Ukraine's reconstruction and European integration: how to build back better?

Dr. Julian Bergmann 27.04.2023





Context



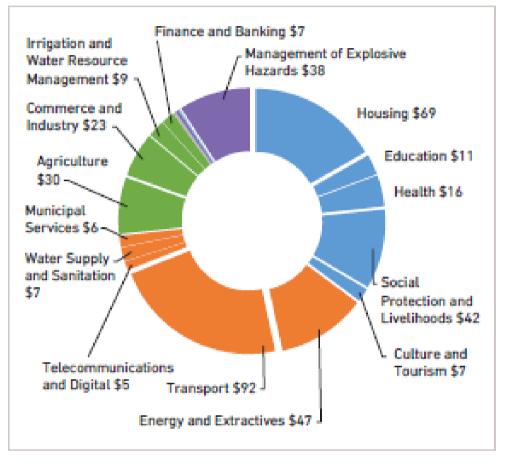
Consequences of Russia's full-scale invasion & recovery needs

- US\$135 billion in direct damage to buildings and infrastructure
- 29 % GDP loss in 2022
- State budget deficit in 2023: 3-4 billion per month
- 5 million IDPs and 8 million refugees across Europe

Planning and coordination efforts already underway

- National Recovery Plan presented by Ukrainian government in July 2022
- Establishment of Multi-agency donor coordination platform & Ukraine recovery conferences (Lugano 2022, London 2023)
- EU candidacy status for Ukraine (June 2022)
- > Shared ambition: transformative process that combines reconstruction efforts with Ukraine's path towards EU membership

Figure 10. Total recovery and reconstruction needs (US\$ billion): US\$411 billion



Source: Assessment team.

Note: Needs relate to total estimated needs covering the period 2023–2033.

Source: World Bank (2023). Ukraine Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment: February 2022 -February 2023 (English). Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.

Key considerations for Ukraine's reconstruction **UUS**



- Multi-level ownership is an important condition for a truly transformative reconstruction process.
 - Ukraine's decentralisation reform a a good basis for strong involvement of local government & CSOs
 - Inclusive & transparent governance and funding mechanisms needed
- 2) International donor coordination and monitoring is key for effectiveness and legitimacy of a reconstruction process.
 - Close coordination on priorities and sequencing needed (phased vs. flexible adaptation approach)
 - Division of labour: idea of "sectoral champions"?
 - Need for establishing a monitoring and accountability system early on
- For European integration to work as a lever in supporting Ukraine's reconstruction, credibility of the enlargement process is key.
 - Reform EU accession methodology to allow for "staged accession"
 - Provide long-term perspective for EU financial support to Ukraine

Further reading



Bergmann, Julian & Romanyshyn, Iulian (2022): Rebuilding Ukraine: how the European Union should support Ukraine's reconstruction and recovery. German Institute of Development and Sustainability (Policy Brief 6/2022). https://www.idos-research.de/uploads/media/PB_6.2022.pdf

Bergmann, Julian (2023): Die Europäische Union und der Wiederaufbau der Ukraine – bereit für die Herkulesaufgabe? Ifo Schnelldienst 76(4), 6-9. https://www.ifo.de/publikationen/2023/zeitschrift-einzelheft/ifo-schnelldienst-042023-wiederaufbauplan-ukraine

Grävingholt, Jörn, Jörg Faust, Alexander Libman, Solveig Richter, Gwendolyn Sasse & Susan Steward (2023): Rebuilding Ukraine: what the international community now needs to consider. German Institute of Development and Sustainability (Policy Brief 2/2023). https://www.idos-research.de/en/policy-brief/article/rebuilding-ukraine-what-the-international-community-now-needs-to-consider/

Contact

Thank you very much for your attention!

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