

# Expert Workshop “Knowledge transfer for resilient neighbourhoods in Ukraine”

## Documentation

**Date:** 20.09.2024, 9.00-12.30 MET / 10.00 – 13.30 EET online

**Moderation:** Prof. Dr. Detlef Kurth  
**Simultaneous Translation:** Yehor Myronenko, Valeriy Sergeyev

## Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Criteria of vulnerability and strategies of urban resilience in recovery plans
3. Strategies for resilient Ukrainian cities
4. Development agencies for urban recovery – experiences from East Germany
5. Strategies of integrated urban development
6. Needs for urban resilience and recovery plans from Ukrainian municipalities
7. Discussion
8. Outlook

### 1. Introduction

Joern Meyer and Detlef Kurth introduce to the project and the program. As part of the GIZ project “Strengthen Urban Resilience in the areas supply infrastructure and housing in Ukraine” the interim results are presented on how to integrate elements of urban resilience in integrated urban development concepts (IUDC). IUDC in times of crisis need to become more oriented on actions and measures. Criteria of vulnerability should become part of urban analysis, and elements of resilience should be integrated into planning strategies.

The main topics for the discussion are:

- Networking of German and Ukrainian stakeholders and cities
- Strategies and elements of urban resilience in recovery plans
- Criteria of vulnerability in analysis of urban development
- Methods of rapid integrated urban development concepts (IUDC) in times of crisis with focus on recovery plans, actions and measures
- Integration of urban resilience measures in the IUDC process
- Typologies and case studies
- Exemplary neighborhood concepts with urban resilience aspects for three cities

## 2. Criteria of vulnerability and strategies of urban resilience in recovery plans

Anna Kuzyshyn and Poliksen Qori-Dragaj from RPTU and Maria Moleiro Dale, Ramon Vivanco from HCU present interim results of the SUR project. The main background of the project is the objectives of the “Leipzig Charter” of the European Union 2020. There is a need to update the goals of the Leipzig Charter as it does not address pandemic and war threats. As Ukraine is already in negotiations for EU membership, these goals and the Integrated Urban Development Concepts (IUDC) are important for future funding and cooperation.

Urban development can respond to these multiple crises through the concept of 'urban resilience'. The UN-Habitat 2021 definition is: "Urban resilience is the measurable ability of an urban system with its inhabitants to maintain continuity through all shocks and stresses, while positively adapting and transforming towards sustainability". There are thus three dimensions of urban resilience: robust, adaptive, future-oriented urban development in the sense of "building back better".

To apply the concept of urban resilience to Ukraine, we need to demand rapid solutions to the acute and ongoing threat to people in an ongoing war and daily changing circumstances. Long-term strategies and scenarios need to be developed that consider the difficult aftermath of the war, as well as all the other global challenges such as climate change, demographics, resources, security of supply, etc.

The proposed methodology for urban resilience in war is based on climate adaptation concepts and vulnerability criteria. The aim of the GIZ project is to develop a toolbox and exemplary measures to define the main areas of intervention and to integrate them into the IUDC (see separate presentations).

## 3. Strategies for resilient Ukrainian cities

Liubov Apostolova-Sossa of KNUBA University highlights and summarises the main principles of resilience. Energy saving and efficiency are now one of the most important objectives, together with diversification and decentralisation. Multifunctionality, transformable design and interchangeability are important for urban infrastructure. Inclusiveness, gender sensitivity and accessibility are also becoming more important. It is also crucial to slow down bureaucratic processes, combine housing and infrastructure and increase participation. The students' work shows how these themes can be implemented in regeneration plans (see separate presentation).

## 4. Development agencies for urban recovery – experiences from East Germany

Matthias Klipp offers recommendations for urban regeneration based on his own experience as a chief architect and project developer during the transformation of East Germany. Germany should do much more to support Ukraine, in cooperation with private actors. It is very important that reconstruction starts immediately to give residents a perspective in their neighbourhood and to prevent them from fleeing. Public participation is essential for the acceptance of reconstruction measures, as is the involvement of development agencies, private developers and landowners (see separate presentation).

## 5. Strategies of integrated urban development

Hilmar von Lojewski from the German Association of Cities and Towns highlights the challenges and prospects for resilient post-war cities in Ukraine. He sees informal planning approaches as a driver for resilience and for the “4 Rs”: “Repair, Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Redesign”. It is important to think in long-term terms: it takes about one generation to repair physical destruction, and more than three generations to “repair” human destruction. In his view, urban resilience should be part of sustainable urban development. It is also important to learn from the post-war experience in Europe after 1945. The main basis for recovery is strong and independent municipalities that are responsible for local affairs - Ukraine is on the right track. The German Association of Cities and Towns will support them with advice and, in particular, with twinning partnerships (see separate presentation).

## 6. Needs for urban resilience and recovery plans from Ukrainian municipalities

Tetiana Melnyk and Ruslan Golub of the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) point out that local governments need to develop their own recovery strategies based on the national policy framework. Many communities have been negatively affected by the Russian invasion in different ways, and their needs are different. Cities have to do it all at the same time - they are organising themselves and becoming more independent and decentralised.

The framework of the national government, the UN, the World Bank and the EU is important to create reconstruction concepts. There is a lot of destruction in the transport infrastructure, the energy sector and the social infrastructure. The energy sector is the biggest challenge, and it cannot be solved with solar energy alone. Another big challenge is the supply of drinking water.

Another big challenge is the loss of human capital and depopulation, especially in eastern Ukraine, where it is important to provide shelter and housing for internally displaced people. Local authorities need to include measures such as risk assessment, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in their strategic documents. The success of recovery plans will determine whether Ukrainians can return to their communities. Demographic trends and the refugee movement are crucial for the future development of cities.

## 7. Discussion

Maksym Terletsy from the GIZ Urban Resilience Hub in Lviv presents the concept and first experiences of his project. The Resilience Hub aims to become a network for discussing and transferring resilience approaches in Ukrainian municipalities. Everyone is looking for immediate measures to prepare for the winter season. A lot of people are thinking about leaving the community - what can keep people in the community?

Kees Christiaanse, founder of KCAP and IBA in Ukraine, points out that the concept of urban resilience is extremely important. It should become a main task in the master planning of reconstruction. The question is how to translate urban resilience spatially and how to strengthen polycentric structures within cities. New typologies of multifunctional protection centres are also needed.

Joerg Noenning from HCU says that data science can help identify vulnerabilities, conflicts, etc. for urban resilience. Collecting data means working directly with communities and starting to engage in participation and collaboration.

Phillip Meuser from Berlin asks: "How does this relate to the work on the ground? Which parts of the city should be strengthened, which scenarios should be pursued, what are the risks? Concepts need to be flexible because risks and scenarios can change. It is also important not to give information to the enemy. And it is always important to balance long-term perspectives with short-term needs.

Jan Polivka of the TU Berlin focuses on three points (following Todd Swanstrom): 1. It is necessary to redeploy resources to expand the organisational repertoires that we have. We need to think beyond the normal repertoires, the normal standard ways of managing settlement areas. 2. Decentralisation is essential in order to establish cooperation between governments and the public, private and non-profit sectors. 3. We need a community of intermediary actors that are responsive and linked to external knowledge.

Stefan Greiving says it is necessary to focus on the specifics of the war context. Urban resilience in the sense of climate change needs to be transferred to the context of war. Climate risk concepts as place-based concepts imply that a certain area is at risk. In war, the whole country is affected. For cities, adaptability, flexibility and redundancy are most important. Place-based approaches are limited to analyse immediate, direct effects in vulnerable areas. The main problem lies in the indirect effects, in terms of disruption to infrastructure services.

Fulco Treffers of Ro3kvit, based on his experience with the case studies, says that traditional integrated urban development needs to change in the context of urban resilience. Is it necessary to distinguish between short-term and long-term needs?

Christoph Wessling points out that immediate action is needed. Residents not only need housing and infrastructure rebuilt, they also need jobs and prospects for a better future.

## 8. Outlook

Detlef Kurth briefly summarizes the results of the workshop. It is important to prepare reconstruction strategies and networks even in times of war. At the moment, the focus is on infrastructure, especially energy infrastructure. But energy concepts also need to be integrated into IUDC. The next workshop will focus more on case studies and implementation.

Jörn Meyer thanks all speakers and participants for their valuable contributions. It is the beginning of a growing network to support Ukrainian cities.

### **Documentation:**

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### **Organization:**

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## Program

Time MET	Topic	Presenters
09.00	Welcome/ Introduction to the SUR project and the workshop	Joern Meyer, GIZ Detlef Kurth, RPTU, Frank Schwartz, THL, Christoph Wessling, Insar
09.25	Criteria of vulnerability and strategies of urban resilience in recovery plans	Anna Kuzyshyn, Poliksen Qorri-Dragaj, RPTU Maria Moleiro Dale, Ramon Vivanco HCU
09.45	Discussion of urban resilience	
10.30	<i>Break</i>	
10.45	Strategies for resilient Ukrainian cities – examples from student projects	Prof. Dr. Liubov Apostolova-Sossa, KNUBA
10.55	Development agencies for urban recovery – experiences from East Germany	Matthias Klipp, project developer
11.05	Strategies of integrated urban development	Prof. Hilmar Lojewski, Deutscher Staedtetag
11.15	Needs for urban resilience and recovery plans from municipalities	Ruslan Golub, Tetiana Melnyk AUC Ukraine
11.35	Discussion	
12.20	Outlook	
12.30	<i>End of workshop</i>	

## List of participants

Name	Organisation
Prof. Dr. Liubov Apostolova-Sossa	KNUBA University Kyjiv
Prof. Kees Christiaanse	KCAP Zurich/ ETH Zurich
Ruslan Golub	Association of Ukrainian Cities AUC
Prof. Dr. Stefan Greiving	Technical University Dortmund
Nataliia Kholchenkova	International department Chernihiv
Matthias Klipp	Chief architect Potsdam/ Prenzlauer Berg off duty
Oleksandr Kodola	City mayor Nizhyn, Ukraine
Prof. Hilmar von Lojewski	Department Head, Deutscher Staedtetag Germany

GIZ Project “Strengthen Urban Resilience in the areas supply infrastructure and housing in Ukraine”

Tetiana Melnyk	Association of Ukrainian Cities AUC
Prof. Dr. Philipp Meuser	Meuser Architects Berlin
Viktor Nestulia	Dream platform Ukraine
Gabriele Nießen	State secretary Bremen off duty
Oleksandr Pechenenk	Institute of the city development, Poltava
Nadiya Pitukova	First deputy mayor Okhtyrka, Ukraine
Prof. Dr. Jan Polivka	Technical University Berlin
Nataliya Sirota	Deputy head of the architecture department Poltava
Maksym Terletsyky	Urban Resilience Hub Lviv
Fulco Treffers	Roskvit Ukraine
Yegor Vlasenko	Doctoral Assistant Laboratoire d'Urbanisme Lausanne
<b>Partner from GIZ SUR Project</b>	
Prof. Dr. Joerg Noenning Maria Moleiro Dale Ramon Vivanco	HCU Hamburg
Prof. Dr. Detlef Kurth Anna Kuzyshyn Poliksen Qorri-Dragej	RPTU Kaiserslautern
Prof. Christoph Wessling Yana Maksymchuk	INSAR Berlin
Prof. Frank Schwartze	TH Lubeck
<b>Team from GIZ</b>	
Iryna Bryzhan Mariia Kostenko Joerg Meyer Yevgen Losyev Erik Schweikhardt	GIZ