

Community-led Urban Strategies in Historic Towns (COMUS)

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COMMUNITY-LED URBAN STRATEGY IN HISTORICAL TOWNS
REFERENCE PLAN
LUTSK (Ukraine)



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Community-led Urban Strategies in Historic Towns (COMUS)



ABBREVIATION

COMUS	Community-led Urban strategies in Historical Towns
EU	European Union
CoE	Council of Europe
NSG	National Stakeholder Group
PIU	Project Implementation Unit



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FOREWORD

The COMUS project is a joint Council of Europe / European Union initiative that is part of the second Eastern Partnership Culture Programme. It seeks to stimulate social and economic development by enchasing cultural heritage in nine historic towns in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

The project introduces innovative ideas and concepts, namely the use of “urban rehabilitation” as a tool to contribute to wider objectives, including the celebration of diversity, constructive dialogue and the promotion of mutual respect between people of different cultures and religions, greater well-being and a better quality of life.

COMUS focuses on the following challenges: raising the importance of heritage as a primary, readily available resource in historic towns, fostering an integrated approach, managing existing urban constraints and pressures, introducing public debate and direct participation of local populations in the decision-making process, making the best of the existing urban fabric to foster a new kind of modernity.

Three pilot towns were selected to become part of the COMUS project in Ukraine: Lutsk; Zhovkva; and, Pryluky.

Experiences from the COMUS project will serve as examples to inspire projects in other towns, both in Ukraine and internationally, with a positive impact on national policies and intervention models, encouraging local development.

National implementation of the project is carried out jointly by the Ukrainian Ministries of Culture and of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Regional Development, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the Parliamentary Committee on Culture and Spirituality, the Ukrainian Centre for Cultural Studies and the Association of Ukrainian Cities.

The Reference Plan for Lutsk was elaborated during the COMUS Planning Phase. It is a strategic document which was developed as a result of cooperation between Lutsk municipality, the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and the Local Stakeholder Group (LSG).



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LIST OF LUTSK IMPLEMENTATION UNIT

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LIST OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1. *Yuriy Moklytsia* – Former Vice Town Head of Lutsk, group coordinator
2. *Olexandr Kotys* – Journalist
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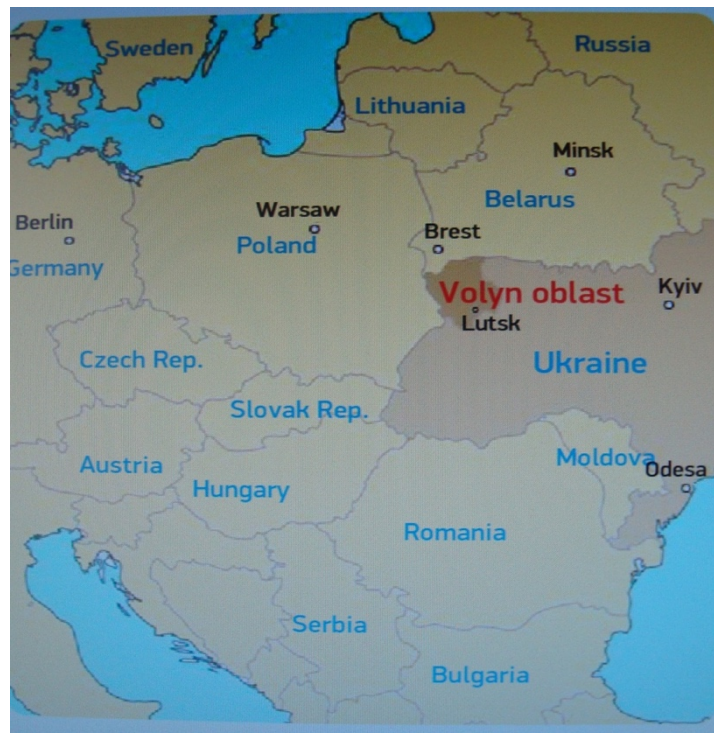
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ANALYSIS

The main information

Lutsk – is the centre of Volyn region (oblast), located in the far north-west of Ukraine. The region shares a border with Belarus and Poland. The city was founded on the island of the flood plain of the river Styr and has an ancient history and is included in the list of the country's historical settlements. The population is 217,000 and the total area of the territory is 41.6 km².



Lutsk location on the map of East Europe

The city lies at a height of 181m above sea level alongside the side of the Styr river (483 km). There are many green zones in Lutsk (squares) and three large parks; City Park, 900 years to Lutsk Park, Lesia Ukrainka Park and the Zoo.

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Its size and level of economic development makes Lutsk one of Ukraine's medium sized cities. Lutsk is surrounded by picturesque forests, lakes and villages Pidhaytsi, Strumivka, Pryluts'ke, which may eventually become incorporated into the city.

History and cultural heritage



Lutsk in a middle of XIX century

The first written record of the city dates back to 1085, when it was first mentioned in the ancient chronicles. In the 11-13th centuries, Lutsk was the part of the Kyiv Rus, and in the 16th century, it was the capital of the Volyn-Galician principality, which inherited statehood from Ancient Rus. From the end of the 14th century until 1569, the city was held by the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and was their southern residence.



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One important event of the period was the Congress of monarchs of Central and Eastern Europe which took place in January 1429.



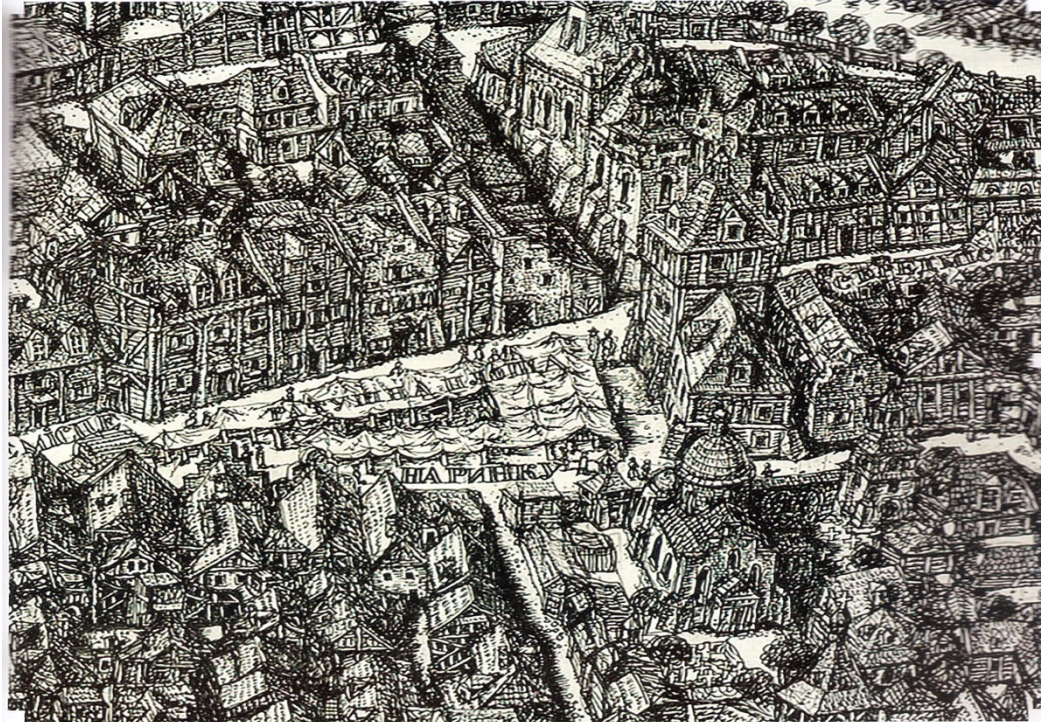
Congress in Lutsk, 1429. Modern painting by Artur Orliov

During 1569–1795 the city was the capital of the Volyn province, became part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Then, as a county town, Lutsk developed as part of the Russian Empire, and from 1921–1939 was part of the 2nd Commonwealth. During the latter period the old town, previously on an island, united with the mainland suburb due to land reclamation.

In terms of city planning, the island was divided into three parts, each of which had its fortifications: Upper Castle, Lower Castle and the town with its civic centre; the Market Square and the Town Hall.



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Market Square and Town Hall in Lutsk. 16th century

It is important to note that this part of the city retained a significant part of its cultural heritage, namely the traditional layout of the streets and the size of the quarters. This distinguishes the old part of the city and significantly contributes to its historic environment.

Another important feature of the old part of Lutsk is that it is surrounded on three sides by the broad expanse of river floodplains, its natural landscape is preserved. Against it, the silhouette of the Old Town is easily visible till this day.

The general plan of the modern city provides for the preservation of the Lutsk historic centre, the natural landscape and the development of the city. This is accomplished by sealing new blocks and development of new areas in the suburbs. There are many parks and public gardens in the city, so it is very comfortable and convenient to spend time there. The steady growth of tourism and the interest for both Ukrainian and foreign investors is proof of the city's special attraction.



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The cultural heritage of Lutsk is a result of collaboration between Ukrainians, Poles, Lithuanians, Jews, Karaites, Armenians, German.

1. Architectural heritage of the town represented by Medieval and Renaissance defence complex from the end of XIII – XVIII cc. There are above 20 architectural monuments of national significance from those times. Among them Lutsk Upper Castle with three towers, Castle's walls; Monasteries of catholic missions – Dominicans, Jesuits, Bernardines, Trinitarians, Brygites, Carmelites, Sharytkas, Bazilians; Churches – Protection of Most Holy Lady Church, St. Paul's and Peter's temple, Church of the Exaltation of the Cross, Synagogue; Defence tower with a wall, dwelling houses from XVI – XVII cc. On the territory of Lutsk also located 64 monuments of local significance. 35 of them are at the historical centre of the town. Among them – Lutheran (beginning of XX c.) and Armenian (XVI c.) churches, few trading and dwelling houses from XIX – beginning and first half of XX c.



Bernardines monastery



Synagogue



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Dominican's monastery

Brygites monastery



Lutheran church

Trinitarians monastery

- Artistic heritage of Lutsk consists of several parts. There are saved paintings (frescoes) in ancient Ivan Bogoslov church (XII c.). Church was located at the Lutsk castle's yard. There is preserved part of walls and construction as an example of Kievan Rus architecture and religion paintings.



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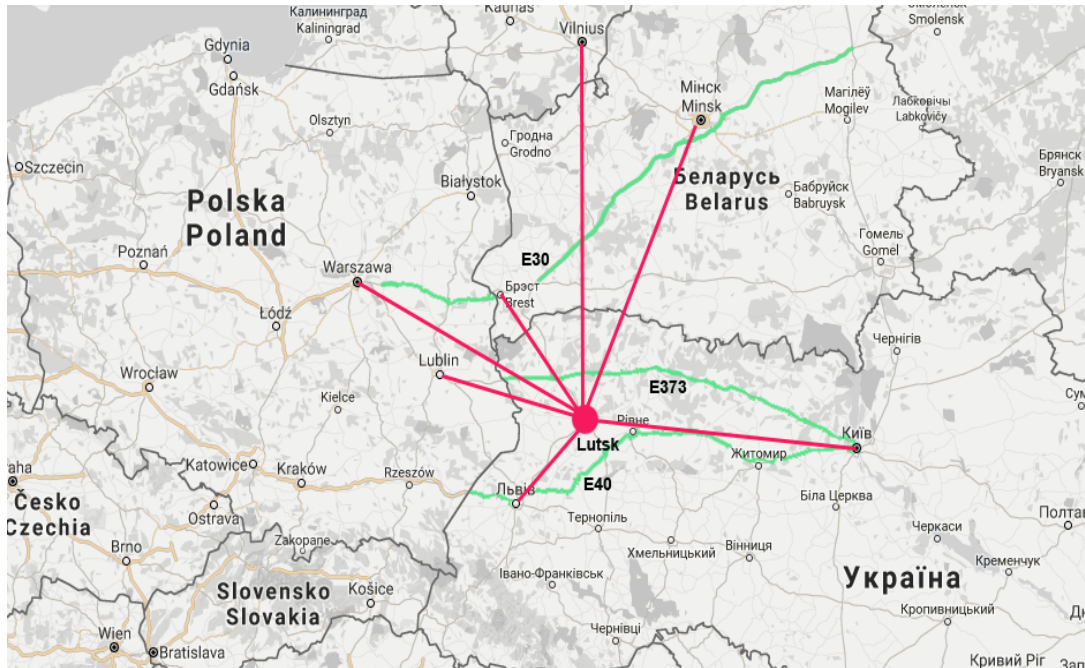
There are numerous wall paintings and sculptures from 17-18th centuries in the Jesuit church (St. Paul's and Peter's church), Trinitarians monastery and other ancient churches in Lutsk.



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Location and transport accessibility



Luts'k has good economical and geographic location:

- Luts'k is an administrative centre of Volyn region situated close to border with Poland (so, with the European Union);
- Polish towns Helm, Lublin and Zamost' are economic and cultural partners of Luts'k;
- Luts'k belongs to trans-border economic zone Bug, which is in the focus of European technical assistance;
- Luts'k is in the centre of one of the big agricultural districts in Ukraine, which specializes in the cultivation of cereal crops and exporting them abroad;
- town is on the international road connection (European road E 85).



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There is railway Station and Bus Station in Lutsk. The closest located airport situated in Lviv (140 km). Lutsk is on the cross-road from Ukraine to Poland, Belarus and Baltics.



Railway station



Bus station



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Identification of the COMUS project areas



Core map of Old Town – territory of COMUS project



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The COMUS project implementation area embraces the historical core of the town, all its historical buildings and architecture ensembles. The historical core of the town is middle preserved and not using now as a town centre. Here most dwelling, few administrative, historical and cultural buildings are concentrated, including the administration of State historical and cultural reserve «Old Lutsk».

The formation of the territory of the old Lutsk reaches its beginnings from Slavic times. The natural island, where the city was raised, occupied territory of about 8 hectares and consisted of three hills. The highest (about 1 ha) was the basis for the High Castle. Lower (6 hectares), outlined the limits of the Roundabout (Lower) castle. In the western part of the island was the smallest hill; from the Kyiv Rus times, it was the so-called craft and commercial core of the city, where later eventually geographically and legally Market square appeared.

In 1497, during the reign of Lithuanian Grand Duke Alexander of the Yagellon family Lutsk got Magdeburg Law. This fact reinforced the status of the Market Square as the centre of urban life because of the permit to build the Town Hall there. The judicial influence of municipal government since that time spread to a number of Lutsk suburbs that form the compact integral agglomeration single urban space.

By the early seventeenth century Lutsk buildings - were mostly made of wood. This is quite a negative impact on urban progress since it contributed to frequent fires. Somewhat later the network of city buildings received the stone-stone look. Stone buildings alongside social and household needs complement the fortification-defensive function of the city.

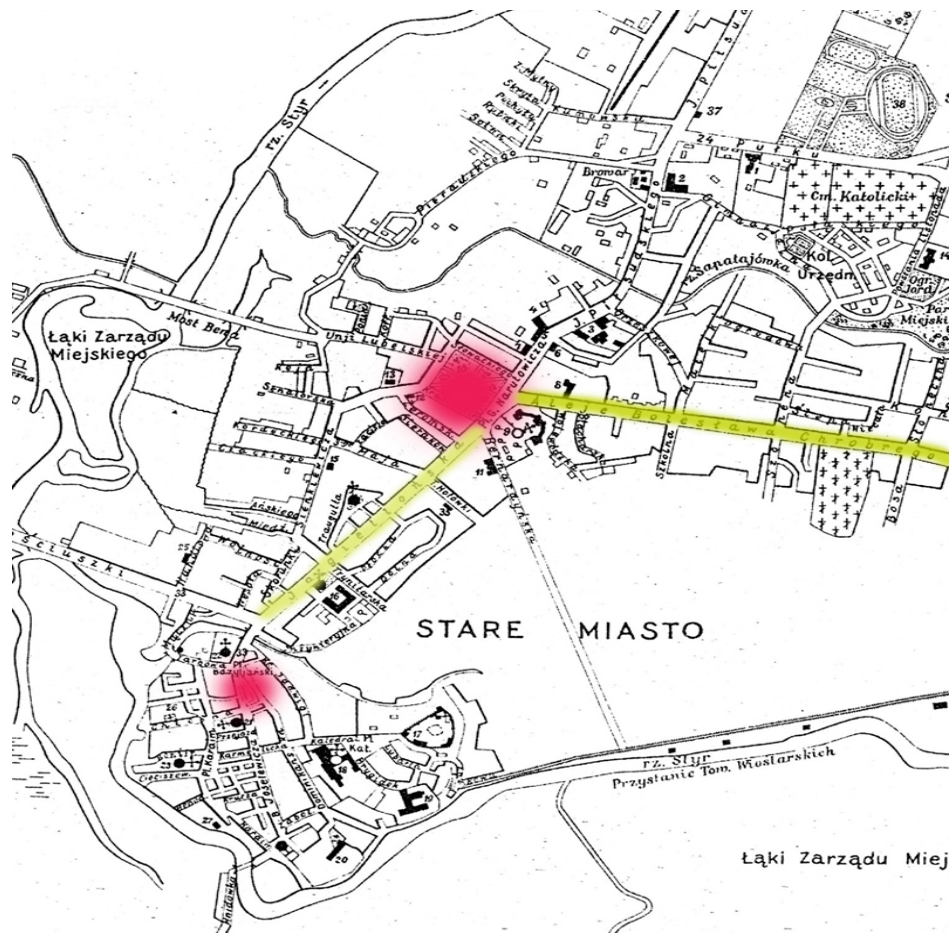
The special architectural image of Lutsk in the late Middle Ages and early modern era added a significant number of sacred buildings of different faiths. Orthodox churches and monasteries, Roman Catholic Church and Monastery, Karaite's kenasa, Jewish synagogue, and the Armenian Church formed Lutsk's image in Volyn as a "small Rome of the East".



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After the third partition of Poland, Lutsk, as a part of the former Volyn province, became a part of the Russian Empire. For more than a century Lutsk was under the Northern neighbour rule, which greatly influenced the in town-planning concept. On the foundations and basements of the XVI–XVIII centuries new brick buildings were constructed. Many Roman Catholic churches of Lutsk became dilapidated and were rebuilt. The centre of urban life over time has moved in the direction of the territorial part of ancient Zaglushetsky suburb – then to the Parade square (now Theatre square). Urban development has expanded considerably, crossing the line of a natural barrier – Hreshchati valy (now – Kryvyi val Street).



Old and new centres are marked in red. The biggest one – Teatralny Square.

Another one – Market Square in Old town.

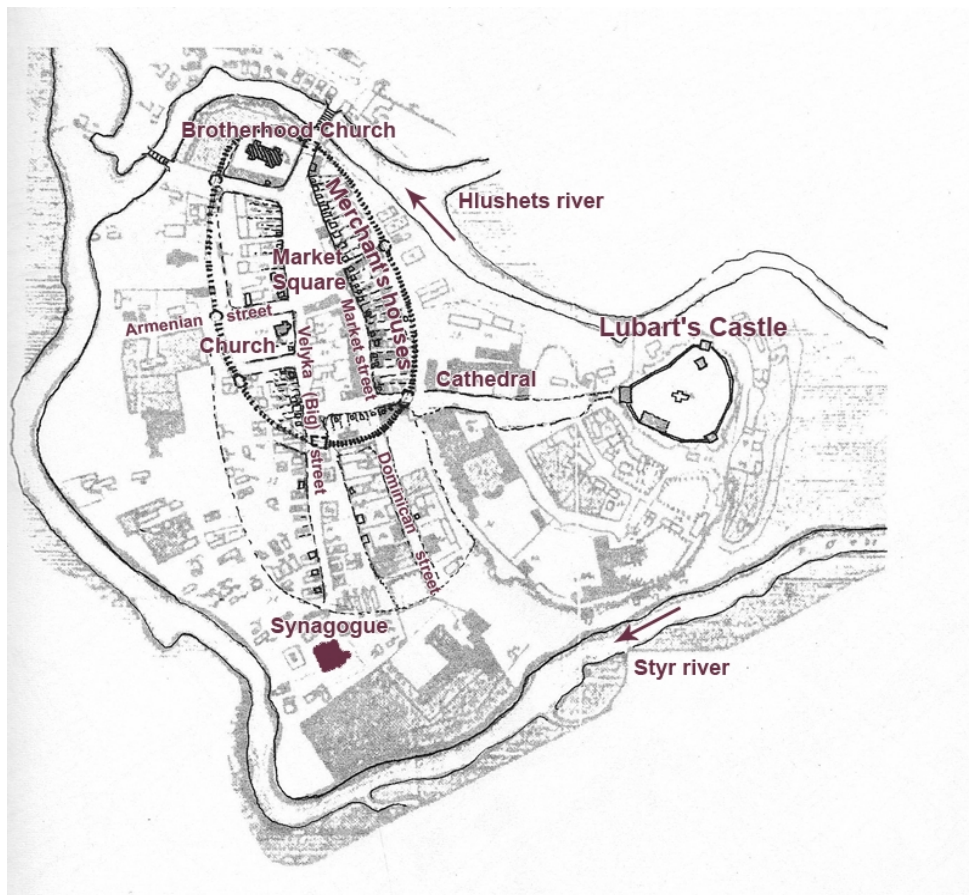
In green – Lesia Ukrainka Street.

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The historical part of Lutsk includes the territory of the Old Town and the old suburbs with urban lands within the modern streets Lesia Ukrainka, Vynnychenko, and Chopen. This area was identified as urban according to the general plan of Lutsk in 1869. Now it is the central residential area of the city with its public centre the Teatralny Square (Theatre Square).

The main public buildings are situated in the square, and large public gatherings and celebrations take place there.



Old Town. COMUS area in Lutsk



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Teatralny Square with the pedestrian street Lesia Ukrainka, is connected with the old part of the city.



Teatralny Square

There are differences between the modern centre of Lutsk and the Old Town. Residents and guests can visit sites the social and cultural sphere: Palace of Culture, theatres, libraries, museums, catering, trade and consumer services, health, sport and educational facilities, comfortable parks and public gardens, which are located mainly in the city centre. The area of the Old Town, with the exception of Lutsk castle, is under-used. For twenty years, the area has included vacant plots, uninhabited houses, unrenovated monuments and new buildings. There is a lack of shopping facilities, domestic, culinary, cultural and entertainment points and ordinary urban improvement.

Thus, the Old Town, geographically located in the centre of modern Lutsk, is the most backward area of the city, showing signs of long-term stagnation.



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Buildings and roofs of the Old Town

To achieve positive changes, backing on principles and using the opportunities of the project COMUS, we need to activate the centre of urban life and original public space by restoring the public functions of the former Market Square.



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The preserved part of the Market Square now occupies a small area of the square between Drahomanova Street and Danyla Galytskoho Street.



Market Square in Lutsk. Present day

The public garden has concrete block tiles, benches and a memorial sign. Nearby buildings require reconstruction and refurbishing, and the preserved monuments need restoration. Some of the houses have been long unused and lie empty. In one, there is a store, a pharmacy museum, a club, a library, and a private workshop.



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Two Orthodox churches and the Lutsk Brotherhood museum are also located here. In other words, this part of Market Square retains some signs of a civil nature, which need to be enhanced.



Churches of Brotherhood and St. Pokrova on the Market Square in Lutsk

Compared to the Theatre Square and the Lutsk Castle, where dozens of different cultural and social events take place throughout the year, the former Market is neglected.



Problems of territory

Even during the holidays, when Lesia Ukrainka Street is filled with folk artists and art groups, the former home of the market is empty.

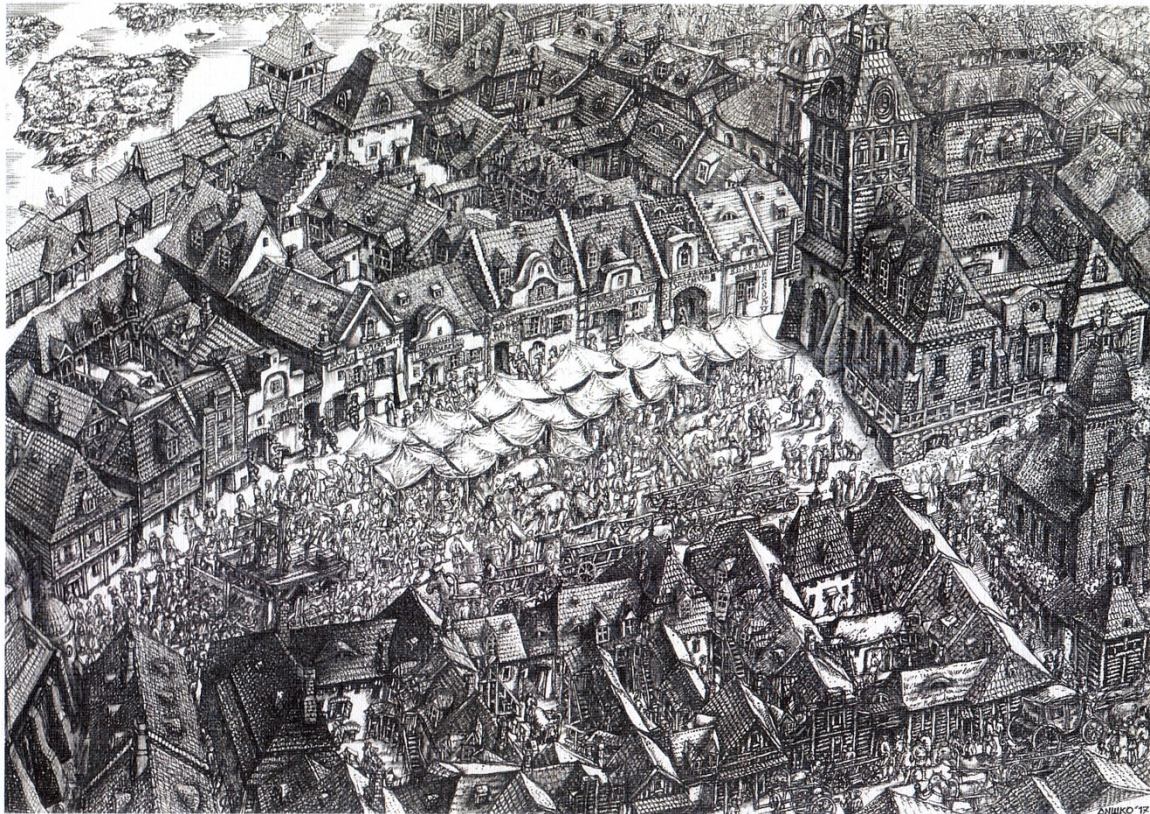


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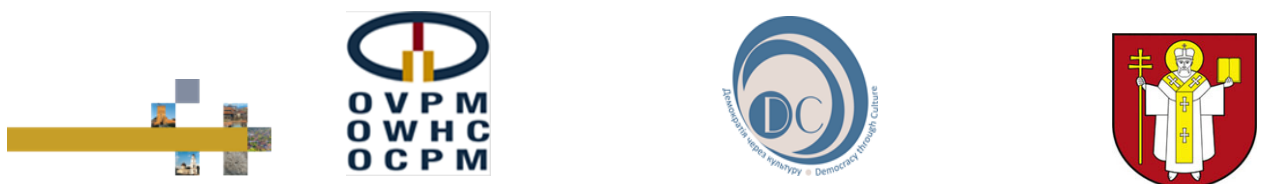


The return of public activity to the Market Square will reconnect the Old Town with the modern urban centre and with the active life of the city.

The revitalized Market Square, *returning to ancient traditions*, also has the potential to become a space for public dialogue, between different groups, generations, and stakeholders. It would involve young people, students and artists in formulating a local development strategy using their key asset; cultural and historical heritage.



Market Square in 16th century: an active centre of city-life in Lutsk



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ANALYSIS

SWOT-ANALISYS

Strengths

Weaknesses

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medium-sized, historic, comfortable, safe town with an interesting and beautiful cultural heritage - cultural-historical and landscape complex “Old Town” - Convenient geographical location on the intersection of the international traffic routes - Lutsk is located in the Euro-region “Bug” - Proximity to the border with the EU - Developed public transport network - Existing tourist infrastructure: hotels, restaurants, cultural institutions, touristic complexes, companies, etc. - a multicultural and multinational city historically, supports the aim of attracting tourists - Active local community - Patriotic and creative youth - Constant population growth - Considerable intellectual, cultural, and educational-exploratory potential - Existence of the “Tourism Alliance” of local hotels, restaurants, tourists and food businesses - Low cost of living compared to similar and larger cities - High educational levels of the population - Attractive to national and international potential investors - Positive practices of cooperation between government and business - Lutsk has traditional and deep partnership with cities in Ukraine and abroad - Lutsk is a festival town (mostly in summer time), it is attractive point for tourists - Strong sporting traditions and good results in football (Wolyn team) - Abundance of green areas; parks and squares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High number of cultural monuments are in a poor condition, requiring restoration - The Old Town, where many monuments are located, does not attract tourists or local citizens due to the absence of infrastructure - Citizens have low levels of knowledge concerning the history and importance of their cultural heritage - Concentration of traffic flows in the central and historic parts of the city - Few economic offers for tourist rooms - Insufficient use of historical and cultural heritage, connections with the partnering cities in creation of the positive image of the city and involvement of investments to the development of tourism - Poor health-recreational and entertainment infrastructure - Insufficient number of parking spaces in the historic part of the city - Lack of bicycling infrastructure - Unsystematic creation of parking zones by decreasing the number of pedestrian zones - Absence of the appropriate landscaping of the banks of the river Styr and other water reservoirs - No airport - No river port
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<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in EU financed heritage projects - Development of an urban environment that is ready to accept innovations and attract creative people and talented immigrants - Launching an e-portal for the exchange of information for youth: educational institutions, dwelling, jobs, NGOs - Running a festival for people with special needs - potential development of public spaces between the historical centre, Theatre square, and Central Park named after Lesia Ukrainka - Restore city fountains and small drinking water fountains - Plan for large historical reconstructions on the territory of the park next to the castle - Increasing number of festivals hosted in the city that also target their marketing towards tourists (advertisement campaigns in other cities and abroad) - Creation of the modern interactive City Museum - Creation of the independent Cultural centre - Restoration of the avian-connections - Restoration of the river port 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of cultural awareness of citizens - Aggravation of economic and social-political crisis - Unstable national currency rate - Crisis in national and global tourism, decreasing purchasing power and demand for touristic services - Absence of the united and agreed with community policy on the construction in the Old Town and nearby territories - Competition from other cities - Administrative-territorial reform and loss of the status of city centre for Lutsk



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DEMOGRAPHY SITUATION

Demographics

The population of Lutsk is 217,033 (2017). The city has always been multi-ethnic. The existing ethnic breakdown is: 92.5% Ukrainian, 6.2 % Russian, 0.5 % Belorussian, 0.2% Polish and a small number of other ethnicities. Most citizens are Orthodox Christians. Almost all citizens speak Ukrainian with a small number of Russian or Polish speaking people.

The dynamics of the population of Lutsk

National census:

<i>Nationality</i>	<i>1931</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>2001</i>
Ukrainians		76.0 %	86.0 %	92.5 %
Russians	17.8 %	19 %	11.9 %	6.2 %
Belarusians		1.6 %	0.9 %	0.5 %
Polish	30.0 %	1 %	0.3 %	0.2 %
Jewish	48.8 %	1.4 %	0.2 %	0.004 %

Language (according census 2001/ www.lutsk.ukrstat.gov.ua):

<i>Language</i>	<i>%</i>
Ukrainian	92.9
Russian	6.8
Polish	0.1

Migration movement (2015 / www.lutsk.ukrstat.gov.ua):

<i>New people</i>	<i>Persons off</i>	<i>Difference</i>
3673	3714	-41

The main reason people migrate is to look for jobs or for study. The most popular destinations are Russia, Poland, and Italy.



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Natural population movement (according 2016 / www.lutsk.ukrstat.gov.ua):

<i>Newborns</i>	<i>Dead</i>	<i>Difference</i>
2,497	2,035	+462

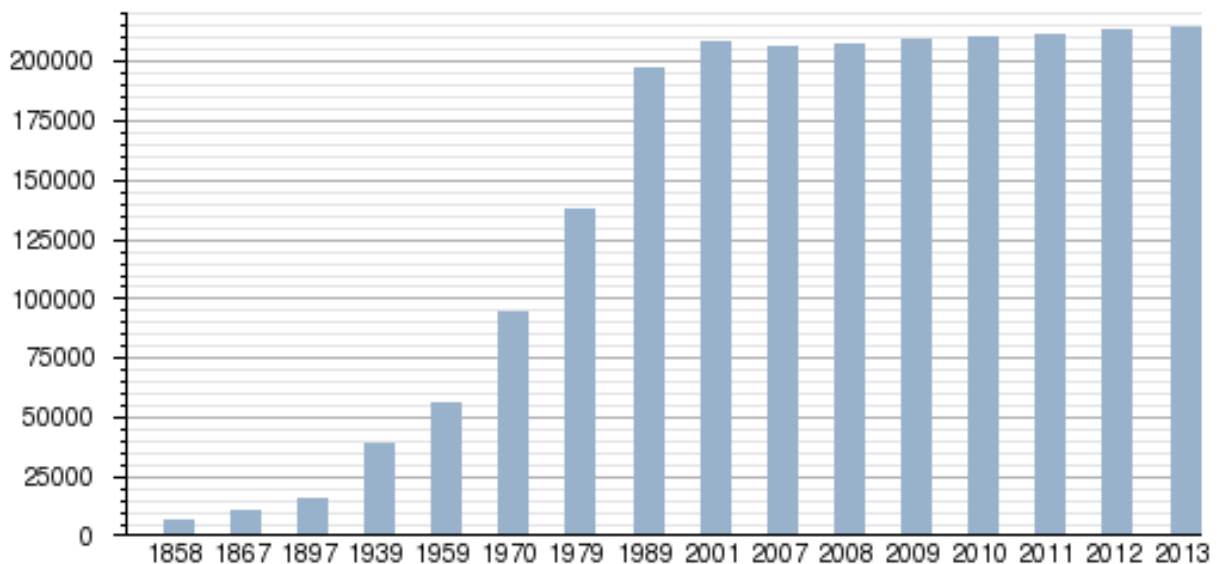
Age groups (01.01.2014/ www.lutsk.ukrstat.gov.ua):

<i>Town</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>0 – 14</i>	<i>15 – 64</i>	<i>65 +</i>
Lutsk	215,534	35,234	155,622	22,137

Number of sustainable population in Lutsk by gender division (1. 01. 2016 / www.lutsk.ukrstat.gov.ua):

<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>All</i>
96,503	117,864	214,367

Population dynamics in Lutsk during 1858 – 2013:



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Main changes in demography in 2009 – 2015:

Over the past six years, there has been a natural increase in the population. In 2015 the first recorded natural decrease was recorded.

The causes of death have not significantly changed. The most common cause of death is heart disease and cancer.

The mortality rate of men is higher than women.

In 2015, the largest number of “input” of migration occurred in Lutsk and Lutsk region (11.9 and 7.8 per 1,000 inhabitants).

Changes have taken place in the age structure of the population; there has been an increase in working age population and a reduction below the working age.



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PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES THAT WERE DISCUSSED WHILE IMPLEMENTING PROJECT IN LUTSK

Project COMUS has stimulated discussion on the range of problematic aspects of cultural heritage and the urban areas of Lutsk.

Among them:

1. *The flooded dungeons and poor condition of the Church of Exaltation of the Cross: some of the areas in the building on the second floor are being used as dwelling for local people. The first floor is being used as a space for the Museum of the History of Lutsk Brotherhood. The architectural complex is being destroyed because of traffic activity in the Old Town and flooded basements.*



3. *The lack of the official parking in the Old Town: two historically important locations in the historical core of the city, the Old Town, are currently being used for parking – in Rynok and Castle squares. This is mainly because the Old Market is now functioning under the walls of Lutsk Castle.*



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3. *The lost frescoes of the Jesuit College*: from the beginning of 17th century, Lutsk has been an important local centre for the Jesuits. Apart from the majestic Cathedral of St. Peter's and Paul's, the Jesuits built a college where the nobles (*shliahtychi*) and townsmen from Volyn, Ukraine, and Europe were educated. The unique baroque architectural heritage of the college – wall frescoes – has now been lost due to the late 20th century renovations. This loss is linked to the other educational institution that is now located in the building and due to a lack of understanding that original frescoes should be preserved.

4. *The problem of the opened basements of the residential buildings (kamianyts') 16th century on Kafedralna Str. 13*. The unpreserved town basements have turned into the cluttered territory in the middle of the Old Town because of inactivity and the turnover of responsibilities from one person to another.



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5. *The dilapidated rooms of St. Bridget's Monastery.* The once majestic cells of Lutsk's convent were used as a jail during World War II. Since then, the majority of the building has been neglected. Renovation and a basic clean-up, removing rubbish and buildings materials is the first step that needs to be done.



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6. *The Old Market is under the walls of the Lutsk Castle.* Commercial activity beneath the walls of the fortress is detrimental to its character due to the dirt and waste it causes, as well as the heavy traffic, not to mention the discrepancy of locating a trading area in the Old Town in defiance of the regulations of city planning of the historic area.



7. *Electricity substation in the Old Town.* As well as the market the square is also the location of an Electricity substation and high-voltage line.



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8. *The poor quality work to strengthen the Castle walls.* This work took place to rearrange the area surrounding the Castle – the walls around the Castle were put into place without conducting the necessary archaeological investigations.



9. *The use of the 17th century synagogue as a sports and training club.* The old Jewish synagogue was built in 1628 but is now serving as sports centre and no longer performs a sacred function.



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10. *A lack of historic plan for the city.* This issue has a negative impact on the state of preservation of the historical and cultural heritage, as this causes infringement on the private structures to the historical reserve.

11. *The lack of a conceptual tourist route to connect the castle and public spaces in the city: "The Castle – Market Square".*

12. *The need to create the extensive system of tourist signage.* More signs, plans of lost buildings, informational panels, etc., should be placed around the city.

13. *The necessity of renovation of the city brand, creation of an original brand for Lutsk in the context of its past/present/authentic identity.* A conceptual review needs to be produced with a new, up-to-date, and recognizable symbol of the city.

14. *Lack of a developed infrastructure in the Old Town.* The historical core of Lutsk is not attractive. There are no interesting restaurants or recreational zones, nor are there legitimate parking areas designed so that they do not distract from the historic and architectural monuments.

There are a number of social problems in Lutsk, including:

- Low quality of life. A lot of town residents have no job or look for it in bigger towns or abroad;
- outdated employment roles in museums and cultural organizations, dating from Soviet times, that do not strengthen tourist potential or take note of positive changes in the sector;
- inhabitants are not socially active, there is a lack of civil societies and few community associations, self-organization bodies or a platform for coordinating civic activities;
- residents lack information about culture heritage;
- there is a general indifference felt towards old buildings and construction new dwelling or administrative buildings are prioritised over historic buildings;
- environmental degradation: factories surrounding Lutsk emit pungent pollution.



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VISION

The common vision achieved through the Planning Phase by discussions is *to become an attractive, widely popular tourist and event centre for festival tourism in Eastern Europe with modern museums, festivals, well-regulated touristic infrastructure, open public spaces to strengthen creativity for Lutsk's youth. The tourism strategy will be based on the long-term history and an understanding of importance, preserving, saving and using of cultural heritage.*

STRATEGY

The vision will be developed after the introduction of a clear strategy in Lutsk that will include:

- (1) Community cohesion around social issues, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage;
- (2) Creation of instruments and methodological tools for the creation of a permanent dialogue between local authorities and community, strengthening bilateral trust between them;
- (3) Revitalization and activation of the historic Old Town;
- (4) Improvement of urban infrastructure development;
- (5) Adaptation of local cultural and historical heritage through the creation of contemporary cultural events.

Necessary activities:

- (1) **Community cohesion focusing on social, economic and environmental issues, through the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage.**

To aid citizens in understanding the phenomenon of urban memory and self-identity connected with historical and cultural heritage:

- to provide a wide variety of training opportunities for the urban population to raise awareness on the importance of cultural heritage supported by a consistent information policy;

- to create a platform of talented people, who will conduct educational work with citizens;
- to organize lectures;
- to promote public discussions with residents;
- to make understand citizens that culture heritage is a potential source for future social-economic development of the town;

To bring history, culture and heritage closer to citizens:

- to lead walking tours in the Old town, encouraging local residents to participate;
- to organize new exhibitions in museums;
- to encourage pride in heritage in young people beginning at school;
- creating and publishing booklets, brochures, posters on the city's history and its culture heritage.

(2) Create tools for a permanent dialogue between local authorities and community, strengthening bilateral trust between them

A transparent authority in the field of town policy:

- a rejection of old “soviet” management principles;
- implementing the principle: authority belongs to the community, it is not exclusive to a privileged group;
- to maximize access to information concerning the activities of local government;
- to provide the tools so that the public can influence decision-making, introducing public control in the areas of town policy;

Providing the bilateral contact between authority and active community:

- to support local NGO initiatives and activities;
- to conduct local authority backed competitions for social projects;
- to provide financial support from the town budget for important events, organized by NGOs or individual activists;
- to organize regularly large-scale meetings of authority with the town residents.



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(3) Revitalization and activation of the old historical part of the town

Revitalisation of the Old town environment:

- town and national budget funding for reconstruction of housing and historic buildings, located on the territory of reserve;
- creation of comfortable public spaces in the Old town for children and young people;
- renewal of the paving;
- revitalisation of Market Square as a key for development of whole Old town territory;
- organization of in-depth archaeological research;
- provide the right conditions for modern scientific research to flourish;
- create the Centre of Town history;
- preserve monuments of local and national importance, defending them from destruction;
- reorganising previously abandoned territories;
- preventing illegal construction on territory within the reserve;
- rebranding tourism using a new concept of urban identity.

Activation of Old town:

- creation of safe cycle routes;
- development of ecotourism;
- creation of literature stages;
- creation of dance venues and theatre master-classes at the Castle and Market Squares;
- arranging locations for evening outdoor cinemas in the Old Town;
- creation of zones for street artists, who can paint and sell portraits and historical landscapes in Old Town;
- creation of a cultural centre;
- rebuilding of Town hall and organization in this building a brand-new public youth centre;
- creation of an interactive history and heritage museum;



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- Location of Centre for tourism information on the territory of Old town;
- creation of observation places with beautiful historical views into castle, churches, green zones (zoological reserve "Hnidawa Swamp").

(4) Improvement of urban infrastructure development:

- Closure and removal of the power plant at Lutsk Castle's walls;
- closure and removal of the spontaneous market around the castle;
- opening thematic cafes, restaurants, and art-cafes in the Old town;
- solution for channelling flood waters from the basement of historic buildings (Brotherhood church);
- resolve the problem of illegal parking;
- resolve the issue of the unsympathetic conversion of monastic rooms at Brygides monastery into a hostel with the destruction of the authentic 17th century interior architecture;
- the adjustment system traffic in Old Town.

(5) Wide-ranging adaptation of local cultural and historical heritage through the creation of contemporary cultural and educational events as a tool for intensive tourism movement:

Creation a brand "Pilgrimage Lutsk":

- Far reaching information campaign on Lutsk as the home of the Wolyn Icon museum;
- Ukrainian and international media promotion concerning the importance of the phenomenon of Cholm Holy Mother of God as a healing centre;
- Organisation of scientific conferences with international participants at the Museum;
- Creation of a "Religious Lutsk" tour which will focus on all of Lutsk's churches from Medieval times until present day.



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Creation a brand «Festival Lutsk»:

- National and local-governance supporting and improving the existing festivals “Banderstadt” (patriotic Ukrainian festival), “Night in Lutsk Castle” (art-show), “Polisian summer with a folklore” (international authentic music show), “Prince’s feast” (historical and culture local festival);
- Design conception and organisation of new cultural events and festivals.

Using the knowledge on the city’s multicultural past as a tool for the creation of new festivals of Karaite, Jewish, Lithuanian, Polish culture in their widest sense:

- festival of ethnic clothes;
- festival of ethnic music and dances;
- festival of ethnic cuisine;
- festival of non-material culture.

Supporting and development of green tourism in Lutsk and surroundings:

- creation of a historical landscape park in the protected area of the State Historical and Cultural Reserve “Hnidawa Swamp”;
- organisations of regular cycle tours of Lutsk and its surroundings;
- networking with local Museum of honey (Bayiv village, 12 km from Lutsk) and the Museum of Agriculture in Volyn (Rokyni village, 15 km from Lutsk).

Improvement of local tourist system:

- creation a brand-new tour, which will connect new centre of the town with Castle and Market Square;
- publishing new guides, booklets on Lutsk history and heritage;
- creating and recording an informative audio guide;
- establishing of Event-agency;



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- networking between museums and Tourist Information Centre;
- tourist rebranding;
- creation of a new conceptual city identity;
- in-depth analysis of tourist statistics, most visited places and cuisine preferences.

ACTIONS

Selected project ideas:

1. Revitalisation of the area of the Market Square as a public space for leisure, thematic fairs and various public events.
2. Creation of a Cultural Centre.
3. Reconstruction of the Town Hall, which is located in the dungeons of the former Town Hall, establishing a modern interactive Town museum, a hall for exhibits, and an area for youth networking etc.
4. Creation of a historical landscape park in the protected area of the State Historical and Cultural Reserve “Hnidawa Swamp” in Lutsk and landscaping of the river banks on the Styr.
5. Arrangement of traffic within the historic core of Lutsk – Old Town (Katedralna, Drahomanova, Danyla Galytskoho, Danyla Bratkovskoho Streets).

Funding sources:

- City budget;
- Regional budget;
- State Budget: funds of the ministries of culture and education;
- Private investments;
- Ambassadorial and private charitable foundation;
- Community organization funds.



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RESULTS

Outputs

- landscaping and an active use of the Old Town historic centre;
- increasing the profile of tourist attractions whilst also preserving the historical and cultural heritage;
- development of tourist strategy;
- development and improvement of the city infrastructure;
- - activation of town community, especially youth.

Outcomes:

- community activation;
- authority helping and supporting in questions about saving of cultural heritage;
- historical and cultural heritage saving and using;
- tourism development;
- new interesting exhibit methods in old traditional museums, creation of modern interactive Town museum;
- towns becoming a centre for cultural and event tourism;
- development of historical and artistic education;
- new forms of social dialogue;
- development of public self-education.

