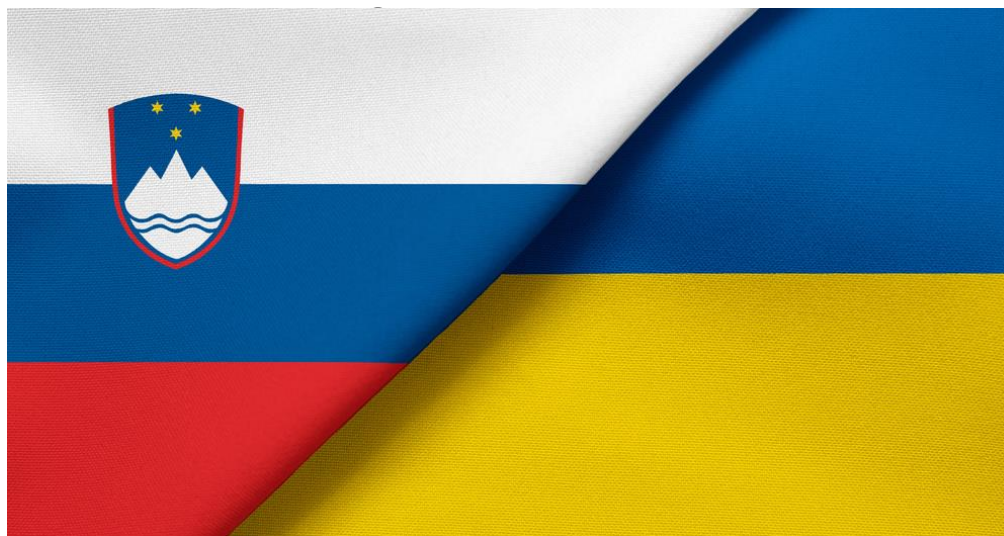


SLOVENIAN AID PROJECT 'POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION IN UKRAINE'



Objectives

1	Mentorship Programme ↓
2	Planning/Aiding Tools (project proposals) ↓
3	Long-term cooperation

Goal 1:

Transfer of knowledge and experience for the reconstruction and development of local communities

Goal 2:

Concrete plans for reconstruction (need-based)

Goal 3:

Establishment of durable connections & sustainable cooperation

Project phase

Tasks

Planning phase
Jun–Sep 2023

- **Introductory meetings**
- **Online meetings**

Execution phase
Oct 2023–Jul 2024

- **5 mentorship visits (2 already done)**
- **Delivery of written products, approval and handover (3 project drafts prepared)**

Closeout phase
Aug–Dec 2024

- **Defining long-term cooperation**
- **Final report and recommendations**

Results so far

- 2 mentorships already done (*Domžale-Hnivan signed memorandum of understanding, Hrastnik-Drohobych will sign sister cities agreement in 2024*)
- 4 project concepts prepared (*with project focusing on tourism cooperation Drohobych (with Polish partner) will apply to Interreg NEXT Poland-Ukraine in Spring 2024 & plans to finalise another project concept along with Hrastnik and partners from Hungary and Serbia to apply to DRP as well*)
- Polish Solidarity Fund recognised the good idea behind the project – agreed cooperation in 2024 on workshops for UA municipalities

Challenges for cooperation

- The on-going conflict makes travel harder (especially for municipalities in Eastern Ukraine)
- Three weeks can be long for some participants (due to work or family obligations) – in those cases, we modify mentorships to two weeks with a bit longer working days
- Lack of sufficient level of English in the municipality for the preparation of project drafts – for EU project writing good knowledge of English is a must (CEP initiated discussions with US AID on the topic)

There is interest of UA municipalities for Interreg cooperation

- Some municipalities in UA know of the programme (most recognisable is Interreg Poland-Ukraine) but lack information about calls and knowledge on how to apply (due to budgetary constraints Drohobych mentioned co-financing would be an issue)
- There is a lack of knowledge about possibilities SMF offers & where to find partners
- Cooperation between U-LEAD with Europe, DRP & Association of UA Cities (AUC) on raising awareness about the programmes and financing could be helpful



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