

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

**Sustainable Energy and Environment
Secretariat to support the Parliament of
Ukraine in SEE area**

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ACRONYMS

| | |
|------|--|
| MP | - Member of Parliament |
| IFU | - inter-faction union (in Parliament) |
| MENR | - Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources |
| SEE | - Sustainable Energy and Environment |
| SEES | - Sustainable Energy and Environment Secretariat |
| SDGs | - Sustainable Development Goals |
| UNDP | - United Nations Development Programme |

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Ukraine has a long list of environmental reform priorities. However, the speed of the reforms in the area of sustainable energy and environment (SEE) is slowed down by the difficulties in adopting the needed legislation related to the capacity of the Parliament and a large number of low-quality legal initiatives. The 2019 elections would significantly undermine the legislative progress and possibly lead to the leadership turnover in the Government and Parliament in this area.

To speed up the sustainable energy and environment (SEE) related reforms and ensure representation of the SEE issues in the programmes of the next President and the next Parliament, UNDP seeks to improve the capacity of the Parliament of Ukraine and enhance environmental advocacy among politicians, mass media and the public.

The Project aims to support the Parliament of Ukraine as a whole, Members of Parliament, Committees (specifically, on Environmental Policy, Nature Resources Utilization and Elimination of the Consequences of Chornobyl Catastrophe and on Fuel and Energy Complex, Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety) with quality analytical support on the legislation making, organizing stakeholders' consultations, round tables, development of communication products, and engagement of various stakeholders into the policy debate on sustainable energy and environment issues. In addition, the Project aims at increasing visibility of SEE issues during the Presidential and Parliamentary elections, as well as analysing the green agenda in the political programmes of the presidential candidates and parties.

2. MAIN HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

- Advocacy and Communications Strategy and Work Plan for raising awareness on SEE issues and promoting green agenda among decision-makers and the public was developed for the duration of the project (implementation is ongoing).
- Green Agenda (priorities in SEE area) for Ukraine till 2030 was developed by UNDP and presented by MPs on 19 March 2019.
- The analysis of incorporating the green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019 was completed and presented to partners.
- **104 members of Parliament, national and local government representatives, VRU staff (61 women, 43 men) improved their skills and knowledge on SEE issues through meetings, workshops, discussions and other events during the reporting period.**
- **193 analytical materials (analytical papers, briefs, articles, recommendations, statements and other information products and notes) were developed and disseminated.**
- **124 members of Parliament, national and local government representatives, VRU staff (64 women, 60 men) became more knowledgeable of SEE issues through all advocacy and communication activities of the project (events,**

analytical notes, articles, informational products and other materials distributed online and in-person).

- Total at least **322 people (202 women, 120 men)** participated in project events during the reporting period and improved knowledge of SEE issues. Besides that, **3,098 people** viewed the recordings of the events online.
- **37 journalists (31 women, 6 men) from national and regional media, bloggers and media activists** were trained on environmental reporting through dedicated educational sessions in Kyiv and Lviv.
- **Over 100 partners (CSOs/NGOs, businesses, opinion leaders, national and local authorities)** joined a nation-wide “Day without polyethylene campaign” successfully ran in cooperation with IFU, MENR and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine. More than **240,000 people** were reached through the campaign only in social media.
- Total at least **380,000 people** were reached through awareness-raising activities/campaigns of the project focused on Green Agenda promotion via a variety of channels, including events, direct information distribution, social media, mass media and more.
- Activities of the project received **over 450 national and regional media mentions** during the reporting period.

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

The following sections of the report are structured so to present the activities and achievements since the beginning of the project. Each section contains a brief summary of the previously accomplished activities and results, whereas the activities implemented since the latest submitted report are described fully.

Output 1: The Parliament of Ukraine has strengthened capacity on SEE issues through the establishment and functioning of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Secretariat.

Activity 1: Provide analytical support to the parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues

- 1.1. Develop analytical papers, articles and other informational notes on various SEE issues.
- 1.2. Develop and disseminate policy briefs, policy papers, statements, etc.
- 1.3. Analyze draft legislation, strategies and plans for implementation of the state policy in SEE area.

Given the variety and scope of issues in sustainable energy and environment, UNDP worked jointly with the MPs to identify priorities of legislative work, which will be supported by the project. During the preparatory stage, UNDP did a baseline study / scoping of the draft legislation relevant to SEE issues and implementation of the relevant chapters of EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, other international commitments, as well as SDGs (*Annex 2*), shared and discussed with the MPS to identify priority focus areas. As a result, 11 priority areas were identified: *waste management; monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG; energy efficiency; energy security; phase-out of single-use plastic bags; green auctions; gender in corporate governance (with focus on state energy companies); distributed energy and energy cooperatives; sustainable transportation (electro-vehicles and bicycles); green finance and establishing efficient green (and climate) finance instruments; fossil fuel subsidies and their impact on the regions dependent on fossil fuel extraction industry.*

Under this output, the project team of experts provided analytical assistance to the MPs by working closely with the inter-fraction association of MPs “Green Power Shift”, other MPs as well as a wider circle of stakeholders consisting of Parliamentary Committees’ members, MENR and other executive power bodies.

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ANALYTICAL SUPPORT

1. Waste management
2. GHG monitoring, reporting and verification
3. Energy efficiency
4. Energy security
5. Phase out of single-use plastic bags
6. Green auctions
7. Gender in corporate governance
8. Distributed energy and energy cooperatives
9. Sustainable transportation
10. Green finance
11. Fossil fuel subsidies and their impact

26 analytical notes (including 17 legal opinions) and 42 comments and recommendations to draft laws were prepared and shared with MPs. 16 draft laws were analysed for harmonization and compliance with the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and EU acquis. Information materials were prepared for four (4) draft laws to facilitate their consideration by the Parliament in the first reading. As a result, recommendations and comments were considered in five (5) draft laws (of which one draft law was adopted in general and two draft laws in the first reading).

- Analytical note to the draft law 8449 [“On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electricity from alternative sources](#) (the draft law on the introduction of green auctions and updated conditions for the application of the green tariff) was developed on MPs amendments, which were proposed for the second reading.

Based on the analysis, comments were added to six amendments referring to the use of renewable fuels from municipal waste as an alternative source of energy due to their non-compliance with Ukraine's commitments in the field of European integration and EU law. The analysis was taken into account - the corresponding amendments were rejected. The draft law is adopted as a whole.

- **Two analytical notes** were developed to assist the MPs in the process of reviewing the draft laws: *“On ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases”* (9082) and *“On basics of monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions”* (9253), which were adopted by the Parliament in the first reading. Follow-up hands-on advisory support was provided to the

ANALYTICAL PRODUCTS (details in Annex 1)

- 26 analytical notes (including 17 legal opinions) for draft laws
- 42 comments and recommendations to draft laws
- Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030
- Guidelines for policy development on international and domestic commitments of Ukraine
- Research “World practices of reducing the use of plastic bags”
- 122 articles, publications and other information products

parliamentary committee members and MENR after the adoption in the first reading.

- Four draft laws on reducing the use of plastic bags (6020, 9507, 9507-1, 9507-2) were analysed. In addition, 1 draft law (9507) has been re-analysed in the revised version. The project also prepared an analytical note on EU experience and regulations the area, and several comments and recommendations were made. Observations and recommendations were partially taken into account in the draft law 9507 and almost completely taken into account in the draft law 9507-2 (alternative).
- 7 draft laws on waste (3198, 3198-1, 3374, 4835, 5354, 6602, 7127) were analysed for harmonization and compliance with the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and EU acquis. The results of the analysis have shown that all draft laws, fully or partially, do not comply with EU legislation, and are fragmentary, while current legislation of Ukraine requires complex changes to meet the EU integration commitments. Recommendations were provided to each draft law (7 recommendations). None of the draft laws was considered by the Parliament.
- Analytical Note and legal opinion were prepared on draft Law of Ukraine 4028 “On packaging and packaging waste” on its compliance with EU-Ukraine AA commitments and EU acquis. Following the analysis, a number of observations have been made that indicate the need for substantive revision of the draft law or for the development of a new version. The draft law was not

DRAFT LAWS IN SEE AREA (analysis/recommendations provided)

- 1) 3198 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine in the field of waste management in prevention of the negative effects of final product consumption wastes”
- 2) 3198-1 “On amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine in the field of waste management and stimulation of their use as an alternative energy source”
- 3) 3374 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 4) 4028 “On packaging and packaging waste”
- 5) 4835-d “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on the promotion of use of household waste as an alternative energy source”
- 6) 5354 “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on treatment with hazardous waste”
- 7) 5614 “On the system of collection and utilization of packaging”
- 8) 6020 “On regulation of production, use, importation and distribution of polymer bags in Ukraine”
- 9) 6602 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 10) 7127 “On amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Waste”
- 11) 8159-d “On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine”
- 12) 8160-d “On Amendments to the Customs Code of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine”
- 13) 8449 “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electricity from alternative sources”
- 14) Ukraine 8449-d “On amendments to certain laws of Ukraine on ensuring competitive conditions for the production of electric energy from alternative sources”
- 15) 8609 “On the Basic Principles of State Policy in the Field of Energy Security of Ukraine”
- 16) 9082 “On ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases”
- 17) 9253 “On basics of monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions”
- 18) 9260 “On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and certain other legislative acts of Ukraine on improving the administration and revision of rates of individual taxes and fees”
- 19) 9507 “On reduction of a number of individual types of polyethylene waste in civilian circulation”
- 20) 9507-1 “On restrictions of use certain packaging products”
- 21) 9507-2 “On reducing the use of plastic bags”

considered by the Parliament.

- Analytical Note and legal opinion were prepared on draft Law of Ukraine 8609 "[On the Basic Principles of State Policy in the Field of Energy Security of Ukraine](#)" on its compliance with EU-Ukraine AA and Energy Community commitments, EU acquis. UNDP provided recommendations for further elaboration. The draft law was not considered by the Parliament.
- Analytical materials were developed to assist the MPs in the process of reviewing in the first reading the Draft Laws 8159-d "On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on Stimulating the Development of the Electric Transport Industry in Ukraine" and 8160-d "[On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on stimulating the development of the electric transport industry in Ukraine](#)" with a detailed explanation of the existing international obligations of Ukraine in the area of European integration, description of challenges to be addressed and economic consequences for the state. The draft laws were not considered by the Parliament.

Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030, the list of specific priorities in sustainable energy and environment area, was developed based on a series of consultations with MPs and other stakeholders and presented by MPs for public discussion on 19 March 2019. The Green Agenda was subsequently offered to a wider public for discussion and online voting to receive comments from the public and adjust the priorities if needed. The Agenda has been finalized and published to serve as a guiding tool for the MPs and a wider circle of stakeholders. The online survey remains open to continuously collect public comments/opinions and present those to law-makers.

GREEN AGENDA PRIORITIES

- Green Economy
- Waste Management
- Quality and longevity of life
- Clean and safe transportation
- Renewable energy
- Climate action
- Sustainable development of rural communities and organic agriculture
- Environmental protection
- Green Cities
- Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving

The research "**World practices of reducing the use of plastic bags**" was developed and shared with partners/participants of the "Day without polyethylene" campaign, including parliamentarians and other interested stakeholders (downloaded by at least 220 people).

Activity 2: Provide organizational support to the Parliament of Ukraine on SEE issues

2.1. Organize meetings of the Parliament members working on SEE issues on a quarterly basis.

2.2. Organize seminars at the relevant Parliament Committees.

2.3. Organize professional events involving Parliament members, Government representatives, think-tanks and CSOs (discussions, roundtables, meetings, public hearings).

2.4. Organize roundtables and workshops in the regions of Ukraine.

2.5. Maintain media visibility on SEE issues.

Under this output, the project team of experts provided organizational and communication assistance to the MPs by working closely with the inter-fraction association of MPs “Green Power Shift”, other MPs as well as a wider circle of stakeholders consisting of Parliamentary Committees’ members, MENR and other executive power bodies.

- **104 Members of Parliament, governmental representatives and VRU staff (61 women, 43 men)** learned about sustainable energy and environment issues through meetings, workshops, discussions and other events during the reporting period.
- **124 Members of Parliament, governmental representatives and VRU staff (64 women, 60 men)** gained knowledge on SEE issues through all advocacy and communication activities of the project (events, analytical notes, articles, informational products and other materials distributed online and in-person).
- **Twelve meetings** were conducted with the Members of Parliament working on various SEE issues to provide analytical support, including on SEE legislation making.
- **Three meetings** were held with the Secretariats of the Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Policy [...] and Committee on Energy and Fuel Complex [...] to identify needs in analytical and advisory support on SEE issues:
 - The Secretariat of the Energy Committee has requested assistance in training the personnel through a short-term leadership and management programme. The process is currently on hold given the announcement of snap parliamentary elections on 21 July 2019. Upon further agreement with the secretariats of the committees, the training sessions will be provided jointly with the EU-UNDP Parliamentary Reform Project.
 - The Environmental Committee has officially requested the assistance in strengthening the analytical capacity of the Secretariat by deploying a dedicated specialist to support the Secretariat and Committee. The process has been paused pending further consultations with the Secretariat due to early parliamentary elections.
- **Nine events** involving Parliament members, Government representatives, think tanks and CSOs held:
 - *Roundtable on SEE priorities for the Parliament* (Project launch event) held on 19 December 2018 (67 participants: 31 men, 36 women). The vision of MPs, governmental institutions and civil society regarding Ukraine’s priorities in the field of sustainable energy and environment were presented and discussed. Key Project goals, tasks and expected activities were presented to stakeholders.

- *Round table on the role of Parliament in achieving SDGs* (including presentation of the IFU Green Power Shift) held on 25 February 2019 (50 participants: 17 men, 33 women). The role of national Parliaments in supporting and monitoring of SDGs achievement, including the Goals related to climate change, environment protection and sustainable energy was discussed. The Project was also presented as one of the tools for environmental issues integration in the Parliament activities.
- *Presentation of the Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030* held on 19 March 2019 (85 participants: 40 men, 45 women; 239 participants viewed online). During the event, the Green Agenda for Ukraine till 2030 was presented and discussed, the Omnibus results on public priorities in SEE issues were presented and disseminated; examples of international experience of environmental agenda promotion were discussed. Advisory meetings with the MPs on environmental draft laws as a part of Environmental Day in Parliament were held (three draft laws were adopted in the first hearing on 28 February 2019 - the draft law on greenhouse gases monitoring, reporting and verification, draft law on ozone-depleting substances, and draft law on Environmental Policy Strategy of Ukraine till 2030).
- *Green Agenda for Ukraine panel discussion within the UN Environmental Forum* was held on 14 May 2019 (at least 200 participants of the event; 1,249 participants viewed online: 16% men, 84% women). The issues of available financing for environmental activities, the role of media in green agenda promotion, views of business and youth on the green priorities were discussed.
- *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* was organized by the project on 17 May 2019 in Kyiv (30 participants: 10 men, 20 women; 733 participants viewed online). Media training covered such topics as European integration in environmental sphere, writing about climate change, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment, transition to 100% renewable energy, working with open data (air, water and finances).
- *Public discussion and presentation of the findings of the report “Green Agenda during Parliament Elections in Ukraine: is mission possible?”* held 21 May 2019 (44 participants: 17 men, 27 women; 121 participants viewed online). During the event, the results of the analysis on incorporating the green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019 were presented, as well as the key outcomes of the “President’s Environmental Portrait” information campaign run by the Coalition of Environmental NGOs.
- *Introductory meeting with the retailers to discuss the “Day without polyethylene” campaign*, organized together with MPs, MENR and Zero Waste Ukraine (22 participants: 4 men, 18 women), and subsequent online webinar for NGOs on (viewed by 308 participants) and for retailers/markets (viewed by 448 participants).
- *Media training within the School of Environmental Journalism* organized by the project on 11 July 2019 in Lviv (24 participants: 1 man, 24 women). The training covered the following topics: reforming of environmental policy within the EU, writing about climate change and adaptation, key local (Lviv oblast) environmental problems and their solutions, avoiding myths about waste management and working with online data on waste statistics.

VISIBILITY OF SEE ISSUES

Advocacy and Communications Strategy and Work Plan (*see attached as Annex 3*) for raising awareness on SEE issues and promoting green agenda among decision-makers and the public was developed for the duration of the project and implementation is ongoing. Progress report, which provides information on the results and media coverage, is *attached as Annex 4*.

Analytical materials developed by the project (*see Annex 1 for the complete list*) were distributed through several communications channels, as described in the progress report.

Key communication activities, products and channels:

- Communications and organizational support were provided to nine project events (media advisories, invitations, presentations, social media posts, press releases).
- Draft visibility package was developed for IFU Green power shift (logo, basic visual guide) and submitted to MPs for review.
- Ten (10) **Green Updates digests** were distributed as an email newsletter to 503 subscribers (including 36 MPs, VRU staff and governmental representatives: 24 men, 12 women). Average open rate is 30,9%.
- Eight (8) Green Analytical Updates / Green Picks (37 articles) with analytical summaries of the latest papers and reports in the field of SEE were distributed as an email newsletter to 30 subscribers (MPs and assistants to MPs).
- Eight (8) Draft Laws Reviews - an overview of the draft laws on SEE issues to be proposed for voting on a plenary week with a short description - were distributed among the 75 Telegram channel "[Green Updates](#)" subscribers.
- 33 articles on SEE issues and sustainable lifestyles were prepared for publication at the [IFU's Facebook](#) page. Total reach of all posts over 37,000 people.
- Article on the analysis of incorporating the [green component in the election programmes of the candidates running for presidential elections in 2019](#) was published on Ukrainska Pravda.
- SEE related updates/events are regularly shared among the network of journalists, who participated in the School of Environmental Journalism (currently [Facebook group](#) with 38 members).
- As a follow up for the School of Environmental Journalism, a "how-to-write-about" draft guides for media were developed, including on how to write about climate change, European integration in the environmental sphere, EIA and SEA, energy transition. Channels for disseminating these materials are under consideration (potentially MediaLab platform).
- Package of educational and awareness-raising materials/articles was prepared for the "Day without polyethylene" campaign, which was distributed among

partners/participants (see 39-57 in Annex 1). Over 100 partners (CSOs/NGOs, businesses, opinion leaders, national and local authorities) joined a nation-wide “Day without polyethylene campaign” successfully ran in cooperation with IFU, MENR and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine. More than 240,000 people were reached through the campaign only in social media.

- Project activities during the reporting period received **over 450 national and regional media mentions** (see Annex 4 for the details).

“A DAY WITHOUT POLYETHYLENE” CAMPAIGN

To attract Ukrainians attention to the plastic pollution problem and its negative impacts, and to celebrate the International Plastic Bag-Free Day, the United Nations Development Programme, together with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, inter-faction union of Parliament Members “Green Power Shift” and Zero Waste Alliance Ukraine held a “Day Without Polyethylene” campaign in Ukraine. Over 100 shops, supermarkets, cafes, pharmacies, educational facilities, fast food restaurants and other companies joined the initiative to avoid single-use plastic for a day, replacing it with more environmentally-friendly alternatives. Among them were the Auchan and Spar supermarkets, the KIMS dry cleaners, and other service companies such as the YE bookshop network, the Old Lion Publishing House, IT company UniSender, the Eurasia restaurant network, and many more. Customers were able to use paper or textile grocery bags instead of plastic ones, use tongs instead of plastic gloves to pick up bread, buns and other baking products, and buy food in reusable containers and beverages in their own reusable mugs – often with a discount. Special awareness raising campaigns were held in Lviv, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Iziaslav (Khmelnysk Oblast), Chortkiv (Ternopil Oblast), Kharkiv, Askania Nova and other cities.

A full list of participating organizations can be found via this [link](#).

Materials and presentations can be found via this [link](#).

Output 2: Duty-bearers and right-holders have increased awareness and understanding of green politics and business in Ukraine

Conduct and present two gender-disaggregated public sociological surveys on SEE issues

The project has conducted a public sociological survey on SEE issues among some 2,034 respondents in November-December 2018 to establish the project baseline and inform the implementation of the project and necessary adjustments.

The results of the public survey were presented during the project launch event and disseminated through social media channels. They are also available at the [UNDP website](#).

The results of the survey were presented during the Green Agenda for Ukraine event in the Parliament of Ukraine on 19 March, organized by the IFU Green Power Shift. Some of the survey results were presented during a “Green Agenda in parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Is mission possible?” event on 21 May. The [survey results](#) are actively promoted by the coalition of 17 environmental NGOs within the campaign “Environmental security agenda for the political parties”.

Conduct and present an analysis on green business competitiveness of the regions of Ukraine

Research, partner UNDP SDG Programme to determine the scope, aim and key elements of the research, which will underpin the Terms of Reference for the assignment. Furthermore, wider consultations with think tanks and academia are envisaged to refine the focus of the study.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SURVEY

- 82.7% of respondents believe that authorities do not act enough to solve environmental problems;
- Every fourth respondent believes that MPs have a significant influence on how to solve environmental issues, followed by the Government and local authorities;
- 45.6% of respondent believe that a clear position on environmental protection and sustainable energy by political parties can be a determinant factor when deciding for a candidate when voting;
- The top 5 environmental issues for respondents include: water pollution and poor drinking water (59.9%), deforestation (59.1%), air pollution (51.6%), environmental pollution by households (47.8%) and industrial (34.2%) waste.

UNDP held consultation meetings with the MPs of the IFU Green Power Shift and representatives of think tanks such as Institute for Low Carbon Economy and Institute for Social and Economic

Conduct and present an analysis of incorporating the green component in 2019 election programmes for the candidates for the presidency and the political parties running for Parliament seat

The Project has commissioned the analysis of the election programmes of the candidates running for Presidential Election 2019. The results of the [analysis](#) were [briefly presented](#) to the public at the “Green Agenda in the midst of parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Is mission possible?” event on 21 May 2019 (44 participants: 17 men, 27 women; 121 participants viewed online).

Analysis of the election programmes and speeches of presidential candidates in Ukraine has shown a growing interest in environmental issues among candidates for the post of head of state. Some 64% of election programmes contain issues on the green agenda, which is 25% more than in the 2014 presidential election.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANALYSIS

- 64% of election programmes include green issues, which is 25% more than during President elections in 2014
- None of official election programmes covers climate change issues
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency are most frequently mentioned in the programmes, the rarest are nature protection, green tourism and green transport

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1.1. Monitoring and Evaluation

The project has regularly collected information to monitor the progress in achieving project targets (*please see Annex 5*)

1.2. Lessons learnt

- A necessary balance should be carefully sought to provide targeted support to the most active MPs in the SEE area (such as the so-called Green Caucus). At the same time, such rebalancing should not replace or harm the development of national capacities (i.e. the analytical capacity of the parliamentary support structures, support teams and staff of MPs). Synergies are required between various donor initiatives to support the Parliament of Ukraine.
- Communications play an essential role in ensuring the buy-in of the SEE reforms among the MPs. Advocacy of SEE reforms needs well-established communication channels with MPs, committees and their staff to enable consolidation around specific policy issues;
- Targeted dissemination of the project’s analytical products among MPs and other stakeholders, as well as follow-up advocacy, is critical in ensuring that the analytical products translate into concrete positions or decisions of the MPs;
- The project should take a more proactive approach in suggesting the agenda for MPs, which should be a part of the advocacy strategy;

- Elections present an opportunity to put SEE issues on political agenda. Evidence shows that although people are ready to vote for candidates and parties having clear SEE agenda, they would instead prioritize other issues - jobs, livelihoods, health and so on. Therefore, there is a need to improve awareness of the importance and cross-cutting nature of environmental issues in everyday life.
- Political process and elections in Ukraine were highly polarized and overwhelmed with populism which in turn strengthens the need for a further evidence-based approach to SEE policy, which in turn requires to position UNDP as a professional and neutral platform for policy dialogue while intensifying communications and outreach to stakeholders.
- Ensuring continuity of the work of the Parliament in the SEE area after the early election is crucial. UNDP should ensure the sustainable transfer of knowledge and advisory capacity to the new MPs, summarizing previous achievements and identifying remaining gaps, offering recommendations for policymaking in the SEE area.

1.3. Management recommendations

- Revise the project to adapt it to the new context after the early Parliamentary elections held on 21 July 2019 in terms of the overall approach, development tools employed as well as specific activities to be implemented;
- Prepare a strategy to address the transition period between the two convocations of Verkhovna Rada with the following key elements:
 - Early engagement with the newly elected MPs to assist in formulating key priorities for the new convocation based on the Green Agenda developed earlier by MPs with UNDP assistance;
 - Provision of assistance to incumbent MPs in replicating the Green Caucus format and experience in the new convocation of the Parliament, as a driver to promote SEE issues;
 - Establishment of cooperation with the newly formed Parliamentary Committees;
 - Revision of the project work plan in consultations with the incumbent MPs and the incumbent Government;
 - Strengthening communication and expanding awareness activities to sensitize people and communities on the importance of environmental issues and the role of Parliament in resolving them.
- Analyse achievements of the legislative work in the SEE area of the previous convocation of Parliament, as well as analyse the gaps to be addressed by the incumbent Parliament (stock-taking exercise);
- Enhance collaboration with the CSOs to consolidate advocacy efforts.

1.4. Financial report

Financial report is available in Annex 6.

5. ANNEXES:

1. List of analytical products prepared by the project
2. Analysis of draft legislation registered in the Parliament vis-à-vis SDG targets, international commitments and national strategic documents
3. Communications and advocacy strategy and work plan
4. Communications and advocacy progress report (as of July 2019)
5. Project monitoring indicators
6. Financial report