Sustainable Development Goals: Ukraine

Local Consultations

July – September 2016
Local consultations on adaptation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Ukraine

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The opinions, findings and recommendations are those of the authors and compilers and do not necessarily represent the views of the UN. Statistical data provided by the State Statistics Service of Ukraine.
Between July and September 2016 oblast consultations on adaptation and localization of SDGs were held in Ukraine, aiming to determine priority Goals and ways to achieve them. This initiative brought together voices from all around the country.
National Priorities for Ukraine identified by local SDGs consultations in 10 oblasts

Oblast priorities for Ukraine identified by local SDGs consultations in 10 oblasts
In 2015 the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted by world leaders at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit. The UN General Assembly Resolution 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' identifies 17 SDGs and 169 development targets. To take into account public opinion in strategic planning on the basis of “living no one behind”, the Government of Ukraine, led by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, jointly with the United Nations in Ukraine have successfully conducted public consultations in 10 oblasts of Ukraine. These measures also aim to contribute to the restoration of people’s trust in a positive image of the country’s future.

Oblast consultations on SDGs were held between 20 July and 26 September 2016 in the cities of Dnipro, Zhytomyr, Zaporizhia, Lutsk, Mariupol, Sumy, Ternopil, Uzhgorod, Cherkasy and Chernivtsi. Approximately 500 participants took part in the consultations, they represented oblast and local authorities, civil society, international organizations, academia etc. This initiative brought together voices from all around the country.

During consultations participants determined main development priorities at the national and oblast levels.

**National priorities**

The majority of participants of oblast consultations agreed that the top priority was **SDG 16** (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels). This choice is natural, given the ongoing crisis affecting the country. SDG 16 was chosen as the most important for Ukraine in Cherkasy, Dnipro, Mariupol, Sumy, Ternopil and Zaporizhia. The second priority was **SDG 8** (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all): this was the top priority in Lutsk, Chernivtsi and Uzhgorod, and appeared in seven other groups’ lists. The third priority was **SDG 3** (Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages), which was the top priority in Zhytomyr, and also appeared in six other groups’ selections.
Oblast priorities

Six cities chose SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) as the top priority: Chernivtsi (joint top), Dnipro, Lutsk, Sumy (joint top), Ternopil and Uzgorod, and it also appeared in the list for Cherkasy. This reflects serious concern about the local economic situation in all parts of the country. SDG 11 (Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable) was top in Zaporizhia and joint top in Sumy and SDG 9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation) was top in Cherkasy: both appeared in the priority lists in almost every consultation. Zhytomyr again prioritised SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing), and it was joint top in Chernivtsy, which had SDG 15 (life on land) as a third priority. Mariupol (which is in Donetsk oblast where conflict is ongoing) stated that for its oblast the top priority was SDG 16 (peace, inclusion, justice and effective institutions).

The results show that, in general, the main national-level priorities for people in Ukraine are peace and/or good governance. However, when it comes to local level, there is more of a split between priorities. The most popular choices in the oblasts – SDGs 8, 11 and 9 – reflect the fact that the participants at local level, in diverse parts of the country, see the most possibility of change in their local context as through improving the economic situation in their communities and building economic and social inclusion.

It is important to note that the findings from the 10 local consultations were similar to the results of a national expert consultations held in Kyiv on 5-6 July. The national consultation that involved around 300 participants representing government institutions, UN Agencies, academia, civil society and think tanks also selected Goals 3, 8, 9 and 16 as top priorities. However, Goal 1 (no poverty), which was found to be the top priority in the national consultation, only appeared in one of the ten oblast consultations, and there as a secondary priority.

Some of the oblast workshops included discussion of how the needs of the most vulnerable in society can be addressed through SDG implementation. Participants recommended regular and systematic community needs assessment for the most vulnerable groups, and introducing additional community services based on the assessment results. They stated that vulnerable community members should have increased awareness of their rights and be engaged in local decision-making processes, and that trade unions should be developed.
When it comes to specific groups of vulnerable people, participants called for supporting the inclusion of **persons with disabilities**, including measures to improve social infrastructure, employment (including employment training programmes), and engagement with local government and civil society structures. Information campaigns should also be conducted on participation of persons with disabilities in community life. In Dnipro, the situation of **IDPs** and how to address their needs was raised, but this did not appear in Mariupol/Donetsk oblast, which has high numbers of displaced persons. **Persons living with HIV** were mentioned in the reports from Lutsk and Sumy, but not in Dnipro or Donetsk oblast, which had high prevalence in 2013. No direct mention was made of **mental health**, though the Mariupol/Donetsk oblast discussion mentioned the need to ensure access to psychological support.

To address **gender equality**, participants called for informational campaigns, increased information about gender-based discrimination in the community and prevention of domestic violence. There was also discussion of setting up a gender steering committee at city council level, supporting women’s entrepreneurship development, establishing employment gender quotas at enterprises, and thinking about how particular gender needs could be taken into account in working patterns. In Ternopil, Cherkasy and Zhytomyr oblasts women’s empowerment and participation in public and political life were also discussed.

During consultations participants discussed **environmental** issues such as renewable energy, recycling and reducing consumption, SDG **Goal 7** (affordable and clean energy) was not seen as a top priority for any oblast. This may be a concern, given the high levels of energy inefficiency in the country.

In all the consultations, the groups also came up with specific steps to be taken at oblast level to implement each SDG. Some of these findings are summarised below:

**Suggested measures for implementation of SDGs**

On **SDG 16** (peace, inclusion, justice and effective institutions), most of the suggestions concerned improving the functioning of government structures. This included measures to improve public access to information, increase the transparency and accountability of local government (and thereby overcome corruption), and develop the capacity of governance structures and civil society. On overcoming violence, in the process of discussion, groups called for the establishing of crisis centres, shelters and
hotlines, public awareness raising on violence prevention (including through media campaigns, public debates and in schools), setting up a volunteer service to support the police, and facilitating community dialogue. Proposed measures to increase inclusion included social and legal support to IDPs and help to integrate into communities (in Dnipro, where significant numbers of IDPs from the conflict-affected areas now live), and information campaigns on gender, overcoming stereotypes and the rights of vulnerable groups. Finally, for SDG 16, justice-related measures included free legal aid for vulnerable groups, support for judicial reform at local level and human rights training.

**SDG 11** focuses on the development of sustainable cities and communities. Throughout the country, this direction of development provoked the largest number of suggestions. A key concern across many of the workshops was the need for programmes to create more affordable housing, and more transparent processes to obtain it. Transport infrastructure was highlighted as a concern, including a desire for more green transport opportunities, such as cycling. There was a desire for improved infrastructure for persons with disabilities. Environmental issues were also prominent, including the need to promote responsible consumption and reduced use of natural resources, community involvement in the greening of their communities, a green economy, more recycling facilities and better management of solid waste. Also, groups called for the preservation and restoration of oblast cultural heritage, including architecture.

**SDG 8** (decent work and economic growth) was the top priority in four oblasts. Participants prioritised support for modernisation of the economy, including renewal of the State Employment Service, stronger social infrastructure to promote inclusive economic growth, and preferential taxes for job creation. With regard to sectors, participants called for additional focus on the development of small and medium enterprises, including financial, legal and technical support, tax breaks and business incubators. However, during the discussion they also wanted to see the revitalisation or reopening of large old industrial plants, with increased energy efficiency. Participants proposed additional concentration on jobs in tourism (especially green tourism), cultural heritage, and agricultural and rural development (particularly cooperatives). The groups to be supported, in opinion of the participants, include youth and graduates (including in rural areas), who should be provided with a possibility to access careers guidance.
and internship programmes. Training programmes should be available for the unemployed. There should also be programmes to help prepare persons with disabilities for work and ensure job opportunities are available. Finally, several groups of participants called for a greater focus on the needs of young families, and particularly mothers returning to work. They called for greater pre-school coverage, acceptance of flexible working hours, and more policy-level and practical support for reintegration into the job market.

**SDG 9** (industry, infrastructure and innovation) was also widely discussed during consultations. There were calls for modernisation to meet market needs in infrastructure, plants and enterprises. This includes better road connections, particularly in rural areas, as well as improved water and waste systems. Several groups suggested the establishment of clusters for business and innovation, and technology parks were another popular idea. The participants called for increased research capacity. Participants saw a particular need to support small and medium enterprises, the IT sector and hi-tech start-ups, renewable energy (including biomass, solar and wind), subsidised insulation and land restoration. They called for support for youth business projects and start-ups, adaptation of infrastructure and transport for persons with disabilities, and micro lending for female entrepreneurs.

For **SDG 3** (good health and wellbeing), many of the participants suggested to increase preventive activity. This included medical care, such as regular examinations, and early interventions for children at risk of disability or tuberculosis, but also broader prevention activities such as promotion of sport, healthy lifestyles, and ecotourism. Families with children with long-term illnesses should be provided with kindergarten, training and transportation assistance. There was an emphasis on prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease, cancer and HIV. Additional support should be provided for mental health. Several groups mentioned the need for a health insurance system, and to expand free-of-charge medical services. There were also calls for more family doctors, IT in healthcare and mobile laboratories.

These results of the consultations will be presented to the Government and also be used as a solid foundation for the development of the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2018 – 2022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SDGS IN UKRAINE PLEASE VISIT HTTP://SDG.ORG.UA/EN/
The SDGs reflect the development approaches adopted by the international community and we need to implement them, taking into consideration our national and local context.

Olexiy Angurets, Head of Environmental Public Council under Dnipropetrovsk oblast state administration.
National Priorities: Oblast Priorities:

The Dnipro participants’ first priority for Ukraine as a whole was Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Second was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Third was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). The final choice was Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure).

In Dnipro oblast, participants saw the priority as Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Participants called for increased support for small and medium enterprises and social entrepreneurship, greater access to loans, support for socioeconomic development at community level, and modernization of existing enterprises. They also called for greater public awareness of sustainable development.

The second choice was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). Participants were keen to see more affordable housing constructed, and support to build a greener economy, including an environmental monitoring system and more awareness among consumers. They also wanted local governance to become more results oriented.

Thirdly, for Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), the participants wanted a more conducive environment for investment, the development of public-private partnership, and a programme to develop innovative entrepreneurship to solve local issues (through, for example, technology parks). They also expressed an interest in IT sector development, youth business projects and start-ups.

The fourth choice was Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Top of the suggestions here were support for IDPs to integrate into host communities, and provision of social and legal support to the IDPs. They wanted to see greater transparency, accountability and managerial capacity at all levels of the public sector, introduction of e-governance, and more dialogue among civil society stakeholders and oversight over business and government institutions.

These choices appear to reflect desires to diversify the highly-industrialised oblast economy, which has been in decline since 2011, to ensure that public sector institutions fulfill their duties and are seen to do so, and to ensure that the needs of internally displaced persons in the oblast are met.

The main stakeholders in ensuring SDG implementation are seen as oblast executive and administrative bodies, civil society, the private sector, and coordination bodies.
Oleksandr Marchenko, the First Deputy Head of the Sumy Oblast State Administration.

SDGs will serve as a basis for further reforms in Ukraine. It is important that discussion takes place at the national and local levels because oblast development influences the national process.

“...
Sumy’s first choice at national level was Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Second equal were Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing), Goal 7 (energy), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure).

For Sumy oblast, participants’ first joint top priority was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Their wide-ranging proposals included support for productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship and innovation, and encouraging SME development. They wanted to support the local rural economy, and tourism, better assist families and mothers returning to work, and revitalise large plants closed for lack of competitiveness.

The second top priority was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). Participants wanted to develop transport infrastructure and affordable housing (including for the most vulnerable) and civil society, restore cultural monuments and new ways to deal with solid waste.

Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) was equal third. Participants would like technology parks, and involvement of youth and persons with disabilities in economic growth. The other third place was Goal 3 (healthy lives and wellbeing), under which participants stressed their concerns about reproductive health, HIV, tuberculosis, and care for sick children and their families.

The Sumy workshop report was particularly detailed. With focus on both urban and rural development, participants reflected a mixed oblast economy.

The main stakeholders in Sumy are seen as oblast and local government, academia, civil society, and the private sector.
1 AUGUST 2016

LOCATION:
Zhytomyr, Zhytomyr oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration and UN Women

ATTENDEES:
51 representatives of local authorities, universities and civil society organizations

POPULATION
1.259 mln. (2014)

GRP PER CAPITA:
UAH 23 678 (2014)

ECONOMY:
quarrying, forestry and agriculture

CHALLENGES:
environmental and health effects of Chernobyl disaster, loss of agricultural land, high incidence of disease and disability

SDGs are a benchmark for the research development to address national and global development challenges on the basis of gender equality and inclusion

Natalia Kutsmus,
Zhytomyr Agro-Ecological University
Unlike any other oblast, Zhytomyr first choice at national level was Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing). This may reflect the particular health concerns in Zhytomyr, which was particularly affected by the Chernobyl disaster. Second choice was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and equal third Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).

For Zhytomyr oblast, each of the four top priority Goals were selected by four groups. On Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing) they made many proposals concerning healthy lifestyles promotion, cardiovascular disease, road accidents, and the latent problems of the population addressing different needs of women and men. Goal 4 (quality education) was an unusual priority for oblast: participants called for a wide range of measures from expanding and promoting pre-school and reinvigorating vocational education, to promoting inclusive education for children with disabilities, overcoming gender stereotypes through education and teaching about sustainable development. For Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) they concentrated on land restoration, infrastructure, and renewable technology, as well as on Micro Lending Programmes for Women Entrepreneurs to realize the above projects. Finally for Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), participants wanted social housing, greening of cities, more enabling infrastructure and transport for persons with disabilities, housing for orphans graduating from residential care, and an enhanced role for civil society in particular by involving women’s organizations.

The choices in Zhytomyr had an emphasis on social infrastructure (for both health and education) and revitalizing the rural economy (as is to be expected in an oblast economy that is less industrialised). There is also prioritization of vulnerable groups and gender concerns.

The main stakeholders in Zhytomyr are seen as oblast and local authorities (including branches focusing on rural affairs and education), civil society, communities and frontline professionals (such as the police).
Sustainable Development Goals are relevant for each of us. That's why this consultation is a great opportunity to influence the development of the country and improvement of the life of each community member.

Galyna Volyanyk,
Head of the Department of economic development and trade at Ternopil oblast state administration
Like many oblasts, participants in Ternopil believed that the key SDG priority at national level is Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Second is Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and third Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing).

For Ternopil oblast itself, the top priority was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) – this presumably reflects the less-developed nature of the oblast economy. Their responses were similar to those in other oblasts, with a focus on training, small and medium enterprise, agriculture, trade and tourism.

The second priority was Goal 2 (zero hunger), which was rarely prioritized in the consultations in Ukraine. The suggested actions made it clear that the group were thinking about agricultural development rather than hunger, as they discussed subsidies and loans for agricultural and livestock development, promoting organic farming and agricultural cooperatives.

The final priorities were jointly Goals 4, 6 and 11. For Goal 4 (quality education) participants focused on improving college and university education, though there was also call for a leisure centre for children and youth. On Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation) concerns were raised about the quality of drinking water, need for better water conservation, and poor waste management. Finally, under Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), the group wanted to build the capacity of community councils, and information campaigns on sustainable development.

Ternopil’s priorities reflect its rural context, and a perceived need to develop the agricultural economy, in sustainable ways such as through organic farming and better water conservation.

The main stakeholders discussed in Ternopil were national, oblast and local government, educational institutions academia, private sector, civil society and united territorial communities (community councils).
LUTSK

17 AUGUST 2016

LOCATION:
Lutsk, Volyn oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration, UNDP and GIZ

ATTENDEES:
48 representatives of state and local authorities, oblast businesses, non-governmental and charity organisations, high school teachers, journalists

POPULATION
1.042 mln. (2014)

ECONOMY:
agriculture, agro-industry

GRP PER CAPITA:
UAH 23,218 (2014)

CHALLENGES:
low salaries, poverty

The development of infrastructure is particularly relevant and important for Ukraine and for Volyn oblast.

Stanislav Olshevskiy,
Department of infrastructure and tourism at Volyn oblast state administration
The top priorities for Ukraine for Volyn participants were, in order, Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing). Having work and economy as a higher priority than peace and governance was quite unusual, and perhaps reflects the fact that Volyn is in the far west of Ukraine and less directly affected by the crisis.

In terms of priorities for the oblast, top was also Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) – the Volyn participants saw ensuring work for local people as the key to progress. The economic areas that they wanted focused on were agriculture, sustainable tourism, small and medium enterprises, and robotics.

The second priority was Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing). Participants raised the issues of healthy lifestyles, tuberculosis, HIV and hepatitis. They also called for improvements to the healthcare system through health insurance, better preventive healthcare provision and IT support for healthcare.

The group had three equal choices for third priority: Goals 9, 15 and 16. On Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) they wanted greater links between small and medium enterprises and the university sector, a technology park and infrastructure projects. Unusually they also reported on support for SMEs to access EU loans. Goal 15 (life on land) was an unusual choice: participants wanted to halt loss of biodiversity and restore forests. On Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) they called for measures to prevent violence in schools, as well as other wide-ranging reforms to improve the work of parliamentarians, the civil service, civil society and the judicial system.

Volyn’s priorities seem to reflect its largely rural nature, its proximity to the European Union (Poland), and its distance from national government in Kyiv and the crisis in eastern Ukraine.

The main stakeholders discussed in Lutsk were oblast and local government, healthcare administrative bodies, civil society and small and medium enterprises.
2 SEPTEMBER 2016

LOCATION:
Mariupol, Donetsk oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration and UNICEF

ATTENDEES:
69 representatives of state and local authorities, local businesses, civil society, high school teachers, journalists

POPULATION
455 thousands (in the city of Mariupol in 2014)

ECONOMY:
heavy industry

CHALLENGES:
crisis, IDPs, pollution of land and sea

"The consultation on localization and adaptation of the SDGs in Mariupol – is an opportunity for our community to influence the future development of the whole country and our city" – Vadym Boychenko, Mariupol city mayor
Not surprisingly, given the situation today in Donetsk oblast, Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) was the top priority at the Mariupol consultation. This was followed by Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), Goal 10 (reduced inequalities) and Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing). Goal 10 was an unusual choice in the Ukraine consultations, and maybe reflect concerns about inequality between oblasts, or in Ukraine as a whole.

In terms of priorities for city of Mariupol, Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) was again top. The participants focused on violence prevention at community level, and also called for measures to combat corruption, increase government transparency and accountability, and build the capacity of civil society through training and access to information.

Second choice at the Mariupol consultation was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). On this topic, the workshop saw a need for increased and equitable access to affordable housing, as well as green transportation, revitalization of marine resources, and preserving the cultural heritage of Mariupol. The third choice, Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), included similar suggestions to other consultations: improving local infrastructure, promoting small and medium enterprise and opening technology parks. The final choice, Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing) focused on the healthcare system: increased preventive healthcare, particularly for infants and children, promotion of healthy lifestyles, increased free-of-charge services introduction of medical insurance and ensuring access to psychological support. The last of these may be particularly pertinent in a oblast scarred by conflict.

The priorities of the Mariupol consultation reflect the ongoing conflict in the oblast, as well as the pollution caused by the areas industries, both on land and in the Sea of Azov.

The main stakeholders discussed in Mariupol were the city council in Mariupol, NGOs, universities, the healthcare system and business. The role of the national government, or the oblast administration for Donetsk oblast, was not discussed.
SDGs will be realized on the oblast level in the context of Cherkassy Development Strategy until 2020, which is planned to ensure economic stability, ecological balance and social cohesion in the oblast.
In Cherkasy oblast, Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) was the top priority. This was followed by four goals, which were equal second: Goal 1 (no poverty), Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing), Goal 4 (quality education), and Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Cherkasy was unusual in choosing poverty as a national priority.

The top priority for oblast was Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure). Participants urged support for the oblast strategic development plan until 2020. They wanted to encourage international investment, ensure rural Internet access, modernize infrastructure and industry, improve waste management and promote small business development.

The second priority was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). Participants called for affordable housing programmes, tax holidays for the wood industry, green tourism, and rational use of resources by households and industry.

Goal 2, Goal 3 and Goal 8 were third equal. For Goal 2 (zero hunger) participants called for support for agricultural production and processing, assistance for youth to engage in the rural economy, and development of cooperatives. They referred to “meeting the needs of the vulnerable population” under this topic, suggesting a concern about oblast hunger. Under Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing) participants wanted mobile health labs, regular medical examinations, and promotion of healthy lifestyles, while for Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) they called for support to workers and young people, and development of tourism.

The Cherkasy consultation focused quite significantly on vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and those living in poverty. They also referred on several occasions to the need to promote gender equality.

The stakeholders discussed in Cherkasy included national, oblast and local authorities, NGOs, communities, universities and schools, the healthcare system and farmers.
14 SEPTEMBER 2016

LOCATION:
Zaporozhia, Zaporozhia oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration and UNFPA

ATTENDEES:
23 representatives of state and local authorities, local businesses, nongovernmental and charity organisations, high school professors, journalists

POPULATION
1.771 mln. (2014)

GRP PER CAPITA:
UAH 37 251 (2014)

ECONOMY:
heavy industry, agriculture

CHALLENGES:
high numbers of IDPs, children in institutional care

"Oblast consultation on localization and adaptation of Sustainable Development Goals in Zaporizhia oblast gave us a great opportunity to develop effective solutions which will help achieve SDGs at the national and oblast levels."

Eduard Gugnin,
Deputy Head of the Zaporizhia oblast administration
The top priorities for Ukraine as agreed in Zaporizhia were Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions); Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure); Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth); and Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). The choices may reflect Zaporizhia industrialized and urbanized status, as well as its proximity to the conflict zone.

The top priority for Zaporizhia oblast was Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities). Participants see a need for development strategies for cities, but also development of agricultural service cooperatives, recycling of agricultural waste and small entrepreneurship in rural communities. They asked for affordable housing, new sewage treatment plants, and better legal awareness and support for community members.

The second priority was Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure). Participants called for more awareness of fostering innovation (including in the agriculture sector). They also wanted an information campaign on alternative energy and insulation of homes.

Under Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), the group wanted grants for students to implement projects; training on self-employment and small business development for community members, and subsidies to buy equipment for expanding businesses.

Equal fourth were Goals 3 and 16. For Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing) participants proposed a mobile healthcare laboratory, rehabilitation of children from large families and development of municipal sports schools. Under Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) they would like to see volunteers to support the police, a single NGO office, and renewed civic councils in the oblast.

The Zaporizhia consultation was one of the smallest, and seemed to focus primarily on rural issues. There was less discussion of vulnerable groups than in many of the consultations.

The stakeholders discussed in Zaporizhia included oblast and municipal authorities and local councils, NGOs, communities, universities, colleges and schools, businesses and business associations.
CHERNIVTSI

23 SEPTEMBER 2016

LOCATION:
Chernivtsi, Chernivtsi oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration and WHO

ATTENDEES:
45 representatives of local authorities, universities and civil society organizations

POPULATION
909 thousands (2014)

GRP PER CAPITA:
UAH 16 552 (2014)

ECONOMY:
agriculture, forestry

CHALLENGES:
poverty, marginalised Roma community

“Having Sustainable Development Goals we have a clear picture of the country where we can live with dignity”

Martha Bilokur,
member of the Student Government of Chernivtsy National Trade and Economic Institute
The top priority for Ukraine agreed in Chernivtsi was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing) and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) were equal second. Goal 4 (quality education) and Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy) were equal third. Energy and education were rarely chosen in the country as a whole.

The top priority for the oblast was Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing). Participants called for increased public health funding, improved training of healthcare personnel, better medical facilities, oblast action on AIDS and tuberculosis, subsidies for healthcare for vulnerable groups, better physical access to healthcare services for persons with disabilities, hospices. They also sought better control over pesticide and chemical use in agriculture, and improved water quality.

The second choice was Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). Participants would like to see development of agricultural processing, small business development and employment opportunities for IDPs and persons with disabilities, tourism, decent employment for youth, entrepreneurship development through business incubators, training and tax breaks, and a programme to combat discrimination in the workplace.

The third choice, Goal 15 (life on land), was quite unusual, and reflects that the main treasure of the oblast is - forestry. Participants called for reforestation, prevention of illegal logging, support for mountain ecosystems and development of mountain tourism, environmental education for children, and protection for water networks and river banks.

Equal fourth were Goals 9 and 11. For Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), the suggestions included additional science funding, urban planning, transport development, cultural heritage preservation, and introducing cross-border credit for industrial enterprises. On Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), there was also discussion of cross-border employment, SME development (including for women), road improvement, better infrastructure and transport for persons with disabilities, and housebuilding for new families and single mothers.

The Chernivtsi discussion was influenced by the rural economy and the close international border. Vulnerable groups discussed included persons with disabilities and single mothers. However, the Roma community were not mentioned.

The stakeholders discussed in Chernivtsi included oblast and municipal authorities, research institutes, civil society and communities.
UZHGOROD

26 SEPTEMBER 2016

LOCATION:
Uzhgorod, Zakarpattia oblast

CO-ORGANIZERS:
Local Administration and FAO

ATTENDEES:
39 representatives of local authorities, universities and civil society organizations

POPULATION
1.258 (2014)

GRP PER CAPITA:
UAH 19 170 (2014)

ECONOMY:
trans-border trade, vinery, forestry

CHALLENGES:
poverty, marginalised Roma community

Implementation of SDGs is very important for Zakarpattia oblast because it will help to improve transboundary cooperation and ensure sustainable development of the oblast in accordance with international standards.

Serhii Ustych,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Director of the Institute of Transboundary Cooperation
Zakarpattia’s three equal top priorities for Ukraine were Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). This was quite typical for the country as a whole.

For Zakarpattia oblast, there were also three top priorities, Goals 8, 11 and 15.

For Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), participants wanted investment in entrepreneurship and productive employment. They asked for the establishment of industrial parks and strengthening of opportunities for vocational education. Many of the suggestions under this goal focused on decent work opportunities for vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, young people, older people and mothers of working age. They also highlighted a perceived need to legalize work abroad.

On Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), the participants wanted integrated development of urban and rural areas (including conservation, tourism and transport), and preservation of cultural and natural heritage. They also would like to see infrastructure for persons with disabilities and improved education and health services for vulnerable groups, including the Roma community.

Goal 15 (life on land), was a rare choice for top priority, and reflects the influence of Carpathian Mountains and forestry on life in Zakarpattia. There were calls for increased community participation in forest management, and better opportunities for gathering non-wood forest products. Participants wanted integrated conservation and restoration of the ecosystem, expanding of natural parks, and better management of water resources and waste.

The Uzhgorod discussion was strongly influenced by the rural economy, the oblast’s reliance on cross-border work and trade, and the vulnerabilities of local people. It was the only consultation in which the Roma community was mentioned, and there was also discussion of persons with disabilities, mothers who wanted to rejoin the workforce and labour migrants prominent.

The stakeholders in Uzhgorod included national, oblast and local government, business structures and local communities.
UKRAINE LOCAL CONSULTATIONS ON SDGs: THE CONCEPT

With a vibrant civil society and a country known for successfully mobilizing citizen participation in shaping the 2030 agenda, Ukraine has all it requires for preparing a sustainable future.

However, the current crisis has negatively impacted the citizen’s spirit and belief for a bright future for Ukraine. Against this backdrop, the SDGs consultation process is not only for planning purposes but also for confidence building and restauration of trust. It goes without saying that the success in the adaptation, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs in Ukraine will depend on the Government willingness to create and nurture a platform for open dialogue to prepare a sustainable future for Ukraine.

The local consultations were part of the national SDGs adaptation and localization process, led by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. All consultations were co-organized by the local administration and the United Nations in Ukraine. Each consultation was opened by a representative of the local administration and a Head of an UN Agency. Followed the World Café format, the consultations stimulated an interactive and lively discussion among participants. The consultations highlighted the country realities that need to take into
account when prioritizing the most relevant goals for Ukraine. The prioritization was driven by the current (crisis) context while not losing sight of a hope for a brighter future toward 2030 milestone. Concrete actions were proposed to integrate SDGs in existing national strategies and plans. Targets were prioritized that reflect both the current data challenge and an inspirational vision for change.

The roles of communities, local government, CSOs, youth and women were highlighted with a recognition that SDGs implementation is everyone’s business. To preserve the interrelated and mutually reinforcing nature of the SDGs, 17 goals were not discussed in isolation but in the totality of the whole SDGs agenda and based on a guiding principle of ‘leave no one behind’.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
LOCAL CONSULTATIONS MAP

Uzhgorod

Ternopil

Chernivtsi

Lutsk

Zhytomyr

Kyiv

Cherkasy

Sumy

Dnipro

Zaporizhia

Mariupol

Ukrainian cities and regions, with a focus on the southwestern region, are highlighted in the map, showcasing their involvement in local consultations for sustainable development goals.
Sustainable Development Goals
Local Consultations

July – September 2016

These oblast consultations were made possible thanks to the efforts of local administrations in ten oblasts, the collaboration between the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade and the United Nations, and with the support of GIZ.

For more information about the SDGs in Ukraine please visit

http://sdg.org.ua/en/