

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Nature-Based Solutions for Sustainable Cities in Ukraine

Around 70% of the World population will soon live in urban areas. The majority of these cities have only between 0 and 10% green areas in their core ([European Environmental Agency 2010](#)), and continued urbanization is leading to further decreases in the “**green space per capita**”. Consequently, the human well-being and health associated with ecosystem services is becoming seriously impaired (e.g. reduced air quality and lung diseases, mental health and social cohesion) ([Haase et al. 2014](#); [Handel et al. 2015](#); [Cox et al. 2018](#)).

In Ukraine, wellbeing in the cities is in addition pressure from the armed conflict. Over 1.4 million people (60% of IDPs in Ukraine are women) has been displaced due to the conflict in the east of Ukraine and migrated to the main cities, such as Kyiv. Moreover, old Soviet infrastructure crumbling after years of underinvestment, an excessive energy intensity of industry, public and residential sectors.

Thus, there is an urgent need to address those challenges and restore/rehabilitate urban ecosystems, while improving city infrastructures and citizens’ wellbeing, providing a fair chance for local residents with diverse backgrounds to articulate their needs during the planning and decision process of green infrastructure, responding to their needs, and ensuring equal and safe access to improved areas leaving no one behind. One of the possible ways to achieve this is thought implementation of different types of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) for cities.

While studies show different levels of ambition and potential of NBS, all are clear that carefully and systemic application of different types of NBS can contribute to solving at least three pressing and interlinked crises in the city: the **climate crisis** (e.g. reduce urban heat, decrease energy intensities of the buildings, absorbed CO₂, **biodiversity loss** (re-naturalization) and **social wellbeing/health** (e.g. air quality, health, wellbeing, social cohesion).

Recognizing the magnitude of NBS benefits, a number of policy initiatives foster these solutions, such as the [Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#), the [UN Habitat III](#), Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and several EU policies such as the [EU Biodiversity Strategy](#) or the [EU research and innovation policy](#) ([Faivre et al. 2017](#)).

UNDP Ukraine’s path to NBSs

Nature-based solutions for development is one of six signature solutions by UNDP¹. UNDP views nature as a solution to strengthening resilience to climate shocks by promoting nature-based climate change adaptation and mitigation. Therefore, this project will benefit from the global knowledge and practice acquired by UNDP practitioners and experts around NBS including examples from different countries.

Since November 2019, UNDP Ukraine promotes the NBS concept among different stakeholder groups and builds a community of interested people and organizations. The exhibition “Sustainable Nordic Cities”, which showcased Nordic solutions that respond to the challenges that cities across the globe are facing, organized on 7-17 November 2020 by the Embassy of Sweden in Kyiv, Embassy of Finland in Kyiv, Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kyiv, UNDP Ukraine, CANactions and Comixans created a momentum of interest to the sustainable cities from different groups.

¹ UNDP signature solutions: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/six-signature-solutions.html>

The outcome of the project is as follows: Innovative nature-based and gender-responsive solutions developed, financed and applied for sustainable recovery.

Output 1

National and local authorities have capacities to integrate and implement gender-responsive nature-based solutions in municipalities.

Activity 1.1. Support development of national and local level regulations and mechanisms that promote the use of NBS. The project will identify the relevant national, regional and local legislation, strategies, policies, and action plans on Nature-based Solutions; develop recommendations for introduction of the concept and/or key points for improvement in the domain of nature-based solutions into the relevant documents; and advocate for introducing NBS to the relevant legislation.

Activity 1.2. Develop capacity of the relevant national and local authorities to mainstream NBS solutions into strategies, policies and planning documents. This activity will target the mainstreaming of gender-responsive Nature-Based Solutions within national governance, climate action and climate policy-related instruments and incorporate one awareness raising workshop with national and local authorities, including Mayors of cities in Ukraine.

Activity 1.3. Explore innovative financial mechanisms and facilitate its application for selected NBS solutions. This activity aims at development of a project document for three years with approximate budget of 3 mln USD and submission to the potential donors described in Appendix 1 of this document – Donors and Partners Mapping.

Output 2 Communities can test and scale up gender-responsive NBS initiatives.

Activity 2.1. Identification of large-scale demonstration projects showcasing benefits of gender responsive NBS and effective implementation mechanisms including financing. The project will identify the best holistic solutions in applying NBS in selected cities to improve the lives of women, men, girls and boys. The projects will have to find solutions, which will not only use NBSs, but also will be economically feasible, effective, sustainable and gender responsive.

Activity 2.2. Generate a pipeline of small-scale community-based projects through organizing Community Safari in selected municipalities. The project will support methodologically and provide small grants to local NGOs and community groups, including women's groups and organisations, participating in community safari. It will result in several localized solutions that respond to specific needs of women, men, girls and boys, which will contribute to the online platform of NBS solutions from climate change adaptation. These solutions will be evaluated against the criteria economic feasibility, effectiveness, sustainable and gender responsive.

Output 3 Diverse groups have improved knowledge and awareness on gender-responsive NBS.

Activity 3.1. Develop an online course on NBS. The course will help interested stakeholders to learn more about Nature-based solutions that could be applied in Ukrainian cities. The course will be provided in Ukrainian language.

Activity 3.2. Launch a B-version of a collective intelligence online open platform on nature-based solutions for Ukrainian cities and /or explore other digital support and educational tools to raise awareness among citizens. The platform will become a storage of gender responsive NBS solutions in Ukrainian, which could be applied by Ukrainian cities. Anybody will be able to add solutions, which after approval from the moderator will become part of the platform. UNDP will partner with a local NGO, selected on the competitive basis, to ensure sustainability of the platform after the project completion.

Results Framework

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNDAF/Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:

By 2022, national institutions, private business and communities implement gender-responsive policies and practices to achieve sustainable management of natural resources, preservation of ecosystems, mitigation, adaptation to climate change and generation of green jobs

Output 3.1. Comprehensive measures on climate change adaptation and mitigation across various sectors are scaled up

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:

3.1. Share of areas of territories and natural reserves in the total territory (SDG): Baseline [2015]: 6.36%, Target (2020): 10.4%

3.2. Share of energy produced from renewable sources in the total final energy consumption (SDG): Baseline [2015]: 4.9%, Target (2020): 11%

3.3. Share of population benefitting from improved coverage by cost-efficient and sustainable energy in the public sector, by sex [IRRF]: Baseline [2016]: 0, Target (2022): 15% (women), 15% (men)

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan: 3.4.1 Innovative nature-based and gender-responsive solutions developed, financed and applied for sustainable recovery

Project title and Atlas Project Number: Nature-based solutions for sustainable cities in Ukraine, Project ID 00130817

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)	DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	FINAL	
Output 1 National and local authorities improved their	Assessment of the extent to which gender responsive NBS concept is integrated into the national relevant legislation is completed.	<i>Relevant legislation</i>	No	2020	Yes	<i>Desk research of the relevant legislation and policies at the national, regional and local levels.</i>

capacities to integrate and implement gender-responsive nature-based solutions in municipalities.	Number of central and local government representatives who improved their knowledge of the benefits of using gender responsive NBS within national governance, climate action and climate policy-related instruments.	<i>Event report and analysis of the event participants survey</i>	0	2020	20	<i>Pre/post event surveys, feedback forms.</i>
	Number of innovative finance solutions to support gender responsive NBS relevant for Ukrainian cities identified.	<i>Solutions feasibility reports</i>	0	2020	1	<i>Feasibility of the finance solutions will be identified against pre-set criteria (to be identified during the project implementation)</i>
Output 2 Communities can test and scale up gender-responsive NBS initiatives.	Number of successful large-scale demonstration projects showcasing benefits of gender responsive NBS and effective implementation mechanisms, including financing, identified.	<i>Pilot reports</i>	0	2020	1	<i>Completed projects will be assessed independently, using mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative surveys among beneficiaries and observations)</i>
	Number of small-scale grass-roots Community Safari projects showcasing benefits of gender responsive NBS implemented.	<i>Pilot assessment reports</i>	0	2020	5	<i>Completed projects will be assessed independently, using mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative surveys among beneficiaries and observations) Reports of the independent assessments of the completed projects</i>

	Number of women and men who benefitted from the implemented gender responsive NBS projects (disaggregated by sex).	<i>Project records</i>	0	2020	60	<i>Unique users' accessibility analysis</i>
Output 3 Diverse groups have improved knowledge and awareness on gender-responsive NBS.	Number of students who completed the online course on NBS developed by the project.	<i>Project records</i>	0	2020	15	<i>Number of Ukrainian students registered on the platform who completed the online course</i>
	Number of digital tools developed to raise citizen awareness on NBS	<i>Project records</i>	0	2020	1	
	Number of unique visitors of the online platform on nature-based solutions	<i>Google analytics report</i>	0	2020	1000	<i>Google analytics</i>
	Number of publications, stories and other information materials on NBS produced	<i>Project records</i>	0	2020	23 (1 poster with infographics, 1 booklet NBS ABC, at least 20 posts in social media, 1 video on NBS)	<i>Desk review</i>
	Number of women and men reached by the publications, stories and other information materials produced by the project.	<i>Media analysis</i>	0	2020	20,000	<i>Social media reach analysis; regular media monitoring and media reach analysis</i>

I. WORK PLAN ²³

All anticipated programmatic and operational costs to support the project, including development effectiveness and implementation support arrangements, need to be identified, estimated and fully costed in the project budget under the relevant output(s). This includes activities that directly support the project, such as communication, human resources, procurement, finance, audit, policy advisory, quality assurance, reporting, management, etc. All services which are directly related to the project need to be disclosed transparently in the project document.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
			Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount, USD
Output 1: National and local authorities have capacities to integrate and implement gender-responsive nature-based solutions in municipalities	Activity 1.1. Support development of national and local level regulations and mechanisms that promote the use of NBS. Conduct a desk-based legal research to identify the relevant national, regional and local legislation, strategies, policies, and action plans on Nature-based solutions; develop recommendations for introduction of the concept and/or key points for improvement in the domain of nature-based solutions into the relevant documents; and advocate for introducing NBS to the relevant legislation.	UNDP	UNDP	Desk-based legal research, recommendations, advocacy	4,500
	Activity 1.2. Develop capacity of the relevant national and local authorities to mainstream NBS solutions into strategies, policies and planning documents. Organize one online professional event involving national (GoU, relevant ministries and agencies, MPs) and local (municipalities, regional state administrations, communities) authorities on integrating NBS into the strategic documents Starting discussion on ABC of NBS, as well as digital platform for the implementation of NBS by the national and local authorities.	UNDP	UNDP	Conference for Mayors	1,000

² Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness costs to be charged to the project are defined in the Executive Board decision DP/2010/32

³ Changes to a project budget affecting the scope (outputs), completion date, or total estimated project costs require a formal budget revision that must be signed by the project board. In other cases, the UNDP programme manager alone may sign the revision provided the other signatories have no objection. This procedure may be applied for example when the purpose of the revision is only to re-phase activities among years.

	Activity 1.3. Explore innovative financial mechanisms and facilitate its application for selected NBS solutions	UNDP	UNDP	Development of a proposal+finding funding sources	n/a
Output 2: Communities can test and scale up gender-responsive NBS initiatives	Activity 2.1. Identification of large-scale demonstration projects showcasing benefits of gender responsive NBS and effective implementation mechanisms including financing.	UNDP	UNDP	Travel to check large-scale project	1,326
	Activity 2.2. Generate a pipeline of small-scale community-based projects through organizing Community Safari in selected municipalities.	UNDP	UNDP	To conduct Safari for 20+ cities, funding for small-scale projects	17,200
Output 3: Diverse groups have improved knowledge and awareness on gender-responsive NBS.	Activity 3.1. Develop an online course on NBS in collaboration with Lund University.	UNDP	UNDP	Technical support+translation	5,000
	Activity 3.2. Launch a B-version of a collective intelligence online open platform on nature-based solutions for Ukrainian cities and /or explore other digital support and educational tools to raise awareness among citizens.	UNDP	UNDP	Technical support, design, translation	4,500
	Activity 3.3. Conduct communication campaign on NBS.	UNDP	UNDP	<i>1 poster with infographics 1 booklet NBS ABC, at least 20 posts in social media, 1 video on NBS, 20000 media reach</i>	20,000
General Management Support	Project management	UNDP	UNDP		35,067
TOTAL					100,000

APPENDIX 1

DONORS AND PARTENRS MAPPING

Donors mapping:

Embassy of Switzerland: sustainable cities are of their development domain for 2020-2023

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/ukraine/en/home/international-cooperation/strategy.html>

Embassy of Japan: Urban development is a priority according to the Rolling Plan for Ukraine

<https://www.ua.emb-japan.go.jp/files/000277051.pdf>

NEFCO

[In Ukraine, the Nordic initiative addresses:](#) key social infrastructure such as schools, kindergartens health centres damaged housing in certain cases. NEFCO's presence in Ukraine: project portfolio currently has more than 100 projects in Ukraine project portfolio of municipal projects is around 60 projects in Ukraine main sectors: cleantech, energy efficiency, renewable energy, wastewater treatment, modernization of industrial facilities a framework agreement between NEFCO and the Ukrainian government was signed in 2010 Municipal guarantees are required as security

Sweden

There are six designated and prioritised thematic areas that the global development interventions funded by Sweden built upon:

- Democratic development and human rights
- *Environment and climate change*
- Gender equality and women's role in development
- Economic growth
- Health, Education, and HIV/AIDS
- Peace and security

[The result strategy for Sweden's reform cooperation with Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans and Turkey for the period 2014–2020 cover the following priority areas:](#)

- Enhanced economic integration with the EU and development of the market economy
- Strengthened democracy, greater respect for human rights and a more fully developed state under the rule of law
- A better environment, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience to environmental impact and climate change

Potentially SIDA

Norway

In general, Norway's development policy is based on the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) that has the following priority areas for development policy:

- Education
- Peace, stability and security
- Health (including maternal and child health)
- Climate change, the environment and the oceans
- Private sector development, agriculture and renewable energy
- Humanitarian aid
- Combating illicit financial flows and corruption
- Knowledge transfer

Priority areas of Norwegian agency for development cooperation (NORAD) are as follows:

- **Climate change and environment**
- Democracy and good governance
- Education
- Energy
- Global Health
- Higher Education and research
- Macroeconomics and public administration
- Oil for development

GEF

GEF in Ukraine focuses on such areas:

- Climate Change
- Land Degradation
- Biodiversity

EU Green Deal Funding

Main SDGs -13: Climate Action; 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; Other significant SDGs -7: Affordable and Clean Energy;9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Component 2: Support to climate change mitigation through best practices on climate policies and technologies; containment of GHG emissions by transport and phasing out of ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated GHG.

Nature+ Accelerator Fund

The Accelerator Fund offers investment capital to early-stage as well as more mature nature-based solutions projects (NbS) with high potential for growth and positive conservation impacts, mainly in emerging markets. The fund is complemented by technical assistance and capacity-building offered to project developers to help them maximize the environmental, social, and financial potential and identify and secure complementary and follow-on funding.

With the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as an anchor investor, the Nature+ Accelerator Fund has already secured \$8 million in risk-tolerant financing. The commercially-operated fund, which will be managed by asset management company Mirova, aims to raise further investment to create a \$200 million portfolio of projects ranging from the seed investment phase through to the sustainable growth phase. The Accelerator is now ready to accept commitments from public and private professional investors.

EIB

are supporting the following sectors, contributing to growth, employment, regional cohesion and environmental sustainability in Europe and beyond:

- Agriculture, food and rural development
- Energy
- Forestry
- Regional development
- Transport
- Urban Agenda
- Waste and water management

KfW

The key sectors of KfW Development Bank's work are:

- environmental and climate protection

- promotion of financial, social and economic infrastructure

[DANIDA](#)

In line with Denmark's strategy for development cooperation and humanitarian action, ["The World 2030"](#), Denmark's development policy will be informed by four strategic aims:

- Security and development – Peace, stability and protection
- Migration and development
- Inclusive, sustainable growth and development
- Stability and protection

[Global EBA Fund](#)

The Fund is structured to support catalytic initiatives to help to overcome identified barriers to upscaling EbA. Furthermore, it is expected that the Fund will address the gaps in knowledge and planning for EbA, as well as to increase access to public and private funding for catalytic adaptation interventions. The Fund will prioritise filling in resourcing and knowledge gaps with a broad thematic focus on innovation and urgency, thus encouraging creative solutions and partnerships among funding applicants and the wider EbA community. By supporting catalytic interventions, the Fund will address research gaps, pilot innovative EbA approaches, engage in strategic EbA policy mainstreaming, and incentivise innovative finance mechanisms and private sector EbA investment.

[Dutch Fund for Climate and Development – Investing for climate-resilient economic growth \(thedfcd.com\)](#)

The Dutch Fund for Climate and Development (DFCD) enables private sector investment in projects aimed at climate adaptation and mitigation in developing countries. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs has made available €160 million to increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems most vulnerable to climate change. The DFCD is managed by a pioneering consortium of Climate Fund Managers (CFM), World Wide Fund for Nature Netherlands (WWF-NL) and SNV Netherlands Development Organisation, led by the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank, FMO. The DFCD forms an important additional instrument for the Dutch government's efforts in contributing to the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Partnerships

To achieve project's goal UNDP will develop and strengthen partnerships at all levels.

- Government:
 - Ministry of Energy and Environmental Protection of Ukraine
 - Ministry for Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine
- NGOs and CBOs:
 - [Plato](#)
 - [Change Agents](#)
 - [EcoClub "Green Wave"](#)
 - [Zemlia](#)
 - NGO [Ecodia](#)
 - [Fund for the protection of biodiversity of Ukraine](#)
 - [KyivSmartCity](#)
 - [Synchro-Prostir](#)
 - ["Building Ukraine Together"](#)
 - [Promprylad](#)
 - [eco-village network](#)
 - Women's groups and organisations
- Universities:
 - [National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy](#)
 - [Center for Blended Value Studies](#) of the Kyiv Economic University
- International Scientific and Practice Network:
 - Cost City
 - Lund University
 - Spatial Dynamics Lab, University College Dublin
 - ICRA research Center
 - Think Nature Platform
 - Women/girls and STEM groups
- Public Sector

Saga Development

The company was established in 2016 as Riverside Development. This name was figurative for our team: we were engaged in the development of the territories near the Dnipro River and started to work on our first large-scale project – residential neighbourhood RYBALSKY located on the RYBALSKY peninsula. Later the portfolio of our projects was refilled with the new concept objects and the name Riverside Development became too small for us. In 2018 we chose the new name – SAGA Development.

Current technical assistance projects

There are no projects working with the NBS in Ukraine. However, there are projects, which could become partners:

[EU4Environment project](#) (2019-2022, €20 million) aims to help partner countries preserve their natural capital and to increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. One of the activities is to support for the identification and development of innovative financing schemes for sustainable management of ecosystem services.

[EU Programme "Covenant of Mayors - East" \(CoM East\)](#) is the EU-funded project aimed at introducing the EU climate and energy initiative to the Eastern Partnership countries. CoM East supports local authorities in implementing sustainable energy policies, improving the security of energy supply, and facilitates their contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

[Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change and regional sustainable development by empowerment of Ukrainian Biosphere Reserves project](#) (2018 – 2021) aims at working out adaptation

strategies in Desnianskyi, Roztochya and West Polesie Biosphere Reserves. Funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

The City Climate Finance Fund Gap

The Gap Fund is an initiative of the Governments of Germany and Luxembourg together with the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCOM), in partnership with several other key players in the climate finance arena (including C40, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, and CCFLA). It will be implemented by the World Bank and the European Investment Bank. The Gap Fund was announced at the UN Climate Action Summit 2019 as a key initiative of LUCI, the Leadership for Urban Climate Investment, which promotes financing for ambitious urban climate action until 2025. Core donors to the Gap Fund are Germany (€45 million - including €25 million from the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, and €20 million from the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) and Luxembourg (€10 million).

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