" with Romania. Ukrainian experts actively participate in regional networks, contributing to the Carpathians' sustainable development and climate resilience.



# UNEP SUPPORTING THE GREEN RECOVERY IN UKRAINE

At the request of the Government Of Ukraine, UNEP is actively supporting the country's environmental assessment in response of the current ongoing war.

Working closely with the Ukrainian government and international partners, UNEP is addressing critical issues ranging from war-related environmental assessment to sustainable infrastructure development and green energy solutions.

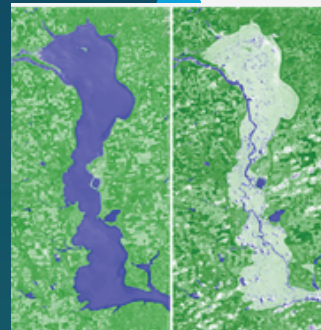
Through these efforts, UNEP aims to ensure that Ukraine's reconstruction aligns with global Environmental goals, enhances resilience, and paves the way for sustainable and prosperous future.

Our supporters:



## Kakhovka Dam Breach Sediment Investigation

UNEP, funded by Japan, Czechia, and the USA, is collaborating with the NICOLE Foundation and the Institute of Climate Smart Agriculture of Ukraine's National Agrarian Academy of Science to assess potential pollution risks in the former Kakhovka lakebed following the June 2023 dam breach. The project aims to reduce risks to the population and propose Nature-based remediation. solutions. We are analyzing the soil of the former lakebed to confirm safety for people, agriculture or wildlife.



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## The Platform of Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine

The Platform for Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine, initiated by UNEP, UNECE and CECD, and in partnership with and financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature, Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, supporting Ukraine's post-war recovery in line with green economy principles and EU standards. It aims to define and implement a green recovery strategy, mobilize expertise and funding, and promote a science-based, net-zero development trajectory. The Platform will serve as a forum for stakeholders to identify priorities, coordinate activities, and agree on a strategic vision for Ukraine's sustainable future.



## Sustainable Wastewater Management

In partnership with UNEP-DHI Centre on Water and Environment in Copenhagen, UNEP is assessing the current state of wastewater treatment in selected cities of Ukraine, identifying challenges and opportunities for sustainable solutions post-war. This effort also aims to support the absorption of the EU Ukraine facility fund which has a budget line for investments in this field to be implemented by EBRD and EIB.



## Unlocking short and long-term solutions for green and resilient energy in Ukrainian cities.

With financial support from Italy, UNEP in partnership with IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) will look at unlocking short and long-term solutions for district energy through the progressive implementation of smart, modernized and integrated energy systems at the urban level. This responds to the energy crisis currently faced by Ukraine but will also look at long term solutions for a sustainable and resilient energy system.



## Establishment of EPA

- The World Bank's RDNA recommends establishing a national environmental protection agency in Ukraine. To support this, UNEP and the Austrian government facilitated a Ukrainian delegation's visit to Vienna, showcasing the Austrian Umweltbundesamt's role in environmental monitoring and EU collaboration. This initiative aims to enhance Ukraine's environmental protection and sustainable reconstruction efforts.



## Asbestos-Containing Debris Management

- UNEP, with political support from the EU and Japan, and in collaboration with GRID-Arendal, has started an analysis of asbestos in debris, which has important public health consequences. It is estimated that 70% of buildings in Ukraine have asbestos and that a significant amount of debris may therefore contain asbestos which needs to be treated carefully.

