

EU integration, green economy and better water management: EU4Green Recovery East programme kicks off in Ukraine

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On 12 March, the European Union and Ukraine launched the EU4Green Recovery East programme. It will help the country address the damage caused by the Russian aggression by supporting Ukraine's path towards green recovery and reconstruction based on EU standards.

With an EU contribution of €21.3 million over four years (2025-2028) for all Eastern Partnership countries, this regional programme builds on a decade of EU support, advancing efforts in circular economy, sustainable water management, and environmental data management.

The EU4Green Recovery East programme offers new opportunities for the

Ukrainian government and businesses, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs), to improve resource efficiency while boosting productivity and creating new jobs.

The new programme will also continue supporting efforts on the reduction of water pollution, addressing economic aspects of water management, and improvement of cross-border cooperation for shared water resources.

“Ukraine’s transition to sustainable water management is essential for its post-war recovery and accession to the EU. Although we are still at the beginning of this journey, we have already taken important steps – developing nine river basin management plans in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and promoting important reforms in the areas of resource efficiency and green growth,” said Olha Yukhymchuk, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine for European Integration.

She added that the EU4Green Recovery East programme would be an opportunity to accelerate these efforts by ensuring better management of Ukraine’s natural resources, strengthening resilience to climate change and rebuilding damaged water infrastructure.

EU4Green Recovery East is funded by the European Union and implemented by five partners: Expertise France with the French International Office for Water (OiEau), OECD, UNECE, UNIDO, and the Environment Agency Austria (UBA).