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## Workshop Report

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# IKI Workshop Results

**Ukraine's NDC 2035:**  
Investments for a Resilient,  
Climate-Friendly and  
Biodiverse Future

5 March  
2025  
Kraków,  
Poland



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*Participants of the IKI Ukraine workshop in Kraków.*

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## Background

On March 5, 2025, the IKI Workshop, titled “*Ukraine’s NDC 2035: Investments for a Resilient, Climate-Friendly, and Biodiverse Future*”, was held in Kraków, Poland. The event brought together policymakers, climate and biodiversity experts, and representatives from Ukrainian and German governmental institutions, as well as implementing organizations under the International Climate Initiative (IKI). This hybrid event focused on strengthening collaboration, knowledge exchange, and policy alignment to support Ukraine’s climate and biodiversity goals.

The workshop was hosted by **Gabriel Sauer**, Project Director of the IKI Interface Project Ukraine (GreenUkraine), with participation from distinguished speakers, including **Dr. Philipp Behrens** (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany), **Jürgen Keinhorst** (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, Germany), **Viktoriia Kyreieva** (Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine) and **Maryna Denysiuk** (Deputy Minister for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine).

This year, the meeting was organized around diverse stakeholder perspectives on the progress, needs, and post-war recovery plans of Ukraine through the prism of the **IKI Strategy 2030**. The key topics were proposed by the IKI-ministries and included:

1. Ukraine’s NDCs 2035 – Roadmap to Commitment or Investment Plan?
2. Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions in Ukraine
3. From Biodiversity Loss to Climate Gains
4. Private Sector Engagement in Ukraine’s Green Recovery

Per request of the IKI-Ministries a dynamic session of speed pitching of IKI projects in Ukraine was prepared and carried out. The interactive Pecha-Kucha style allowed to showcase 15 out of 25 IKI-funded projects in the allocated time, highlighting problem statements, the approach, the stakeholders the impact, and the status quo of the implementation of these IKI projects in Ukraine.

The workshop was enriched by the presentations from the Platform for Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine and the organization Zukunft-Umwelt-Gesellschaft (ZUG) (See Agenda in Annex 1).

These discussions, presentations, and collaborative exchanges culminated in several key outcomes:

- Strengthened cooperation among IKI projects for better integration with Ukraine’s climate and biodiversity policies.
- Clearer alignment of IKI projects with Ukraine’s 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).
- Enhanced recognition of the role of biodiversity in climate resilience.
- Identified policy and investment solutions for accelerating sustainable financing and green recovery.
- Defined strategies for private sector engagement in climate-friendly reconstruction efforts.

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# Workshop Sessions and Highlights

## Opening Remarks

The event commenced with official opening remarks from German and Ukrainian government representatives. All speakers emphasized the importance of ambitious NDCs and their role in mobilizing investments for a resilient, climate-friendly, and biodiverse Ukraine.



*Philipp Behrens from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) providing his opening remarks.*

**Dr. Philipp Behrens**, representing the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), reaffirmed Germany's long-term commitment to supporting Ukraine's green recovery. He highlighted the continued importance of IKI projects in helping Ukraine plan and implement its NDCs while safeguarding biodiversity. Commending the extraordinary resilience of the Ukrainian people in the face of immense hardship, he emphasized that both the German government and its citizens stand firmly in solidarity with Ukraine – supporting its ongoing fight for freedom, its recovery, and its sustainable reconstruction efforts.

**Jürgen Keinhorst** from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) echoed this support and called for sustained German-Ukrainian cooperation in climate policy. He emphasized the importance of long-term partnerships, capacity building, and enabling frameworks for effective environmental governance.



*Jürgen Keinhorst from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) during his welcoming remarks.*

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## IKI Workshop March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Viktoriia Kyreieva**, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (MEPR) of Ukraine, stated that all sectors in Ukraine – government, business and civil society – are rapidly transforming under the pressures of the war. She highlighted the urgency of integrating environmental and climate priorities into Ukraine's national recovery strategy. Finally, she added that MEPR is committed to ensure that green reconstruction becomes a pillar of Ukraine's development.

**Maryna Denysiuk**, Deputy Minister at the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine (MinDev), participated virtually. In her remarks she emphasized the need for green reconstruction to be incorporated into infrastructure planning from the earliest stages. She further shared current progresses and plans on how sustainability, resilience, and innovation guide Ukraine's green recovery processes.



*Viktoriia Kyreieva from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (MEPR) welcoming the audience.*



*Gabriel Sauer, Director of the IKI Interface Project (GreenUkraine), opening the workshop.*

Finally, **Gabriel Sauer**, Director of the IKI Interface Project (GreenUkraine), welcomed all guests and officially opened the workshop. He positioned the workshop as an important platform for facilitating dialogue between the German and Ukrainian counterparts and to ensure coherence between Ukraine's national policies, green recovery goals and the IKI Strategy 2030.

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## Session I: Ukraine's NDCs 2035 – Roadmap to Commitment or Investment Plan?

This session explored the significance of the ambitions in Ukraine's updated NDC, its role in climate action, and investment opportunities. Keynotes from two speakers were followed by a panel discussion.

**Dr. Philipp Behrens** (BMWK) opened the session by highlighting that Ukraine's updated NDC should be seen as both a commitment to climate action and a concrete investment plan for sustainable energy systems.

**Dr. Oleksandr Diachuk** from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine depicted the scientific underpinnings of Ukraine's roadmap for its NDC 2035 amid the uncertainties of war. He outlined Ukraine's climate and energy policy progresses amid the Russian aggression, including the adoption of key strategic documents such as the Climate Law 2050, the National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2030, and the draft Long-term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS). Dr. Diachuk presented greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions projections under various scenarios, showing the potential for achieving climate neutrality by 2050, and highlighted the investment implications of different emission pathways. His presentation emphasized Ukraine's continued commitment to ambitious climate targets despite significant wartime challenges.



*Dr. Philipp Behrens from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) delivering a keynote speech during Session 1.*

The panelists provided an overview of the current progresses and barriers for implementation of ambitious NDC targets in Ukraine. **Anna Ackermann** from the International Institute for Sustainable Development stressed the importance of using NDCs as a tool to attract investment and strengthen Ukraine's energy security. She emphasized that Ukraine's climate goals should prioritize resilience and security, especially given the uncertainty of the next decade. GIZ Ukraine NDC expert and IKI GreenUkraine team member **Rimma Kushtym** noted that better data systems and planning tools are needed to operationalize the commitments. **Svitlana Sushko** (Reform Support Team at MEPR) pointed out that not only a green but also just transition is needed. She highlighted that adaptation is more important than mitigation and that Ukraine's NDC should also serve as a framework for economic resilience, job creation, and social inclusion. **Dr. Galyna Trypolska** from the Institute of Economics and Forecasting cautioned against investing in infrastructures that could become obsolete during the low-carbon transition, so called 'stranded assets', and emphasized the need for a climate-adaptive and prudent recovery strategy.

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Session 1 (from left to right): Panelists Anna Ackermann, Rimma Kushtym, Svitlana Sushko, Dr. Galyna Trypolska and keynote speaker Dr. Oleksandr Diachuk.

## Session II: Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions in Ukraine

In his keynote speech, **Dr. Lars Handrich**, managing director at DIW Econ, examined the feasibility and strategic advantages of transitioning Ukraine's energy system to renewable energy sources (RES) as part of its emergency post-war reconstruction. He demonstrated that although the RES scenario required the highest initial investment, it ultimately led to savings on fuel, operations, and avoided environmental and health costs, making it a resilient and economically sensible choice. Dr. Handrich placed particular emphasis on the labor implications of this transition. He showed that most jobs in the RES sector, especially in the construction, installation, and maintenance phases, allow for quick retraining from other sectors. Through a task-based analysis, he revealed that workers in the coal sector have skill sets significantly closer to RES occupations than the average worker, making them ideal candidates for reskilling. His findings supported a just transition strategy, where retraining former coal workers could drive both employment and the sustainable transformation of Ukraine's energy sector.

In the panel, **Natalia Kholodova** from the NGO Ecoclub shared local experience with community-based solar projects and highlighted that the main barrier for the green reconstruction is the capacity of local communities and the lack of affordable finance to the small local settlements. GIZ project manager **Dr. Ima Khrenova-Shymkina** highlighted GIZ's support for municipal renewable energy planning, reporting that 37 demo projects are underway or planned for implementation by 2025, with significant progress already achieved. **Olena Lenska** from the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Savings of Ukraine (SAEE) noted that they are scaling up the support for renewables, particularly in public buildings. **Lisa Helen Naser** from the GIZ Energy Partnership secretariat, underlined the role of energy partnerships in transferring knowledge and facilitating investments. **Olga Ponomarchuk** from the Ukrainian Ministry for Energy (MinEnergy) closed the discussion by sharing that the ministry is working on improving the regulatory environment to foster decentralized energy development.

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*Session 2 (from left to right): Panelists Natalia Khodolova, Dr. Ima Khrenova-Shymkina, Olena Lenska, Olga Ponomarchuk, Lisa Helen Naser and workshop moderator Dr. Olena Maslyukivska while Dr. Lars Handrich from DIW Econ delivers his keynote speech.*

## Session III: From Biodiversity Loss to Climate Gains



*MEPR Deputy Minister Viktoriia Kyreieva delivering a keynote speech on biodiversity in session 3.*

Deputy Minister **Viktoriia Kyreieva** (MEPR) opened the session with a keynote speech, in which she stressed that biodiversity must not be sidelined in reconstruction efforts. She specifically underlined the urgency to invest in protecting biodiversity amidst the military actions, noting that neglecting it now could result in irreversible losses.

In the second keynote speech of this session, **Elke Steinmetz** from BMUV emphasized the co-benefits of integrated biodiversity and climate strategies. She encouraged further cooperation between German and Ukrainian agencies on nature-based solutions.

The third keynote speaker **Yulia Ovchynnykova**, member of the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian parliament), called for enhanced legal and parliamentary oversight of biodiversity protection and climate adaptation efforts. She stressed the importance of effective collaboration between the parliament, the government, businesses and NGOs to achieve these goals.

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In the panel, **Michael Brombacher** from the Frankfurt Zoological Society spoke about the importance of preserving key natural habitats in the face of reconstruction pressures. GIZ Ukraine biodiversity specialist and GreenUkraine team member **Dr. Volodymyr Domashlinets** presented his intervention on data, monitoring, and project alignment. **Dr. Vasyl Kostiusyn** from UNDP highlighted the need to connect biodiversity strategies to funding opportunities and international frameworks. **Olesya Petrovych** (MEPR) underlined the importance of multi-stakeholder coordination and embedding biodiversity in environmental impact assessments. GIZ Ukraine climate change adaptation advisor in the Ukrainian Climate Office (UCO) **Dr. Andriy Demydenko** emphasized that in fragile countries like Ukraine, building resilience must take precedence over emission reductions. He underscored that adaptation, particularly through Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA), provides immediate benefits and is crucial in the current context.



*Elke Steinmetz from BMUV talking about nature-based solutions in her keynote speech in session 3.*



*Session 3 (from left to right): Panelists Dr. Volodymyr Domashlinets, Olesya Petrovych, Michael Brombacher, Dr. Andriy Demydenko and moderator Dr. Olena Maslyukivska.*

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## Intervention: Platform for Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine

**Pier Carlo Sandei** from UNEP presented the Green Recovery Platform, launched at the Berlin Ukraine Recovery Conference in 2024, as a coordinated initiative to guide Ukraine's post-war reconstruction towards climate-resilient and EU-aligned development. Currently funded by the IKI, Italy and Finland, the platform aims to define the concept of green recovery, drive policy and institutional reforms, and mobilize comprehensive government and international support. It includes a Stakeholder Forum to ensure transparency and strategic input, a Coordination Group for direction and oversight, and a Support Unit for daily operations. A dedicated fund finances expert recruitment, partner engagement, logistical needs, and procurement to support green recovery interventions.

## Session IV: Speed Pitching IKI Projects

This high-energy session showcased a series of short timed, visually engaging presentations of 15 IKI funded projects (see the list in Annex 3). Each project followed a structured format: identifying the problem, presenting the approach, and summarizing the impact. The approach showed that the projects cover a wide spectrum – from renewable energy to biodiversity to climate resilience and institutional capacity building. The session demonstrated the diversity and innovation within the IKI portfolio in Ukraine stimulate synergies and strengthen cooperation among IKI projects.

## Session V: The Role of the Private Sector in Ukraine's Green Recovery

This session's keynote speaker **Robert Kirchner**, team leader of Low Carbon Ukraine (LCU), outlined the urgent need for integrating climate resilience and private sector engagement in Ukraine's green recovery and long-term reconstruction. Kirchner emphasized the necessity of a unified "Build Back Better" framework and presented two case studies to highlight investment opportunities and systemic barriers. He stressed that private investment is crucial but requires strong guarantees, legal reforms, and policy stability. He concluded mentioning the dual need for capital security and ambitious reforms to successfully green Ukraine's recovery and ensure its alignment with EU accession goals.

In the panel, **Serhii Dykyi**, expert at the Reform Support Team, explained how MEPR is developing regulatory instruments to incentivize sustainable private sector engagement. **Florian Eickhold**, independent senior expert on carbon markets, spoke about the potential of Article 6 mechanisms under the Paris Agreement to unlock international finance. **Klavdiia Yatsyshyna** from the UN Global Compact Ukraine emphasized the importance of corporate responsibility and integrating green governance into business practices. She highlighted the need to scale up existing sustainable solutions and underscored the critical role universities play in driving this transformation through education, research, and collaboration. **Dr. Vladyslav Antypov**, chairman of the Entrepreneurs' Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, advocated for better inclusion of business chambers in green policy discussions. **Viktoriia Karpets** from the European Business Association emphasized that stimulating private investment in Ukraine's recovery requires a long-term national vision backed by tax incentives for households, transparent financial regulations, as well as robust support for green energy, waste management, and circular economy reforms. She shared survey results showing that 70% of companies plan to invest in Ukraine despite the war, yet real investment growth depends on improved legal frameworks. For successful integration into the EU, she called for alignment with EU regulations, including CBAM and the EU taxonomy, to ensure credibility and attract sustainable financing.

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Session 5 (from left to right): Keynote speaker Robert Kirchner with panelists Serhii Dykyi, Florian Eickhold, Viktoriia Karpets, Klavdiia Yatsyshyna and moderator Dr. Olena Maslyukivska.

## Session VI: Presentation on Current IKI Developments

**Carmen Begerock** presented the work of Zukunft – Umwelt – Gesellschaft (ZUG), the German federal agency managing the International Climate Initiative (IKI) on behalf of the IKI ministries, which funds climate and biodiversity projects globally. She explained that the IKI, with nearly €7 billion in funding since 2008, supports projects in four key areas: greenhouse gas mitigation, climate adaptation, natural carbon sinks, and biodiversity conservation. She informed that in Ukraine, the IKI currently supports 25 ongoing projects across bilateral, regional, and global levels. Ms. Begerock highlighted ongoing and upcoming funding opportunities through IKI's thematic and country calls, as well as the small and medium grant programs, encouraging Ukrainian stakeholders to further engage with IKI's structured support channels and apply for funding aligned with national priorities like the NDC and climate resilience.



Carmen Begerock presenting the work of Zukunft – Umwelt – Gesellschaft (ZUG)

## Closing Remarks and Way Forward

The workshop was closed by **Gabriel Sauer** with a **summary of the key takeaways** and a call for continued collaboration among stakeholders. He emphasized the **need for synergies and collaboration** to integrate climate action and biodiversity into Ukraine's recovery efforts.

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# Conclusion



*Gabriel Sauer summarizing the key takeaways and closing the workshop.*

The IKI Workshop in Kraków offered a unique and timely platform for German and Ukrainian stakeholders to align strategies, exchange experiences, and strengthen cooperation in support of Ukraine's green recovery. Over the course of the day, participants collectively explored how Ukraine's NDC 2035 can serve not only as a climate action roadmap but also as an investment plan for rebuilding a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable country.

A key outcome of the workshop was the shared recognition that green recovery in Ukraine must be comprehensive – integrating climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity protection, energy transition, and social equity. The discussions reinforced that resilience-building, especially through nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation, is essential for a fragile state

coping with the long-term effects of war and climate change. Equally, the importance of reliable data, coherent policy frameworks, and a strong institutional foundation was emphasized as prerequisites for effective planning and implementation.

The workshop also highlighted the need for new financing models and private sector engagement in Ukraine's green reconstruction. From regulatory reforms and emissions trading schemes to tax incentives and digital investment platforms, participants outlined a variety of mechanisms to unlock private capital for sustainable development. Strong calls were made for inclusive governance, legal protections for investors, and alignment with EU standards – all of which are critical for attracting green investments and supporting Ukraine's path toward EU integration.

Furthermore, the presentations demonstrated the richness and diversity of the IKI project portfolio in Ukraine. Through the speed-pitching format, project implementers showcased scalable solutions and innovations already underway – from community-based renewable energy systems to biodiversity conservation and energy-efficient housing. This session not only illustrated the impact of IKI's ongoing support but also fostered synergies and knowledge exchange across sectors and organizations.

Ultimately, the workshop reaffirmed a collective commitment to Ukraine's long-term sustainability and sovereignty. As articulated in the closing remarks, the path forward requires deeper cooperation among government, civil society, academia, business, and international partners. The insights and momentum generated during the workshop will inform future policies, funding decisions, and project designs. Most importantly, they will help to ensure that Ukraine's post-war recovery is not only a reconstruction process, but a genuine transformation towards a greener, fairer, and climate-resilient future.

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## Team and Contact Details

This document has been developed based on the working results of the sessions at the IKI workshop Ukraine held in Kraków on 5th March 2025.

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# Annex 1 – Workshop Agenda

## March 4, 2025

CET	Kyiv Time	Topic
15:00 – 17:00	16:00 – 18:00	<b>Bilateral Talks between German IKI Ministries and Delegates from Ukrainian Ministries</b>
19:00	20:00	<b>Joint Welcome Dinner at Restaurant “Mavericks” (Vienna House by Wyndham Andel's Cracow)</b>

## March 5, 2025

CET	Kyiv Time	Topic
09:00 – 09:30	10:00 – 10:30	<b>Registration and Welcome Coffee</b>
09:30 – 09:45	10:30 – 10:45	<b>Welcome of Hosts and Official Opening Remarks</b> Opening Address: Aligning Climate Action with Ukraine's Reconstruction

### Speakers:

- **Dr. Philipp Behrens**, Head of IKI Division KC4, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)
- **Jürgen Keinhorst**, Head of Regional Division for Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV)
- **Viktoriia Kyreieva**, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
- **Maryna Denysiuk**, Deputy Minister for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine (online)
- **Gabriel Sauer**, Project Director, IKI Interface Project Ukraine (GreenUkraine)

09:45 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:45	<b>Session I: “Ukraine’s NDCs 2035 – Roadmap to Commitment or Investment Plan in sustainable energy”</b>
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Why the 2035 NDC is Crucial for Ukraine's Sustainable Future?

Summary: This panel session will provide an overview of the significance of updating Ukraine's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the context of climate change and sustainable development.

### Key Questions:

- What are the key priorities and targets of Ukraine's NDCs until 2035?
- What is the ambition level required to align NDCs with a vision to become carbon neutral until 2050?
- How can the NDCs drive international investments and support economic resilience and climate change adaptation?
- How to avoid stranded assets?

### Keynote Speakers:

- **Dr. Philipp Behrens**, Head of IKI Division KC4, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)

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- **Dr. Oleksandr Diachuk**, Leading Research Officer at Institute for Economics and Forecasting of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

#### Panelists:

- **Anna Ackermann**, Policy analyst, Green reconstruction of Ukraine, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD); Board member of the Centre for Environmental Initiatives "Ecoaction"
- **Rimma Kushtym**, NDC Expert, GIZ Ukraine
- **Svitlana Sushko**, Head of the Reform and Recovery Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- **Dr. Galyna Trypolska**, Senior Researcher Institute of Economics and Forecasting, Ukrainian Academy of Science

10:45 – 11:45 –  
11:30 12:30

## Session II: “Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions in Ukraine”

### Unlocking the Potential of Local Energy Solutions for a Resilient Future

Summary: This session will explore the potential for decentralized renewable energy solutions in Ukraine as part of the new NDCs. Discussions will focus on innovative approaches to scale up renewable energy supply that can enhance resilience and sustainability, as well as the regulatory framework for a wide rollout.

#### Key Questions:

- What are the current challenges and opportunities for decentralized renewable energy in Ukraine? What has been achieved?
- What is the cost of decentralized RE vs. conventional and nuclear solutions.
- Are communities able to implement such initiatives right now?
- How can these solutions contribute to achieving NDC targets?
- Are national reform efforts keeping pace with communities' needs?

#### Keynote Speakers:

- **Maryna Denysiuk**, Deputy Minister Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine (*Was unable to attend this session due to an unforeseen official commitment with the Government of Ukraine*)
- **Dr. Lars Handrich**, Managing Director and practice leader of climate economics, DIW Econ

#### Panelists:

- **Natalia Kholodova**, Program Manager, NGO Ecoclub
- **Dr. Ima Khrenova-Shymkina**, Project Manager, GIZ
- **Olena Lenska**, Head of the Alternative Resources Department, SAEED
- **Lisa Helen Naser**, Head of the Energy Partnership secretariat
- **Olga Ponomarchuk**, Head of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Energy of Ukraine

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11:30 – 12:30 –  
11:45 12:45

**Coffee Break**

11:45 – 12:45 –  
12:30 13:30

**Session III: “From Biodiversity Loss to Climate Gains:**

**How Ukraine’s Biodiversity Conservation Can Drive Climate Adaptation and Mitigation”**

Summary: This session will address the critical importance of biodiversity protection within Ukraine's climate strategy. It will highlight how preserving biodiversity can support climate resilience and sustainable development goals.

Key Questions:

- How does biodiversity restoration and protection contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation efforts and vice versa?
- What strategies can be implemented to protect biodiversity while pursuing economic development? What role can international conservation efforts play?

Keynote Speakers:

- **Viktoriia Kyreieva**, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
- **Elke Steinmetz**, Head of Division for International Cooperation on Biodiversity, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV)
- **Yulia Ovchynnykova**, Member of Committee of Verkhovna Rada (online)

Panelists:

- **Michael Brombacher**, Head of Europe Department of the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS)
- **Dr. Andriy Demydenko**, Climate Change Adaptation Advisor, Ukrainian Climate Office, GIZ
- **Dr. Volodymyr Domashlinets** is an expert on forestry and biodiversity in the GIZ IKI Interface “GreenUkraine” project
- **Dr. Vasyl Kostyshyn**, Project Coordinator "Supporting Early Actions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Programme (GBF-EAS)", UNDP (Online)
- **Olesya Petrovych**, Senior Expert on Biodiversity Protection Senior Expert on Biodiversity Protection, Reform Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine (MEPR)

12:30 – 13:30 –  
12:45 13:45

**Intervention about the Platform for Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine**

**Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei**, Senior Programme Officer at UNEP in Ukraine

12:45 – 13:15 –  
13:30 14:30

**Group Photo and Lunch Break**

13:30 – 13:30 –  
14:15 14:15

**Session IV: Speed Pitching of the IKI Projects in Ukraine**

Each IKI project presents in **Pecha-Kucha-Style (5 slides x 20 second) following a problem-approach-impact template structure.**

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14:15 – 15:15 –  
15:30 16:30

## Session V: The Role of the Private Sector in Ukraine's Green Recovery

Summary: This session will explore the role of private sector investment in advancing environmentally sustainable reconstruction efforts in Ukraine post-war+. It will highlight strategies to engage private investors in green infrastructure, renewable energy, and biodiversity-friendly development, ensuring a resilient and climate-positive recovery.

### Key Questions:

- What is the long-term vision for Ukraine's sustainable and climate-resilient development that could guide private investments?
- What incentives can be provided to attract private sector investment in green infrastructure, renewable energy, and circular economy solutions?
- How can public-private partnerships be structured to support environmentally responsible reconstruction efforts?
- Beyond the war, what are the main obstacles hindering investments in low-carbon and nature-positive projects?
- Can cooperative approaches and voluntary carbon market mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement foster private sector participation in Ukraine's green and biodiversity-conscious reconstruction?
- How does Ukraine's intended participation in Article 6 contribute to the implementation of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and align with its scheduled implementation of the EU acquis in terms of climate action and environmental sustainability?

### Keynote Speaker:

- **Robert Kirchner**, Manager, Berlin Economics

### Panelists:

- **Dr. Vladyslav Antypov** - Chairman of Entrepreneurs' Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (*Online*)
- **Serhii Dykyi**, Expert, Reform Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
- **Florian Eickhold**, Independent Senior Expert on Carbon Markets
- **Viktoriia Karpets**, Industrial Ecology and Sustainable Development Committee Manager, European Business Association
- **Klavdiia Yatsyshyna**, Head of Ukraine Energy Initiative, UN Global Compact Network Ukraine

15:30 – 16:30 –  
15:45 16:45

## Coffee-break

15:45 – 16:45 –  
16:30 17:30

## Session VI: Interactive Group Exercise on Integrating Climate Action and Biodiversity Protection into Reconstruction Plans

4 groups brainstorm solutions **guided by three key questions:**

1. How can reconstruction be climate-smart and nature-positive?

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2. What practical measures integrate biodiversity protection?
3. How can different stakeholders collaborate effectively?

Each group fills in a **1-page “Eco-Reconstruction Blueprint”**, including: priority actions, what IKI projects can contribute, stakeholder cooperation and targeted results.

**16:30 – 16:45**      **17:30 – 17:45**

## **Session VII: Presentation on Current IKI Developments**

- **Carmen Begerock**, Focal Point Ukraine, IKI Office

**16:45 – 17:00**      **17:45 – 18:00**

## **Closing Remarks and Way-Ahead**

Speaker: **Gabriel Sauer**, Director, IKI Interface Project Ukraine

**18:00**      **19:00**

## **Voluntary Get-Together**

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## Annex 2 – Speakers

### Welcome of Hosts and Official Opening Remarks



**Dr. Philipp Behrens** is the Head of IKI Division KC4, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). Prior to joining BMWK in 2022 he worked for 15 years for the Federal Environment Ministry (BMU) starting in the climate division and has since worked in various national, European and international areas. Before taking over the IKI in 2019, the law graduate with a doctorate in public international law headed the Minister's Cabinet Affairs Unit for five years.



**Jürgen Keinhorst** is the Head of the Division for Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Africa and Middle East at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) since 2014. Before, he was heading the Division in charge of Cooperation with Countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Newly Independent States. Jürgen is an economist by education. He is co-chair of the OECD GREEN Action Task Force. Between 2017 and 2024, he chaired the Committee on Sustainable Energy of the UNECE.

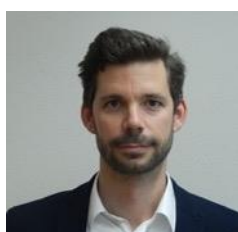


**Viktoriia Kyreieva**, the Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, is an experienced expert in environmental policy and regulatory. From 2020 to 2023, she led departments overseeing industrial pollution prevention, climate policy, permitting, and licensing at the Ministry. Previously, she served as Director of the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources at the Kyiv Regional State Administration (2016–2020).








**Gabriel Sauer**, Project Director of the IKI Interface Project Ukraine (GreenUkraine) at GIZ, has been leading projects in the Energy and Climate Cluster with GIZ Ukraine since 2019. He directs IKI Interface activities and manages initiatives on energy efficiency and Ukraine's Emission Trading Scheme. Previously, he worked as a state aid consultant at PwC and as a project manager in international cooperation, including for the Programme Office of the International Climate Initiative.

### Session I: “Ukraine’s NDCs 2035 – Roadmap to Commitment or Investment Plan in sustainable energy”

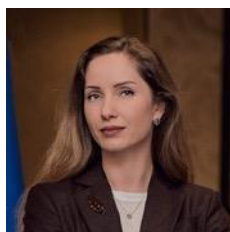


**Dr. Philipp Behrens** is the Head of IKI Division KC4, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). Prior to joining BMWK in 2022 he worked for 15 years for the Federal Environment Ministry (BMU) starting in the climate division and has since worked in various national, European and international areas. Before taking over the IKI in 2019, the law graduate with a doctorate in public international law headed the Minister's Cabinet Affairs Unit for five years.

	<p><b>Dr. Oleksandr Diachuk</b> is a leading research officer at the Institute for Economics and Forecasting (IEF) of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine with over 18 years of experience in low emission development analysis, modelling, strategic planning, and policy making and mapping. Dr. Diachuk has experience as a national expert, IEF team leader in various UN, EU and US projects, including GIZ projects.</p>
	<p><b>Anna Ackermann</b> is a policy analyst for the Energy team at the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) working on green reconstruction of Ukraine, and a Board member of the Centre for Environmental Initiatives "Ecoaction". With a background in energy, environmental and climate policy, she supports European organizations designing approaches to Ukraine's sustainable post-war recovery and development.</p>
	<p><b>Rimma Kushtym</b>, NDC Expert at GIZ Ukraine, is a Ukrainian expert in climate and air quality policy, European integration, and environmental law. She served as a Senior Expert at the Reform Support Team at the Ministry of Environment, assisting in implementing priority environmental reforms and aligning Ukraine's policies with EU standards (2021-2024). She has contributed to drafting Ukraine's laws on climate and ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated gases, participated in international climate negotiations, and advocated for the adoption of regulatory frameworks for EU Air Quality Directives.</p>
	<p><b>Svitlana Sushko</b> is the Head of the Reform and Recovery Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. An expert in environmental policy and reform coordination, she holds an LL.M and a BA in Management, specializing in industrial emissions, climate policy, and sustainable resource management. Since 2016, she has led key environmental reforms under the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. She directs a multidisciplinary team shaping Ukraine's National Recovery Plan and coordinating the country's participation in major international climate events, including COP27-COP29.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Galyna Trypolska</b> is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Economics and Forecasting, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. With 20 years of experience, she has contributed to shaping government policies on renewable energy integration in Ukraine. Her expertise includes renewable energy employment, biofuel subsidies, regulatory policy for RES electricity production, and climate change adaptation.</p>

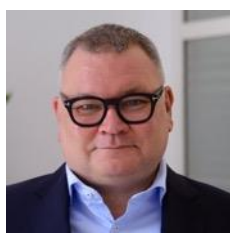
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## Session II: “Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions in Ukraine”



**Maryna Denysiuk** is Deputy Minister Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine. She is an experienced professional in energy, climate policy, and environmental governance with in depth skills in government relations, donor coordination and IFIs project implementation and leadership. She played a key role in preparing Ukraine's Recovery Plan, coordinating international aid for the energy sector, and developing the AidEnergy online platform.

*Maryna Denysiuk was unable to attend this session due to an unforeseen official commitment with the government of Ukraine.*



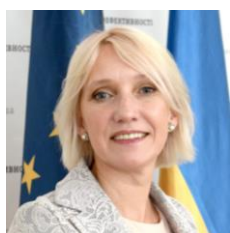
**Dr. Lars Handrich** is Managing Director and climate economics practice leader at DIW Econ. With over 25 years of experience, he has advised governments, companies, and institutions worldwide. From 2001 to 2009, he was part of a German Advisory Group on Economic Reforms in Ukraine. Under the German IKI, he has worked on projects in Ukraine, Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and Iran. Currently, he leads a team focused on coal exit and just transition in Ukraine. He holds a doctorate from Humboldt University of Berlin and has studied at Duke University, LSE, and the University of Oslo.



**Natalia Kholodova** is a Program Manager at the NGO Ecoclub. She has a degree in ecology and economics and nine years of experience in environmental work. Ecoclub has been helping municipalities adapt to climate change and develop renewable energy and energy efficiency for over 25 years. Natalia coordinated a consortium of four Ukrainian NGOs implementing the R2U project, which built 20 renewable energy demonstration projects in municipalities.



**Dr. Ima Khrenova-Shymkina** is a Project Manager at GIZ, where she oversees initiatives supporting Ukraine's transition to sustainable energy systems. Her work focuses on municipal-level renewable energy planning, capacity building, and implementation of demonstration projects. With a strong background in environmental policy and international cooperation, she plays a pivotal role in advancing climate resilience and energy efficiency in Ukraine.



**Olena Lenska** is the Head of the Alternative Resources Department at the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine (SAEE). She leads national initiatives focused on the development and integration of alternative energy sources, contributing to Ukraine's energy independence and green transition. With extensive experience in energy policy and project coordination, she plays a key role in shaping sustainable energy strategies at both national and local levels.



**Lisa Helen Naser** is a Head of Secretariat for the German-Ukrainian Energy Partnership. She has more than 10 years of experience working in the energy field, having worked on hydrogen, building design, energy efficiency, energy management, renewables development and climate finance at GIZ as well as consulting company GFA. Her most recent assignment was as senior policy offer for development cooperation at the German Federal Chancellery. She graduated in 2013 with a joint M.Sc. in Economics and Public Policy from Ecole Polytechnique, Sciences Po Paris, and ENSAE.

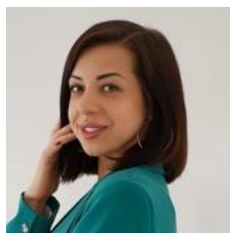
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Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs  
and Climate Action



Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



**Olha Ponomarchuk** is the Head of the International Relations Department at the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine. She has over seven years of experience at the State Agency for Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine, where she led the International and Investment Policy Department, advancing international cooperation in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Since March 2024, she has been overseeing international initiatives, projects, and programs across the energy sector, including renewable energy, the green transition, the oil and gas sector, and nuclear energy.

## Session III: “From Biodiversity Loss to Climate Gains: How Ukraine’s Biodiversity Conservation Can Drive Climate Adaptation and Mitigation”



**Elke Steinmetz** is the Head of Division for International Cooperation on Biodiversity at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV). She is a geographer by education, and has spent her career working for NGOs, the science sector and government. For more than ten years she served as a political advisor at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and now holds the position of Head of Division for International Cooperation on Biodiversity.



**Yuliia Ovchynnykova** is a Member of the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) and Chair of the Subcommittee on Forest Resources, Biodiversity, and Protected Areas under the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Environmental Policy and Nature Management. A Ph.D. in Biology and an ecologist, she previously worked at Donetsk National University. She actively contributes to environmental legislation, serves as a member of Ukraine’s delegation to PACE, co-chairs the inter-factional group "Humane Country," and is part of the International Alliance of Parliamentarians for the Recognition of Ecocide.




**Michael Brombacher**, Head of Europe Department of the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) is an environmental scientist specializing in large-scale conservation. He developed the Important Bird Areas Programme in Central Asia and supported civil society conservation organizations in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Since 2011, he has led the European Department of the Frankfurt Zoological Society, focusing on safeguarding wilderness areas in the Carpathians, Polissia, and Białowieża.



**Dr. Andriy Demydenko** is a Climate Change Adaptation Adviser at the Ukrainian Climate Office, GIZ. With over 30 years of experience, he specializes in environmental and water governance within the water-energy-food nexus. A Ph.D. physicist, he has expertise in risk-based integrated water resources management, water security, disaster risk reduction, and climate-resilient development. He has managed UN, OECD, EU, and USAID-funded projects on environmental and climate change adaptation policy, Integrated Water Resources Management, and building capacity for climate change adaptation. His work spans UN SDGs, EU directives, and MEAs implementation across Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia.

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	<p><b>Dr. Volodymyr Domashlinets</b> is an expert on forestry and biodiversity in the GIZ IKI Interface “GreenUkraine” project. He has more 28 years of experience working at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, dealing with issues of protection of wild fauna and flora. He was a focal point for several international treaties on biodiversity conservation.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Vasyl Kostyushyn</b> is a Project Coordinator "Supporting Early Actions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Programme (GBF-EAS)", UNDP. He is a biologist with over 30 years of experience in biodiversity conservation. Since 2002, he has led the Animal Monitoring and Conservation Department at the I.I. Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology. A member of the National Commission on the Red Data Book of Ukraine, he has authored over 200 scientific publications. He has coordinated international conservation projects with UNDP, AEW, IUCN, WWF, and others, contributing to Ukraine's biodiversity and wetlands strategies.</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Olesya Petrovych</b> is a Senior Expert on Biodiversity Protection of the Reform Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine. She is a biologist and ecologist who has worked for 25 years on issues of the establishment and management of protected areas and biodiversity conservation, national legislation development, and multilateral environmental agreements implementation. Currently, her main focus is on strategic issues of biodiversity conservation and monitoring, development of national legislation on invasive alien species, and approximation of Ukrainian legislation to EU legislation.</p>

## Intervention about the Platform for Action on the Green Recovery of Ukraine

	<p><b>Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei</b> is Senior Programme Officer at UNEP in Ukraine and he leads UNEP presence and delivery in Ukraine. Before joining UNEP, Pier Carlo served as Senior Partnership Advisor on Climate, Energy, and Environment at UNDP Brussels, leading policy engagement with the EU. He previously coordinated the Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome, managing a €60 million portfolio and facilitating G7 interventions in Africa. As an advisor to the G7 Presidency, he supported the preparation of the Environment Communiqué and liaised with the G7 summit. He began his UN career as a JPO at UNEP-Europe office in Vienna, leading engagement in Southeastern Europe and securing GEF and GCF projects.</p>
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## Session V: The Role of the Private Sector in Ukraine's Green Recovery

	<p><b>Robert Kirchner</b> is a member of the Management Board at Berlin Economics, a research-oriented consultancy advising governments for over 15 years. He serves as Deputy Team Leader of the German Economic Team and Team Leader of the Low Carbon Ukraine project. The German Economic Team advises Ukraine's government and state institutions on economic policy, financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action. Low Carbon Ukraine supports the Ukrainian government in promoting the transition to a low-carbon economy. This project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI).</p>
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	<p><b>Dr. Vladyslav Antypov</b> is a Chairman of Entrepreneurs' Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Protection at the Ukrainian CCI is a Ukrainian entrepreneur and environmentalist, founder and CEO of Center of Environment and New Technologies Development. Member of the Supervisory Board of Win Win Club and graduate of Aspen Institute Kyiv. Member of the Association of Sustainable Development Experts (ASDE).</p>
	<p><b>Serhii Dykyi</b> is an Expert in the Recovery and Reform Support Team and supports the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine in matters related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and its operationalization in Ukraine. He holds a Master's degree in Global Citizenship and Sustainable Leadership from the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and a degree in International Relations from Lviv Polytechnic National University.</p>
	<p><b>Florian Eickhold</b> is an Independent Senior Expert on Carbon Markets, who started his career in 2004 with the development of climate policies and solutions at Ecofys after graduating in political science and economics at the University of Cologne. He works on the design of sustainable carbon market and climate finance projects and innovates key elements of corporate and public climate change strategies. Currently he works as independent advisor for various organizations including the Ukraine Climate Office.</p>
	<p><b>Viktoriia Karpets</b> is Manager of the Committee on Ecology and Sustainable Development at the European Business Association. An ecologist with expertise in environmental protection, regulatory compliance, and sustainability. Focused on improving the regulatory landscape in industrial ecology, climate change, and sustainability. Leading initiatives on CBAM, ETS, and waste management, and adapting Ukrainian legislation to European green principles. Advocates for businesses' sustainable growth.</p>
	<p><b>Klavdiia Yatsyshyna</b> is the Head of the Ukraine Energy Initiative at the UN Global Compact in Ukraine. She specializes in sustainable development, corporate social responsibility, and ESG strategy integration. Previously, she worked at KPMG Ukraine on ESG consulting and led the Community Engagement Department at Ukrasvydobuvannya. With a PhD in Economics from Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics, she has also taught corporate governance and strategic management in English-language master's programs.</p>

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## Session VI: Presentation on current IKI developments



**Carmen Begerock** is technical project manager in the IKI Office/ ZUG since 2018, where she works on the topics of climate adaptation and mitigation. She is focal point for Ukraine and the Philippines. Prior to joining the IKI Office, she worked for the GIZ on the interface of biodiversity and climate change. She is holding a Master of Science from University of Potsdam in Environmental Science/Geoecology.



**Fabian Twerdy** is a technical project manager in the IKI Office/ ZUG. He is responsible for several IKI projects with a focus on long-term strategies and Ukraine. He is co-responsible for Ukraine as focal point in the IKI office. Earlier Fabian worked for the German Environment Agency and GIZ. He has working experience from Ukraine where he spent several months in Odesa. *(Could not attend the event due to an unexpected illness)*

## Moderator



**Dr. Olena Maslyukivska** is an Associate Professor at the Department of Environmental Studies at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. With over 20 years of experience, she specializes in interdisciplinary research, policy analysis, and consulting for governments, private companies, and international organizations in the fields of environment and sustainability. Her diverse background allows her to adopt a holistic approach to tackling complex sustainability challenges, effectively bridging academia, policy, and industry.

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## Annex 3 – List of projects presenting at the speed pitching session

1. IKI Interface Ukraine (GreenUkraine)
2. ReWarm
3. Support to the EEF and the Climate-friendly Reform Agenda S21
4. Energy Efficient District Lviv
5. IKI Interface - C4CA/UCO
6. PROGRESS/EU4CRL Promoting Green Deal Readiness in the Eastern Partnership Countries/EU4ClimateResilience
7. H2-dipo Decarbonization Diplomacy. Ukraine Office
8. Low Carbon Ukraine
9. Strengthening civil society in the implementation of national climate policy
10. Support for the establishment of an ETS in Ukraine
11. FELICITY II: Ukraine Financing Energy for Low-carbon Investment –
12. Cities Advisory Facility - Eastern Partnership and Central Asia Program
13. Accelerating NDC and promoting Sustainable Bioenergy, Agri and Land-Use Practices in Ukraine (EBRD)
14. Conservation of highly valuable primeval and old-growth forests in selected national parks in the Ukrainian Carpathians
15. Supporting Ukraine in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and Adaptation to the impact of climate change in the Black Sea region (PAABS)

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