



Local initiatives

Ethical, innovative and inclusive policies and practices at local level in Ukraine

Local initiatives will be implemented by 13 Ukrainian local authorities with the aim to introduce ethical, innovative and inclusive policies and practices with a view to increasing citizen trust in local political actors and institutions. In particular, local initiatives will:

- Strengthen ethical, transparent and participatory decision-making;
- Foster the engagement of under-represented groups (in particular Roma, other ethnic minorities, and internally displaced persons);
- Promote a gender perspective in local political action and equal opportunities for women and men to participate in local political life.

The 13 selected municipalities will develop sustainable and replicable policies and/or practices on participatory budgeting, open government and inclusive decision-making, youth participation, and gender mainstreaming, ensuring intersectionality. Specifically, the local initiatives will focus on:

- Strengthening local democracy with youth participation in Balta;
- Open government for increased citizen trust in public institutions in Dunaivtsi;
- A code of ethics to foster transparency, accountability and citizen participation in Fastiv;
- Kamyanske youth in the participatory budget: from activity to partnership;
- Youth participation for improved transparent budgeting and decision-making in Kremenchuk;
- Open, inclusive and transparent participatory budgeting in Mykolaiv;
- Citizens of Poltava enhance participatory budgeting processes;
- Transparency for ethical and inclusive decision-making in Pyratyn;
- Participatory budgeting for more inclusiveness at local level in Sumy;
- A gender-sensitive budget in the amalgamated community of Shyrokye;
- Ensuring equal opportunities for women and men in decision-making in Ust-Putyla;
- Inclusive participatory budgeting to meet the needs of under-represented groups in Prymorsk;
- Engaging internally displaced persons in participatory budgeting in Sievierodonetsk.

Ukrainian municipalities will benefit from expert support and practical guidance on governance processes, tools and mechanisms to be introduced in order to achieve the goals of the local initiatives.

Local initiatives aim to deliver an added value to the efforts of Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe in the establishment of a transparent, reliable and efficient local self-government, in line with the provisions of the European Charter of Local Self-Government and

its Additional Protocol on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority, and relevant thematic resolutions and recommendations of the Congress.

In addition, local initiatives will contribute to reaching the Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender equality), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and 17 (Partnership for the goals) set by the United Nations in its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Local initiatives are implemented within the framework of the project “Strengthening democracy and building trust at local level in Ukraine”, which aims to improve the quality of local democracy in Ukraine by strengthening institutional frameworks and by supporting local authorities and their national associations in their efforts to promote ethical decision-making and more citizen-oriented, inclusive, responsive and transparent local governance. The project is implemented by the Congress as part of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2018 – 2021.