

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

**Sustainable Energy and Environment
Secretariat to support the Parliament of
Ukraine in SEE area**

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CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Acronyms..... | 2 |
| 1. Context of the project..... | 3 |
| 2. Main highlights of the reporting period | 3 |
| 3. Project activities during the reporting period | 5 |
| Output 1: The Parliament of Ukraine has strengthened capacity on SEE issues through the establishment and functioning of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Secretariat..... | 5 |
| Activity 1: Provide analytical support to the parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues... 5 | |
| Activity 2: Provide organizational support to the Parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues..... | 10 |
| Output 2: Duty-bearers and right-holders have increased awareness and understanding of green politics and business in Ukraine | 19 |
| 4. Annexes: | 22 |

ACRONYMS

| | |
|------|--|
| MP | - Member of Parliament |
| IFU | - inter-faction union (in Parliament) |
| MENR | - Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources |
| SEE | - Sustainable Energy and Environment |
| SEES | - Sustainable Energy and Environment Secretariat |
| SDGs | - Sustainable Development Goals |
| UNDP | - United Nations Development Programme |

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Ukraine has a long list of environmental reform priorities. However, the speed of the reforms in the area of sustainable energy and environment (SEE) is slowed down by the difficulties in adopting the needed legislation related to the capacity of the Parliament and a large number of low-quality legal initiatives. The 2019 elections would significantly undermine the legislative progress and possibly lead to the leadership turnover in the Government and Parliament in this area.

To speed up the sustainable energy and environment (SEE) related reforms and ensure representation of the SEE issues in the programmes of the next President and the next Parliament, UNDP seeks to improve the capacity of the Parliament of Ukraine and enhance environmental advocacy among politicians, mass media and the public.

The Project aims to support the Parliament of Ukraine as a whole, Members of Parliament, Committees (specifically, on Environmental Policy, Nature Resources Utilization and Elimination of the Consequences of Chornobyl Catastrophe and on Fuel and Energy Complex, Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety) with quality analytical support on the legislation making, organizing stakeholders' consultations, round tables, development of communication products, and engagement of various stakeholders into the policy debate on sustainable energy and environment issues. In addition, the Project aims at increasing visibility of SEE issues during the Presidential and Parliamentary elections, as well as analysing the green agenda in the political programmes of the presidential candidates and parties.

2. MAIN HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

- **Green Agenda (priorities in SEE area) for Ukraine till 2030** was developed by UNDP and presented by MPs on 19 March 2019.
- The analysis of incorporating the green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019 was completed and presented to interested stakeholders.
- The analysis of incorporating the green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for parliamentary elections in 2019 was completed and presented to interested stakeholders.
- The analysis of implementing Green Agenda for Ukraine priorities by the 8th Parliament of Ukraine convocation in 2014-2019 was conducted and presented to interested stakeholders.
- **188 members of Parliament, national and local government representatives, VRU staff (110 women, 78 men)** improved their skills and knowledge on SEE issues through meetings, workshops, discussions and other events during the reporting period.
- **272 analytical materials (analytical papers, briefs, articles, recommendations, statements and other information products and notes)** were developed and disseminated.

- **234 members of Parliament, national and local government representatives, VRU staff (127 women, 107 men)** became more knowledgeable of SEE issues through all advocacy and communication activities of the project (events, analytical notes, articles, informational products and other materials distributed online and in-person).
- Total at least **842 people (505 women, 337 men)** participated in project events during the reporting period and improved knowledge of SEE issues. Besides that, **7,045 people** viewed the recordings of the events online.
- **97 journalists (77 women, 20 men) from national and regional media, bloggers and media activists** were trained on environmental reporting through dedicated educational sessions in Kyiv, Lviv, Kramatorsk and Odesa.
- **Over 100 partners (CSOs/NGOs, businesses, opinion leaders, national and local authorities)** joined a nation-wide “Day without polyethylene campaign” successfully ran in cooperation with IFU, MENR and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine. More than **240,000 people** were reached through the campaign only in social media.
- Advocacy and Communications Strategy and Work Plan for raising awareness on SEE issues and promoting green agenda among decision-makers and the public was developed for the duration of the project (implementation is ongoing).
- Total at least **485,000 people** were reached through awareness-raising activities/campaigns of the project focused on Green Agenda promotion via a variety of channels, including events, direct information distribution, social media, mass media and more.
- Activities of the project received **over 600 national and regional media mentions** during the reporting period.

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

The following sections of the report are structured so to present the activities and achievements since the beginning of the project. Each section contains a brief summary of the previously accomplished activities and results, whereas the activities implemented since the latest submitted report are described fully.

Output 1: The Parliament of Ukraine has strengthened capacity on SEE issues through the establishment and functioning of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Secretariat.

Activity 1: Provide analytical support to the parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues

- 1.1. Develop analytical papers, articles and other informational notes on various SEE issues.
- 1.2. Develop and disseminate policy briefs, policy papers, statements, etc.
- 1.3. Analyze draft legislation, strategies and plans for implementation of the state policy in SEE area.

Given the variety and scope of issues in sustainable energy and environment, UNDP worked jointly with the MPs to identify priorities of legislative work, which will be supported by the project. During the preparatory stage, UNDP did a baseline study / scoping of the draft legislation relevant to SEE issues and implementation of the relevant chapters of EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, other international commitments, as well as SDGs (*Annex 2*), shared and discussed with the MPS to identify priority focus areas. As a result, 11 priority areas were identified: *waste management; monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG; energy efficiency; energy security; phase-out of single-use plastic bags; green auctions; gender in corporate governance (with focus on state energy companies); distributed energy and energy cooperatives; sustainable transportation (electro-vehicles and bicycles); green finance and establishing efficient green (and climate) finance instruments; fossil fuel subsidies and their impact on the regions dependent on fossil fuel extraction industry.*

Under this output, the project team of experts provided analytical assistance to the MPs by working closely with the inter-fraction association of MPs “Green Power Shift”, other MPs as well as a wider circle of stakeholders consisting of Parliamentary Committees’ members, MENR and other executive power bodies.

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ANALYTICAL SUPPORT

1. Waste management
2. GHG monitoring, reporting and verification
3. Energy efficiency
4. Energy security
5. Phase out of single-use plastic bags
6. Green auctions
7. Gender in corporate governance
8. Distributed energy and energy cooperatives
9. Sustainable transportation
10. Green finance
11. Fossil fuel subsidies and their impact

53 analytical notes (including 17 legal opinions) and 49 comments and recommendations to draft laws were prepared and shared with MPs. 28 draft laws were analysed for harmonization and compliance with the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and EU acquis. Information materials were prepared for four (4) draft laws to facilitate their consideration by the Parliament in the first reading. As a result, recommendations and comments were considered in five (5) draft laws (of which three draft laws were adopted in general).

- Analytical note to the draft law 8449 [“On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electricity from alternative sources](#) (the draft law on the introduction of green auctions and updated conditions for the application of the green tariff) was developed on MPs amendments, which were proposed for the second reading. Based on the analysis, comments were added to six amendments referring to the use of renewable fuels from municipal waste as an alternative source of energy due to their non-compliance with Ukraine’s commitments in the field of European integration and EU law. The analysis was taken into account - the corresponding amendments were rejected. The draft law is adopted as a whole.
- **Two analytical notes** were developed to assist the MPs in the process of reviewing the draft laws: *“On ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases”* (9082) and *“On basics of monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions”* (9253), which were adopted by the Parliament in the first reading. Follow-up hands-on advisory support was provided to the

ANALYTICAL PRODUCTS (details in Annex 1)

- 53 analytical notes (including 17 legal opinions) for draft laws
- 49 comments and recommendations to draft laws
- Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030
- Guidelines for policy development on international and domestic commitments of Ukraine
- Research “World practices of reducing the use of plastic bags”
- Climate Action Roadmap for the Parliament of Ukraine
- State of Play of Environmental Policy under AA implementation
- 165 articles, publications and other information products

- parliamentary committee members and MENR after the adoption in the first reading.
- Four draft laws on reducing the use of plastic bags (6020, 9507, 9507-1, 9507-2) were analysed. In addition, 1 draft law (9507) has been re-analysed in the revised version. The project also prepared an analytical note on EU experience and regulations the area, and several comments and recommendations were made. Observations and recommendations were partially taken into account in the draft law 9507 and almost completely taken into account in the draft law 9507-2 (alternative).
 - 7 draft laws on waste (3198, 3198-1, 3374, 4835, 5354, 6602, 7127) were analysed for harmonization and compliance with the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and EU acquis. The results of the analysis have shown that all draft laws, fully or partially, do not comply with EU legislation, and are fragmentary, while current legislation of Ukraine requires complex changes to meet the EU integration commitments. Recommendations were provided to each draft law (7 recommendations). None of the draft laws was considered

DRAFT LAWS IN SEE AREA (VIII CONVOCATION) (analysis/recommendations provided)

- 1) 3198 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine in the field of waste management regarding prevention of the negative impact of waste of end use of products on the environment”
- 2) 3198-1 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine on household waste management and encouragement of their use as an alternative energy source”
- 3) 3374 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 4) 4028 “On packaging and packaging waste”
- 5) 4835-d “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on the promotion of the use of household waste as an alternative energy source”
- 6) 5354 “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on hazardous waste management”
- 7) 5614 “On the system of collection and disposal of used packaging”
- 8) 6020 “On regulation of production, use, import and distribution of polymer bags in Ukraine”
- 9) 6602 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 10) 7127 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 11) 8159-d “On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine”
- 12) 8160-d “On Amendments to the Customs Code of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine”
- 13) 8449 “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electricity from alternative energy sources”
- 14) Ukraine 8449-d “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electric energy from alternative energy sources”
- 15) 8138 “On state regulation of detergents” (not considered by the Parliament)
- 16) 8609 “On the Basic Principles of State Policy in the Field of Energy Security of Ukraine”
- 17) 9082 “On ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases”
- 18) 9253 “On basics of monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions”
- 19) 9260 “On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and certain other legislative acts of Ukraine on improving the administration and revision of rates of individual taxes and fees”
- 20) 9336 (9336-1) “On state nature conservation service” (not considered by the Parliament)
- 21) 9507 “On the reduction of the number of individual types of polyethylene waste in civilian circulation”
- 22) 9507-1 “On restrictions for use of certain packaging”
- 23) 9507-2 “On reducing the use of plastic bags”
- 24) 10411 “On waste management” (not considered by the Parliament)
- 25) 10405 “On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on Creating Access to Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles Charging Stations”

DRAFT LAWS IN SEE AREA
(analysis/recommendations provided)

- 26) 0869 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine on ensuring unimpeded access of citizens to the coast of water bodies for general water use”
- 27) 0870 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine on the protection of fauna and flora in accordance with international agreements”
- 28) 0873 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine on the establishing a prohibition of continuous felling of fir-beech forests on the mountain slopes of the Carpathian region”
- 29) 0875 “On basics of monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions”
- 30) 2115 “On amendments to certain legislative acts in the field of waste management”
- 31) 2051 “On reducing a number of plastic bags in civilian circulation”
- 32) 2051-1 “On limitation the plastic bags circulation at the territory of Ukraine”
- 33) 2207 “On household and other waste management”
- 34) 2207-1 “On waste management”
- 35) 2207-2 “On waste”
- 36) Draft Law «On Amendments to Some Legislative Acts of Ukraine Concerning the Immediate Crisis Management of Forest Fires»
- 37) Draft Law «On Energy efficiency”

by the Parliament.

- Analytical Note and legal opinion were prepared on draft Law of Ukraine 4028 “On packaging and packaging waste” on its compliance with EU-Ukraine AA commitments and EU acquis. Following the analysis, a number of observations have been made that indicate the need for substantive revision of the draft law or for the development of a new version. The draft law was not considered by the Parliament.

- Analytical Note and legal opinion were prepared on draft Law of Ukraine 8609 “[On the Basic Principles of State Policy in the Field of Energy Security of Ukraine](#)” on its compliance with EU-Ukraine AA and Energy Community commitments, EU acquis. UNDP provided recommendations for further elaboration. The draft law was not considered by the Parliament.

- Analytical materials were

developed to assist the MPs in the process of reviewing in the first reading the Draft Laws 8159-d “On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on Stimulating the Development of the Electric Transport Industry in Ukraine” and 8160-d “[On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine](#)” with a detailed explanation of the existing international obligations of Ukraine in the area of European integration, description of challenges to be addressed and economic consequences for the state. The draft laws were not considered by the Parliament.

- Analytical materials, including recommendations on legal and fiscal incentives to stimulate and promote electric vehicles purchase, switch to electric vehicles and development of E-vehicle infrastructure, based on best international practices and existing lessons learned in Ukraine, were developed to assist the MPs in the process of development and reviewing the Draft Law №10405 “On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on Creating Access to Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles Charging Stations”. The bill was voted through the Verkhovna Rada on 11 July 2019 and signed by the President of Ukraine on 6 August 2019. The law will come into force on January 1, 2020.

- Analytical review of draft laws, re-registered from Parliament of Ukraine on 8th convocation to be considered in the 2nd hearing during the 9th convocation was provided to the new members of the VRU Committee on Environmental Policy and Environmental Management (№0869, 0870, 0873, 0874, 0875) for consideration.
- Comprehensive analysis and recommendations on improvement of draft laws on waste management (№2207, 2207-1 and 2207-2), aimed at implementation EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC conducted on compliance with Ukraine's obligations under the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and EU law and provided to the VRU Committee on Environmental Policy and Environmental Management.
- Analysis and comparison of draft laws on plastic bags regulation in Ukraine (№2051 and 2051-1) was conducted and provided to the Environmental Committee for consideration. Draft law №2051-1 successfully passed the first hearing with 365 votes in favor in November 2019. Following the Committee's request to the project, UNDO provided additional analysis of the draft law further consideration for the second hearing.

GREEN AGENDA PRIORITIES

- Green Economy
- Waste Management
- Quality and longevity of life
- Clean and safe transportation
- Renewable energy
- Climate action
- Sustainable development of rural communities and organic agriculture
- Environmental protection
- Green Cities
- Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving

Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030, the list of specific priorities in sustainable energy and environment area, was developed based on a series of consultations with MPs and other stakeholders and presented by MPs for public discussion on 19 March 2019. The Green Agenda was subsequently offered to a wider public for discussion and online voting to receive comments from the public and adjust the priorities if needed. The Agenda has been finalized and published to serve as a guiding tool for the MPs and a wider circle of stakeholders. The online survey remains open to continuously collect public comments/opinions and present those to law-makers.

The research **“World practices of reducing the use of plastic bags”** was developed and shared with partners/participants of the “Day without polyethylene” campaign, including parliamentarians and other interested stakeholders (downloaded by at least 220 people).

Under this output, the project team of experts provided organizational and communication assistance to the MPs by working closely with the inter-fraction association of MPs “Green Power Shift”, other MPs as well as a wider circle of stakeholders consisting of Parliamentary Committees’ members, MENR and other executive power bodies.

[White Paper on Distributed Energy Technologies and Resources Deployment in Ukraine](#) developed by the project, which was preceded by a series of stakeholders’ consultations. The White Paper includes definitions to be used in legislation, target market conditions, overview of bankability as the main criteria for reaching target market conditions, social preconditions for use of distributed energy resources, grid segmentation, as well as recommendations for increase of markets granularity and providing clear price signals to consumers.

Review of [Environmental commitments under the EU-UA Association Agreement and state of play of relevant policy of Ukraine](#) developed and designed by the project. The reports covers already implemented commitments, tasks for the Parliament of Ukraine, next steps for the Government and local authorities, stakeholders’ engagement and additional actions for Directives implementation in the following sectors: access to environmental information, air quality, waste and resources management, water quality and management of water resources, including marine environment, environment protection, industrial pollution, climate change and ozone layer protection, and GMOs. The report was presented to MPs and assistants to MPs during the 2-days intensive training on Environmental Commitments under the AA on 6-7 November 2019.

Activity 2: Provide organizational support to the Parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues

2.1. Organize meetings of the Parliament members working on SEE issues on a quarterly basis.

2.2. Organize seminars at the relevant Parliament Committees.

2.3. Organize professional events involving Parliament members, Government representatives, think-tanks and CSOs (discussions, roundtables, meetings, public hearings).

2.4. Organize roundtables and workshops in the regions of Ukraine.

2.5. Maintain media visibility on SEE issues.

- **188 members of Parliament, national and local government representatives, VRU staff (110 women, 78 men) improved their skills and knowledge on SEE issues through meetings, workshops, discussions and other events during the reporting period.**
- **234 members of Parliament, national and local government**

representatives, VRU staff (127 women, 107 men) became more knowledgeable of SEE issues through all advocacy and communication activities of the project (events, analytical notes, articles, informational products and other materials distributed online and in-person).

- **Nineteen meetings** were conducted with the Members of Parliament working on various SEE issues to provide analytical support, including on SEE legislation making.
- **Three meetings** were held by July 2019 with the Secretariats of the Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Policy [...] and Committee on Energy and Fuel Complex [...] to identify needs in analytical and advisory support on SEE issues:
 - The Secretariat of the Energy Committee has requested assistance in training the personnel through a short-term leadership and management programme. The process is currently on hold given the announcement of snap parliamentary elections on 21 July 2019. Upon further agreement with the secretariats of the committees, the training sessions will be provided jointly with the EU-UNDP Parliamentary Reform Project.
 - The Environmental Committee has officially requested the assistance in strengthening the analytical capacity of the Secretariat by deploying a dedicated specialist to support the Secretariat and Committee. The process has been paused pending further consultations with the Secretariat due to early parliamentary elections.
- Seven meetings were held during with the newly created Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Policy and Environmental Management, as well as new IFU “Energy and Environment” to establish partnerships and identify needs in analytical and advisory support on SEE issues. The meetings were dedicated to needs assessment of the new committee in analytics, facilitation and laws advocacy. During the last one, Chairman of the Committee requested development of roadmap for the next 3 years for Committee’s activities in environmental policy.
- **Twenty-two events** involving Parliament members, Government representatives, think tanks and CSOs held:
 - *Roundtable on SEE priorities for the Parliament* (Project launch event) held on 19 December 2018 (67 participants: 31 men, 36 women). The vision of MPs, governmental institutions and civil society regarding Ukraine’s priorities in the field of sustainable energy and environment were presented and discussed. Key Project goals, tasks and expected activities were presented to stakeholders.
 - *Round table on the role of Parliament in achieving SDGs* (including presentation of the IFU Green Power Shift) held on 25 February 2019 (50 participants: 17 men, 33 women). The role of national Parliaments in supporting and monitoring of SDGs achievement, including the Goals related to climate change, environment protection and sustainable energy was discussed. The Project was also presented as one of the tools for environmental issues integration in the Parliament activities.
 - *Presentation of the Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030* held on 19 March 2019 (85 participants: 40 men, 45 women; 239 participants viewed online). During the event, the Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030 was presented and discussed, the Omnibus results on public priorities in SEE issues were presented and disseminated; examples of international experience of environmental agenda

promotion were discussed. Advisory meetings with the MPs on environmental draft laws as a part of Environmental Day in Parliament were held (three draft laws were adopted in the first hearing on 28 February 2019 - the draft law on greenhouse gases monitoring, reporting and verification, draft law on ozone-depleting substances, and draft law on Environmental Policy Strategy of Ukraine till 2030).

- *Green Agenda for Ukraine panel discussion within the UN Environmental Forum* was held on 14 May 2019 (at least 200 participants of the event; 1,249 participants viewed online: 16% men, 84% women). The issues of available financing for environmental activities, the role of media in green agenda promotion, views of business and youth on the green priorities were discussed.
- *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* was organized by the project on 17 May 2019 in Kyiv (30 participants: 10 men, 20 women; 733 participants viewed online). Media training covered such topics as European integration in environmental sphere, writing about climate change, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment, transition to 100% renewable energy, working with open data (air, water and finances).
- *Public discussion and presentation of the findings of the report “Green Agenda during Parliament Elections in Ukraine: is mission possible?”* held 21 May 2019 (44 participants: 17 men, 27 women; 121 participants viewed online). During the event, the results of the analysis on incorporating the green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019 were presented, as well as the key outcomes of the “President’s Environmental Portrait” information campaign run by the Coalition of Environmental NGOs.
- *Introductory meeting with the retailers to discuss the “Day without polyethylene” campaign*, organized together with MPs, MENR and Zero Waste Ukraine (22 participants: 4 men, 18 women), and subsequent online webinar for NGOs on (viewed by 308 participants) and for retailers/markets (viewed by 448 participants).
- *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* organized by the project on 11 July 2019 in Lviv (24 participants: 1 man, 24 women). The training covered the following topics: reforming of environmental policy within the EU, writing about climate change and adaptation, key local (Lviv oblast) environmental problems and their solutions, avoiding myths about waste management and working with online data on waste statistics.
- *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* organized by the project on 20 August 2019 in Kramatorsk (26 participants: 5 man, 21 women). The training covered the following topics: writing about environmental reforms, climate change and adaptation, key local environmental problems and their solutions, avoiding myths about waste management.
- *A series of discussions with stakeholders to develop a White Paper on the deployment of distributed energy resources in Ukraine* was launched on 2 October 2019 (28 participants: 20 man, 8 women). The first event featured presentation of a legislative definition of distributed energy resources and an analysis of legislative and regulatory loopholes in DER deployment, as well as further steps needed to integrate DERs with Ukrainian legislation. The second discussion with *presentation of the draft White Paper*, including legislative and regulatory actions required for optimal distributed energy resources and

- technologies use held on 18 November 2019 (31 participants: 20 men, 11 women). *Final report was presented* during the press-briefing on 9 December 2019, involving assistants to MPs, media and experts (12 participants: 9 men, 3 women).
- *Discussion “Green Agenda for Ukraine: Integration of Priorities from Elections to the Session Hall”* held on 03 October 2019 (56 participants: 18 man, 38 women; 122 participants viewed online) on the results of the analysis of Green Agenda issues inclusion into the programmes of political parties and majoritarian candidates to the Parliament of Ukraine during the Parliamentary Elections 2019, but, importantly, on translating promises into policy and on a role of public initiatives in shaping the environmental demand.
 - *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* organized by the project on 8-9 October 2019 in Odesa (20 participants). The training covered the following topics: writing about environmental reforms, climate change and adaptation, Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, key local environmental problems, waste management, water policy and water monitoring.
 - *A series of Intensive training on Strategic Communications about Energy and Environmental Policy* for assistants to MPs held on 28 October 2019 and on 25 November 2019. The first training module covered overview of key reforms in the field of environment protection and renewable energy support, main stages of developing communication strategy, and carrying communication campaign with limited resources (11 participants). The second training module included techniques for visualization and presentation, and secrets for successful interview/media communications (8 participants). During both trainings, participants applied in practice their new knowledge, solving real cases and examples.
 - *EU-UA Environmental Platform* series of facilitating events launched in cooperation with the VRU Committee on Environmental Policy and Environmental Management, aimed at analyzing progress in development and implementation of related Ukrainian legislation in line with EU aqua, as well as identifying decisions to be made at the legislative and regulatory levels to reach required goals in terms of EU-UA integration. The *EU-UA Environmental Platform #1* focused on air quality and protection and air pollution monitoring policies held on 5 November 2019 (18 participants: 7 men, 11 women) in the premises of VRU Environmental Committee. It raised actual issues of the relevant EU Directives implementation in Ukraine, especially the Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU).
 - *EU-UA Environmental Platform #2* held on 13 November 2019 (48 participants: 20 men, 28 women) and focused on actualizing implementation of EU legislation on access to environmental information and environmental open data. The key challenges confronting Ministry of Energy and Environment Protection and other authorities responsible for data gathering, processing and publication, as well role of public initiatives in the cycle of environmental data management.
 - *EU-UA Environmental Platform #3* enlightened climate policies and related obligations within the Association Agreement, in particular enabling GHG monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system. The event held on 2 December 2019 (93 participants: 33 women, 60 men), gathered wide number of stakeholders from Government, Ministry of Energy and Environment Protection,

VRU Environmental Committee, legislation drafters, business and expert society. The main discussion was taken around further economic tools (carbon tax or emission trading system) to be implemented basing on the CO2 emissions monitoring results.

- *2-days Intensive Training on Environmental Policy and Association Agreement* organized and held by project on 6-7 November 2019 for Members of Parliament (VRU Committees on environmental policy, on housing and utilities, and IFU “Energy and Environment”). The first training part (6 November 2019, 21 participants) covered goals and place of environmental policy in AA, importance of environmental reforms, peculiar features of AA implementation, EU law: types of EU law acts, principles of regulation, concepts and limits of approximation, cooperation with EU: bilateral bodies, their decisions, AA implementation assessment by EU, etc. The second part (7 November 2019, 15 participants) concentrated on practices of AA implementation and cases of implementation (EU Directives on Environmental Impact Assessment, on Strategic Impact Assessment, and Water Framework Directive).
- Event “*Green Agenda during 8th VRU Convocation: Results and Recommendations*” held on 19 November 2019 (27 participants: 17 men, 10 women). Analysis of the 8th VRU Convocation work results on implementation of Green Agenda priorities was presented to Member of Parliaments, as well as recommendations provided on further work on Green Agenda priorities in the VRU.
- *Green Agenda for Ukraine: Regional Dimension* series of events launched by project, aimed at drawing attention to regional aspects of environmental policies development and implementation, in line with SDGs achievement and EU-UA Association Agreement implementation on local level. First regional event held in cooperation with RPP in Svyatogirsk, Donetsk oblast on 20-21 November 2019 (75 participants: 36 women, 35 men) within the Environmental Partnership Forum. Separate Green Agenda discussion panel raised questions about environmental monitoring, environmental tax distribution on local level, and the role of civil society in promoting environmental agenda on regional level.
- *Second Green Agenda for Ukraine: Regional Dimension* even held in Khmelnytsky on 5 December 2019 (28 participants: 15 men, 13 women) in partnership with Khmelnytsky City Council and City Mayor, Smart Environment. Khmelnytsky and public initiative Waste Ukraine Analytics. Public discussions focused mainly on both influence of national environmental policy on local level, and on available tools and opportunities for local communities to influence on regional environmental performance.
- Workshop “*How to navigate the complexities of energy and environment issues?*” help in cooperation with UNDP project “Energy Hub” and Dixi Group on 29 November 2019 (39 participants). Project experts presented role, goals and status of key environmental reforms in Ukraine implementation in line with Association Agreement, overview of typical media mistakes and misunderstandings when writing about the environment, and how environmental priorities might impact political programmes (in a game format).

VISIBILITY OF SEE ISSUES

Advocacy and Communications Strategy and Work Plan (*see attached as Annex 3*) for raising awareness on SEE issues and promoting green agenda among decision-makers and the public was developed for the duration of the project and implementation is ongoing. Progress report, which provides information on the results and media coverage, is *attached as Annex 4*.

Analytical materials developed by the project (*see Annex 1 for the complete list*) were distributed through several communications channels, as described in the progress report.

Key communication activities, products and channels:

- Communications and organizational support were provided to nine project events (media advisories, invitations, presentations, social media posts, press releases).
- Draft visibility package was developed for IFU Green power shift, and later - for IFU Energy and Environment (logo, basic visual guide) and submitted to MPs for review.
- Eleven (11) **Green Updates digests** were distributed as an email newsletter to 715 subscribers (including 36 MPs, VRU staff and governmental representatives: 24 men, 12 women). Average open rate is 22,8%.
- Eight (8) Green Analytical Updates / Green Picks (37 articles) with analytical summaries of the latest papers and reports in the field of SEE were distributed as an email newsletter to 30 subscribers (MPs and assistants to MPs).
- Thirty-two (32) Draft Laws Reviews - an overview of the draft laws on SEE issues to be proposed for voting on a plenary week with a short description - were distributed among the 151 Telegram channel "[Green Updates](#)" subscribers.
- 33 articles on SEE issues and sustainable lifestyles were prepared for publication at the [IFU's Facebook](#) page. Total reach of all posts over 37,000 people.
- Article on the analysis of incorporating the [green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019](#) was published on Ukrainska Pravda.
- SEE related updates/events are regularly shared among the network of journalists, who participated in the School of Environmental Journalism (currently [Facebook group](#) with 95 members).
- As a follow up for the School of Environmental Journalism, a "how-to-write-about" draft guides for media were developed, including on how to write about climate change, European integration in the environmental sphere, EIA and SEA, energy transition. First article "[Climate is already not the same: how to write about climate crisis](#)" (331 views) was published by MediaLab platform (platform with various educational materials tailored for journalists/media).

- Package of educational and awareness-raising materials/articles was prepared for the “Day without polyethylene” campaign, which was distributed among partners/participants. Over 100 partners (CSOs/NGOs, businesses, opinion leaders, national and local authorities) joined a nation-wide “Day without polyethylene campaign” successfully ran in cooperation with IFU, MENR and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine. More than 240,000 people were reached through the campaign only in social media.
- Article on the presentation of the [review of 8th VRU Convocation in the implementation of Green Agenda during 2014-2019](#) was published on Ukrainian Crisis Media Center.
- Article on the presentation of the [White Paper on Distributed Energy Technologies and Resources Deployment in Ukraine](#) was published on UNIAN
- Project activities during the reporting period received **over 600 national and regional media mentions.**

“A DAY WITHOUT POLYETHYLENE” CAMPAIGN

To attract Ukrainians attention to the plastic pollution problem and its negative impacts, and to celebrate the International Plastic Bag-Free Day, the United Nations Development Programme, together with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, inter-faction union of Parliament Members “Green Power Shift” and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine held a “Day Without Polyethylene” campaign in Ukraine. Over 100 shops, supermarkets, cafes, pharmacies, educational facilities, fast food restaurants and other companies joined the initiative to avoid single-use plastic for a day, replacing it with more environmentally-friendly alternatives. Among them were the Auchan and Spar supermarkets, the KIMS dry cleaners, and other service companies such as the YE bookshop network, the Old Lion Publishing House, IT company UniSender, the Eurasia restaurant network, and many more. Customers were able to use paper or textile grocery bags instead of plastic ones, use tongs instead of plastic gloves to pick up bread, buns and other baking products, and buy food in reusable containers and beverages in their own reusable mugs – often with a discount. Special awareness raising campaigns were held in Lviv, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Iziaslav (Khmelnysk Oblast), Chortkiv (Ternopil Oblast), Kharkiv, Askania Nova and other cities.

The campaign raised public interest and concern about the issue, and given the publicity and attention to the topic, a draft law №2051-1 “On reducing a number of plastic bags in civilian circulation” was registered by MPs in September 2019 and passed the first hearing in November 2019. The draft law was highly appreciated by the public and gained official support from the Ministry of Energy and Environment Protection.

A full list of participating organizations can be found via this [link](#).

Materials and presentations can be found via this [link](#).

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM

In May 2019 project [launched](#) School of Environmental Journalism (SEJ) to help Ukrainian reporters from national and regional media and media-bloggers produce more penetrating insight into such topics as European integration, climate policy, waste management, and renewable energy.

In total, 4 modules of SEJ held in Kyiv, Lviv, Kramatorsk and Odesa, where almost 100 journalists and media activists had an overview of the key environmental issues for Ukraine and governmental reforms in this sphere, ways they are covered in the media, typical mistakes, terminology, and the sources of information.

Each School module covered additional topics specific to the region or some extra popular issues in the field of environment and sustainable energy. For example, in Lviv, waste management and circular economy was covered with additional information about working with open data on waste management; in Kramatorsk experts from OSCE provided data and tools on environmental risk analysis from armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine; in Odesa a separate School day was devoted to environmental problems of Black and Azov Seas, and reforms implementation in Ukraine in water sector line with EU-UA Association Agreement.

UNDP engaged experts from the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, professional journalists, academia (NASU Institute for Economics and Forecasting, Ukrainian Research Center of Ecology of Sea and the Institute of Marine Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), experts from international organizations (OSCE, EMBLAS+ Project) and NGOs (Zero Waste Lviv, Waste Ukraine Analytics) to covering training modules. All experts are available SEJ trainers are always available for comment in the closed Facebook [group](#) created for SEJ participants. Relevant environmental releases, analysis or opportunities are frequently shared with about 95 group participants.

Output 2: Duty-bearers and right-holders have increased awareness and understanding of green politics and business in Ukraine

Conduct and present two gender-disaggregated public sociological surveys on SEE issues

The project has conducted a public sociological survey on SEE issues among some 2,034 respondents in November-December 2018 to establish the project baseline and inform the implementation of the project and necessary adjustments.

The results of the public survey were presented during the project launch event and disseminated through social media channels. They are also available at the [UNDP website](#).

The results of the survey were presented during the Green Agenda for Ukraine event in the Parliament of Ukraine on 19 March, organized by the IFU Green Power Shift. Some of the survey results were presented during a “Green Agenda in parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Is mission possible?” event on 21 May. The [survey results](#) are actively promoted by the coalition of 17 environmental NGOs within the campaign “Environmental security agenda for the political parties”.

Conduct and present an analysis on green business competitiveness of the regions of Ukraine

Research, partner UNDP SDG Programme to determine the scope, aim and key elements of the research, which will underpin the Terms of Reference for the assignment. Furthermore, wider consultations with think tanks and academia are envisaged to refine the focus of the study.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SURVEY

- 82.7% of respondents believe that authorities do not act enough to solve environmental problems;
- Every fourth respondent believes that MPs have a significant influence on how to solve environmental issues, followed by the Government and local authorities;
- 45.6% of respondent believe that a clear position on environmental protection and sustainable energy by political parties can be a determinant factor when deciding for a candidate when voting;
- The top 5 environmental issues for respondents include: water pollution and poor drinking water (59.9%), deforestation (59.1%), air pollution (51.6%), environmental pollution by households (47.8%) and industrial (34.2%) waste.

UNDP held consultation meetings with the MPs of the IFU Green Power Shift and representatives of think tanks such as Institute for Low Carbon Economy and Institute for Social and Economic

Conduct and present an analysis of incorporating the green component in 2019 election programmes for the candidates for the presidency

The Project has commissioned the analysis of the election programmes of the candidates running for Presidential Election 2019. The results of the [analysis](#) were [briefly presented](#) to the public at the “Green Agenda in the midst of parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Is mission possible?” event on 21 May 2019 (44 participants: 17 men, 27 women; 121 participants viewed online).

Analysis of the election programmes and speeches of presidential candidates in Ukraine has shown a growing interest in environmental issues among candidates for the post of head of state. Some 64% of election programmes contain issues on the green agenda, which is 25% more than in the 2014 presidential election.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANALYSIS

- 64% of election programmes include green issues, which is 25% more than during President elections in 2014
- None of official election programmes covers climate change issues
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency are most frequently mentioned in the programmes, the rarest are nature protection, green tourism and green transport

Conduct and present an analysis of incorporating the green component in 2019 election programmes for the political parties running for Parliament seat

An analysis of the election manifestos of parties and majoritarian candidates in the 2019 election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, conducted by the Project before and after the elections, showed the various parties have similar sustainable energy and environmental policy priorities. However, the election campaign also showed many more green issues were being raised, and that there were areas of common interest that could unite politicians from different political parties to support the passing of legislation to protect the environment.

Compared to the 2014 parliamentary elections, the situation regarding green issues in the election programmes has not changed fundamentally, but the election discourse now

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANALYSIS

- 44% of election programmes of the majoritarian candidates include at least one green issue, in total majoritarian candidates made 2586 green promises
- None of official election programmes covers nature protection, biodiversity and development of the nature reserves
- Energy, water and waste were the most frequently mentioned issues raised in the election manifestos of parties
- Six political parties supported the environmental safety agenda proposed by a coalition of environmental CSOs

includes more green agenda issues. But the biggest (difference) in this election was the development of additional, expanded environmental policy programs by the parties, partly due to the influence of the public, public demand, and other factors.

The [results of the analysis](#) were presented to the public at the “*Green Agenda for Ukraine: Integration of Priorities from Elections to the Session Hall*” on 03 October 2019 (56 participants: 18 men, 38 women; 122 participants viewed online).

Conduct and present an analysis of incorporating the green agenda in legislative process of 8th VRU Convocation (2014-2019)

The comprehensive assessment of the work of the Parliament of Ukraine of the 8th Convocation on developing legislative framework for Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030 conducted by the project represents the general political overview of the effectiveness of the work of 8th VRU Convocation, focuses on the effectiveness of the Parliament’s work based on analysis of the length of each relevant legislative procedure and its final outcome, as well as performance of the legislative initiators. It also covers each Green Agenda priority and analysis of the indicative draft laws and gives key conclusions and recommendations for the new Rada Convocation.

Based on the analysis, several recommendations were developed for the new (9th) VRU Convocation:

- to increase institutional role and capacity of legislative initiators;
- to improve mechanisms for adoption of systemic laws and avoiding legislative spam;
- to increase cooperation in law drafting between Parliament and the Government, introduce mechanisms for assessing efficiency, effectiveness and relevance of the legislation vis-à-vis its initial goals;
- to increase transparency and openness of the Parliament’s work.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANALYSIS

- Green Agenda consolidated all parliamentary fractions, groups and no-fraction members of the parliament of the 8th convocation

- Parliament’s agenda included all green agenda priorities, but not all treated equally important

- Legislative work of the Parliament on systemic laws was not effective enough

- Efficiency of the legislative initiators, adoption of the laws as final outcome of the procedure, quality of the law-drafting and transparency of the process had significant impact on the overall assessment of the legislative work of the Parliament of the 8th convocation

[Analytical report](#) was presented to the public on 19 November 2019 during the event “Green Agenda for Ukraine: analysis and lessons from 8th VRU Convocation”. Members of Parliament of both 8th and 9th convocations provided their comments and reflections to the analysis’ key highlights and mentioned challenges.

4. ANNEXES:

1. List of analytical products prepared by the project
2. Analysis of draft legislation registered in the Parliament vis-à-vis SDG targets, international commitments and national strategic documents
3. Communications and advocacy strategy and work plan
4. Communications and advocacy progress report (as of December 2019)
5. Project monitoring indicators