

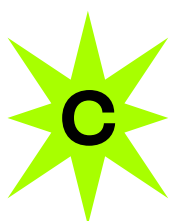
REPORT CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Slavutych City Territorial Community

How can we improve the household
waste management system
in our community?



19 October – 24 November 2024



The Citizens' Assembly of the Slavutych Community has taken place with the comprehensive expert, methodological and financial support of the Council of Europe project "Strengthening democratic resilience through civic participation during the war and in the post-war context in Ukraine".

The Council of Europe Office in Ukraine extends its sincere gratitude to the territorial community of Slavutych for its support and assistance in organising and holding the first Citizens' Assembly in Ukraine.

Special thanks go to Mr Yuriy Fomichev, Mayor of Slavutych, and Aryna Starovoitova, Head of the Regional Development Agency of the Slavutych City Council, for their dedicated work and efforts in organising the Citizens' Assembly.

We deeply appreciate the experts, facilitators and volunteers who were actively involved in the process for their contribution and professionalism.

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The document was developed under the Council of Europe project "Strengthening democratic resilience through civic participation during the war and in the post-war context in Ukraine" implemented by the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine to support the implementation of the objectives set out in the Action Plan for Ukraine "Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction". (2023-2026)

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This publication has not been corrected by the SPDP editorial team as to typographical and grammatical errors.

Council of Europe Office in Ukraine, 2025





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PREFACE BY THE SLAVUTYCH CITY COUNCIL



I am immensely proud that the city of Slavutych has made history as the first city in Ukraine to host a Citizens' Assembly. Organized and held during wartime, the Citizens' Assembly represents a significant milestone for Slavutych and a unique experience for both Ukraine and the world.

Slavutych is Ukraine's youngest city, with a strong track record of successfully implementing nearly sixty international projects. However, the full-scale war has profoundly altered life in Slavutych, a satellite city of the Chornobyl NPP. The resilience and unwavering faith of its residents in the Armed Forces of Ukraine enabled them to endure the harrowing events of the occupation in the early days of the invasion.

The war in Ukraine continues, yet the people of Slavutych remain strong, united in their determination to defend independence and

democracy. In the autumn of 2024, the city hosted a Citizens' Assembly focused on improving the household waste management system in the community.

The Assembly was organised by the Slavutych City Council with the expert, methodological and financial support of the Council of Europe project "Strengthening democratic resilience through civic participation during the war and in the post-war context in Ukraine". We are grateful to our European partners for this opportunity for our community to showcase the introduction of our brand strategy — "Slavutych, City of New Ideas" — another innovation implemented here in Slavutych.

A unique feature of the Citizens' Assemblies is randomly selecting participants from the community's overall population. The Slavutych Assembly brought together researchers and craftsmen, the elderly and

young people, the community natives and internally displaced persons who found a new home here in Slavutych. Their task — to jointly offer the authorities recommendations on addressing the challenges in the municipal waste management system in the community — was not easy. The participants of our Assembly now understand the ins and outs of policymaking better, having reached beyond their own information bubbles, networked and become public experts of sorts on municipal waste management.

I believe that both Ukrainian politicians and civil society should be able to initiate Citizens' Assemblies both in their communities and at the national level. The topics of these Assemblies should be relevant and acute and offer a variety of solutions. This format of civic participation is more than a simple public opinion poll or public gathering: Citizens' Assemblies

contribute to a deeper discussion of issues, the exchange of expert knowledge, debates and personal communication.

I would like to extend sincerely gratitude to everyone who participated in the organisation and holding of the first Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych! The Citizens' Assembly is a testament to the possibility of creating the future together even in these challenging times. This is Ukraine's first step towards implementing the tools of deliberative democracy at the community level. The history of the Slavutych community continues to inspire!

YURII FOMICHEV
Mayor of Slavutych

PREFACE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT



The Citizens' Assembly is a deliberative democracy tool that has already been successfully implemented in many countries across Europe and beyond, including Germany, Italy, France, Poland, Belgium, Canada, Australia, and the United States. In Ukraine, however, it was held for the first time. The Assembly was designed, prepared, and conducted in accordance with the [Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to member states on deliberative democracy and international standards of participatory democracy](#).

The process was designed to ensure maximum transparency, actively involve community residents in decision-making, and develop well-rounded recommendations that address the concerns of a diverse range of stakeholders. The Citizens' Assembly has proven to be an effective platform for dialogue, enabling the community—supported by experts—to collaboratively develop **concrete proposals**.

The Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych is a groundbreaking initiative that integrates best practices from global Citizens' Assemblies while adapting them to the Ukrainian context. For the first time in Ukraine, residents—selected through a random and representative process—had the opportunity to deliberate on key community issues, engage in discussions, and collaborate with experts to find common ground. On a global scale, this project was also unprecedented, as it marked the **first-ever Citizens' Assembly held during wartime**, underscoring the resilience of democracy even in the most challenging circumstances.

Over the course of three weekends, Assembly members explored the issue in depth through a series of events and discussions, organised with support from experts of the Council of Europe project. As a result, the Assembly developed **a set of practical recommendations** for improving the community's

waste management system and submitted them to the local authorities. Beyond delivering concrete proposals, the Assembly also inspired participants to **advocate for change and take personal responsibility**. Many expressed their commitment to raising awareness about household waste sorting and broader waste management issues among their friends and colleagues, while also promoting greater civic engagement in local decision-making.

Equally important, the Assembly fostered stronger cooperation between local authorities and the community. The authorities expressed their commitment to engaging with the public, while residents gained a stronger voice in shaping the local agenda and policies. **The first Citizens' Assembly in Ukraine** has proven highly effective as a tool for engaging citizens due to its inclusiveness and structured methodology. The Slavutych Assembly contributed to qualitative changes in the behaviours of both the authorities and the community, encouraging active civic participation in decision-making processes and strengthening the responsibility of residents for community development. The deliberation process also gave a boost to citizen cooperation, strengthened their advocacy skills and laid the foundation for more sustainable and active civic participation.

We firmly believe that the experience of the Slavutych community will be scaled up to other communities in Ukraine that seek to implement innovative tools for involving citizens in decision-making. The success of the first Citizens' Assembly opens up prospects for the further development of deliberative democracy and its tools in Ukraine, as well as for enshrining them in legislation.

This report on the implementation of Ukraine's first Citizens' Assembly highlights the crucial role of civic participation and the impact of collaboration between authorities and the community in addressing challenges on the path to a sustainable democracy. We believe that the experience of the Slavutych community will inspire other communities to actively co-create local policies, and encourage Ukrainian authorities at all levels to embrace the tools of deliberative democracy.

DARYNA SOKOLOVA

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WHAT IS A CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY?

Deliberative democracy is a process of direct discussion of policies or legislation among citizens. It is rooted in the idea of using deliberation (thoughtful, careful, reasoned discussions) to seek solutions to social problems, as well as the capacity for finding a middle ground to resolve conflicts and address sensitive issues. Its proponents see deliberative democracy not only as a way to secure better public policy outcomes, but also as a way to strengthen public trust in democratic processes in general.

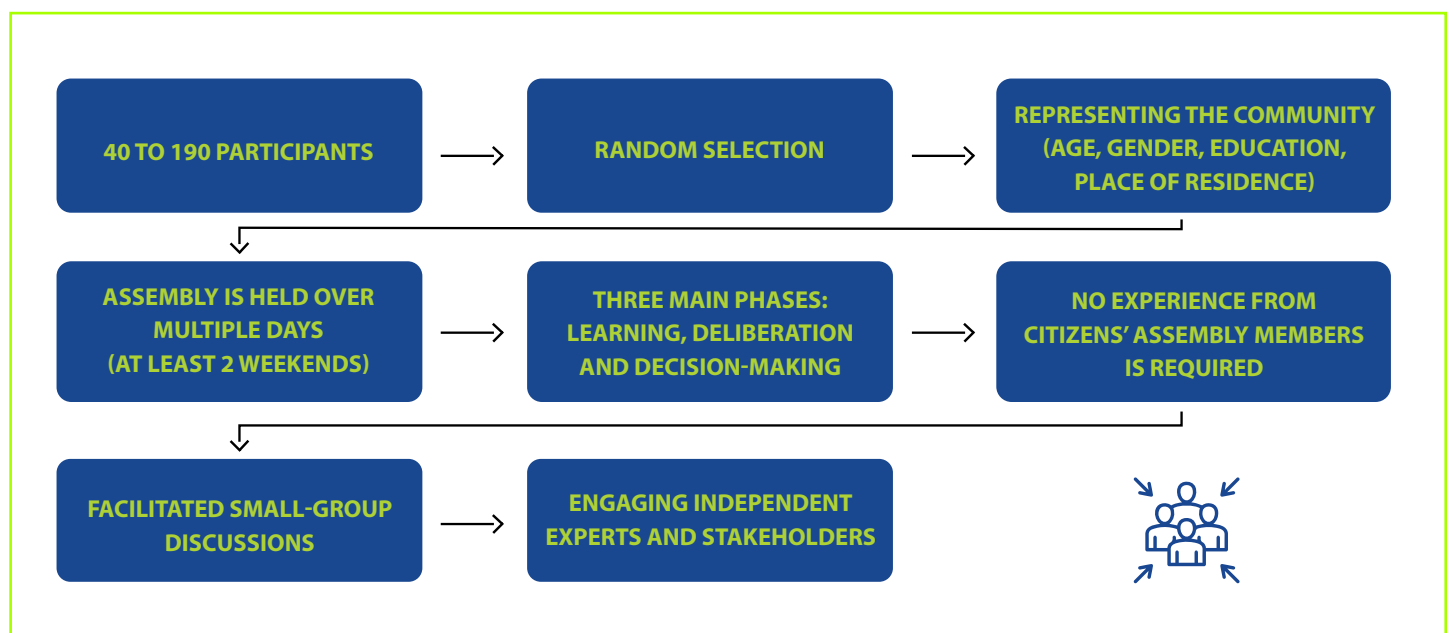
Over the years, through the efforts of policy-makers, researchers and civil society, numerous models of deliberative processes have been designed, tested and implemented globally. Among the most common models is the **Citizens' Assembly**.

A **Citizens' Assembly** consists of a group of people (usually 40 to 150) representing a certain community (city, region, country). Members are selected randomly but ensuring that the selected group reflects the community in terms of key demographics (gender, age, education, place of residence, etc.). Assembly members thoroughly study an issue, engage in facilitated discussions, and collaboratively develop recommendations for decision-makers, providing valuable input into the policymaking process.

A Citizens' Assembly typically takes place over multiple sessions, lasting at least two or three meetings. Each session spans one or two days. The process begins with participants exploring the issue at hand by receiving key information and data from experts and learning about various stakeholder perspectives. Guided by trained facilitators—who help structure discussions and foster consensus—participants engage in dialogue, analyse the facts, and explore potential solutions. In the final stage, the Assembly formulates consensus-based recommendations and submits them to local authorities for consideration and decision-making.

Advantages of the Citizens' Assembly:

- Strengthening the legitimacy of political decisions.
- Developing potential solutions to controversial issues.
- Studying and discussing the issues on the agenda of the Citizens' Assembly, as well as hearing opposing viewpoints, brings citizens closer together and promotes mutual understanding, solidarity and cooperation.
- After a long discussion, members of the Citizens' Assembly formulate their proposals together rather than as individuals.
- Awareness of the authorities about the perspectives and experiences of citizens and understanding the public consensus on problematic issues.
- Spotlighting issues of community importance.



PLANNING AND ORGANISATION

Organising the Citizens' Assembly in the Slavutych community is a complex process that has been ongoing since April 2024. In March 2024, the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine and the Slavutych community signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) on the implementation of the Citizens' Assembly, with expert, methodological, and financial support from the Council of Europe. The planning process spanned several months and was carried out jointly by the Council of Europe project and the Slavutych community, with support from international expert **Eva Bordos**, lead expert **Olesia Vershyhora**, and lead facilitator **Oleh Dukas**.

In preparing for the Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych, the organising team drew extensively on the experience of previous Assemblies in Hungary—specifically in Érd, Budapest, and Miskolc—as well as best practices from similar initiatives at the local level in other countries.

After several months of preparation, the first Citizens' Assembly of the Slavutych community was held in the KrOKus Gymnasium of the Slavutych City Council. The sessions were held over three weekends, 19–20 October, 9–10 November and 23–24 November 2024.

At the initial stage, the Council of Europe project selected three coordinators from local civil society: **Mariia Bubnova**, **Oleksandra Latysheva**, and **Liudmyla Pidlisna**. A series of training sessions was conducted for both the [Assembly coordinators](#) and representatives of Slavutych local authorities to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills for organising and implementing all stages of the Citizens' Assembly.



The topic for the Assembly was selected through a multi-stage process. First, local authorities identified three potential topics. Then, a Stakeholder Forum was held to discuss them, bringing together representatives from civil society, CSOs, businesses, youth, students, volunteers. Facilitated by a Council of Europe project expert, the Forum concluded with an open vote in July 2024, determining the final topic: **“How can we improve the household waste management system in our community?”**



In May and June 2024, a comprehensive communication plan was developed. It included crafting key messages, designing visual materials (banners, posters, leaflets, etc.), identifying communication channels, and preparing invitations for potential participants. Active and transparent communication ensured the community was well informed about the purpose and objectives of the Citizens' Assembly, fostering strong civic engagement.

At the same time, the City **Council established** a Supervisory Committee comprising representatives from political parties, the education sector, CSOs, and local opinion leaders. Its role was to ensure that the entire preparation and implementation process of the Assembly remained inclusive and transparent.

The Supervisory Committee included:

- **Volodymyr Udovichenko**, PhD in Economics, Head of the Public Council for City Development CSO, former mayor of Slavutych
- **Oleksandr Anisimov**, public activist of the trade union organisation — State Specialised Enterprise “Chornobyl NPP”
- **Nina Baryshevska**, Head of the Department of Culture, Ethnic Minorities and Religions of the Slavutych City Council
- **Valerii Sulimov**, Head of the Slavutych Running Club CSO
- **Yurii Yehorenko**, Head of the Public Council under the Executive Committee of the Slavutych City Council
- **Liubov Piskunova**, Head of the Council of Entrepreneurs under the Slavutych City Mayor, entrepreneur
- **Volodymyr Medvid**, Deputy Head of the Youth Council “Future of Slavutych”
- **Olena Suhaniaka**, Member of the Slavutych City Council, Ridnyi Dim Political Party

The Supervisory Committee was established to uphold the impartiality, independence, and integrity of the Citizens' Assembly process. It monitored transparency and inclusiveness, provided guidance to coordinators and community authorities, and helped prevent any undue influence or bias. The Committee held regular meetings ahead of each key stage of the Assembly to stay informed and ensure accountability. These efforts played a vital role in building public trust in both the process and its outcomes, laying the groundwork for the effective implementation of the participants' recommendations.

The Council of Europe project engaged facilitators who had previously been trained by international expert **Christiane Amici-Raboud** to support the Assembly. Their training covered moderation and dialogue techniques, as well as methods for organising group work, specifically tailored to the unique format of a Citizens' Assembly.

The lead expert of the Citizens' Assembly, **Olesia Vershyhora**, was responsible for the professional coordination of the process and the development of the agenda, with a particular emphasis on the learning phase. The lead facilitator, Oleh Dukas, coordinated a team of eight independent facilitators, each responsible for guiding discussions at separate tables. The facilitation team— **Alla Ihnatova, Andrii Kyseliiov, Denys Lanko, Nataliia Yezan, Sviatoslav Stepiak, Svitlana Tarasova, Valerii Miloserdov and Volodymyr Kudelia** — ensured productive group work (6–8 participants per table), adherence to established guidelines, and responsiveness to participants' needs throughout the three weekends of the Citizens' Assembly.

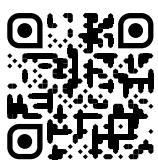
Facilitators supported participants across all six days, helping structure discussions, refine the wording of recommendations, and prepare them for the final vote. The lead facilitator also ensured the Assembly adhered to established guidelines, developed a detailed agenda for each session, and moderated specific sessions.

Visual facilitation techniques were also used during the Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych. Throughout all stages of the Assembly, artist **Oleksandra Ivanova** created pencil sketches capturing key moments of the event. These illustrations, later displayed as a visual diary, portrayed participants and reflected the dynamic nature of the sessions. They added a creative touch to the atmosphere and served as a conversation starter, encouraging informal networking among participants.



In order to drive the widest possible engagement, including from abroad, proposals and opinions on the Assembly topic could be submitted on the community website via the *Online Proposal Form*. The Council of Europe project experts analysed and considered them during the discussions of the Citizens' Assembly.

The Council of Europe project conducted a three-phase survey: first, among those who received invitations before the Citizens' Assembly; second, among selected members just before the Assembly; and third, among participants after the Assembly. The survey aimed to assess the opinions of the members of the Citizens' Assembly on the instrument, its process, outcomes of the Citizens' Assembly and other related issues. The survey results are presented at the end of this report.



Video on the Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych:
<https://vimeo.com/1074616115>

SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

A key methodological aspect of organising the Citizens' Assembly is the step-by-step random selection of participants. This approach ensures equal opportunities for all community members to be chosen for participation. Special emphasis is placed on involving residents who do not typically participate in decision-making processes.



STAGES OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

Following guidelines developed in collaboration with Council of Europe international expert **Eva Bordoš**—who contributed to the development and coordination of Hungary's first Citizens' Assemblies—the Slavutych City Council distributed 4,000 invitations in August 2024. These invitations were sent to randomly selected households, inviting residents to sign up for the Citizens' Assembly. Special rules for distributing the invitations were developed to ensure a random selection of households that received an invitation to sign up for the Citizens' Assembly proportionally across all city districts. Slavutych was divided into two categories of neighbourhoods: those with multi-storey buildings and those with cottage-style houses. Invitations were then delivered to every second household—defined as either an apartment or a standalone private home—within each district, ensuring even and random coverage citywide.

- In **multi-storey buildings**, invitations were delivered to every second apartment, with the starting point (even or odd numbers) rotated for each section of the building and private house.
- In **cottage-style districts with two-household houses**, every second household received an invitation.
- In **cottage districts with single-household houses**, invitations were delivered to every second house.



For the remaining invitations, additional sampling rules were applied based on household numbers (even/odd).

Moreover, all interested residents could sign up independently through an open online form on the city council website if they were not among those who received an invitation.

After the registration period, the participants were sorted to closely match the community population over the age of 18 in terms of age, gender, education, and area of residence. From the pool of registered participants, **45 core members** (30 from those who received invitations and 15 from those who did not) and **12 additional members** were randomly selected using the open-source software **Panelot**. Notably, **two spots** were reserved for internally displaced persons (IDPs).



REGISTRATION

Those who received an invitation or wished to sign up through an open online form had time from 8:00 on August 25 to 23:59 on September 15 to sign up for the Citizens' Assembly. During the registration period, the Slavutych City Council opened a special hotline which, along with the contact details of the Slavutych City Council, was available to potential participants to ask questions, receive technical assistance with registration or sign up if online registration was not available to them.

All registrations were processed through a special form that automatically assigned a unique identification number to each participant. During the registration period, **167 applications** were submitted to participate in the Citizens' Assembly, of which 165 turned out to be valid.

Throughout the registration period, the Slavutych City Council used multiple channels to inform citizens about the Citizens' Assembly. Local authorities regularly promoted the initiative and encouraged participation through the city council's website and Facebook page of the Slavutych City Council and the **Office of Public Initiatives' Support**, of the Regional Development Agency of the Slavutych City Council. The mayor filmed a video address to the community. Citylights were installed at transport stops, posters were displayed on bulletin boards in administrative buildings, and information leaflets were distributed. Local media and TV channels actively covered the Citizens' Assembly. The coordinators also launched a comprehensive information campaign to encourage city residents to participate in the Assembly.

The key activities included:

- 1. Social media publications:** A series of informational posts were published, explaining the purpose of the Citizens' Assembly, promoting registration, and providing participation instructions. Visual content was used to capture attention, and posts were shared in local groups and on pages dedicated to Slavutych.
- 2. Video content creation:** Short video invitations were produced and distributed, with coordinators personally addressing residents and highlighting the importance of their participation.
- 3. Direct public outreach:** Coordinators engaged with residents directly, providing consultation and answering questions about the Assembly's format, goals, and benefits. Assistance was also offered with signing up and completing the online registration form.

REPRESENTATION

One of the core principles of the Citizens' Assembly is the random selection of participants from those who signed up. The selected members must reflect the adult population of the community (over the age of 18) in terms of demographics, such as **gender, age, education, and place of residence**. As a result, the participants of the Assembly form a **miniature model of the entire community**.

Data from the Administrative Services Department of the Executive Committee of the Slavutych City Council, the Social Protection Department of the Slavutych City Council, the Education and Science Department of the Slavutych City Council as of 1 July 2024, as well as the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine were used to create a representative sample.

DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Demographics	Residents of the community	Persons who signed up for the Assembly	Target number of the "key participants" (participant sampling model)	Target number of the "additional participants" (participant sampling model)	Selected "key" members of the Citizens' Assembly who agreed to participate	Selected "additional participants" who agreed to participate
Gender						
female	51%	119 (71%)	23 (51%)	6 (50%)	21 (47%)	7 (58%)
male	49%	48 (29%)	22 (49%)	6 (50%)	24 (53%)	5 (42%)
Age						
18-29	13%	14 (8%)	6 (13%)	2 (17%)	6 (13%)	2 (17%)
30-49	38%	55 (33%)	17 (38%)	4 (33%)	17 (38%)	6 (50%)
50-64	31%	75 (45%)	14 (31%)	4 (33%)	13 (29%)	4 (33%)
65+	18%	23 (14%)	8 (18%)	2 (17%)	9 (20%)	0
District of residence						
Chernihivskyi District	9%	13 (8%)	4 (9%)	1 (8%)	5 (11%)	0
Dniprovskyi District	9%	12 (7%)	4 (9%)	1 (8%)	4 (9%)	0
Dobryninskyi District	18%	18 (11%)	8 (18%)	2 (17%)	7 (16%)	5 (42%)
Kyivskyi District and Nezalezhnosti Avenue	13%	16 (10%)	6 (13%)	1 (8%)	9 (20%)	0
Poliskyi District	13%	26 (16%)	6 (13%)	2 (17%)	4 (9%)	2 (17%)
Pecherskyi District and Desnianskyi District	11%	13 (8%)	5 (11%)	1 (8%)	3 (7%)	1 (8%)
Bakynskyi District, Yerevanskyi District and Tbiliskyi District	13%	30 (18%)	5 (11%)	2 (17%)	5 (11%)	3 (25%)
Vilniuskyi District, Ryzkyi District and Tallinskyi District	13%	39 (23%)	7 (16%)	2 (17%)	8 (18%)	1 (8%)
Education						
Secondary education	42%	14 (8%)	14 (31%)	0	10 (22%)	0
Vocational secondary education	27%	26 (16%)	16 (36%)	4 (33%)	16 (36%)	2 (17%)
Higher education	31%	127 (76%)	15 (33%)	8 (67%)	19 (42%)	10 (83%)
IDP status						
Not an IDP		162 (97%)	43 (96%)	11 (92%)	43 (96%)	12 (100%)
IDP		5 (3%)	2 (4%)	1 (8%)	2 (4%)	0
Those who received an invitation in the mail						
yes		97 (58%)	30 (67%)	8 (67%)	30 (67%)	9 (75%)
no		70 (42%)	15 (33%)	4 (33%)	15 (33%)	3 (25%)

DRAW PROCESS

The experts from the Council of Europe project conducted a random draw using Panelot, an open-source software, to select the members of the future Citizens' Assembly in the community. This software generates a random sample from the list of participants, ensuring the necessary demographic quotas (gender, age, education, district, IDP status, etc.) are met.

During the registration period, **167 applications** were received to participate in the Citizens' Assembly. In accordance with the guidelines, two applications were deemed invalid: one from a member of the Slavutych City Council and one from a member of the Citizens' Assembly Supervisory Committee. These applications were excluded from the selection (draw) of Assembly members to maintain the integrity of the process and ensure compliance with the Assembly's core principles.

After the registration period, participants were categorised to closely reflect the community's adult population in terms of age, gender, education, and area of residence. From this group, 45 core members were selected—30 from those who received invitations and 15 from those who did not. Additionally, 12 substitute members were chosen to replace any core members who might drop out. Notably, 2 spots were reserved for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The selection process, facilitated by a Council of Europe expert using the *open-source software Panelot*, ensured anonymity. Only basic demographic data and a unique identifier were used to conduct the sortition. Both core and substitute members were chosen using this method.

The collage illustrates the draw process for the Citizens' Assembly. It includes a video call with participants, a logo for 'ЗВЯГЕЛЬ СЛАВУТИЧ ГРОМАДСЬКІ АСАМБЛЕЇ 2024', a screenshot of the Panelot website showing the draw steps, a diagram titled 'Відбір учасників та учасниць Громадських асамблей' (Selection of participants and participants of Community assemblies) detailing the process from 6000 registered citizens to 45 core members and 12 substitutes, and a screenshot of the Panelot website with the slogan 'Everyone deserves a fair chance'.

As part of the preparation for the Citizens' Assembly, the coordinators ensured that the selected participants would actually attend. To do this, phone calls were made to all individuals chosen in the random draw. After conducting a clarifying phone survey, some residents declined to participate due to personal reasons or other circumstances. To maintain the required number of participants, these individuals were replaced with others who matched a similar demographic profile. The newly selected participants were also contacted to confirm their participation.

SITUATION WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE SLAVUTYCH COMMUNITY AND UKRAINE: CHALLENGES

Currently, around 18% of Ukraine is occupied by Russian troops, while nearly 7% of its territory is overtaken by waste. The country lacks modern waste processing plants capable of recycling and reducing landfill use. In contrast, Germany boasts over 400 waste processing companies, contributing to an industry with an annual turnover of over €200 billion. This industry grows at an average rate of 14% each year and provides jobs for 250,000 people. Meanwhile, Sweden recycles over 99% of its waste annually, Germany recycles over 60%, and Poland recycles 43%. Here are some key statistics on Ukraine's recycling situation, according to a [PwC study on waste in Ukraine](#):

- The maximum fine for waste disposal violations in Ukraine is **€45**, compared to **€5,000** in EU countries.
- **Ukraine has 6,000 landfills and dumpsites**, but only 19 are equipped with degassing plants.
- **The cost of waste disposal in Ukraine is €6.8 per tonne**—ten times lower than in Europe—contributing to the slow development of the recycling sector.
- **Only 3% of municipal waste is recycled**, while 94% ends up in landfills or dumpsites.
- Currently, **34 sorting lines** are operating in 28 settlements across Ukraine, with sorting facilities being actively developed in 17 other settlements.

Like many other countries, Ukraine faces the problem of environmental pollution and low-efficiency waste management. However, recent years saw growing awareness among both the public and government authorities about the need for an eco-friendly lifestyle and waste management. Recycling is therefore becoming an increasingly relevant and important component of Ukraine's environmental policy.

Every year, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Waste Management", the Law of Ukraine "On Urban Development", the National Waste Management Plan until 2030, the Ukrainian National Waste Management Strategy until 2030 and other laws and regulations, the Slavutych Community develops a Waste Management Programme for Slavutych. The Programme is adopted in order to implement urgent and long-term steps to minimise waste generation, collection, transportation, recovery and disposal based on Ukrainian and international best practices, legal, regulatory, technical and economic waste management systems, as well as economic and awareness-raising activities.

The Executive Committee of the Slavutych City Council coordinates and monitors the implementation of the Programme through the Department for Housing and Utilities Services, Tariff Formation, Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving. The efforts of the Department are coordinated by the First Deputy Mayor.

The Housing and Utilities Centre, a municipal company of the Slavutych City Council, ensures the disposal of household waste generated in the city. ECO TRANS SLAV is a private company that provides household waste management services under an effective contract. Household waste is removed from the facilities in accordance with the approved schedule and concluded agreements to the solid waste landfill.

Over the past decade, Ukraine has continued to accumulate waste, and Slavutych is no exception. As environmental pollution from waste becomes an increasingly pressing issue, it must be addressed as a key factor in ensuring environmental safety. When setting priorities, it is crucial to consider both the potential of waste as a resource and its impact as an environmental hazard.

Measures taken to prevent waste generation are lacking, which threatens to exacerbate not only the environmental crisis but the socio-economic situation in general. Therefore, further improvement and development of the holistic legal, regulatory, methodological and economic waste management system is an urgent task for the community. Due to the lack of an effective comprehensive waste management system in the city of Slavutych, the waste treatment facility accumulates a tremendous amount of waste, intensifying anthropogenic impact on the environment and pollution of its main components, land, water resources and atmospheric air, as well as deterioration of living conditions for the population.

According to the Annual Statistical Report No. 1-TPV "Report on Solid Household Waste Management 2023", the annual volume of solid household waste and its components that were dumped in 2023 at the Slavutych landfill amounted to 32,850 cubic metres. The main method of solid household waste disposal in Slavutych today is dumping them on the ground, including disposal in a landfill. Waste is stored out according to the following scheme: levelling, compaction, soil insulation. Since the beginning of its operation, 1,390,000 cubic metres of waste and its components have been dumped at the Slavutych landfill. However, the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of waste are inconsistent and depend on the sources of their generation. The sources of waste generation are mainly the city's residential houses, as well as businesses located within the city (companies, organisations, institutions).

According to the Law of Ukraine "On Waste Management", waste management means a range of measures for the collection, transportation and processing (recovery, including sorting, and disposal) of waste, including supervision of these activities and subsequent maintenance of waste disposal facilities. Among the basic principles in this field is preventing waste generation, avoiding, mitigating or eliminating the negative impact of waste on human health and the environment.

The existing system of waste removal and disposal at the landfill is insufficient for the environmental safety of the city of Slavutych and needs to be improved taking into account state-of-the-art Ukrainian and global best practices, as well as changes in the waste management legislation. It is essential that in order to improve the preparation of waste for reuse and ensure high-quality recycling and other recovery processes, waste must be collected separately and should not be mixed with other types of waste or materials with different properties.

The city should ensure separate collection for the types of waste such as paper and cardboard, plastic, glass, metal, hazardous waste that is part of household waste. At the same time, conditions should be created to ensure separate collection of biowaste, construction waste, waste from green spaces, bulky waste and other types of waste subject to separate collection.



Waste generated in the city generally includes mixed waste, paper, cardboard, glass, metals, plastic, biowaste, wood, textiles, packaging, electrical and electronic equipment waste, used batteries, batteries and accumulators, fluorescent lamps and bulky waste. Due to the lack of reliable information on the volume of waste generation and its morphological composition, the city cannot make a reasonable estimation of waste generation in the future, which would reflect the total number of different waste streams, as well as expected changes in the waste composition. This necessitates a detailed analysis of the volume of waste generation and the current state of the relevant waste management system, as well as developing scenarios for designing an integrated waste management system.

However, upon determining the annual volume of waste generation, methods and means of separate collection of waste components, given their morphological composition, needs for secondary energy and material resources, organic fertilizers, the availability of plants that can process individual components of solid household waste and other economic factors, it is crucial to clarify and revise waste generation standards and establish standards for types of waste, the volumes of which are yet to be measured.

Furthermore, in order to ensure compliance with waste management legislation, local self-government bodies are tasked with developing an effective, efficient and environmentally sound comprehensive waste management system. This system should comply with the ranking of waste management priorities and contribute to the maximum reduction of landfilling and increasing recycling, provided that it is economically feasible.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 26(2) of the Law of Ukraine “On Waste Management”, the powers of the executive bodies of village, settlement and city councils in this sector include, among other things, designing and implementing local plans. A *Local Waste Management Plan* is a state planning document containing a number of interrelated tasks and activities with the deadlines and resourcing agreed with all actors concerned, aimed at ensuring sustainable waste management in settlements within the territorial community, in line with the principles of cooperation of local government bodies, informed by an assessment of the current situation in the waste management sector and already developed models. The document is mandatory for development in all territorial communities. Local planning is the third of the four levels of planning provided for by the Waste Management Reform — to be developed instead of Sanitary Cleaning Schemes in use since the Soviet times.

In today’s society, the concept of balanced (sustainable) development, aimed at integrating economic, social and environmental components of development, is gaining increasing importance in international, national and regional policies. Strategic environmental assessment of policies, plans and programmes allows for focusing on a comprehensive analysis of the possible impact of planned activities on the environment and using this analysis to prevent or mitigate environmental effects in the process of strategic planning.

The Slavutysh Waste Management Programme 2024 provides for developing a Detailed Layout and a strategic environmental assessment of the territory with a total area of 8.7 hectares. The Detailed Layout should include the access road to the landfill, which runs across the Liubech territorial community near the village of Nedanchychi, Chernihiv Region (outside the settlement).

Before the Citizens’ Assembly convened, the waste management situation in the community was as follows:



STAGES OF THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

The development of recommendations to improve waste management in the community was facilitated through a step-by-step approach. Adhering to established guidelines, ideas were refined and developed through several key stages.

- Session 1: Introduction to the Citizens' Assembly topic and initial learning phase.
- Session 2: Identification and definition of key issues for further discussion, along with exploration of subtopics proposed by the participants.
- Session 3: Conclusion of discussions and compilation of recommendations for the Slavutych City Council.

SESSION 1: LEARNING PHASE (19–20 October)

The first day of the session aimed to give Citizens' Assembly members a deeper understanding of the process and their roles. It provided an opportunity to introduce participants to each other and to key stakeholders. The session also focused on discussing the vision for the future of Slavutych, assessing the current state of solid waste management, and exploring waste classification and structure. The goal was to equip participants with a comprehensive understanding of the key aspects of the topic that would be addressed.

The agenda for the first session was designed based on a preliminary analysis of the community's situation, taking into account participants' varying levels of understanding, as well as the relevant topics and approaches to tackling the discussed issues. Speakers and experts were selected based on the topics agreed upon in advance.



The first day of the session featured the following discussions and presentations:

- Discussion of the vision of Slavutych in 2040;
- Presentation on "Current State of the Waste Management System in the Community of Slavutych";
- Presentation on "Waste Classification".

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● household use of organic waste shredder to reduce the waste; ● creation of a local “Silicon Valley”; ● reasonable tariff for the collection and removal of solid waste; ● organised separate waste collection; ● an operational plant for processing recyclables; ● widespread practice of using small branches from nearby forests for organic farming (shredded branches as mulch or for making compost); ● creating a recreational zone in the forests around the city; ● increased security in the city by putting up security cameras; ● developed tourism: eco-tourism and tours to the Chernobyl NPP; ● creating a rehabilitation centre in the healthcare facility; ● introduction of education and training in solid waste management; ● installing underground garbage containers throughout the city; ● HyperLoop connecting the city to other cities (Chernihiv, Kyiv) for high-speed communication; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● active civic participation (decision-making by the community); ● Slavutych is a clean European city. “You have no idea that you are passing by a garbage container”; ● properly organised garbage sorting, removal and recycling in Slavutych; ● organised garbage recycling in Slavutych. Among possible options is a waste processing plant or enterprise. As a result, all revenues received from recycling, sale or utilisation go to the community’s public amenities budget; ● emphasis on educating children and youth. “Even kindergarten-age children know how, what and where to sort”; ● leading to the support for the environment by the entire city;
Group 3	Group 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● high-speed connection with Chernihiv and Kyiv, which would include high-quality road surface and a consistent transport schedule; ● available well-paid jobs that would help keep young people in the community; ● a waste processing plant and an eco-farm where California worms would process paper and food waste into humus; ● plastic packaging collection machines; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● streets and adjacent areas planted with roses grown using humus derived from food waste processing; ● paving slabs, benches with canopies made of recycled plastic processed at a mini-factory; ● landfill is removed from operation, filled with black soil and planted with trees; ● each house is insulated and has an independent power supply, namely solar panels purchased with funds from recycled plastic;
Group 5	Group 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● young people with knowledge and skills; ● system of encouragement and responsibility; ● introduction of the best practices of European countries; ● continuous technological process; ● responsibility at each stage (waste management); ● effective control system (for waste); ● garbage transformed into energy; ● Slavutych becoming an eco-hub; ● sorting (aesthetically attractive containers); ● educated conscious residents (eco-skills); ● incentives for businesses; ● eco-company (operating recycling enterprise); ● city of new ideas; ● city of great people; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● comprehensive legislative framework (for waste management); ● existing waste management programme (studying best practices, training and clarifications, oversight and penalties); ● infrastructure for collection, sorting, recycling and waste management (production facilities for sorting and recycling); ● commercial offer (cleanliness promotion);

Group 7	Group 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-recycling (100%); • youth and production; • roads and railways through the Chernobyl exclusion zone; • civic participation; • garbage sorting culture; • rehabilitation centre and hospital; • education (vocational training); • buildings for IDPs • institutions for pensioners (boarding houses); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slavutych in 2040 is Ukraine! • waste sorting, recycling and disposal philosophy has been implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sorting containers that are removed on time; ○ sorting station and logistics; ○ a group of waste processing companies (glass, plastic, iron, paper, electronic devices, bio-waste, clothing and wood); ○ a production factory that uses recyclables; • educating children and adults on sorting, recycling and disposal of waste; • designing an incentive programme, motivating people to sort waste; • 30% of income to the local budget from recycling and sorting waste.

Viktor Shevchenko, First Deputy Mayor of Slavutych, delivered a presentation on **“Current State of the Waste Management System in the Slavutych Community”**. After the presentation, groups of participants had the opportunity to discuss the information and ask two questions per group.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Speaker Q&A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contract with a garbage collection company; • 100% of waste is landfilled rather than recycled; • Slavutych has a public contract for solid waste management services; • Communication between the authorities and residents and feedback are lacking; • Starting recycling. This requires a plant that needs to be built or found; • It is necessary to sort garbage; • An existing contract with Eco Trans Slav; • The landfill will still be enough for some time to dump waste there; • The process of garbage removal and disposal must be fully overhauled; • Changing the proper legal term from “handling” to “management”; • Slavutych lacks oversight of the removal of sorted waste to the landfill; • Lack of waste recycling and collection for reuse in Slavutych; • Lack of economic incentives to sort waste; • Lack of appropriate actions to implement the national legislation at the local level in Slavutych; • The solid waste management system is generally imperfect; • Nothing new • The information that the solid household waste removal service provider has a new MAZ truck in stock was surprising...; • Responsibility for maintaining containers and waste collection sites lies with consumers; • No local plan without a regional one; • The (effective) organisation of the entire waste removal process needs to be improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the ratio of garbage containers in the city to the number of workers for timely removal reasonable and is it possible to move the containers so that it is convenient to service them? • How is the removal of bulky waste and construction waste organised? • Which organisation oversees household waste management violations (is there an administrative practice)? • How is the 10% recycling rate met when 100% of waste accumulates at the landfill? • How is the number of garbage collection containers calculated (1 per 11 cottages)? Are there calculation standards? • Has there been any inspection or audit at the solid household waste landfill? Who was penalised for the violations? Who oversaw the work of the “predecessor”, O. Shvets (whose company used to maintain the solid household waste landfill)? • Who (which organisation) should be responsible for proper removal of sorted waste (so that it remains sorted)? • Is it possible to sort at the existing landfill now? • How do you see the new system of waste collection and disposal? • Who exactly enters into an agreement with the waste removal service provider? • What have the local authorities done to ensure the proper removal of sorted waste? • Where can funds be sourced to modernise the waste management system? Are there successful cases of attracting funds? • Is there an upgrade of the equipment of the solid waste household disposal service provider planned? If so, when?

- Responsibility for maintaining containers and waste collection sites lies with consumers;
- No local plan without a regional one;
- The (effective) organisation of the entire waste removal process needs to be improved.

- Is there any oversight by the City Council regarding the removal of sorted recyclables for recycling by the service company?
- Can the participants of the Citizens' Assembly visit the landfill and see the situation for themselves?
- Is it possible to hold a tender to select a new solid household waste disposal service provider?
- Does the legislation provide for liability for the improper handling (management) of solid household waste?
- Which ministry is the waste management sector subordinate to?

Olesia Vershyhora, the lead expert of the Citizens' Assembly, delivered her presentation on **"Waste Classification"**. After the presentation, groups of participants summarised the information and asked the speaker two questions per group.



What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- Not all paper and plastic is recyclable;
- Wet and dry waste is a very dangerous mixture that can cause a fire from the inside;
- Monitoring waste classification;
- Creating a sorting centre (the current reception point does not meet actual needs);
- Using Slavutych as a transit transshipment point for collecting and sorting waste in neighbouring partner villages;
- Creating a city-wide solid household waste management plan;
- Creating a city environmental inspection;
- Batteries heavily pollute the environment, as does the combination of wet and dry waste;
- Consider the expediency of removing waste to another waste recycling plant.
- There is a legal framework that regulates hazardous and non-hazardous waste;
- Some paper that cannot be recycled (cups, checks);
- Used food foil is non-recyclable;
- Causes of fires in landfills;
- A large number of types of waste;
- The existence of different types of paper;
- There are more unregulated landfills than centralised ones;
- Dry waste must be separated from wet waste to prevent fires;
- Not all kinds of paper can be recycled (coffee cups);
- Some waste contains a large amount of chemicals, which complicates recycling.



Speaker Q&A

- Are there any enterprises in Ukraine that recycle electronics (mobile phones, circuits, things containing precious metals)?
- Where can one find/is there a list of plastic markings for recycling?
- How can consumers dispose of hazardous waste, such as pill packaging, at home?
- How to maintain the wet-dry rule in an open landfill?
- Which cities in Ukraine have success cases at the recycling stage?
- What should the full logistics chain be like (from start to finish, including collection and sorting sites) in Slavutych, and is it possible to involve businesses?
- Where can the Slavutych waste processing plant be located? Is it possible to create a joint facility with Chernihiv?
- How to dispose of wet waste in a city?
- How to dispose of medical waste at home?
- How to dispose of polystyrene foam? Is it recyclable at all?
- What can Slavutych do to sort all household waste?
- How does Ukraine implement financial benefits for households that collect sorted waste?
- How should hazardous waste be handled?
- How, given the existing infrastructure in the city, can sorting into 2 types of waste be introduced?
- How are unregulated landfills accounted?
- How are they cleaned? Is there any liability provided?



The purpose of the second day of the session was to explore the topic of the Citizens' Assembly in more detail, learn about the effective laws and future changes, new technologies, trends and innovations in waste management and start collecting ideas for subtopics for discussion.

The main components of the second day of the session were the following lectures and discussions:

- presentation "Legal and Regulatory Framework for Household Waste Management. Implementation of the New Law 'On Waste Management'",
- presentation "Best Practices of Waste Management in Small Communities",
- presentation "Global Best Practices of Waste Management",
- panel discussion on the topic "Solid Household Waste Collection System in Slavutych and its Optimisation",
- discussion of subtopics for further discussion.

In her lecture, Olena Horbacheva, an expert representing the Association of Sustainable Development Experts and researcher with experience in waste, spoke on **"Legal and Regulatory Framework for Household Waste Management. Implementation of the New Law 'On Waste Management'"**. After the presentation, groups of participants had the opportunity to discuss the information they heard and ask two questions per group.



What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- A household waste administrator is required;
- Taking into account legislative changes;
- The intermunicipal centre (cooperation) is relevant for Slavutych due to the geographical overlap of the two regions;
- Joint efforts of communities to address the problem despite the lack of financial resources;
- Information campaign in the community;
- Increasing the role of the Slavutych community in building a household waste management system;



Speaker Q&A

- How will the producer pay for waste disposal/processing (funding source)?
- Is it true that the landfill and the removal/processing of household waste will become municipal property under the new legislation?
- Why is decentralisation of waste management effective?
- Who keeps track of statistics on the status of waste by type?
- Who prepares an application to the Federal Fund for the Development of Ukraine to attracting investments (institution, body, organisation...)?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a city environmental inspection; • All communities need to consider what to do with their landfills; • Slavutych can have a waste management unit, which will cover neighbouring settlements as well; • Who exactly bears liability under the law? • Relevance of Ukrainian legislation; • Waste management hierarchy; • The legislation is good, so its full compliance should be ensured; • The participants concluded that the local City Council failed to deal with the issue of regulating waste management; • The community itself determines (establishes) the procedure for managing (handling) waste that is consistent with the legislation; • The administrator should deal with waste management issues only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which enterprises recycle household electronics, fluorescent lamps, batteries in Ukraine? • Is it feasible to create a waste recycling plant in Slavutych, given the war and population decline? • Can Slavutych manage waste from other settlements? (Especially considering that Slavutych belongs to the Kyiv region). • Are any special licences required for a sorting station? If so, which body issues them? • How will monitoring be carried out and which body will be in charge of it? • What documents are required to register a sorting station? • What is the “polluter pays” principle? • Which waste recycling provisions of Law 288 are currently fulfilled by the service provider, Eco Trans Slav? • Are there any guidelines for developing local waste management plans? • Clarifications on determining the administrator of the household waste management service? • What happens to landfills after their closure? <p>What measures are provided for by law to protect the environment? What penalties are provided for their violation?</p>
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In her presentation, **Ruslana Sydoruk**, Advisor to the Head of the Shatsk Settlement Council, spoke on “**Best Practices of Waste Management in Small Communities**”. After the presentation, groups of participants summarised the information and asked two questions per group.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Speaker Q&A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each street has its own waste sorting activist; • Each yard should elect an activist to conduct briefings, monitors waste sorting, etc.; • Raising awareness in educational institutions on waste sorting in the city; • Engaging youth through student self-government, school volunteering, Youth Council, Youth Space (Slavutych-based); • Media coverage of the project is a must. Producing special reports for the local TV channel — Ask the People of Slavutych (as an alternative to the Ask the Mayor show); • The team — agents of change — should be formed based on the administrative and territorial division into districts (representation for every district); • Financial incentives are important for both consumers and individual entrepreneurs. If “we act”, then “we’ve got it”; • Engaging the youth in building a household waste management system; • Using a flash mob as a tool for encouraging and raising awareness on environmental issues; • Organising a “toloka”-style clean-up of the city; • Awareness-raising campaigns should be held (with youth participation); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What other means of influencing the public are there besides photos and appeals? • How is other waste disposed of in your community? • The participants were interested in mechanisms for resolving conflicts and which tool was more effective (coercion vs. persuasion) for shaping a conscious citizen. • How does the environmental inspection function in Shatsk (if any)? • What is the legal scheme of the relations between the parties (CSO, recyclers, waste carriers)? • How to ensure the removal of sorted waste for separate recycling? (Especially relevant for broken glass, which cannot be sorted further)? • Where can waste pavilions be placed in certain areas of Slavutych, such as the Desnianskyi District? • Which organisation receives waste for recycling and how is it transported? • How do you motivate people to sort waste? • Are there tall buildings with garbage chutes in the community? If so, how did you solve the problem? • Who buys waste at normal prices? • How can you find these buyers?

- Financial incentives for sorting are advisable (including for specific individuals);
- Waste pavilions should be modernised (scales; monetising);
- Opportunities for self-organisation in waste collection;
- On the one hand, it is a compelling experience that can be scaled up;
- On the other hand, the Shatsk community's approach might not work, because financial incentives are less important in Slavutych;
- The practice of sorting 2 types of recyclables should be implemented;
- Various mechanisms for involving (incentivising) youth in sorting garbage;
- There are entrepreneurs/businesses willing to cooperate.

- What are the prices for waste?
- Why is waste compaction important?
- What is the distance from the settlement to the landfill?
- What is the tariff for waste removal in the community?
- Local waste management plan: is there any, how was it developed (independently or with the involvement of someone from outside)? Is there a regional plan in the region?
- How is the process organised now? (current state of affairs)
- How much money did the community spend on the project implementation in general?

Ms **Sofia Shutiak**, Attorney and Deputy Head of the Agrarian, Land and Environmental Law Department of the National Association of Ukrainian Bar Associations, Senior Manager of Waste Reform at the Recovery and Reform Support Team at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, spoke on **“Global Best Practices of Waste Management”**. After the presentation, groups of participants had the opportunity to discuss the information they heard and ask two questions per group.





What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- European countries approach waste management legislation differently;
- Analysis of waste in the community (statistical data): plastic, glass, metal, paper, etc., to understand the number of containers for sorting types;
- The division of powers is important at the stages of collection, processing and disposal, as this determines the areas of responsibility of all participants in the process.
- The waste management system should account for environmental protection measures and economic feasibility;
- Effective management requires knowing what type of waste should be recycled and what to dispose of;
- Volunteers can conduct awareness-raising campaigns and training on “What to Do?”;
- Lack of capacities or their insufficiency is a pain point for the community, for Ukraine and for European countries alike;
- Conducting special training in educational institutions to raise awareness and involve young people in environmental protection and household waste management;
- Children abroad are taught to sort waste from early on — this practice can be implemented and encouraged: e.g., by hosting competitions between schools;
- Work should be systemic (there should be a targeted policy rather than isolated measures). Companies outside the industry might also be interested in recycling. For example, they might collect packaging;
- Involving environmental experts from higher education institutions/universities;
- CSOs and entrepreneurs have more rights than state bodies;
- Creating a public supervisory board;
- Experience of foreign countries in waste recycling;
- Minimising waste: it must be sorted and sold;
- The landfill should be improved;
- There are doubts that the experience of big cities is relevant for small communities: for example, they lack a large administrative team;
- Participants learned about international organisations that help Ukrainian local self-government bodies with eco-transformation and provide grants.
- Many interesting practices for solid waste management are worth adopting and adapting them locally. The process should start by determining the composition (morphology) of waste and then determining further steps based on this data;
- Other countries also face problematic waste management issues;
- We should have our own adapted waste management model;
- More community cooperation with the authorities through dialogue.



Speaker Q&A

- Is there data available for Ukraine on the optimal number of containers for separate sorting of waste?
- What type of waste is the most prevalent in Ukraine, in percentages?
- Are there monitoring companies in the waste management system? If so, where do they publish their statistics?
- What sanctions and penalties exist for violating environmental protection legislation, and what is specific advice for local communities in Ukraine?
- 2030. The landfill is closed due to non-compliance. How to proceed?
- Please explain in more detail the rights of CSOs and private businesses, as well as the rights of state bodies?
- What is the international experience of small communities in waste management?
- Are there plans to increase liability for non-compliance as part of the reform of solid household waste management?
- In which areas/processes of waste management are foreign donors ready to invest?
- The experiences of which countries/cities are the most relevant for Ukraine?
- To what extent is Ukrainian business ready to cooperate with communities in this area?

The panel discussion on *“Solid Household Waste Collection System in the City of Slavutych and its Optimisation”* was attended by Vasyly Poznanskyi, Attorney at ECO TRANS SLAV; Volodymyr Klimov, Director of the Housing and Utilities Centre; Oksana Sosnina, Head of the Housing and Utilities Services Department of the Slavutych City Council; and Nataliia Mykolaichuk, Head of the Soniashnyk CSO. After the panel discussion, groups of participants of the Citizens’ Assembly summarised the information and asked the speakers two questions per group.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Q&A for the participants of the panel discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Soviet waste management system is still in effect in the city; • Public trust in the Housing and Utilities Centre and Eco Trans Slav is low; • Recyclables market is yet to be established; • Lack of funds for proper maintenance of the landfill; • Although there were many insights on educating children in educational institutions, this tool is already working in schools as part of educational programmes and environmental campaigns (projects); • Reforming the outdated waste management system; • PSAs; • Eco-patrol; • Communication of process participants following the principles of partnership and mutual responsibility; • Organising a local eco-inspection in Slavutych; • Participants learned and saw people who take out garbage; • There are some grassroots initiatives in Slavutych; • Participants disagreed with the speakers about the need to wait for a “top-down” initiative and that there was a fundamental problem with financing, delaying changes; • They came up with the idea to collect organic waste and turn it into compost in old greenhouses; • There is a volunteer sorting organisation • Transparency of public officials. Recognition of the problem; • The best and easiest method of disposal is composting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a carrier sees hazardous waste (tyres, fluorescent lamps, batteries, etc.) in or near garbage cans, how is it handled? • What is the course of action if a carrier is discovered to have dumped hazardous waste at a landfill? • Is it true that the new MAZ truck is not used to take out garbage because it was sold? • Is it within your competence to analyse the “rating” of waste in the city? • What is the approximate estimate for covering the needs of proper maintenance of the landfill? • Was there an inspection or audit at the solid household waste landfill in Slavutych and where can one find its results or penalties for those responsible? • Which authority is currently in charge of the tariff and control of solid household waste management in the city? • What was the point of reforming the Housing and Utilities Centre and creating of Eco Trans Slav if the quality of services did not improve and the price went up instead of down? If a reform was indeed necessary, why was it carried out like that? • Where did the personnel and transport of the Housing and Utilities Centre go? If they were transferred to the private enterprise, for what period? • Will Eco Trans Slav agree to transport pre-sorted waste from the entrances of flat buildings or cottages to an CSO or private business for secondary sorting or recycling? • Is Eco Trans Slav interested in cooperation? If so, in which kind, and how do you benefit from this? • Will the Housing and Utilities Service agree to place information on waste sorting in the buildings covered by the company? • Eco Trans Slav profits from operating activities, and the tariffs include an investment component. Is it possible to start improving the waste management system in Slavutych with these funds? • What steps are community utilities taking in the context of amendments to legislation? • Can containers for recyclables be installed at the existing garbage collection sites? • Is it possible to restart the enterprise that used to sort recyclables in the city? (This references the enterprise of Mr Shvets, who is currently serving in the army.) Alternatively, is it possible to restore/recreate the chain that this enterprise used to follow to resell recyclables? • Why don’t the authorities look for a market for waste sales? (Based on Shatsk’s experience, it is possible to do this for free) • Where are the leaves taken out? Are they used for compost? Where should households start to implement this process?



After the panel discussion, the groups began their initial discussions on the community's waste management. Participants were tasked with identifying subtopics to explore in the upcoming sessions. The subtopics developed during the discussion are as follows:

1.	Legal aspects
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying the legal mechanism of communication among all the industry enterprises in the city; 2. Inviting experts to clarify the details of the contract with the solid household waste removal service provider (lawyer, representative of Eco Trans Slav); 3. Understanding how the tariff for waste-related services is formed; 4. The problem of communication among Slavutych institutions: How is this communication going to be established and what are the financial plans of these institutions? 5. Problematic financial relations between the Housing and Utilities Centre and Eco Trans Slav regarding mutual debts and their settlement; 6. Analysis of the tariff policy for compliance with the actual costs of the waste carrier and the landfill owner.
2.	The structure of household waste in the community, reducing the waste going to the landfill, recyclable materials
	<p><i>Reducing the landfilled waste</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. How much solid household waste is there currently in the city (amount; weight; monthly, quarterly, annual data)? Understanding how to build a further process; 8. Emphasis on reducing the landfilled waste; 9. Obtaining information from local authorities on the availability of facilities in the city for storing and sorting waste; 10. Disclosing in detail the types of waste processing and their economic aspect (cost, income); <p><i>Recyclables</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Arranging centralised delivery; 12. Centralised storage of recyclables; <p><i>Hazardous waste</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Finding out the list of licensed organisations that dispose of hazardous waste in Ukraine; <p><i>Organic waste</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. An expert who will explain in detail the methods of handling organic waste; <p><i>Waste for heating</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Can garbage incineration be used for heating?

3. Citizen engagement

- 16. An expert who will help create an information campaign to raise awareness and train residents in sorting, which can be presented to the city council and proposed to be integrated in kindergartens, schools, clubs, etc.;
- 17. Grassroots initiative: how can residents influence the community today?
- 18. Developing measures that can be done to sort waste in Slavutych today;
- 19. Informing the public about sorting;
- 20. Development of methods for collecting and organising waste at all levels:
 - a. recommendations for the flat;
 - b. recommendations for the building block;
 - c. engaging houses and providers for the houses;
 - d. recommendations for public places;
- 21. Creating a working group that will develop a local waste management plan.

4. Cooperation with Other Communities

- 22. Cooperation with neighbouring communities (rural communities and Chernihiv) on collecting and sorting waste.

Visit of the Citizens' Assembly to the solid waste landfill in Slavutych

During the first session, participants of the Citizens' Assembly jointly decided to visit the solid waste landfill in the city of Slavutych to get a closer look at its operation, learn about the amount of solid household waste in the city (volume; weight; monthly, quarterly, annual data) and find out whether it is possible to restart the existing garbage sorting line at the landfill to see how the waste management system in the community can be improved.



On 5 November 2024, between the first and second sessions of the Citizens' Assembly, its members independently visited the Slavutych Solid Waste Landfill where they were able to learn about its operation and ask questions that came up during the discussions at the first session of the Assembly to Volodymyr Klimov, Director of Housing and Utilities Centre, and Liudmyla Tortseva, Landfill Production Design Engineer.

During the visit, the participants saw how the storage and disposal of solid waste is organised and learned about the environmental and process aspects of the landfill's operation. This practical experience contributed to a better understanding of the scale of the issue and facilitated an in-depth discussion of potential solutions.

The visit laid the groundwork for further work during subsequent sessions of the Assembly. The knowledge gained helped the participants come up with recommendations for the community authorities to improve waste management. They included proposals for infrastructure renovation, the introduction of new recycling technologies and raising public awareness of the importance of sorting and recycling waste.

The visit to the landfill was an insightful and inspiring step that helped engage participants in finding real solutions and forming a shared vision for the environmental future of Slavutych.

At the next session of the Citizens' Assembly, members watched a video created during the visit to the solid waste landfill. This allowed participants who could not attend the tour to view the site and hear expert insights.

The video covered in detail the key points of the visit:

- Information on the current condition of the landfill and its infrastructure.
- The main environmental challenges facing the city.
- Proposals for improving the waste management system.

The video was also shared on social media to ensure it was accessible to all residents of Slavutych. This allowed a wider audience to join the discussion on household waste management. By showing the video at the session and posting it online, the Citizens' Assembly enhanced its transparency, raised public awareness, and encouraged more people to engage in discussions about environmental issues.

SESSION 2: DELIBERATION (9–10 November)

During the second session, participants deepened their understanding of the topic and began discussing specific subtopics. The goal of the first day was to engage participants in discussions about reducing landfill waste in the community and introducing separate waste collection at the household level.

The main components of the first day of the session were the following presentations and discussions:

- presentation "Waste Sorting and Disposal Rules and Recommendations";
- presentation "Arrangement of a Waste Collection Site. Analysis of the Current State of Waste Management; Development of Waste Management Infrastructure";
- discussion "What Could Local Self-Government Bodies Do to Reduce the Landfilled Waste?";
- discussion "Motivating Residents to Organise Separate Waste Collection at Home and the City Council's Steps to Achieve This".



Kateryna Raban, Head of the Zero Waste Lutsk CSO, delivered her presentation on *“Waste Sorting and Disposal Rules and Recommendations”*, covering expert information to the Assembly participants, as well as further discussion in groups of the information heard and preparation of two questions per group.



What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- Lutsk has been dealing with the issue of waste sorting for 7 years;
- Information about the Zero Waste system;
- Sorting practice on the balcony;
- Detailed information on types of plastic;
- Signs in stores “Most garbage is generated at the time of purchase”;
- 50% of waste is plastic and glass;
- Flat composter and sorting on the balcony;
- Bea Johnson’s Zero Waste Home practice;
- Auditing your waste;
- Raising awareness about how and what can be donated;
- Billboards “Surrender Batteries”;
- “Zero Waste City” Certification;
- Composting station;
- Introducing sorting in the city that would account for different types of plastic (including those that cannot be recycled);
- Informing the public about the possibility of storing food waste using the mini-compost technology in their own flats (on the balcony);
- Establishing working relations with neighbouring communities for cooperation;
- Sorting still needs to be done at the landfill;



Speaker Q&A

- How is the public in Lutsk informed (educational moments, targeting the issue by target audiences)? Is there feedback? Number of CSO members?
- What is the tariff for waste removal and disposal in Lutsk?
- How is compliance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 1031 dated 26 September 2023 monitored?
- What is your vision of the city authorities’ decisions at the sorting stage? Which solutions are effective?
- How does the city benefit from certification under the Zero Waste City project?
- Do the participants of the Citizens’ Assembly and the expert personally realise that storing garbage on balconies violates fire safety rules?
- If the markets (unlike supermarkets) sell non-recyclable plastic bags, who controls those sellers?
- Does the compost bin not create discomfort?
- Where should I dispose of organic matter from the compost bin and how long does it take to compost?
- How do you sort garbage at home, is it convenient for you and would you like to move beyond the flat in the future? (flat building block, house, etc.);
- How does the garbage sorting system work in Lutsk and what is the tariff?

- It is expedient to shut down garbage chutes in Slavutych;
- It is expedient to set up sorting in specially designated places near houses;
- Participants learned about compost bins that can be installed at home;
- Amount of garbage that ends up in the garbage container;
- Looking for business and CSO partners to expand the sorting efforts;
- Cooperating with Surrender Batteries (Batareiky Zdavaitiesia);
- Only 9% of waste can be recycled;
- Many types of plastic are not recycled;
- We need to start with ourselves;
- California worms can be used to process organic waste;
- Participants learned about the markings on the packages indicating the material;
- Some people are so conscious that they continue to sort garbage despite the obstacles;
- Home organic waste container
- Number of types of plastic and sales problems;
- Updating information for Slavutych.

- How did the activist communicate with the residents of the house?
- How did the activist communicate with the residents of the local authorities?
- Is it feasible to install a food waste disposer or a garbage disposal unit in households?
- What was the Lutsk authorities' response to the speaker's initiative? (cooperation details)
- How many residents support the initiative?

In her lecture, **Valentyna Darnopykh**, member of the Slavutych City Council, spoke on **“Arranging a Waste Collection Site. Analysis of the Current State of Waste Management, Development of Waste Management Infrastructure”**. After the presentation, groups of participants summarised the information and asked two questions per group.



What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- The city authorities have engaged a research institute in assessing waste;
 - Providing businesses with sites for sorting;
 - Manufacturing of insoles in Slavutych;
 - Latest AI technology;
 - We are garbage generators;
 - Installation of sorting modules (including the so-called Clothing Bank);
 - Youth ideas are supported;
 - Motivated residents and businesses should follow the pay-as-you-throw policy;
 - Focusing on cooperation between activists and authorities with local businesses,
 - Introducing the use of AI, mobile applications and technological devices in waste management;
 - Installing reverse vending machines for bottles and containers;
 - Attracting businesses that will recycle containers (this can be done through an entrepreneur support fund);
 - Are there AI startups that help sort garbage?
 - Creating small recycling enterprises;
 - Creating clothing banks;
 - Creating compost pits;
- The authorities are still not doing anything in this direction.



Speaker Q&A

- Is there an advocacy group of members of the Slavutych City Council developing a waste management plan?
- Are permits required to install waste recycling equipment (mini-stations, recycling facilities, etc.)?
- Do you know fellow entrepreneurs who would like to occupy this niche?
- Who should take the lead when it comes to the interests of a processor and a sorter?
- How do businesses abroad operate in the solid household waste management system?
- Has the member of the City Council (who spoke as an expert on these issues) been involved in Slavutych waste management as part of her duties before the Citizens' Assembly?
- Where is Slavutych's waste that cannot be sorted dumped today?
- How is coffee collected for a local business that makes insoles from coffee grounds? Is this done in Slavutych?
- How to implement the creation of small processing facilities? How expensive is it to get a permit? What are the corruption risks? How difficult is the administration?
- Why were the conclusions on tariffs ignored?
- Which Slavutych startup would you start with?
- Is it feasible to assign a municipal company as a provider of solid waste management services?
- Which body should oversee the solid waste management system?
- Is there a specific business (legal entity or individual entrepreneur) ready to occupy the niche of waste management in the city? Or a CSO concerned with the city's environment?
- Is there currently an option to install mesh containers for plastic (bottles) around the city?



Discussing *“What Could Local Self-Government Bodies Do to Reduce the Landfilled Waste?”* allowed the participants to first brainstorm in 8 small groups a list of answers to the question posed, discuss them and then use SMART criteria to determine the most realistic ideas (see table below).

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within a year, creating and implementing an educational campaign (eco-education); • Creating 4 composting sites in a year; • Creating 5 points for a separate collection of recyclables within the next 2 to 3 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reverse vending machine paying money for empty containers; • Organising separate waste collection near the garage cooperative; • Creating compost pits; • Containers for separate waste collection near neighbourhoods; • Restarting the sorting line at the landfill with competitive salaries.
Group 3	Group 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning and putting up information banners (PSAs) outside; • Adding waste management to the secondary school curriculum; • Creating PSA videos for social media with placement through the Regional Development Agency and municipal platforms; • Implementing challenges and quests as incentives for public initiatives; • Making changes to the city budget, which should provide for the procurement of services for the production of videos on proper waste management and sorting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government oversight of Eco Trans Slav and the Housing and Utilities Centre should be introduced by conducting regular audits (once every 3 years) • Waste removal and disposal should be separate items in the bill • Keeping the public informed about the state of the landfill, sorting and tariff formation on social media, through PSAs and involving other organisations • The Housing and Utilities Centre should be removing waste • Payment for waste can be made by weight or volume instead of a tariff per person, and it can be removed once the container is full instead of daily.

Group 5	Group 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arranging places for accumulation and temporary storage of waste; ● Raising public awareness about waste management; ● Supporting businesses in the operation of waste management equipment; ● Overseeing waste management and disposal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launching a comprehensive awareness-raising campaign on the benefits of proper waste management (infographics, PSA videos, contests, etc.), engaging kindergartens, schools, CSOs; ● Installing containers in each neighbourhood/yard for plastic, glass, aluminium, paper, metal, film. Involving businesses in recycling. Deducting the amount of waste that is not taken to the landfill from the payment; ● Prohibiting cottages from throwing branches (wood) and leaves into containers; ● The Housing and Utilities Centre should process wood using chippers near houses; ● Creating a recycling base (on the city's information pages): coffee grounds for insoles, clothes for weaving camouflage nets, etc.
Group 7	Group 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attracting investments (projects, programmes) for creating a composting station and modernising the landfill (special equipment, working conditions); ● Conducting a social awareness campaign; ● Transition from a general waste collection system to a customisable process based on the sort-to-pay-less principle; ● Conducting a professional waste audit by district to determine collection areas and install sorting modules; ● Appointing a responsible person (trained or hired professional) in the executive committee structure for effective management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creating a municipal company to handle central waste sorting and provide services to other participants in the process. This would also be a central body providing services to residents and reimbursing other contractors involved in the process; ● Requiring the management of adjacent territories to organise places for waste sorting and communicate with the public; ● Organising training for entrepreneurs interested in waste recycling and financial assistance.



Discussing “*How to Motivate Residents to Organise Separate Waste Collection at Home and What Should the City Council Do to Achieve This?*” allowed the participants to first brainstorm in 8 small groups a list of answers to the question posed, discuss them and then use SMART criteria to determine the most realistic ideas (see table below).

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 1-year pilot project on separate waste collection in one of the city blocks (along with educational activities, sorting rules and penalties for violating the rules). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of tariffs for houses with separate waste collection. • Installation of a reverse vending machine for empty bottles. • Competitions for the best waste sorting house. • Raising awareness about separate waste collection, challenging social norms, supporting local activists. • Boards of honour and shame in houses.
Group 3	Group 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In each building, the management company and tenants in charge should create an informational Viber group or chatbot for residents of each block where they post information (including about debtors) and showcase negative examples of waste management; • Regular (quarterly) meetings of residents of the building on waste sorting issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching an awareness-raising campaign that should involve the city council, CSOs and public activists of the community; • Creation of a local recycling businesses should be promoted; • To do this, a pilot sorting project in houses should be implemented to assess how much household waste Slavutych can generate (e.g., how many bottles); • The following should communicate with local businesses and sell waste to them: a) associations of owners of the flats in a building (OSBB) or building management companies that can collect sorted waste in the building blocks and direct the money received to household needs of the house; b) businesses; • Sorting should start with plastic (e.g., plastic bottles) and paper.
Group 5	Group 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating awareness-raising content on waste management and distributing it through all information channels; • Continuous training on waste management in educational institutions (kindergartens, schools); • Organising and hosting, with the support of the authorities, public events on “Learning to Sort Waste at Home” (lectures by experts, workshops, competitions, etc.); • Installing containers with information on what to put where and in what form near the city’s large supermarkets and in educational institutions; • Organising recycling collection points. Monetisation. The less garbage, the lower the tariff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information campaigns (booklets, infographics, PSAs) under “Life Cycle of Garbage after Sorting in Slavutych”; • A system of rewards and incentives for houses/districts/yards that actively sort waste; discounts on utilities or participation in the eco-gift draw; • Convenient sorting infrastructure, multicoloured containers with instructional signs installed next to the houses; • Introducing a Cleanliness/Sorting Week: city-wide campaign with competitions and prizes for active participants; • Feedback and reporting to the community on sorting results. Introducing advisory services for the public.

Group 7	Group 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness-raising media campaign, educational programmes, fostering the philosophy of taking responsibility — “I take care of myself and the world!”; • Individual financial component of the waste management system (incentives, bonuses) • Shaping conscious citizens: “I sort waste! What about you?” • Eco-campaigns, competitions and projects “Slavutych is Our Home” to promote best practices; • Providing accessible and open information about recycling collection points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shutting down garbage chutes. Installing containers for sorting garbage (glass, metal, plastic, paper and household waste); • Establishing a system of incentives (cash, awards); • Developing recommendations for sorting garbage and organising it for schools, businesses, institutions, kindergartens, etc.; • Designing public outreach about sorting and follow-up steps.

The second day of the session focused on discussing with the participants arranging separate waste collection in the city’s districts, organising the management of sorted and unsorted waste and ensuring cooperation with neighbouring communities.

The main components of the second day of the session were:

- panel discussion on “Waste Management System in the Community. Establishing an Effective Waste Removal Process. Formation of Tariff Policy”;
- presentation “Involving the Public in Waste Sorting. Developing an Effective Public Awareness-Raising Campaign on Waste Sorting Rules”;
- discussion “Working with Maps: Improving Waste Management in City Districts”;
- discussion “Organising the Management of Sorted Waste and Dealing with Unsorted Waste. Establishing Communication with Other Communities on Waste Management”.



The panel discussion on **“Waste Management System in the Community. Establishing an Effective Waste Removal Process. Formation of Tariff Policy”** was attended by Oleksandr Panteyev, member of the Tariff Policy Commission and the Public Council for City Development, Liudmyla Liubyva and Valentyna Darnopykh, members of the Slavutych City Council. After the panel discussion, groups of participants of the Citizens’ Assembly summarised the information and asked two questions per group.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Q&A for the participants of the panel discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants were surprised by the inaction of the regulatory authorities responsible for waste removal; • Putting lights with motion sensors near the garbage containers; • Belief that the tariff policy is outdated; • The garbage removal schedule is not followed; • The garbage removal service provider is distrusted by the locals; • Collection points often turn into spontaneous landfills, containers are unusable, sanitary requirements are not met; • Checking why the figures do not match between the target volumes of transported waste by Eco Trans Slav and the volumes of dumped waste at the landfill of the Housing and Utilities Centre; • Waste removal and disposal should be separate items in the bill; • A “waste just-in-time” system might be expedient; • The city authority responsible for the environmental situation should be determined; • Residents pay the carrier for the purchase of equipment; • It is surprising that the city let the situation with Eco Trans Slav and the Housing and Utilities Centre escalate to this; • New containers have not been procured; • A UAH 5,000,000 debt; • The landfill is underequipped; • There is currently only 1 item in the garbage service provider's bill; • The private carrier uses the funds at its discretion; • Dividing the funds in the garbage tariff so that they go not only to Eco Trans Slav; • The idea of splitting the solid waste removal and disposal service bills is good; • Containers must be washed; • Piloting a “waste just-in-time” project in one of the districts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was the public commission created, who is in it and how does the composition of the commission change? • How can the public control funding? • Who represents the government commissioner (which department or official)? • Does the tariff have a normative unit of measurement per resident? • Is individual accounting of waste for each household possible? • How does the carrier spend the received investment component included in the transportation tariff; • How is the removed waste distributed between the population, enterprises and budget institutions (in percentage)? • What is needed to split the tariff in the bill? What can prevent this? • Is the “waste just-in-time” idea feasible for Slavutych? If so, how can it be implemented? • Will sorted waste be deducted from the tariff? • Why are the containers not being reconstructed or repaired? • The standard household waste management services contract entitles (Clause 14) the consumer to demand containers to be installed. According to Clause 13, Clause (8), container sites are equipped by the consumer. So whose responsibility is this? • Are there people with legal or economic degrees in the public commission? • Who could initiate the splitting of the tariff? Why has this not been initiated yet? • What is the current tariff for the solid household waste removal service? • Will there be a tariff increase? • Who is responsible for arranging the waste collection site? • How should bulky waste be handled? How to dispose of it? Who collects it? What are the conditions? • When were the last procurements of fixed assets (transport, containers, etc.)? Are there or will there be funds allocated for this?

The presentation of *Yevheniia Aratovska*, Founder of the No Waste Ukraine CSO, on “*Involving Residents in Waste Sorting. Developing an Effective Public Awareness-Raising Campaign on Waste Sorting Rules*” provided for further discussion and questions to the speaker. The outcomes of the groups’ work are presented in the table below.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Speaker Q&A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs related to solid household waste (landfill, recycling, etc.) in Ukraine and Europe; • Waste sorting is altruism and volunteer activity; it is not profitable for business; • Creating an Educational Hub on Recycling and Sorting; • Sorting spaces/capsules; • Cheap landfilling and an extremely low eco-tax (5 UAH); • Sorting campaigns are based on pure altruism; • Inconsistency of calculations regarding waste removal: in cubic meters from the customer vs. in tonnes from the contractor; • Slavutych lacks a systemic waste management solution; • Fostering a sorting culture; • Educational centre for fostering sorting skills (Khmelnyskyi’s experience); • Promoting trending videos that raise public awareness on how to properly sort garbage (viral videos). Posting on social media; • Sharing public initiatives and challenges on social media (photos and videos of events); • Oversight of the proper removal and processing of sorted waste by local self-government; • Providing incentives to enterprises to motivate businesses to recycle sorted waste; • Creating additional collection points for sorted waste in neighbourhoods as a motivation for the public; • Learning how to adapt Europe’s pricing policy to the tariff realities in Ukraine; • Promoting recycling, such as by tours to sorting stations; • The experience of No Waste Ukraine can be adopted and used in Slavutych; • The difference in prices for waste recycling and disposal in Ukraine and EU countries; • No Waste Ukraine stations; • The kilogram system can be used; • Assessing Slavutych tariffs compared to European tariffs and requirements; • A big difference between the EU and Ukraine in waste management prices; • The EU offers incentives for recycling; • There are many public activists in Ukraine who are concerned about waste; • Children should be educated; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why, in your opinion, is the price of landfilling not increasing? • How much does it cost to install a capsule for sorting garbage? • How did you start your operation and where did you get the funding from? • Which sorting model (by the residents or sorting at a landfill) is more effective? • Is it reasonable to create an Educational Centre in a small city such as Slavutych? • How can one access the environmental register of hazardous enterprises in Ukraine? • What criteria are used to classify enterprises as environmentally hazardous? • Where does the waste collected by No Waste Ukraine (including clothing) go? • Does Ukraine sell garbage to other countries? If not, why don’t we do it? • How do you influence the authorities? What tools do you use? What are your results? • Where to look for funding sources, grants or donors to implement a waste management system? • How to conduct an awareness-raising campaign? What are the most effective solutions? • What are other examples of separate waste collection? • What would you recommend as the first steps to establish a similar educational eco-project in Slavutych? • Where does the station deliver sorted waste? • How much does it cost to maintain the station and install a capsule?

- Separate garbage collection is needed;
- Garbage removal services should operate using tonnes rather than cubic meters;
- Sorting space in Kyiv is great;
- It is unfortunate that eco-investors will not enter Ukraine due to excessive risks and unfavourable conditions;
- High-quality organisation of the sorting station;
- Striking difference in landfill tariffs between Ukraine and the EU;
- The experiences of the sorting station and the capsule.

To organise the discussion “Working with Maps: Improving Waste Management in City Districts”, the entire community was pre-divided into 8 neighbourhoods. Each neighbourhood received its own name: Chernihivskyi District; Listei; Desnianskyi and Pecherskyi Districts; Poliskyi and Central Districts; Bakynskyi, Yerevanskyi and Tbiliskyi Districts; Baltic Districts; Kyivskyi District and Promzona (Industrial Park). Before the discussion began, maps of Slavutych’s neighbourhoods were placed on the wall in the hall. Each participant of the Citizens’ Assembly could look at the maps and choose the one they would like to work with. Having chosen a map, the Assembly members marked it with a sticker with their name. Thus, 8 groups were formed to discuss improving waste management in city neighbourhoods.



The discussion then took place using the World Café method, which included 3 rounds of group discussions, participants switching tables after each round and presenting the results of each table. During the first round, participants analysed the maps, mapping organisations, institutions, residential buildings, businesses, garbage collection containers, places lacking containers, unregulated landfills, houses, enterprises and businesses that have established separate garbage collection, as well as all other waste problems. The participants then brainstormed answers to the following key question: “*Imagine that you are responsible*

for waste management in your community, and you have all the necessary powers to influence this process. Think about what should be done to improve the waste situation in your neighbourhood. What specific actions should you take? How should you work with all stakeholders? How should you communicate with residents to change the waste situation in the neighbourhood for the better?" The second and third rounds involved discussing the work of the previous groups, as well as finding answers to the above question.

After three rounds, the participants returned to their seats. Their task was to prepare for the presentation of their results, i.e. they first had to learn about the work of the table during all rounds, and then select about 5 related ideas from each table using SMART criteria. This resulted in the following list of proposals from the tables (see table below).

Baltic Districts	Kyivskyi District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distributing detailed and accessible information on waste management via messenger applications, information boards and signs near containers; ● Install 7 eco-pavilions and upgrade (one existing pavilion) with sorting containers, detailed instructions on proper sorting and CCTV cameras; ● Closing garbage chutes in multi-storey buildings to encourage waste sorting; ● Installing sorting containers in yards with clear sorting instructions; ● Organising special sites for collecting leaves and grass for further composting; ● Finding companies interested in waste removal and recycling, collecting their contacts (phone numbers, e-mail, etc.) or contacting local authorities to create favourable conditions for attracting such companies to the community. ● Initiating the creation of CSOs in cottage neighbourhoods and actively involve young people in waste sorting and reduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishing transport services; ● Organising high-quality waste removal services (logistics, road map); ● Approving a waste management plan for the transition period; ● Eliminating unregulated landfills, removing containers, changing the centralised collection mechanism to "waste just-in-time"; ● A survey of residents and the service provider regarding the capacity to change; ● Installing sorting modules in flat buildings; ● Developing individual contracts for cottages and collective contracts for management companies.
Poliskyi District	Tbiliskyi District, Yerevanskyi District and Bakynskyi District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introducing new flexible schedules for garbage collection and removal that would account for the type of waste (plastic, glass, etc.); ● Purchasing weighing scales for each house (individualised waste generation control); ● Reducing the tariff by 10% for those who sort waste; ● Amending the city budget to provide funds for an incentive to the best waste-sorting house; ● Awareness-raising work targeting building managers (the "pigs" and "kitties" campaign). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arranging 3 waste sorting points (in the centre of each district) (one of them should be restored and one should be reopened); ● Agreeing with residents of nearby buildings near the potential waste collection point, which is located in the middle, on the restoration of the waste collection point (Bakynskyi District); ● Finding out where businesses in the northwestern part of the neighbourhood and where residents of nearby cottages dispose of their waste. For businesses and cottages, it may be expedient to open new containers.

Promzona (Industrial Park)	Listei
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fencing off the ownerless area and boarding all windows and entrances to the premises; cleaning it beforehand; ● Obliging owners that have sites with abandoned buildings to rent out or fence off the sites and board the windows and doors after cleaning the site and the building; ● Increasing the number of containers for the residential area, as sometimes there are not enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Modernising existing containers for separate waste collection, installing new containers for separate waste collection; ● System for removing garbage from cottages ● Modernising the waste management system would enable shutting down garbage chutes in houses; <p>Unregulated landfills behind cottages in the Dobrynynskyi District should be cleared.</p>
Chernihivskyi District	Poliskyi and Central Districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In 6 months, a composting site should be organised; ● In 6 months, sorting in cottages should be established (according to the principle of 1 container for general waste + composter for organic waste); ● In 1 year, collection of organic waste from adjacent territories by service organisations should be established; ● In 1 year, 5 waste sorting sites should be set up in the district, featuring 7 containers for different fractions per site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting an awareness-raising campaign “Sorting: Reasons and Profitability”: posters in building blocks, PSAs on TV and online; posting company contacts with a schedule for the removal of bulky waste; ● Arranging (interstorey) premises of the garbage chute for temporary sorting and storage of waste; ● Installing mini-pavilions for several houses (5 pavilions + 2 for businesses): separate containers with detailed instructions for each type of waste. Also installing two bins for collecting clothes and shoes in the district; ● Transportation of waste from mini-pavilions to the sorting station once filled (indicators should be worked out). ● Engaging an organisation or company to put in charge of the mini-pavilions.



Further discussion on *“Organising the Management of Sorted Waste and Dealing with Unsorted Waste. Establishing Communication with Other Communities on Waste Management”* allowed the participants to first brainstorm in 8 small groups a list of answers to the question posed, discuss them and then use SMART criteria to determine the most realistic ideas (see table below).

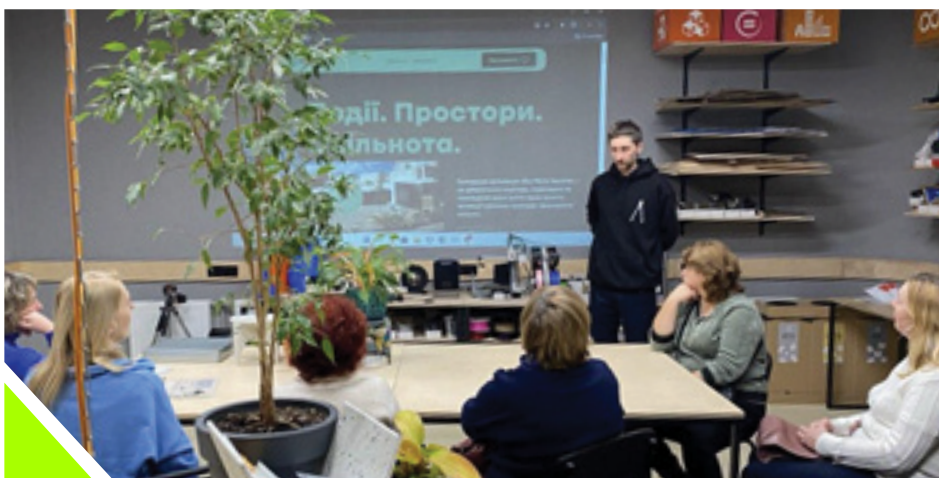
Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In 6 months, finding a business that will buy sorted recyclables; ● With the assistance of the City Council, in 1 year, arranging a storage facility for storing sorted recyclables (the Promzona District was suggested); ● Unsorted waste from both our and neighbouring communities (at a reasonable rate) should be transported to the Slavutych landfill: the process should be set up within a year; ● Encouraging the heads of neighbouring communities and starosta districts to sort waste in order to obtain financial resources for further tourism development under existing tourism strategies: 3 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motivation: lower rates, fines for violations, competitions for houses, raising awareness in schools; ● A responsible management company to take care of the separate waste collection sites; ● Reorganisation of the landfill; restarting separate waste collection; ● Part of the sorted waste should be transported to Chernihiv for recycling; ● Cooperation with neighbouring rural territorial communities that use the Slavutych waste collection infrastructure.
Group 3	Group 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Negotiating centralised removal with neighbouring communities; ● Seeking waste recyclers; ● Economic analysis and writing a business plan; ● Setting up logistics chains for removal and partnership; ● Entering into contracts; ● Allocating free premises in public utility enterprises for storing sorted waste (Housing and Utilities Services Department, Housing and Utilities Centre); ● Involving citizens serving administrative sentences in sorting unprocessed waste at the landfill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assigning a manager to put in charge of waste management in Slavutych (this person should be employed by the executive committee; potentially Shevchenko's deputy). This person should communicate with: businesses, residents, the mayor, Eco Trans Slav and the Housing and Utilities Centre; with communities that already have succeeded in managing household waste; ● This person should create a database of the recyclables market (businesses that can recycle waste). ● The volumes of sorted waste in Slavutych should be measured. This information will be necessary for businesses to negotiate recycling with. To do this, the sorting line at the landfill should be restored; ● Once the city has waste sorting sites, a map with their location should be distributed to everyone; ● An awareness-raising campaign: engaging kindergartens and schools (competitions can be hosted there); creating an Environmental Hub; public outreach through businesses and institutions (setting up information stands about sorting there, etc.).
Group 5	Group 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creating an interactive map of the city where businesses, craftspersons or individuals will post information about what they produce and about materials they need (toys, fabrics, batteries, etc.); ● Monitoring companies that buy recyclables; ● Finding activists or businesses or reviewing the contract with an existing waste removal/collection service provider. ● Getting guidance for safe storage from experts; ● Encouraging neighbouring communities to start sorting. For example, messaging that reducing payment brings more money for the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sorted garbage: organising removal by entering into a detailed agreement with continuous oversight from the community and receiving feedback; ● Unsorted garbage: sorting training for kindergartens, schools and organisations; launching an ongoing awareness-raising campaign for all city residents; ● Cooperation with other territorial communities: sending information letters about the only fully compliant landfill in the region. Introducing a fee for waste removal to facilitate the compliance of other communities and promoting sorting, because by reducing the amount of waste to be taken to the landfill, other communities can reduce their removal tariff.

Group 7	Group 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The authorities should supervise actual capabilities of the existing company to provide a service for transporting sorted waste (market) and unsorted waste (both options). Otherwise, the contractor should be changed; • Assess the cost effectiveness of the supply chain of sorted and unsorted waste; • Negotiating possible partnerships in waste management matters with neighbouring communities (Liubech, Mykhailo-Kotsiubynske, Chernihiv); • Creating a Sorting Educational Hub to train different segments of the population; • Promoting the development of startups (eco-bus, courier). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting with yourself; • Conscious approach to buying products, things, etc.; • Being a role model for your family; • Public outreach in the community using all possible communication channels; • Reducing the waste by purchasing a compactor; • Obliging the authorities to switch from the cubic system to the weight system; • Applying the Law on Decentralisation and creating a centre for collecting and primary sorting of garbage for neighbouring communities and Slavutych; • Applying a local tax on waste.

Following the two-day session, all the developed proposals were compiled into a single list, which was sent for review to the relevant structural units and officials of the Slavutych City Council, as well as to the leading expert of the Citizens' Assembly, Olesia Vershyhora, whose was tasked with providing feedback on each proposal regarding the possibility and feasibility of their implementation. Later, before Session 3, all proposals with feedback were sent to the participants of the Citizens' Assembly for preliminary review.

Trip to Chernihiv to study Eco City's experience in waste sorting

On 16 November 2024, between Sessions 2 and 3 of the Citizens' Assembly, participants travelled to Chernihiv to study Eco City's experience in waste sorting. Founded in 2014, Eco City is a CSO engaged in environmental initiatives in Ukraine and in Chernihiv in particular. In his presentation, Serhii Bezborodko, head of the CSO and director of the maker space Peremoha Lab, detailed to the Assembly the CSO's experience in creating a waste sorting station. The station was created in 2020, launched by Eco City in the Youth Centre. In 2021, after the station moved to the Chernihiv Polytechnic University, eco-activists purchased special equipment, a shredding machine and an extruder for recycling plastic in a new workshop. The station collects resource-valuable packaging (glass, PET plastic, HDPE plastic, waste paper and cardboard, tin, aluminium), difficult-to-recycle fractions (tetrapacks, LDPE plastic, PP plastic, illiquid plastic, paper cups); it also accepts gadgets and wires for recycling.



For the targeted use of plastic waste accepted by the sorting station, Eco City opened Plastic Fantastic, the first plastic recycling workshop in Chernihiv. This is a multi-component project. The CSO trained eco-mentors and eco-bloggers, developed interesting lessons for children and installed boxes for sorting plastic in Chernihiv schools.

The participants of the Citizens' Assembly visited the Plastic Fantastic workshop, where they observed how used plastic can be transformed into new products. They explored the hub's equipment, viewed an exhibition of design projects made from recycled materials, and learned about each stage of the production process—from sorting plastic waste to creating finished products. This visit played a crucial role in deepening their understanding of plastic recycling challenges and identifying effective solutions.



Meetings with a local entrepreneur and public activists involved in waste collection and sorting

As part of the preparation for the final session of the Citizens' Assembly in Slavutych, participants visited Vasyl Kravchenko, a local entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in collecting and sorting various types of waste, including paper, glass containers, polyethylene, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, and certain ferrous and non-ferrous metals. During the visit, Mr. Kravchenko shared insights from his recycling work, discussed the challenges faced by businesses, and emphasised the importance of supporting local waste reduction initiatives.

Additionally, the Assembly members met with local activist Oleksandr Panchenko, who, along with residents of his building, initiated a waste sorting system. Mr. Panchenko explained the steps taken to implement separate waste collection in their building and shared both the successes and challenges encountered during the process.

These meetings offered participants valuable, real-world examples of how waste sorting and recycling systems can be successfully introduced at the local level. Videos of interviews with Mr. Kravchenko and Mr. Panchenko were shared on the *Slavutych Office of Public Initiatives' Support platforms*.

The expertise and recommendations received were subsequently taken into account when developing proposals for improving the household waste management system in the community.

SESSION 3: DECISION-MAKING (23–24 November)



The first day of the session focused on discussing and finalising the proposals for the final recommendations on waste management in the community with the participants.

The main components of the first day of the session were:

- panel discussion on “Reducing the Waste for Landfilling. Motivating the Public to Organise Separate Waste Collection at Home, Relevant Efforts of the City Council”;
- panel discussion on “Improving the Waste Management System in the City Districts. Waste Removal and Disposal: Management of Sorted Waste and Handling of Unsorted Waste. Cooperation with Other Communities Regarding Waste Management”;
- finalisation of proposals for recommendations in 8 groups;
- finalisation of proposals for recommendations in 4 groups.

In the panel discussion on “*Reducing the Waste for Landfilling. Motivating the Public to Organise Separate Waste Collection at Home, Relevant Efforts of the City Council*” were attended by Viktor Shevchenko — First Deputy Mayor of Slavutych, Volodymyr Klimov — Director of the Housing and Utilities Centre, Oleksandr Panchenko — head of an OSBB, Olesia Vershyhora — Leading Expert of the Citizens’ Assembly, Yurii Yehorenko — Head of the Public Council under the Executive Committee of the Slavutych City Council.

After the panel discussion, groups of participants of the Citizens’ Assembly summarised the information and prepared two questions per group to the speaker.

 What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?	 Q&A for the participants of the panel discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sorting waste upon generation rather than at the landfill.• Non-feasibility of sorting waste at our landfill.• Practical experience of Oleksandr Panchenko.• The sorting line at the landfill is very expensive for the Housing and Utilities Service (unprofitable).• Management requires qualified experts and professional solutions.• Citizens’ Assembly provides training in public activism.• Consumer-oriented approach.• The idea of personal sorting is viable for Slavutych.• Residents can sort independently, without waiting for instructions from the authorities, while sorting directly at the landfill is not profitable (economically inexpedient).• Organising separate garbage collection for several houses.• The garbage collection system in an OSBB as explained by which Mr Panchenko.• Determining the sites for containers.• There should be no problems with green waste (it should be taken out upon request).• About sorting and income.• Launching a sorting line would take \$300,000.• Sorting must be introduced.• The amount of PET bottle waste must be reduced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the amount of debt of Eco Trans Slav to the Housing and Utilities Centre, and vice versa, and can a bulldozer be purchased with these funds?• Will the recommendations of the Citizens’ Assembly be introduced/implemented without existing plans at the national and regional levels?• Does the landfill reconstruction project provide for a solid household waste treatment plant with sanitisation and filtration?• What waste collection points are identified in your household?• Which houses are currently (except for the expert’s house) also involved in sorting in Slavutych? Is Mr Panchenko willing to accept sorted waste from other houses?• How are residents being incentivised to sort their waste?• What document regulates the relations between consumers and the service provider and on what terms?• Klimov: Why is there still no split bill?• Panchenko: I sort waste. Can I contact you about sorting waste?• Which waste management scheme is the most economically profitable?• Has there been a study in the community to determine the amount of waste? At what stage is this study currently?• Who owns the garbage containers? Who should take care of them?

- It seems that there is extremely poor, if any, communication among the city authorities, Eco Trans Slav, the Housing and Utilities Centre and other solid household waste management actors.
- Pricing for waste sorting (removal, etc.).
- Reduction in the amount (volumes) of waste.

- There are sorting pavilions in the city. Who owns them and who maintains them? (The question is inspired by the fact that even though there is such a pavilion in the Vilniuskyi District, it lacks any containers, and the pavilions themselves feature piles of garbage along with sorted resources).
- How are the authorities planning to raise funds for the implementation of the new waste management project and over what period?
- Where are containers being washed in Slavutych? Who is responsible for this?

The next panel discussion was held with the same participants as the previous one, but the topic of the discussion was ***“Improving Waste Management in City Districts. Waste Removal and Disposal: Management of Sorted Waste and Handling of Unsorted Waste. Cooperation with Other Communities Regarding Waste Management”***. After the panel discussion, groups of participants of the Citizens’ Assembly summarised the information and prepared two questions per group.



What surprised the participants? What new things did they learn and what should be left as is in Slavutych?

- Introduce composting.
- State-region-community — this is how the waste management system will work.
- Unfavourable investment climate due to the war in the country.
- Memorandum of Cooperation with Neighbouring Communities (Liubech, Mykhailo-Kotsiubynske, Honcharivsk).
- Neither the authorities nor the community are satisfied with the services of Eco Trans Slav.
- The issue of waste management requires a strategic environmental assessment.
- Sorting is on the consumer.
- What should Slavutych leave as is: the group’s answer is “Everything needs a complete overhaul.”
- Only businesses can ensure effective waste management (sorting).
- Until there is a regional plan, a local one is inexpedient.
- Many aspects depend on waste prices and waste management.
- It is necessary to monitor the waste amounts.
- Slavutych should consider the following:
Introducing economic incentives in waste management
- The deputy mayor is well-versed in this matter.
- We did not receive answers to specific pain points such as splitting the tariff, effective waste removal by Eco Trans Slav (we pay for nothing), the impossibility of holding a competition to determine a new carrier, unwillingness of any authorised organisations to take responsibility for resolving real problems.



Q&A for the participants of the panel discussion

- Will the Housing and Utilities Centre accept the proposal of the participants of the Citizens’ Assembly to create a municipal enterprise as the “Service Administrator” to be in charge of contracting by the parties to the process and settlements with them in accordance with the approved tariffs and the funds received from consumers?
- Who is responsible for the financial losses caused by the activities of Eco Trans Slav to the Housing and Utilities Centre?
- When to expect a regional plan? In case of a long-term postponement, how will the recommendations of the Citizens’ Assembly be implemented by the city authorities?
- How will waste monitoring and its morphology study be organised?
- What motivates a person to generate less waste? What mechanism of control and enforce compliance is used to ensure independent sorting by the residents?
- If the carrier fails to enter into a contract with a waste disposal service provider, is the executive committee entitled to terminate the contract? (And appoint an administrator instead of holding a competition)
- What are, in your opinion, the approximate terms of implementation of the new plan?
- What can the authorities do before the local plan is implemented?
- What steps could the local authorities take that they have not taken yet and that are not limited by local and regional plans?
- Can you assure us that after 2026, when the city landfill contract expires, it will continue to operate without violating legislation and environmental standards? (Shevchenko)

Following two panel discussions, participants were able to refine previously developed proposals for recommendations and respond to comments from representatives of the City Council’s structural divisions.



The next step for the participants of the Citizens’ Assembly was to finalise previously formulated proposals for recommendations in 8 groups. The participants used the World Café method, which included 3 rounds of group discussions, participants switching tables after each round and summarising the results of each table. During the first round, participants answered the following questions: *“Should new proposals be added? Which of the existing proposals should be removed? Which proposals should be merged?”* The second and third rounds involved discussing the work of the previous groups, as well as finding answers to the above question. After three rounds, the participants returned to their seats. Their task was to learn about the work of the table during all rounds, and then select those ideas from each table that were the best fit using SMART criteria. This resulted in the following list of proposals from the tables (see table below).

Group 1	Group 2
<p>Subtopic: Reducing the landfilled waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transition from a general system of solid household waste collection to individualised removal + determining the service tariff by weight of waste (kg): the more you generate (without sorting), the more you pay.• Garbage removal once the containers are full.• Conducting a professional audit of waste by districts to determine its morphological composition to further develop recommendations for installing certain containers in specific locations/districts of the city. Involving interested wholesale procurers of recyclables based on this data.	<p>Subtopic: Reducing the landfilled waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating the position of a landscaping inspector, whose duties will include monitoring waste management and disposal, as well as communicating the state of the landfill, sorting and tariff formation. The communication will be via social media, PSAs and will engage other actors.• Garbage should be removed once the containers are full. The tariff should be individualised: those generating more garbage should pay more.• Training and financial assistance should be provided for entrepreneurs who are interested in waste recycling. Businesses should be supported in installing equipment for separate waste collection.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attracting investments (grants, etc.) to improve the city's solid household waste landfill (procuring special equipment, improving working conditions for employees, etc.). ● Designing and conducting an awareness-raising campaign. ● Creating a system for removing garden waste from cottages on demand (i.e. ordering a service) by the Housing and Utilities Centre, which will grind this raw material (as they have proper equipment) and transport this resource to the existing composting station (which will involve improving this station). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Since separate waste collection has been established near the garage cooperative, separate removal of this waste should be organised. ● Containers for separate waste collection should be installed throughout the city. ● An awareness-raising campaign should be conducted on proper handling of waste. ● Four composting sites should be created that summer cottage residents will use.
<p style="text-align: center;">Group 3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Group 4</p>
<p>Subtopic: Motivating residents to organise separate waste collection at home and the City Council's steps to achieve this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launching awareness-raising campaigns (booklets, infographics, social videos) on waste sorting. ● Building a convenient sorting infrastructure (multicoloured containers with signs and instructions). ● Providing feedback and advisory services for the public. ● Creating informational Viber groups in houses together with management companies. ● Conducting a city-wide public awareness-raising media campaign involving all the stakeholders (government, community). ● Conducting an experimental assessment of how much garbage is generated by Slavutych households. ● Starting sorting recyclable plastic. ● Introducing a system of incentives and bonuses for residents as part of the waste management system. 	<p>Subtopic: Motivating residents to organise separate waste collection at home and the City Council's steps to achieve this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arranging waste sorting sites (near houses). (Each flat building should decide whether to shut down their garbage chutes). ● Creating a city recycling collection point outside residential buildings. ● Designing a pilot sorting project for the cottages in the Kyivskyi District; obtaining the residents' consent ("Would you like to be the first?"). ● Introducing public outreach, such as posting instructions on waste management, opening a Hub that will communicate with the public. ● The tariff should be reduced through a decrease in the volume of unsorted waste. This requires harmonising waste accounting (having containers or packages of the same size). ● Setting up a sorting system with 2 or 3 containers/packages to then gradually move to larger capacities.
<p style="text-align: center;">Group 5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Group 6</p>
<p>Subtopic: Improving waste management in city districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting an awareness-raising campaign and creating PSA videos that will promote proper waste sorting using all possible communication channels. ● Cleaning up unregulated landfills in the city (by district) with the community participation through public outreach efforts and establishing further oversight of these sites. ● Creating an administrator: a municipal waste management company ● Creating an eco-commission (public oversight) for compliance with waste management legislation, including the analysis of the waste management by businesses ● Obliging the Housing and Utilities Centre and management companies to arrange special sites for collecting leaves and special composting sites in compliance with sanitary standards. ● Installing containers for sorting with clear instructions and schedules in compliance with sanitary standards. ● Hosting public hearings of residents of buildings in order to decide on further shutdown of garbage chutes. 	<p>Subtopic: Improving waste management in city districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increasing the number of containers for the residential area as sometimes there are not enough; ● Modernising existing containers for separate waste collection, installing new containers for separate waste collection; ● Creating the system for removing garbage from cottages; ● Unregulated landfills behind cottages in the Dobrynynskyi District should be cleared; ● In 6 months, a composting site should be organised; ● In 1 year, 5 waste sorting sites should be set up in the district, featuring 7 containers for different fractions; ● Conducting an awareness-raising campaign "Sorting: Reasons and Profitability". Posters in building blocks. PSAs on TV and online. Posting company contacts with a schedule for the removal of bulky waste; ● Arranging premises of the garbage chute for temporary sorting and storage of waste; ● Engaging an organisation or company to put in charge of the mini-pavilions.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishing communication and subsequent cooperation with No Waste Ukraine, Ecomisto and other CSOs. ● Piloting the “waste just-in-time” project (Kyivskyi and Vilniuskyyi Districts, cottages). ● Organising a survey and securing the residents’ consent. ● Approving the plan. ● Ensuring high-quality services. ● Pilot: arranging 6 sites in existing pavilions for sorting garbage into 5 fractions in 1 year. 	
Group 7	Group 8
<p>Subtopic: Sorted waste management. Unsorted waste management. Cooperation with other communities regarding waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Obliging the authorities to switch from the cubic system to the weight system; ● Applying the Law on Decentralisation and creating a centre for collecting and secondary sorting of garbage for neighbouring communities and Slavutych. ● Encouraging sorting (fines, information in educational institutions, financial support for the houses that sort waste). ● A responsible management company should take care of the separate waste collection sites. ● Reorganisation of the landfill. ● Monitoring enterprises that purchase recyclables, arranging for a business that will oversee the process (6 months). ● Interaction with neighbouring territorial communities: unsorted waste should be taken to the Slavutych landfill (1 year). ● Interactive map of the city. ● Public activists/businesses/existing companies that remove and collect raw materials. ● Getting guidance from experts on safe waste storage (6 months). 	<p>Subtopic: Sorted waste management. Unsorted waste management. Cooperation with other communities regarding waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arranging for the removal of sorted waste by contracting a sales organisation (company). ● Launching a standing awareness-raising campaign for different population groups. ● Maintaining communication and partnership with neighbouring communities under the existing 2023 Memorandum. ● Assigning a waste management services administrator as prescribed by law. ● Creating a Sorting Educational Hub to train different segments of the population. ● Assessing the amount of sorted waste. ● Allocating free premises in public utility enterprises for storing sorted waste. ● Promoting recycling startups (eco-bus, etc.). ● Creating an interactive map (mobile application) of waste sorting (collection) sites. ● Modernising the grinding and compacting capacities of the landfill.



Given that the subtopics were the same in Groups 1 and 2, 3 as well as 4, 5 and 6, 7 and 8, but the proposals they worked with were different, the next step was to merge groups with the same subtopics in order to jointly finalise the combined lists of proposals. Thus, 4 large groups were formed in which discussions were held. This resulted in 4 lists of proposals by subtopic.

<p>Subtopic: Reducing the landfilled waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition from a system of general solid household waste collection to individualised removal, determining the tariff by weight: those who generate more waste and do not sort it should pay more. • Garbage should be removed once the containers are full. • A professional audit of waste should be conducted by districts to determine its morphological composition to further develop recommendations for installing various containers in specific locations, districts of the city. Interested wholesale procurers of recyclables should be involved based on this data. • Attracting investments (grants) to improve the landfill (procuring special equipment, improving working conditions for employees). • Designing and conducting awareness-raising campaigns. • Creating a system for removing garden waste from cottages on demand by the Housing and Utilities Centre, which will grind this raw material and transport it to the existing composting station. Upgrading this station. • Introduction of the position of administrator of waste-related services in the community's executive committee. This person would be responsible for waste management oversight and public communication. • Support for businesses ensure separate waste collection. • Establishing the removal of separately collected waste from containers near garage cooperatives. • Creation of a digital "Single Bill" for utility services. 	<p>Subtopic: Motivating residents to organise separate waste collection at home and the City Council's steps to achieve this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot project of containerless collection based on cottages in the Kyivskyi District. Gradually moving from 2 bags to 5 containers. • Creating sites with roofing for separate waste near flat buildings and equipping them in accordance with sanitary standards • Each house should decide whether to shut down their garbage chutes. • Creating a municipal company to act as an administrator. • Paying for waste by volume (at first, this would be more realistic for cottages).
<p>Subtopic: Improving waste management in city districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly communicating information about waste management via messenger applications, social media, TV, etc. • Organising special sites for collecting leaves and grass. • In 6 months, composting sites should be organised. • Installing containers for sorting with clear instructions and schedules in compliance with sanitary standards. • Seeking organisations interested in waste removal and recycling. • Piloting the "waste just-in-time" project (Kyivskyi District — cottages): organising a survey and securing the residents' consent; approving the plan; ensuring high-quality services. • Cleaning up unregulated landfills and establishing oversight of these sites (Pecherskyi, Chernihivskyi, Dobryninskyi and Promzona Districts). • Pilot: In 1 year, 5 waste sorting sites for 7 fractions should be set up in the Chernihivskyi District; • Analysing the situation with waste management by businesses + establishing oversight of waste removal (contract or independently). • Arranging premises of the garbage chutes for sorting waste by shutting down the chutes (Poliskyi District). 	<p>Subtopic: Sorted waste management. Unsorted waste management. Cooperation with other communities regarding waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising the removal of sorted primary waste under a sales agreement. • Assigning a waste management services administrator with legislative powers. • Maintaining communication and partnership with neighbouring territorial communities under the existing Memorandum. • Keeping various population groups always informed on waste management matters. Creating a Sorting Educational Hub for training purposes. • Upgrading the landfill, modernising its grinding and compacting capacities. • Assessing the amount of sorted waste and ensuring the transition from the cubic accounting system to the weight system. • Promoting recycling startups (eco-bus, etc.). • Creating an interactive map (mobile application, GoogleMaps) of sorting sites and recycling collection points. • Allocating free premises in public utility enterprises for storing sorted waste (or an Additional Sorting Centre). • Introducing the positions of public amenities inspectors.

The goal of the second day of the session was to finalise list of recommendations of members of the Citizens' Assembly on Waste Management in the Community.

The main components of the second day of the session were the final discussion of the list of proposals for recommendations on waste management in the community, group discussions of the potential contribution of Assembly participants to solving the community's waste management problem, as well as individual voting on recommendations.

The final discussion of the list of proposals for recommendations on waste management in the community was held using the World Café method in 2 rounds. After the first round, the participants switched tables. During each round, they attempted to answer the following questions:

- Is everything clear?
- Are there any questions or clarifications?
- Which recommendations seem the most important and prioritised?
- Are there any recommendations that you disagree with, and if so, why?
- What is missing or not included in the recommendations?

After two rounds of discussion, the participants returned to their groups to discuss and compile a final list of proposals in the format of recommendations.



Since Groups 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 and 6, 7 and 8 had the same subtopics and proposals for discussion, their next task was to merge and discuss all the proposals again, word them as recommendations and compile a final list of recommendations for voting. This resulted in 4 lists of recommendations for voting by subtopics.

<p>Subtopic: Reducing the landfilled waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting professional waste audits by districts with the involvement of eco-activists/volunteers/CSOs to determine the morphological composition of waste. ● Based on the morphology findings, developing recommendations for installing certain containers in specific locations/districts of the city. ● Based on the audit, involving interested wholesale procurers of recyclables. ● Developing a transition plan to determine a tariff by weight of waste. ● Creating a system for removing garden waste on demand from cottages by the Housing and Utilities Centre (and grinding this waste). ● Developing recommendations for local businesses on optimising separate waste collection and promoting these practices by the authorities. ● Establishing the removal of separately collected waste near garage cooperatives. ● Creation of a digital "Single Bill" for utility services. 	<p>Subtopic: Motivating residents to organise separate waste collection at home and the City Council's steps to achieve this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launching a standing awareness-raising campaign for different population groups, which will include measures such as placing information signs at sorting points; making stickers; commissioning PSA videos; amending the curriculum of educational institutions to include presentations, lectures and guided tours; creating an educational Hub; creating an interactive map with sorting points. The awareness-raising campaign should generate minimal waste. ● Piloting containerless garbage collection in cottages of the Kyivskyi and Vilniuskyi Districts (starting with 2 bags, eventually expanding to 5 containers) with the introduction of payment for the number of bags (the price should include the garbage transportation service). ● Establishing sites with roofing for the collection of sorted garbage with limited access that will comply with sanitary standards. ● Refrain from making decisions to shut down the garbage chutes before the sites are opened (further decision should be up to the residents of the buildings). ● Amending the budget financing to factor in the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly. ● The waste management administrator should be staffed with active participants of the Citizens' Assembly. ● Building a convenient sorting infrastructure (multicoloured containers with signs and instructions).
<p>Subtopic: Improving waste management in city districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting an awareness-raising campaign and creating PSA videos that will promote proper waste sorting using all possible communication channels. ● Cleaning up unregulated landfills in the city (by district) with the community participation through public outreach efforts and establishing further oversight of these sites. ● Creating an administrator: a municipal waste management company. ● Creating an eco-commission (public oversight) for compliance with waste management legislation, including the analysis of the waste management by businesses. ● Obliging the Housing and Utilities Centre and management companies to arrange special sites for collecting grass and leaves and special composting sites in compliance with sanitary standards. ● Installing containers for sorting with clear instructions and schedules in compliance with sanitary standards. ● Hosting public hearings of residents of buildings in order to decide on further shutdown of garbage chutes. ● Establishing communication and subsequent cooperation with No Waste Ukraine, Ecomisto and other CSOs. ● Piloting the "waste just-in-time" project (Kyivskyi and Vilniuskyi Districts, cottages). ● Organising a survey and securing the residents' consent. ● Approving the plan. ● Ensuring high-quality services. ● Pilot: arranging 6 sites in existing pavilions for sorting garbage into 5 fractions in 1 year. 	<p>Subtopic: Sorted waste management. Unsorted waste management. Cooperation with other communities regarding waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assigning a waste management services administrator. ● Organising the removal of pre-sorted waste under a sales agreement. ● Maintaining communication and partnership with neighbouring territorial communities under the existing Memorandum on Partnership and Cooperation. ● Keeping various population groups always informed; creating an Educational Hub and an interactive map (GoogleMaps). ● Upgrading and modernising the landfill. ● Assessing the amount of household waste and measuring the volume of sorted waste. ● Evaluating the feasibility of a cubic and a weight measurement systems. ● Promoting recycling startups (coffee grounds insoles, eco-bus, etc.). ● Setting up an intermediate storage point and accumulation of sorted waste. ● Introducing the positions of public amenities inspectors.

RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED AT THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY SESSIONS

Each group presented its list of proposals to the entire assembly for general discussion. After the discussion, the final recommendations were put forward for voting (see the table with voting results).

Ballots containing the list of recommendations were distributed to the participants for individual voting. The voting process took 45 minutes, with each proposal being rated on a 5-point scale. Once completed, the ballots were collected by the coordinators of the Citizens' Assembly. The results were then compiled into a summary table to calculate the average score for each proposal and gauge its level of support among the participants.

No.	Recommendations	Average score	Support rate
1.	Conducting an awareness-raising campaign and creating PSA videos that will promote proper waste sorting using all possible communication channels.	4,5	90%
2.	Cleaning up unregulated landfills in the city (by district) with the community participation through public outreach efforts and establishing further oversight (Pecherskyi, Chernihivskyi, Dobryninskyi and Promzona Districts).	4,4	88%
3.	Creating an eco-commission for public oversight and analysing the situation together with the businesses.	4,0	80%
4.	Obliging the Housing and Utilities Centre and management companies to arrange special sites for collecting grass and garbage as well as special composting sites in compliance with sanitary standards.	4,3	85%
5.	Installing containers for sorting in compliance with sanitary standards, with clear instructions and a removal schedule.	4,4	88%
6.	Hosting public hearings of residents of buildings (meetings of residents of the building) in order to decide on further shutdown of garbage chutes.	3,5	70%
7.	Establishing communication and potential cooperation with No Waste Ukraine, Ecomisto and other CSOs.	3,9	78%
8.	Pilot: arranging six (6) sites in pavilions for sorting garbage into five (5) fractions in a year.	4,0	80%
9.	Conducting professional waste audits by districts with the involvement of eco-activists/volunteers/CSOs to determine the morphological composition of waste	4,0	81%
10.	Based on the morphology findings, developing recommendations for installing certain containers in specific locations/districts of the city	4,0	81%
11.	Based on the audit, involving interested wholesale procurers of recyclables.	4,0	80%
12.	Developing a transition plan to determine a tariff by weight of waste.	3,8	77%
13.	Creating a system for removing garden waste on demand from cottages by the Housing and Utilities Centre (and grinding this waste).	3,6	72%
14.	Developing recommendations for local businesses on optimising separate waste collection and promoting these practices by the authorities.	4,0	80%
15.	Establishing the removal of separately collected waste near garage cooperatives.	3,8	75%
16.	Creation of a digital "Single Bill" for utility services.	3,6	73%
17.	Launching an awareness-raising campaign: info-signs at sorting points, making stickers, commissioning PSA videos, amending the curriculum (presentations, lectures, guided tours...).	4,4	88%
18.	Creating an administrator (municipal company)	4,7	93%
19.	Piloting containerless garbage collection in cottages of the Kyivskyi District.	3,8	77%
20.	Piloting containerless garbage collection in bags with a separate removal schedule (residents buy bags, the cost of the bag is payment for the removal service, payment for disposal is billed separately).	3,5	70%

21.	Creating equipped sites (limited access, with roofing, in compliance with sanitary standards) for the collection of sorted garbage (for flat buildings).	4,4	88%
22.	Garbage chutes should not be shut down until the sites are arranged.	4,3	87%
23.	Amending the budget financing to factor in the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly.	4,3	87%
24.	Assigning a waste management services administrator.	4,8	97%
25.	Organising the removal of pre-sorted waste under a sales agreement.	4,2	84%
26.	Maintaining communication and partnerships with neighbouring territorial communities under the existing Memorandum on Partnership and Cooperation.	4,4	88%
27.	Upgrading and modernising the landfill.	4,5	90%
28.	Assessing the amount of household waste and measuring the volume of sorted waste.	4,0	80%
29.	Evaluating the feasibility of cubic and a weight measurement systems.	4,2	84%
30.	Promoting recycling startups (coffee grounds insoles, eco-bus, etc.).	4,1	82%
31.	Setting up an intermediate storage point and accumulation of sorted waste.	4,2	83%
32.	Introducing the positions of public amenities inspectors.	3,9	78%
33.	Introducing participants of the Citizens' Assembly in the staff of the administrator and public amenities inspectors.	3,9	78%



Yet another task of the final day of the Citizens' Assembly was to understand the possible involvement of the Assembly participants themselves in addressing the waste management problem. Another discussion was therefore organised in 4 groups of two questions:

- What, in your opinion, should the Assembly participants do to ensure the introduction of the developed recommendations?
- What first steps would you, as participants of the Citizens' Assembly, be ready to implement or coordinate immediately after the end of the Assembly to tackle the problem of improving waste management in the community? What are the time frames?

Group 1

What, in your opinion, should the Citizens' Assembly (participants do to ensure the introduction of the developed recommendations)?

- Creating a CSO and involving members of the Citizens' Assembly in it.
- Participating in waste-related meetings of local authorities.
- Advising the executive bodies as they consider the recommendations developed at the Assembly.
- Communicating about waste through word of mouth.
- Creating a contact database of raw material buyers and volunteers.

What first steps would you, as the Citizens' Assembly, be ready to implement or coordinate immediately after the end of the Citizens' Assembly to tackle the problem of improving waste management in the community? What are the time frames?

- Participating in meetings of the executive committee and the City Council that discuss waste management issues in order to monitor the progress of the recommendations developed at the Assembly. Furthermore, if necessary, adding context as certain recommendations are considered by the executive committee.
- Public outreach about proper waste management.
- Learning about local container collection practices.
- Organising garbage collection for your flat building block following the example of Oleksandr Panchenko.

Group 2

What, in your opinion, should the Citizens' Assembly (participants do to ensure the introduction of the developed recommendations)?

- Conducting a standing public awareness-raising media campaign involving all the stakeholders (government, community). This includes information leaflets, signs at sorting points, PSA videos on waste sorting and unobtrusive stickers.
- Piloting the measurement of the actual volume of waste generated by residents of Slavutych cottages (adding the Vilniuskyy District to the Kyivskyy District) under the containerless collection project.
- The disposal service should be billed separately by the Housing and Utilities Centre, which provides a service that will enable splitting the bill for individual services.
- Adding active participants of the Citizens' Assembly to the staff of waste management bodies (administrator and public amenities inspectors).

What first steps would you, as the Citizens' Assembly, be ready to implement or coordinate immediately after the end of the Citizens' Assembly to tackle the problem of improving waste management in the community? What are the time frames?

- The participants are willing to immediately start sorting garbage independently in their own households.
- The participants are willing to tell their neighbours, relatives and acquaintances about the results of the Assembly and encourage them to sort waste.

Group 3

What, in your opinion, should the Citizens' Assembly (participants do to ensure the introduction of the developed recommendations)?

- Determining the members of the Eco-Commission at the Assembly.
- Determining the willingness of the participants to create a CSO.
- Conducting an awareness-raising campaign independently about the problems and their solutions (word of mouth, person to person).

What first steps would you, as the Citizens' Assembly, be ready to implement or coordinate immediately after the end of the Citizens' Assembly to tackle the problem of improving waste management in the community? What are the time frames?

- Making videos based on the lessons learned and post them on your own social media pages to communicate the problems.
- Involving community activists in cleaning up unregulated landfills.
- Mapping possible locations for collecting leaves and grass and composting (6 months).

Group 4

What, in your opinion, should the Citizens' Assembly (participants do to ensure the introduction of the developed recommendations)?

- Submitting the developed recommendations for consideration and discussion at the City Council's session.
- Creating a working group of participants of the Citizens' Assembly for further communication with the authorities.
- The waste management service provider should actively involve businesses in organising sorting points.
- Creating a CSO based on active members of the Citizens' Assembly.
- Holding a public hearing on the local waste management plan.

What first steps would you, as the Citizens' Assembly, be ready to implement or coordinate immediately after the end of the Citizens' Assembly to tackle the problem of improving waste management in the community? What are the time frames?

- Joining the creation and activities of the CSO.
- Joining eco-activists.
- Participating in the session that will consider the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly as well as and public hearings.
- Holding a meeting in the flat building block and informing its residents.
- Conducting a survey of the cottages of the Kyivskyi District on "Would You Participate in a Pilot Separate Waste Collection Project?"
- Sorting, collecting and selling waste using Oleksandr Panchenko's expertise.
- Readiness to raise awareness among children in the KrOKus Gymnasium.

All participants who attended all six days of the Citizens' Assembly, spread across three weekends, received special discount cards for goods and services from local Slavutych entrepreneurs: Serhii Chesnokov (Surprise Store), Yuri Repek (Argo and BudMaterialy Stores), Svitlana Baranova (Oriflame), photographer Mariia Pashko, and Anastasiia Belenok (Mistechko Family Space). Support from local businesses plays a vital role in fostering civic participation and strengthening the sense of community among Slavutych residents who took part in the Assembly.



ALLOCATION OF POWERS. FUNDING ACTIVITIES

The Executive Committee of the Slavutych City Council oversees and monitors waste management in the community through the Department for Housing and Utilities Services, Tariff Formation, Energy Efficiency, and Energy Saving. The department's efforts are coordinated by the First Deputy Mayor.

The Housing and Utilities Centre, a municipal company of the Slavutych City Council, is responsible for the disposal of household waste generated within the city. ECO TRANS SLAV, a private company, provides household waste management services under an effective contract. These activities are funded through the Slavutych Waste Management Programme, which is adopted annually by the Slavutych City Council.

ALGORITHM FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BODIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEVELOPED RECOMMENDATIONS

The developed list of recommendations from the Citizens' Assembly is merely the first step in addressing waste management problems in the Slavutych community.

The next step is the introduction and monitoring of the implementation of these recommendations. The following course of action is therefore proposed (see table below).

No.	Actions	Time frames
1.	Creating an official working group to implement the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly, which will consist of Assembly participants, representatives of designated structural units, experts and CSOs. The working group will be tasked to draw up an action plan to introduce the recommendations and monitor their implementation.	January 2025
2.	The working group will determine the rules for its activities indicating the frequency of meetings, methods of monitoring the implementation of developments and structural units responsible for providing the working group with all necessary information and organisational support.	February 2025
3.	Holding a roundtable featuring heads of factions and heads of standing commissions of the members of the City Councils as well as participants of the Citizens' Assembly in order to present the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly to the members of the City Council.	January 2025
4.	Submitting the developed recommendations for consideration and discussion at the City Council's session.	January–February 2025
5.	Creating, with the support of the Regional Development Agency, an CSO based on participants of the Citizens' Assembly and other local public activists to advocate for waste sorting among residents, attract grant funds for waste management projects, etc.	January–February 2025
6.	Incorporating active participants from the Citizens' Assembly into the future staff of waste management bodies, such as administrators and public amenities inspectors.	2025

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY IN THE SLAVUTYCH COMMUNITY IN FIGURES

The feedback and impressions of participants are key indicators of the effectiveness and efficiency of tools for civic participation in decision-making.

To assess the Citizens' Assembly—a new instrument of deliberative democracy in Ukraine—the participants in the Slavutych community were invited to take part in a survey. The survey consisted of three stages: pre-Assembly, immediately before the Assembly, and a final follow-up survey. This process provided insights into participants' attitudes toward the Citizens' Assembly as a form of deliberative process, its outcomes, and other related topics. The responses were collected voluntarily and processed anonymously.

One key indicator of residents' willingness to engage in local affairs was their motivation for joining the Citizens' Assembly. Among the **35 survey participants**, **33** indicated that their desire to contribute to the development of their community was a primary reason for participation. The second most common reason, chosen by **18 respondents**, was that "the topic of the Citizens' Assembly is important to me." The third most frequently selected reason, chosen by **17 people**, was "I can influence decision-making in my community."

Another important indicator is the citizens' desire to engage in public affairs. On a scale of **1 to 5**, respondents rated the importance of ensuring citizens' right to participate in decision-making on critical issues at an average of **4.76**. Additionally, the following statements received an average score of **4.68**: "The will of the people should play the most important role in state policy;" and "Policymakers should always focus on people's problems."

Respondents also strongly agreed (average score of **4.64**) with the statement that, in a democracy, it is important to reach an agreement among people with different views. However, the vast majority — **52%** — believe that the political system in Ukraine allows ordinary citizens to influence political decisions **only to a small extent**. In contrast, **28%** feel they have significant influence, **16%** feel they have no influence at all, and **4%** believe there is "unimpeded influence."

The central element of the Citizens' Assembly methodology is building participants' knowledge through expert presentations, insights, and Q&A sessions. **96%** of Assembly participants in the Slavutych community reported that they learned more about improving the household waste management system due to the information received at the Assembly. This is further confirmed by the high level of satisfaction with the work of both the experts (rated at **4.16** on a five-point scale) and the lead expert (**4.64**).

Further evidence of the positive impressions participants had is that **92% of respondents** who answered this question expressed willingness to participate in the Assembly again **if a similar event were held and would recommend it to their friends** if they had the chance.

According to the feedback, participants rated their overall satisfaction with the organisation of the event at **4.72 out of 5**. The work of the facilitators was rated on average at 4.6, and the lead facilitator was rated at **4.72**. Respondents also agreed that the facilitators were neutral (unbiased), with this statement scoring **4.6**.

All members of the Assembly had equal opportunities to participate in discussions and express their opinions, with respondents supporting this statement by rating it an average of **4.88 out of 5**.

The survey also showed that **88%** of participants positively assessed the Assembly, as **68%** noted that the event exceeded their expectations, and another **20%** indicated that it met their expectations.

PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY



An excellent tool that empowers people to take part in making important decisions for their community."



"The Citizens' Assembly is a good tool for those who want to take an active part in public life. I appreciate how the process was organised. It was useful and insightful."



"I really enjoyed this tool for communication between the public and the local self-government bodies! I believe that the recommendations developed by the Assembly should be implemented 100%, since they are as objective as possible and actually tackle effectively solving specific problems in the community."



"This is a meaningful experience for people that will encourage them to take a more active part in the life of the city and the country."



"The Assembly participants gained a deep understanding of the issue, thanks to the experts who explained everything clearly and comprehensively. I was very impressed with both the organisation and the Assembly itself. I fully support its recommendations—everything was carried out at the highest level."



"I really liked the format of the Citizens' Assembly and was excited to join the discussion of city issues and solutions to certain problems!"



"The Citizens' Assembly is a very useful tool. People communicated openly, and no one prevented them from expressing their opinions. I enjoyed everything very much. Hopefully this will drive change for the better. We need to act."



CONCLUSION

The Slavutych Citizens' Assembly stands as a successful example of how deliberative processes can foster community development, tackle socially significant issues, and establish a more effective partnership between local authorities and citizens. It enabled an in-depth discussion on household waste management—a long-standing concern in Slavutych. The topic was carefully chosen due to its strong environmental, economic, and social implications, which are essential for the sustainable development of the community. Tackling this issue not only helps solve local challenges but also enhances the city's image as environmentally conscious and forward-thinking. Choosing waste management as the focus of the Citizens' Assembly reflects the community's readiness to pursue sustainable and practical solutions at the local level.

The Citizens' Assembly has proven especially effective for tackling complex, multidimensional problems. In Slavutych, participants examined household waste management from social, economic, and environmental perspectives—within both local and national contexts. Through this process, residents deepened their understanding of local self-governance, reinforcing trust in democratic practices—particularly important amid the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Moreover, the Assembly created opportunities for interaction between people from different social backgrounds, helping participants move beyond their usual “information bubbles” and fostering an inclusive space for constructive dialogue.



The multi-stage random selection process and inclusive approach of the Slavutych Citizens' Assembly ensured that even those typically less engaged in public and political life had the opportunity to participate. The transparent and independent organisation of the Assembly minimised the risk of stakeholder influence and guaranteed the integrity and quality of the discussions.

The sessions were marked by the enthusiastic involvement of participants from diverse social groups and generations. These intergenerational and cross-community interactions fostered a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect, encouraging participants to work together toward shared goals.

Beyond serving as a forum for public sentiment, the Citizens' Assembly became a platform for exchanging expert knowledge, factual information, and lived experiences. This enabled participants to gain a deeper understanding of household waste management and formulate practical, well-informed recommendations to guide local policymaking.

The outcomes of the Assembly laid out a clear and actionable framework for collaboration between the community and local authorities in implementing sustainable solutions. The process also highlighted the powerful potential of collective dialogue—demonstrating that people value the opportunity to contribute, and that their insights can genuinely shape decisions.

We believe the comprehensive and thoughtfully developed recommendations will inspire meaningful change and serve as a foundation for future civic initiatives. These outcomes reflect the voices and proposals of Slavutych residents and will serve as a guiding document for the city authorities moving forward.

In essence, the Slavutych Citizens' Assembly has showcased the strength of deliberative democracy. It not only addressed a pressing environmental challenge but also reinforced trust between the authorities and the community, setting the stage for a more sustainable, collaborative future.

The Assembly stands as a compelling example of how communities can take the lead in advancing democratic engagement, tackling environmental issues, and shaping a modern waste management system aligned with sustainable development principles.

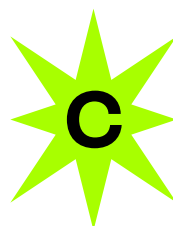




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