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USAID HOVERLA ACTIVITY LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS



Ukraine continues to show exceptional resilience, and as we enter the cold months of winter, we pause to acknowledge the bravery of Ukrainians. The Russian attacks on Ukraine have destroyed housing, factories, hospitals, and infrastructure across the country. In addition to disrupting the lives of Ukrainians, this destruction has produced a tremendous amount of waste that must be safely managed. The responsibility for managing this waste, however, threatens to overwhelm national and local governments, which are already stretched thin by myriad duties stemming from the war. The USAID HOVERLA Activity is supporting municipalities on solid waste management through legislative reforms, inter-municipal cooperation agreements, public awareness, and local economic development. HOVERLA believes that construction waste — if effectively managed — can help create employment and economic opportunities, reduce overall construction costs, lower disposal costs, offset environmental impacts associated with extraction, and divert demolition debris bound for landfills. In this newsletter, we provide a review of the legislation and associated solid waste management activities HOVERLA is supporting.

Gabriel Abraham,
Chief of Party, the USAID HOVERLA Activity



FEATURE

UKRAINE WASTE MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENT

Waste is a significant problem in Ukraine. The country's economy is dominated by resource-intensive sectors that produce tremendous amounts of waste.

Ukraine generates about **400** million tons of garbage annually. With only six percent recycled, Ukraine lags behind the European average of **40%**¹ recycled waste.

Most waste ends up in one of Ukraine's six thousand landfills. Five percent of these landfills, however, exceed their capacity, and 30% do not meet environmental safety standards. Because of the limitations of the landfills, some waste makes its way to unauthorized landfills and illegal dump sites.

The war has compounded Ukraine's solid waste management issues, in part by creating a huge amount of waste for which there is no established disposal, recycling,

or recovery infrastructure. This waste—which includes medical, hazardous material, construction materials, e-waste, vehicles, and military equipment—threatens to overwhelm already overfilled landfills and will inevitably lead to widespread illegal dumping. In addition to the financial impact, these will have significant environmental and health consequences.

The Government of Ukraine recognizes that resolving these problems is crucial for the country's recovery. In June 2022, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (VRU) enacted Law 2320-IX on waste management. The law seeks to align the country's waste management policy with EU regulations, address environmental threats, and achieve sustainable development goals. It focuses on creating the appropriate infrastructure for waste management facilities, both nationally and regionally, and attracting the foreign investment needed to grow and strengthen the sector. It also empowers local governments to play a greater role in waste management.

USAID HOVERLA ACTIVITY has been working closely with local governments to tackle these issues until the ecosystem is fully functional, able to improve the environment and promote overall regional growth. The Activity has trained local governments on inter-municipal cooperation mechanisms which will help build the required knowledge and capacities for service provisions such as waste management.

In the coming months, USAID HOVERLA Activity will provide additional support by:



Developing local regulations to effectively decentralize waste management.



Equipping municipalities with the tools and training to manage waste.



Supporting municipalities (with more than 25,000 residents) to develop waste management plans.



Strengthening inter-municipal cooperation.



Helping unblock the waste management permitting system to bring new private sector providers into the market².



Raising awareness of waste management issues and their impact on the environment.



Promoting recycling.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Waste_statistics





² Permits have not been issued to waste operators since 2014.



COMPONENT

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Activity Undertaken: Analyzed four laws

- 1** **Draft Law #8085** "On Amendments to the Budget Code of Ukraine and Other Laws of Ukraine Regarding the Creation and Principles of Functioning of the Fund for the Recovery and Stimulation of the Regions and Territories Development"
 **Impact:** Creates a legislative framework for the Recovery Fund, which will invest in and stimulate regional development.
- 2** **Draft Law #8122** "On Changes to Some Laws of Ukraine Concerning Personal Income Tax Allocation Procedure"
 **Impact:** Ensures the fair distribution of tax revenues among local budgets by improving the personal income tax allocation model (i.e. basing it on workplace registration)
- 3** **Draft Law #8122-1** "On Changes to the Tax Code of Ukraine Concerning Improvements to the Procedure of Accrual, Withdrawal, and Payment (Remitting) of the Personal Income Tax (PIT)"
 **Impact:** Increases the financial capacity of local governments via new approach to PIT distribution which ensures the payment of the PIT for employees of legal entities located in a community
- 4** **Draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 932** "On Approval of the Procedure on the Development of Regional Development Strategies and Action Plans on their Implementation." Submitted proposals to the Ministry of Community and Territorial Development that reflected the changes to the Law "On the Principles of State Regional Policy" and stressed the importance of strategic and budget planning
 **Impact:** Proposals aim to ensure the involvement of local government and associations in the development of regional development strategies as well as preparation of relevant local budgets in accordance with regional development strategies.



COMPONENT

CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY

- Conducted youth internship programs in Boratyn and Shatsk Councils (Volyn Oblast) to empower youth and strengthen its impact in local governance
- Conducted workshops for more than 60 CSOs of Rivne, Zhytomyr, Zakarpattia and Odesa Oblasts to enhance the citizen engagement in decision making on the local level.
- Supported grantees in implementation of integration activities for IDPs:
 - European Dialogue.** Conducted training for youth with social integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 10 HOVERLA partner communities in Lviv Oblast. The events drew more than 2,500 participants.
 - Volyn Law Institute.** Conducted integration programs for IDPs in 10 HOVERLA partner communities in Volyn Oblast. The events drew more than 470 participants.



COMPONENT

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT

Volyn Oblast

- Boratynska
- Horokhivska
- Kivertsivska
- Lyubeshivska
- Lokachynska
- Shatska
- Rozhishchenska
- Dorosynivska
- Kopachivska
- Pavlivska
- Berestechkivska

Lviv Oblast

- Brodivska
- Dobrotvirska
- Kozivska
- Zhydachivska
- Zolochivska
- Horodotska
- Obroshynska
- Sokilnytska
- Rava-Ruska
- Zhovkivska
- Mykolaivska
- Novo Yarychivska
- Kulykivska
- Yavorivska

Zakarpattia Oblast

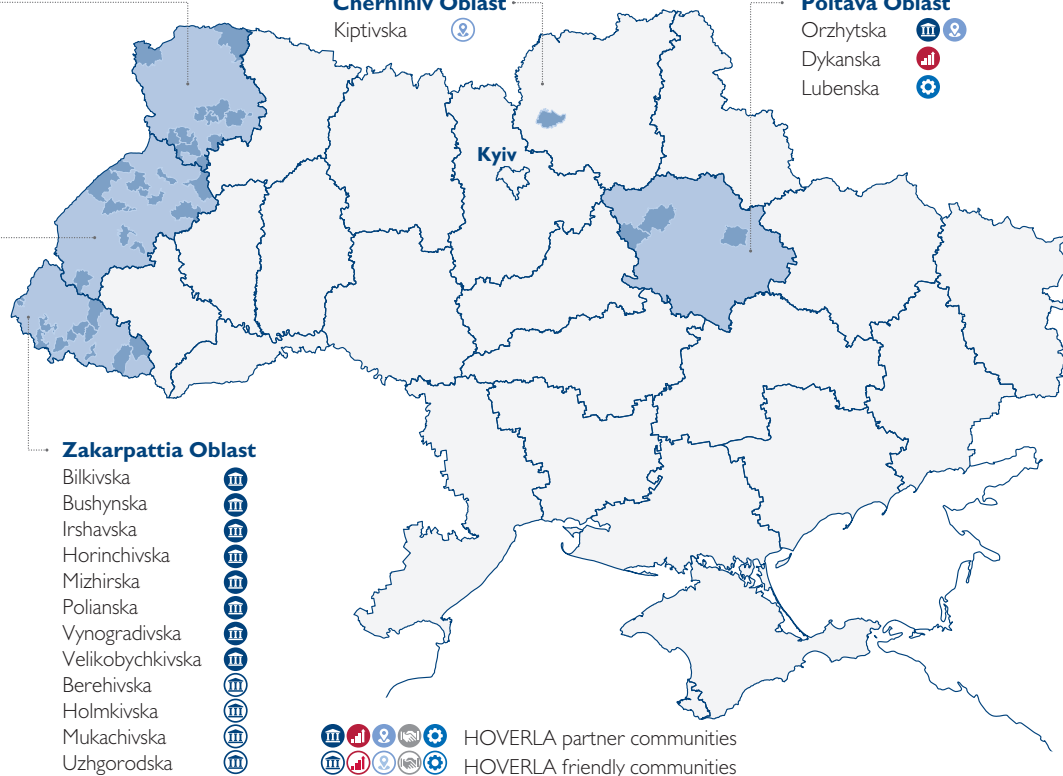
- Bilkevka
- Bushynska
- Irshavska
- Horinchivska
- Mizhirska
- Polianska
- Vynohradivska
- Velikobychkivska
- Berehivska
- Holmkivska
- Mukachivska
- Uzhgorodska

Chernihiv Oblast

- Kiptivska

Poltava Oblast

- Orzhytska
- Dykanska
- Lubenska



HOVERLA partner communities

 HOVERLA friendly communities



Assisting 27 communities in developing their 5-year Municipal Strategies, including eight non-partner communities



Assisting 11 communities in development of local economic initiatives



Assisting 16 partner communities with spatial planning (development of Terms of References for the comprehensive spatial plan of community)



Assisted in the development of a cooperation agreement between municipalities for providing medical and psychological rehabilitation services



Assisting communities in implementation of the initiatives for municipal services improvement



15 training activities delivered to help local governments fulfill their responsibilities on issues such as:

- energy efficiency,
- labor dispute resolution,
- land management,
- local development programs,
- accessibility of services provision,
- spatial planning,
- waste management.

