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## **CoM East Newsletter - 9th Issue**

# **UKRAINE IN FOCUS**

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COVENANT OF MAYORS GOING UKRAINE: 10 years of Covenant in Ukraine: experience of the leader

It is hard to believe that more than a decade had already passed since the first ten Ukrainian municipalities (and the sole in the whole post-Soviet area) joined **the Covenant of Mayors initiative** in February 2009. They took part in a grand signing ceremony in Brussels together with more than 300 European Covenant "pioneers". At that time, no one had a clear vision of what and how should be done to meet the undertaken  $CO_2$  reduction commitments by 2020. However, there was a strong belief that the initiative should profoundly change the energy profile of Europe and the attitude of its citizens towards energy and climate. Moreover, as a specific and very detailed strategic approach to and integral part of the municipal sustainable development policy, the Covenant was aimed at improving the quality of life of the municipal communities, thus completely meeting the tasks of local authorities.

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## Country facts & figures

Find out the **main facts & figures** of the Covenant of Mayors in Ukraine.

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## Municipal Platform for Energy & Climate Transition

In December 2018, the CoM East project initiated a new networking tool for mayors of the CoM Signatories in EaP countries – **Municipal Development Coordination Platform**, which in Ukraine

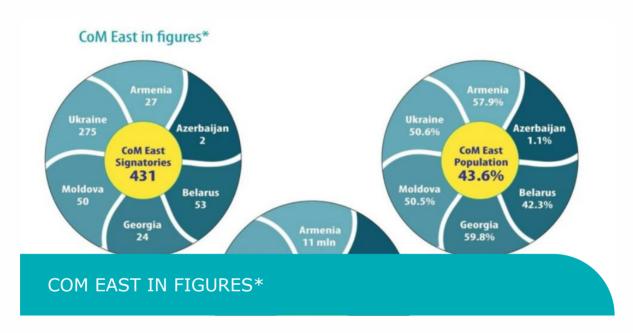
was created under the title "Municipal Platform for Energy & Climate Transition".

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### Demonstration Projects in Ukraine

In total, **17 Demonstration Projects** have been/are being implemented in Ukraine within the two phases of the CoM-DeP Programme (2015 – 2021).

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Find out the **main figures of the Covenant of Mayors** in six Eastern Partnership countries.

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On October 15, 2019, Tbilisi (Georgia) hosted **the Joint Steering Committee (SC) meeting** of the two projects under the Covenant of Mayors initiative – Covenants of Mayors East (CoM East) and Covenants of Mayors – Demonstration Projects (CoM-DeP).

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**Capacity building** for actual and potential CoM Signatories in EaP countries is one of the core directions of the CoM East project activities. The main efforts of the CoM East experts were focused on improving and strengthening the capacities of municipalities that joined the new Covenant, as well as CoM National Coordinators and Supporters in terms of developing and implementing municipal projects in the field of energy and climate. In August 2019 – February 2020, a number of specialised trainings and a study visit were organised in Moldova, Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine.



The CoM East Team places particular emphasis upon **communicating and promoting the CoM idea**, its main targets and benefits for municipalities, sharing successful experience and best practices. Therefore, participation in various international, national and/or regional events (conferences, forums, round table discussions, seminars etc.) is an integral part of its activities. In order to obtain the most effective results, the CoM East Team took advantage of every possible opportunity to coordinate cooperation and improve synergy with the other international donors, projects and initiatives in Ukraine related to promoting the Covenant of Mayors.

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The **EU4Energy Initiative** covers all EU support to improve energy supply, security and connectivity, as well as to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewables in the Eastern Partner countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. It does this by financing projects and programmes that help to reform energy markets and to reduce national energy dependence and consumption. Over the longer term, this makes energy supply more reliable, transparent and affordable, thus reducing energy poverty and energy bills for both citizens and the private sector.

More information on: www.EU4Energy.eu



This Project is funded by the European Union under the EU4Energy Initiative

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