

Kyiv hosts first ‘City on the Wave’ international conference on Mykolaiv’s recovery and transformation

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On 1 November, the Ukrainian capital Kyiv hosted the first ‘Mykolaiv – City on the Wave’ international conference dedicated to the prospects for the sustainable recovery and systemic transformation of the city’s economy.

The conference was organised by Mykolaiv City Council, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Association of Business Support Centres and with the support of Mykolaiv Oblast State Administration. The event was held as part of the EU-funded Mayors for Economic Growth (M4EG) facility, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

During the conference, a new economic model for the city based on the

principles of “blue” and “green” economies was presented, along with Mykolaiv’s Community Development Strategy and Master Plan. In addition, conference participants were introduced to key projects for the restoration and transformation of the region’s territories and districts, including an Online platform for the blue and green economy, the revitalisation of Mykolaiv Shipyard, Mykolaiv Industrial Park, innovation districts, etc.

Oleksandr Syenkevych, the Mykolaiv City Mayor, said Mykolaiv was extremely important for Ukraine’s economic recovery. *“Thanks to its strong community and historical heritage in shipbuilding and port infrastructure, Mykolaiv is already moving towards a modern, diversified blue economy. It is a new ecosystem based on the principles of sustainable development and the circular economy,”* said Oleksandr Syenkevych.

“Mykolaiv is shifting from just rebuilding to building a better, smarter city – even under tough conditions,” said Natalia Starostenko, Sector Manager of Regional and Local Development at the EU Delegation to Ukraine. *“By teaming up with EU cities and global organisations, Mykolaiv is putting people first, creating innovative projects, and following top European practices. The goal? To attract big investments and secure international funding through initiatives like the Ukraine Facility.”*

The event will be held annually and will serve as a platform for cooperation between all stakeholders involved in building the future of Mykolaiv.

