

# **Key Messages from the First Stakeholders' Forum of the Green Recovery Platform for Ukraine**

## **OVERALL MESSAGES FROM THE EVENT**

The First Stakeholders' Forum of the Green Recovery Platform for Ukraine, organised on 7 April 2025 in Kyiv, inaugurated the work of the Platform, a pioneering high-level international initiative that unites the Ukrainian government, international partners, and other key stakeholders to facilitate a science-based, systematic, and coordinated approach to rebuilding Ukraine in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

The Stakeholder's Forum brought together 300 participants in person and another 300 on-line representing the Ukrainian and EU/OECD country governmental agencies, international organizations, domestic and international financial institutions, civil society, academia, and the private sector.

The Stakeholders' Forum advanced the understanding of the meaning of green recovery for Ukraine, including in light of its status as an EU accession country. It was also an important step in reinforcing commitments to green recovery and reconstruction and identifying the priority activities under the Platform that was launched at the high-level Ukraine Recovery Conference in June 2024 in Berlin.

The discussions highlighted the challenges stemming from the environmental damage inflicted by the Russian aggression (estimated now at EUR 82 bln) but also from the remnants of the Soviet patterns of economic development. The very strong commitments to sustainability were pronounced by high-level officials from sectoral Ministries, including of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, Economy and of Development of Communities and Territories. There were strong calls from all participants to work together to identify innovative solutions that align with green recovery and long term sustainability goals. The event underscored the importance of aligning recovery efforts with integration with the European Union.

The plenary session and the four substantive panels: on Nature and Biodiversity; Green Finance; Pollution; and Environmental Architecture identified several examples of progress made already in improving environmental management. These included: reform of environmental climate policies and legislation, development of biodiversity and forestry strategies, establishing of river basin management bodies, the incorporation of environmental appraisal in the list of priority reconstruction projects under the Digital Restoration Ecosystem (DREAM) project pipeline (Ukraine's wide system that provides a single pipeline for all restoration projects), efforts to create the Emission Trading System and carbon pricing as well as reform of public finance and the system of environmental control.

The event underscored the importance of aligning recovery efforts with European Union integration goals. The speakers articulated a vision for implementing management principles similar to those in EU countries, reflecting a strategic approach to recovery that not only aims for immediate results but also prepares the country for future integration into the EU.

The Stakeholders meeting also discussed the development of possible specific projects that would support Ukraine's green recovery efforts, such as the development of green recovery principles; reviewing the current state of green public and private finance; reviewing the administrative system for environmental management in light of decentralisation efforts and analysis of the impacts and opportunities of net-zero transition and the labour market and the introduction of nature-based solution.

The meeting also discussed the Platform inputs to the 2025 Ukraine Recovery Conference that is planned for 10-11 July in Rome, under the leadership of Italy.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the government of Ukraine, and international partners for their support in establishing the Green Recovery Platform. The collaboration with various countries and organizations, including UNECE, OECD and UNEP, was acknowledged as vital for developing sustainable solutions that will aid Ukraine's recovery journey.