

Driving reconstruction with a strong economy



A successful Ukrainian economy raises the population's living standards, creates jobs, secures incomes and facilitates innovations that make the country attractive and competitive. Furthermore, a strong economy puts Ukraine in a position to accede to the European Union's single market and, looking ahead, no longer depend on international financial assistance. Together with its Ukrainian partners, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH works on behalf of the German Government, the EU and other donors to increase the resilience of the Ukrainian economy even amid the war and to strengthen businesses for a European future.

GIZ is also supporting Ukrainian businesses in tapping into new markets. This includes advising on export-related matters, networking them with potential clients and business partners in the EU, organising appearances at international trade fairs and fostering dialogue between Ukrainian enterprises, municipalities and business associations to improve business conditions for companies. Small and medium-sized enterprises are also receiving

financial support in the form of grants and affordable loans: 1,500 businesses that were forced to relocate as a result of Russia's attacks or that provide basic public services to the population have benefited. In total, around 10,000 companies have received support since Russia's war of aggression began – in the form of funding as well as advisory services and training. This financial support is designed to assist reconstruction and strengthen the capacity of the businesses to export and innovate.

Vocational education and training is another priority for GIZ. Experts needed for the country's reconstruction receive training, for instance in health care, construction and IT. And with success – in 2023 alone, 5,700 Ukrainians completed training. There is a particular focus on internally displaced people and disadvantaged groups such as veterans and people with disabilities. Furthermore, around 440 vocational schools have been provided with generators, IT equipment and textbooks since the war began, so that they can continue to offer education and training.



Clean drinking water during war



SVITLANA M.,
founder and owner of Chista Voda

Svitlana M., founder and owner of Chista Voda, which means 'clear water' in English, had been supplying drinking water throughout the Mykolayiv region since the 1990s. Up to 1,000 18-litre bottles would leave the plant every day. However, the war then broke out and this impacted production massively. In order to continue delivering water to the population, including a large number of internally displaced people, Svitlana M. applied for a grant from the EU4Business project, which is run by GIZ and funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the EU. Thanks to a grant worth the equivalent of EUR 4,000, Chista Voda was then able to purchase new, reusable water bottles and set up water filling points in Mykolayiv. The drinking water supply for the local population, which was frequently jeopardised due to Russian attacks, was thus secured, with more than 30 tonnes of water provided each day.

At a glance

Area of intervention	Sustainable economic development
Objective	Stabilise the Ukrainian economy amid the war, strengthen it to pave the way for sustainable reconstruction of the country and support it in aligning with the EU single market.
Priority areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for the EU accession process, including advice on EU-compliant commercial law and on product safety and quality • Support for small and medium-sized enterprises through advisory services, export promotion and access to means of finance • Economy-related city partnerships and business association partnerships • Training experts for reconstruction • Vocational integration of internally displaced people and disadvantaged groups
Commission volume	EUR 120 million
Commissioning parties/financiers	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), EU, Poland
Partners	Ukrainian ministries, city and municipal administrations, business associations and chambers, private sector

GIZ Ukraine

In its role as a highly effective implementing organisation, GIZ is supporting Ukraine's efforts to begin rebuilding the country. The focus is on building municipal and social infrastructure, ensuring reliable energy supplies and strengthening the Ukrainian economy. At the same time, GIZ is supporting the country on its path towards EU accession. It is providing advice on necessary reforms and driving the modernisation of public administration. Its decades-long record of cooperation and a partner network spanning the entire country mean that GIZ is well placed to offer tailored support that is both forward-looking and responsive to citizens' needs. Around 560 staff work for GIZ in about 45 projects in Ukraine.

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