

Good practice and opportunities for further cooperation of Ukrainian and German municipalities



BMZ – Cooperation projects with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Just and Green Urban Recovery Accelerator

Objective:

Ukraine is promoting the socially just, climate-friendly and resilient reconstruction of selected cities, incorporating the principles of the New Leipzig Charter (NLC) and the New European Bauhaus (NEB), as part of its European Union (EU) accession process.

Approach:

The project supports the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine with promoting a sustainable urban development policy, focusing on the common good and an integrated urban development approach that combines social, economic and environmental objectives.

The project works in the following areas:

- Advising on legislative modernisation for urban reconstruction in line with the EU accession process
- Assisting selected Ukrainian cities to develop model projects for inclusive, green reconstruction, involving civil society and the private sector in the process. Special attention is given to climate risks, nature-based solutions, the needs of vulnerable groups and gender equality in urban development policy
- Promoting learning opportunities and dialogue platforms for urban practitioners, planning bureaus, and sector networks with a view to sharing good practices and knowledge related to green urban reconstruction.

You can find more information on the [website](#).

BMZ – Cooperation projects with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Energy Security Ukraine

Objective:

The conditions for measures to boost energy efficiency and harness renewable energy have improved both nationally and locally in Ukraine.

Approach:

The project advises the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine on technical issues, such as the transposition of EU directives into national legislation. It focuses on three points:

Supporting municipalities: Municipalities can make a major contribution to energy security, energy efficiency and increased use of renewable energy, for example through their public buildings, municipal suppliers and distributed power generation. The project therefore promotes the introduction and development of energy management systems and the creation of municipal energy and heating plans.

Unlocking financing: The project trains staff at banks and municipalities to ensure they have a better understanding of the financing required for municipal projects for the country's reconstruction and modernisation, and can assess risks realistically and make targeted use of funding. In addition, the project offers grants and provides technical and organisational support for specific projects.

Training skilled workers: The project is improving initial and continuing education in the relevant trades at vocational schools and higher education institutions. This enables teaching staff to improve their technical and teaching skills and make use of practical training and modern teaching materials. The project specifically addresses women, to ensure that everyone has the same opportunities to participate in the energy transition.

Please find more information on the [website](#).

BMZ – Cooperation projects with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Support to the Decentralisation reform in Ukraine (UDU U-LEAD with Europe - Phase III)

Objective:

Local authorities respond faster and more effectively to the needs of citizens.

Approach:

The project has offered seminars, advisory services and study trips for representatives of local self-government since 2016, aiming to promote municipalities and regional development. Since 24 February 2022 it has quickly adapted its work to the wartime conditions in order to support municipalities in preventing and mitigating the negative effects of the war.

In future, the project will concentrate on three areas with the aim of making the administrative units more resilient: reform, reconstruction and renovation.

Reform: The projects provides political and legal advice to promote national and local capacities for reforming local self-government, transparency and integrity.

Reconstruction: It helps administrative units by offering training courses, advisory services and other activities to develop capacities. These activities cover the topics of their work under wartime conditions and restoration after the war.

Renovation: In addition, the project supports municipal administrations in planning, coordinating and implementing reconstruction. It facilitates cooperation between the EU and Ukrainian administrative units, provides support in implementing municipal projects and is helping to expand the digital transformation at local level.

Please find more information on the [website](#).

BMZ – Cooperation projects with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Strengthening of urban resilience in the Areas of Supply Infrastructure and Housing in Ukraine

Objective:

Municipal services and resilience have improved in selected Ukrainian cities.

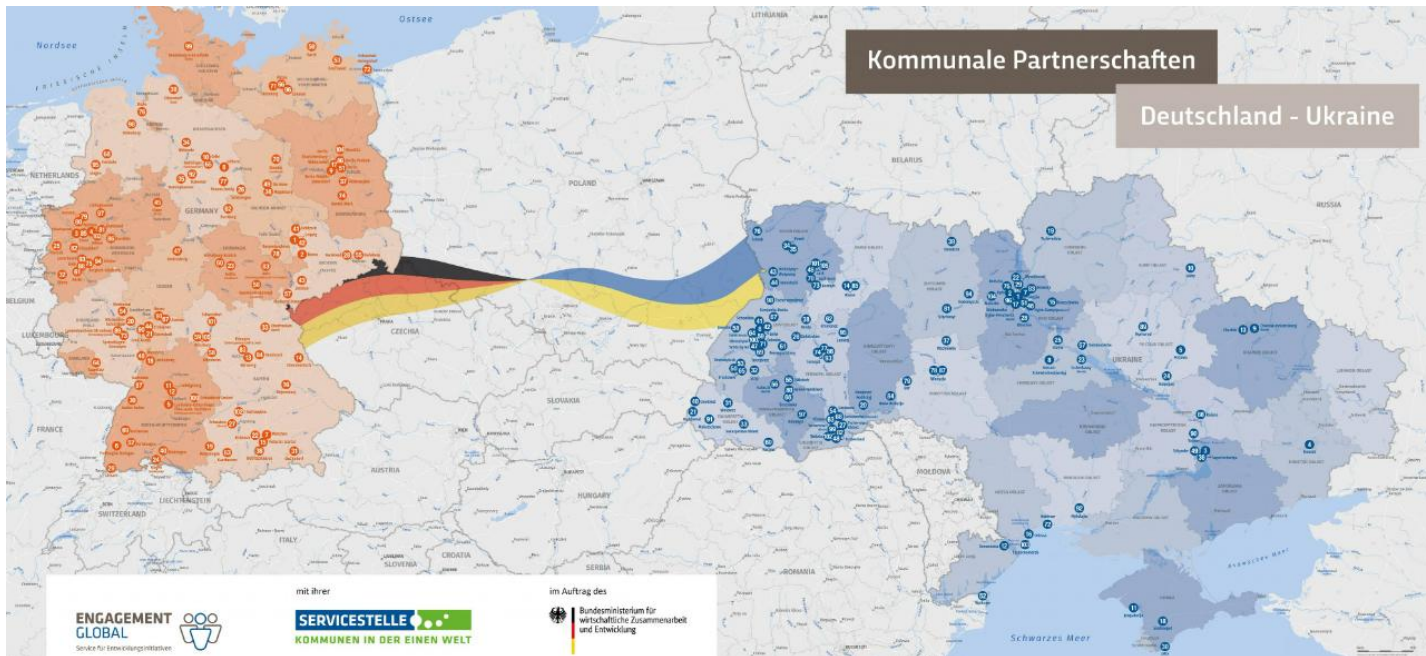
Approach:

The project restores or creates basic municipal infrastructure. In addition to critical infrastructure, this includes social facilities for women and vulnerable groups as well as private housing in selected Ukrainian cities.

Together with the partner cities, the project is developing resilient, integrated solutions to develop cities and a system for dealing with disaster risks. It is also improving municipal capacities through training and the introduction of digital systems for recording war-related damage and the cadastral system. This enables integrated planning in cities. Please find more information on the [website](#).

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global Around 250 municipal partnerships between Germany - Ukraine



The SKEW offers funding opportunities for partnership projects. Activities such as delegation visits, workshops or trainings, but also procurement of equipment or infrastructure projects such as the installment of street lights or solar panels can be supported. The application has to be handed in by the German partner municipality. The scope of the available funding instruments varies between 1.000€ and 500.000€.

More information on the partnerships and on funding instruments can be found on the [Website](#).

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global NaKoPa (Nachhaltige Kommunalentwicklung durch Partnerschaftsprojekte)



Objective:

Under the Partnerships for Sustainable Local Development (NaKoPa) Programme, Engagement Global, through its Service Agency Communities in One World, offers BMZ funding to support municipal partnership projects involving German municipalities or municipal associations.

Approach:

Since 2013, the programme has financed development projects that focus on sustainable services of general interest, good local governance or climate change mitigation/adaptation in a partner country. Proposals are also welcome that link in innovative ways the forward-looking themes of migration and development, or fair trade and sustainable procurement, through partnership work for development.

Find more information on the funding programme and on the call for applications 2026 [here](#).

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global Fund for Small-Scale Municipal Development Cooperation Project (Kleinprojektfonds)



Objective:

In 2025, the Service Agency is once again offering German municipalities support from the Fund for Small-Scale Municipal Development Cooperation Projects. The fund aims to enable interested municipalities to embark on new activities and partnerships for municipal development cooperation.

Approach:

The fund is designed to boost awareness and engagement for development at the local level, and support the networking of all relevant actors. It also supports inter-municipal dialogue with the Global South.

The programme is delivered by Engagement Global's Service Agency Communities in One World, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Learn more about the programme [here](#).

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global Supplies for municipal services



Objective:

German municipalities can apply for funding to carry out projects under the “Goods for municipal services” funding instrument. This support is provided by the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global on behalf of and with funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Approach:

The funding instrument “Material Goods for Municipal Services” offers interested municipalities the opportunity to support their partner municipalities in the Global South by purchasing urgently needed material goods. These goods are intended exclusively for use in improving the performance of municipal tasks in the partner municipality, in particular for municipal services (energy supply, mobility, local disaster control, health care, water supply and wastewater disposal, waste disposal) that benefit the local population. At the same time, partnerships are strengthened at the municipal level.

There will be a call for 2026. Please find more information (German only) [Here](#).



SKEW
SERVICESTELLE KOMMUNEN
IN DER EINEN WELT

Source: SKEW

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global and GIZ The experts fund for municipal partnerships worldwide

Objective:

Municipal partnerships are leveraged in their capacities to implement the 2030 Agenda through expert support that is based on the needs and approaches of the partnerships.

Approach:

- The experts fund for municipal partnerships worldwide is a programme jointly offered by **GIZ** and **SKEW** of Engagement Global.
- It assigns experts to partnerships between municipalities in Germany and partner countries for a period of 2 years
- Experts usually work in the field of **sustainable urban urban development** that answer to the demand of the partnership and the respective partner municipality
- The experts fund as well supports partnerships between German and **Ukrainian** municipalities, districts or municipal enterprises or associations
- Interested partnerships can send a declaration of interest, which can be downloaded from the [website](#).



BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Hospital Partnerships



Objective:

Hospital partners have developed up-to-date guidelines, new options for diagnosis and treatment and innovative formats for the skilled professionals, and put these into practice.

Approach:

The GIZ funding programme Hospital Partnerships - Partners Strengthen Health promotes cooperation between German hospitals, universities, colleges, and non-governmental organizations and those in partner countries. Hospital partners are active worldwide in all medical fields. The program is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. It is commissioned and financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by the Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation (EKFS). There are regular calls for applications published on the [website](#).

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Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Utility Platform



Objective:

The overarching goal of the Utility Platform is to create the conditions for the sustainable anchoring of operator partnerships as an instrument of German development cooperation. The Utility Platform is supporting partnerships of German operators with operators in partner countries. Currently, the platform comprises 25 utility partnerships between Germany and 7 countries: Zambia, Tanzania, South Africa, Jordan, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Albania. The platform is active in several sectors of municipal service provision: water supply, wastewater disposal and waste management.

Approach:

The platform promotes close exchange on e. g. corporate management and on operating, reconstructing and maintaining plants. Technical advice, mutual visits, job shadowings, virtual meetings and the procurement of technology, particularly for Ukraine, form the core of the cooperation between the utilities. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Durchgeführt von



Im Auftrag von



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung

In Kooperation mit



German Water
Partnership

BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH DeveloPPP



**Partners in
Transformation**
develoPPP

Objective:

Developing and emerging countries around the world are facing major challenges, for example in the health sector, in energy supply, in the sustainable use of natural resources or in coping with climate change. Often there is not only a lack of capital, but also little technical and operational know-how. Skilled workers are scarce and environmental and social standards often need improvement. At the same time, many countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America or Southeast Europe offer growing potential for local and international companies: For example, in the production of raw materials and intermediate products for global value chains, but increasingly also as production locations for the local market. Private investments and local entrepreneurial activity create skilled jobs, local added value and innovations. This also creates prospects for the future.

Approach:

With develoPPP, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) promotes private-sector activities where entrepreneurial opportunities and development policy potential meet. Companies that want to invest sustainably in a developing and emerging country and expand their local operations can receive financial and technical support under the programme. [Here](#), you can learn more about the application requirements.

On behalf of



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
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KfW DEG Impulse

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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

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Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Connective Cities

Objective:

Municipal experts from Germany and its partner countries jointly develop reforms for sustainable cities, municipalities and districts that are in line with the UN's 2030 Agenda.

Approach:

Experts from Germany and around the world are working together in international learning and exchange formats to develop innovative solutions to municipal challenges. The Connective Cities network considers the respective needs of the municipalities by allowing them to contribute their own case studies. A wide variety of topics can thus be addressed, including urban flood management, environmental municipal waste management and measures to digitalise administration.

The project is being implemented in cooperation with the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW), Association of German Cities (DST), German Association of Towns and Municipalities (DStGB), German Association of Rural Districts (LKT) and the German Association of Local Public Utilities (VKU). It collaborates with municipal practitioners around the world, with a focus on the regions of sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa/Middle East, Southern/Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus. The project also operates in Latin America and Asia. Please find more information on the [website](#).

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BMZ funding opportunities for municipalities for their cooperation with Ukraine

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Improving civil protection in municipal partnerships with Ukraine

Objective:

Partnerships between German and Ukrainian municipalities foster civil protection and reconstruction in Ukraine.

Approach:

Together with the Association of German Cities (DST), German Association of Rural Districts (LKT), German Association of Towns and Municipalities (DStGB) and the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW), the project identifies German cities, municipalities and rural districts who want to support their Ukrainian partner municipalities through their own initiatives. It also asks the Ukrainian municipalities what support they need for civil protection and reconstruction.

The initial focus was on support packages for heating, materials for building yards, vehicles, medical equipment and solar lighting. Partner municipalities in Ukraine are increasingly asking for support for vulnerable population groups such as children, young people, women, those wounded in the war, and people with restricted mobility. Additionally, the project organises playgrounds and sports grounds, equipment for schools, and rehabilitation and care materials. Finally, it creates the support packages and delivers them to the German partner towns and municipalities, which then send the relief supplies to their partner municipalities in Ukraine. Please find more information on the [website](#).



URABCT – Programme for European Territorial Cooperation

**URBACT helps cities to develop an integrated set of actions for sustainable change,
Enabling the cooperation and idea exchange amongst cities**

Objective:

Cities can learn a great deal from each other's experiences, that's why URBACT funds and supports networks of cities. Partners share ideas around bottom-up initiatives and co-design long-term strategies and urban policies – all at European and local levels.

Approach:

City-makers need the right skills to make positive change and to push for more integrated and participative practices. This is why URBACT proposes capacity-building activities and tools for city representatives and urban professionals. To inspire practitioners and decision-makers in the EU and beyond, URBACT capitalises on cities' success stories by sharing urban knowledge and policy recommendations in one or more URBACT networks. There are three types of Networks under URBACT IV, which cities and other bodies – metropolitan areas, specialised agencies, districts and boroughs – can apply to join. Cities involved in an URBACT Network can benefit further from the extensive support of experts. Cities in the EU and Ukraine are already part of existing networks.

Next Call: expected late spring/early summer 2026

Please find more information on the website, subscribe to the newsletter or join the next event: URBACT City Festival.