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Stories of Success and Failure in Ukraine's reconstruction

2022-2025

Stories of Success and Failure in Ukraine's reconstruction 2022-2025

**Kyiv
2025**

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The Book “Stories of Success and Failure in Ukraine’s Reconstruction in 2022–2025”, 200 pages, Private Entrepreneur Lopatina O., Kyiv, 2025

“Stories of Success and Failure in Ukraine’s Reconstruction in 2022–2025” is a unique collection of 64 real cases that show how recovery is unfolding in practice during the full-scale war. The book combines examples of effective decisions and successful projects with stories that reveal systemic problems — from non-transparent procedures to violations of the “build back better” principle.

The materials are based on a large-scale civil society monitoring effort that covered around 800 facilities across ten regions of Ukraine. This collection demonstrates why trust, transparency, and community engagement are critically important for high-quality reconstruction.

The book serves as a practical guide for government institutions, civil society organizations, journalists, donors, and everyone involved in rebuilding the country. It helps identify best practices, avoid common mistakes, and shape recovery that truly serves people — today and in the future.

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If not specified otherwise, the source of all photographs is posts on social media of civil society organizations or articles in the media.

Preface

The book “Stories of Success and Failure in Ukraine’s reconstruction 2022-2025” covers an important period of recovery amid a full-scale war. Thousands of facilities across the country have been destroyed. The process we most often refer to as reconstruction involves restoring the population’s access to housing, educational and medical services, as well as administrative services. However, reconstruction must go beyond merely returning to the pre-war state. It must be a step toward modernization and development, with reconstruction based on the “build back better” principle.

Trust is at the heart of this multifaceted process. Citizens must trust the authorities, and donors must trust the state and local communities. Maintaining this trust is paramount during Ukraine’s reconstruction and recovery. Therefore, principles such as human-centricity, transparency, and efficiency are essential. With this in mind, a large-scale program has been initiated to publicly monitor the recovery and reconstruction of social infrastructure facilities in individual communities. The program includes the reconstruction of housing, educational institutions, medical facilities, administrative service centers, and cultural institutions.

From March 2024 to October 2025, Ukraine administered the “Reconstruction Monitoring” grant program¹, which was run by the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER). The Program engaged national and local civil society organizations to monitor reconstruction and restoration at the local level, promoting efficient spending and project implementation. The grant program was a component of the Recovery Spending Watchdog” project, implemented with the support of the European Union. The Project was implemented in partnership with three non-governmental organizations: Center for Economic Strategy (CES), IER, and Technology of Progress.

35 non-governmental organizations participated in verifying the quality and transparency of recovery efforts within the framework of this grant program. This was a new area of work for all of them, so they had to develop their skills. The IER supported this process by organizing about 20 webinars². During the grant program’s implementation period, the non-governmental organizations monitored the recovery of approximately 800 facilities, ranging from multi-story and private residential buildings to hospitals and educational institutions. Monitoring covered the Kyiv, Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Poltava, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv and Odesa regions, and the city of Kyiv. The organizations recorded their findings in accordance with the developed methodology³ by uploading completed questionnaires to the Big Recovery Portal (BRP).

¹ Subgranting: Reconstruction Monitoring Grant Program, http://www.ier.com.ua/ua/Recovery_Spending_Watchdog/watchdog_subgranting

² Trainings and webinars of the Spending Control for Recovery Project, http://www.ier.com.ua/ua/Recovery_Spending_Watchdog/Trainings

³ Methodology for public monitoring of reconstruction projects: for non-governmental organizations and public activists. July 2024. Source: <https://bit.ly/4rx1jrk>

The consequences of Russian aggression have revealed incredible examples of resilience and efficiency, as well as systemic problems requiring immediate solutions. Important problems include a lack of competition, the risk of overpricing, opaque decision-making, and low levels of public involvement. Another challenge was adhering to the “build back better” principle, which is often overlooked. At the same time, there were also positive experiences where all the important principles of proper reconstruction were followed.

This book presents 64 stories of recovery and reconstruction reflecting the results of individual monitoring by non-governmental organizations. The stories illustrate the realities of local reconstruction efforts. When compiling the book, we sought examples demonstrating both successes and setbacks in reconstruction practices. Many of the stories demonstrate that monitoring was more about partnership and communication at the community level than control.

This collection of stories is a practical guide designed to help:

1. Focus on best practices, such as taking a comprehensive approach to creating a barrier-free and transparent space, and rebuilding in compliance with the “build back better” principle.
2. Avoid future reconstruction mistakes.
3. Ensure the effective and transparent use of donor and state funds.

The stories presented here demonstrate the importance of public monitoring and its contribution to raising community awareness about reconstruction and recovery, particularly regarding the procurement and use of recovery resources. These stories emphasize that transparent procedures, genuine competition, and independent technical supervision should become the norm to ensure quality and prevent abuse. Efficient and high-quality reconstruction is for and about people, so public involvement in reconstruction processes is important. The “build back better” principle is the cornerstone of Ukraine’s recovery.

In this book, we introduce readers to the findings of non-governmental organizations’ monitoring activities. It is crucial to consider the lessons learned from these stories to ensure that every step in restoring Ukraine’s social infrastructure is effective, accountable, and serves the needs of the people today. This will also help develop approaches for large-scale reconstruction after victory.

Oleksandra Betliy, Leading research fellow/Project coordinator

Key Information about the Book and Monitoring

This book contains 64 stories of civil society organizations that, from March 2024 to October 2025, monitored the reconstruction and restoration of social infrastructure facilities in Ukraine during the full-scale war. The monitoring activities were carried out within a grant program administered by the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER). This grant program was part of the project **“Recovery Spending Watchdog”**, implemented with the support of the European Union.

Within the grant program, seven waves of competitions of two types were conducted:

- **Competition 1:** Monitoring of reconstruction and restoration on the ground: social infrastructure facilities. The announcement for this competition is available on the IER webpage at the link.
- **Competition 2:** Monitoring of reconstruction and restoration procurement on the ground: social infrastructure facilities. The announcement for this competition is available on the IER webpage at the link.

Over a year and a half, **35 civil society organizations** checked the recovery of **about 800 facilities** — multi-storey and private houses, hospitals, outpatient clinics, educational institutions, administrative buildings, etc. — in ten regions of Ukraine. Monitoring was conducted according to a developed methodology, under which organizations filled out facility passports and questionnaires.

Civil society organizations uploaded the completed questionnaires to the **Big Recovery Portal (BRP)**. In this book, we tried to select stories that represent the best and worst examples of reconstruction so that local and central authorities, as well as active community members, can avoid future mistakes and rely on best practices.

The book presents the reconstruction stories for each project implemented by civil society organizations. Selecting them was challenging because all the stories are multifaceted and unique. Each description includes the project timeline, the number of monitored facilities, and the region of implementation. The full list of projects is available on the IER website.

The **Recovery Watchdog** project was implemented in partnership by three civil society organizations: the **Centre for Economic Strategy (CES)**, IER, and **Technologies of Progress**.

List of abbreviations

BRP	Big Recovery Portal
DREAM	initially a digital reconstruction platform, now a digital public investment management system
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WWEA	World Wind Energy Association
IDP	internally displaced person
CMU	Civic Monitoring of Ukraine (non-governmental organization)
CSO / NGO	civil society organization / non-governmental organization
SASU	State Audit Service of Ukraine
SBCU	State Building Codes of Ukraine
HUS	housing and utilities sector
IER	Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting
IMC Irpin	Irpin City Council
CMU	Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine
KMA	Kyiv Regional Military Administration
ME	Municipal Enterprise
NEFCO	Nordic Environment Finance Corporation
RMA	Regional Military Administration
ACMB	Association of Co-owners of a Multi-apartment Building
DES	design and estimate documentation
RP Shelter	radiation protection shelter
VET School	Vocational Education and Training School
TC	territorial community
LLC	Limited Liability Company
PE	Private Entrepreneur
ASC	Administrative Services Center
PHC Center	Primary Health Care Center

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Part I

Public monitoring of reconstruction results

The Ivanivka Lyceum – an example of adhering to the “build back better” principle. Chernihiv region



Implementing party: Urban Initiatives Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/18>

Region of implementation: Chernihiv community in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: March–June 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 13



The building of the Ivanivka Lyceum after de-occupation, Chernihiv region

The building of the Ivanivka Lyceum after restoration, Chernihiv region





The Ivanivka Lyceum is an example of adhering to the “build back better” principle.

The team of the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO came to these conclusions while monitoring the reconstruction sites. These include the buildings of the Chernihiv Regional Academic Ukrainian Drama Theater named after Taras Shevchenko, the Economic Court and the Court of Appeal, the Chernihiv Central Library named after M. Kotsiubynskyi and Sofia and Oleksandr Rusov Chernihiv Regional Universal Scientific Library, the Chernihiv Higher Vocational School, Chernihiv schools No. 13, 19, 24, 33, 6, and 15, and the lyceum in the Ivanivka community.

The Ivanivka Lyceum was occupied from March 5 to March 30, 2022. The building sustained damage throughout the entire period of occupation, with the school canteen suffering the most. It was declared unsafe and unfit for further use. This information was shared with the team of the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO by Yuliia Doroshenko, Head of the Department of Education, Culture, Tourism, Family, Youth, and Sports of the Ivanivka Village Council.

The design and estimate documentation for the reconstruction of the canteen includes demolition work, the construction of foundations, load-bearing walls and ceiling structures, insulation of the façades and roof slab, installation of new windows and doors, changes to the internal layout, and construction of porches. The project also envisions the reconstruction of the heating and ventilation systems, water supply and sewage systems, power supply and interior lighting, as well as the installation of a fire protection system.

The old canteen building had dimensions of 10×15 meters. The new building is designed to measure 13×32 meters. It includes a vestibule, lobby, cloakroom, washroom, lavatories, a dining room for 60 people, a kitchen and washing-up area with utility zones, utility rooms for staff, food storage rooms, and a storeroom for inventory and crockery.

According to Hanna Proskurnycha, a leading specialist of the Department of Education, Culture, Tourism, Family, Youth, and Sports of the Ivanivka Village Council, the lyceum was partially renovated at the expense of benefactors during 2022-2023. These works included roof repairs, insulation of the premises, and the arrangement of shelter.

Restoration work began in September 2023. During implementation, the need for additional works was identified, and in June 2024, a tender was announced. The total cost of the restoration project exceeds UAH 20 million.

Additional work planned at the time of monitoring: installation of a thermal chamber for the external heating network, replacement of the insulation material in the foundation and basement walls, replacement of wooden door blocks with metal-plastic ones. The scope also included the arrangement of the food unit and the installation of a water filtration and softening system. For people with physical disabilities, a lift was planned instead of a reinforced concrete ramp.

The lyceum includes inclusive classrooms. Some accessibility requirements have already been met, such as installation of a ramp and wide doorways suitable for wheelchair access etc. However, accessibility improvement works were still ongoing.

The plan provides for a reinforced concrete ramp and a vertical lift. Entrance door width is projected to exceed 90 cm, and doorsteps are planned to be less than 2 cm high. Transparent doors will have contrasting markings to improve visibility showing that inclusion has been thoroughly considered.

“The team from the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO monitored 13 social infrastructure facilities. In our opinion, the Ivanivka Lyceum is the most large-scale project. The building is being restored almost from ruins, while also being significantly improved in terms of energy efficiency, inclusion, and safety,” noted Anastasiia Motsak, a monitoring expert.

With a PV system – but no shelter access for people in wheelchairs



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: March–June 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 10

The Irpin Lyceum “Mriya” (formerly School No. 17) now operates with a rooftop photovoltaic electricity system, yet none of its three available shelters are accessible to people in wheelchairs⁴.

This is the largest educational institution in Irpin and was heavily damaged in March 2022. Earlier that year, in February, the school served as a shelter for many residents. Later, meals were cooked in the school canteen for those who remained in the city and contributed to its recovery after de-occupation.

Reconstruction began immediately after the liberation of the Kyiv region. However, as the building was originally constructed according to a standard Soviet-era design, accessibility has barely improved. Stairs begin right at the entrance lobby, and the building lacks elevators or accessible restrooms.

At the time of monitoring, the school with more than 2,700 students had three small shelters, which was insufficient to accommodate all students simultaneously.

However, in autumn 2023, a rooftop PV station with energy storage systems was installed. With a capacity of 20 kW, it can provide electricity for 3–5 hours during outages. According to the Director, it is expected to cover up to 35% of the school’s annual electricity needs.

Energy efficiency is an essential aspect of recovery, but it should not be the only focus. Therefore, the NGO experts have prepared accessibility improvement recommendations⁵ for the school.

⁴ Current repair works to arrange a shelter at the facility: Irpin Secondary School No. 17 (Mriya). Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=3011>

⁵ Reconstruction monitoring: School “Mriya”. Source: <https://bit.ly/48yws66>

A RAMP WITH A PROPER SLOPE



Movement around the territory is comfortable, no barriers are present, but the surface-level pedestrian crossing in front of the entrance to the facility is complicated by the lack of a curb ramp.

The entrance is almost same level with the external territory, but there is a slight height difference.



One of the entrances is marked with the international symbol of accessibility. There is a sloped platform that reduces the height difference, but it is too short and does not allow independent entrance or exit.

Reconstruction can't wait



Implementing party: Against Corruption NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/26>

Region of implementation: Bashtanka community in the Mykolaiv region

Implementation period: June–August 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 14

Throughout the entire project implementation period in 2024, the expert team of Against Corruption NGO conducted monitoring of 14 social infrastructure sites in the Bashtanka district of the Mykolaiv region.

Three of the sites had to be revisited due to failure to meet construction timelines, while access to conduct a visual inspection was denied at two other facilities by the management. Further attempts to gain access were unsuccessful.

The reconstruction monitoring revealed a direct correlation between funding sources and the percentage of completed reconstruction works: Projects funded by international donors were completed 100%, while those financed by state or local budgets averaged around 60% completion. Most of the monitored facilities are of high social importance to local communities.

Nevertheless, during the preparation of all 14 projects, public opinion on the feasibility of reconstruction was not considered. This problem persisted even though the Comprehensive Reconstruction Plan⁶ was under review at that point of time. As a result, poor communication and the closed nature of local authorities in determining the priorities for reconstruction and selecting contractors during the construction stages led to rumors and confusion.

The materials published by the organization regarding the poor quality of reconstruction by the authorities led to public outrage over the unscrupulous reconstruction and sparked people's interest in oversight. At the same time, experts noted instances where compensation payments under the eVidnovlennia (eRecovery) program exceeded the actual cost of the damages. This means that commissions or working groups are not accurately calculating compensation for destroyed and damaged property. As Socrates once said: "Let him who would move the world first move himself."

Transparency or no transparency

Monitoring results revealed that no documentation explaining how donor funds

⁶ Comprehensive reconstruction program for the Bashtanka municipal territorial community in the Bashtanka district of the Mykolaiv region. Source: <https://bashtanskao-gov.ua/documents/clzawgc4huy1908807t96jtjr>

were allocated was made publicly available. This issue was particularly evident during the inspection of the construction of a shelter with anti-radiation elements at the Bashtanka Lyceum No. 1, funded by UNICEF. Moreover, another anti-radiation shelter was being constructed nearby – initially with state funds, but eventually supported again by UNICEF. Whether this led to duplicated funding from state and donor sources remains unclear.

This case highlights the urgent need to implement open data policies as a cross-cutting requirement in all recovery projects, both for donors and state and local public authorities.

When it comes to the restoration or reconstruction of facilities using state funds, there is actually more transparency, but again, information is often incomplete and published with delays, or simply duplicated from Prozorro onto the DREAM platform.

Another systemic challenge, as noted by the NGO in its publications⁷, is the role of the contractors and financing. The “splitting” of budget over several years, frequent changes of construction teams or even contractors, and inflated prices for materials only exacerbate an already dire situation. In some cases, construction sites remained inactive for months despite existing plans. One vivid example is the construction of a new treatment facility at the Bashtanka Hospital, funded from the state budget⁸, which remained stuck at the preparatory stage for a whole year.

As for educational institutions, at the time of monitoring, three lyceums in the Bashtanka community were undergoing reconstruction, with completion scheduled for the end of 2025. However, none of the design plans included the construction of shelters despite their critical need in educational institutions across the Mykolaiv region.

Conclusions and recommendations

To summarize, reliable data on damage and destruction and stakeholder engagement are key to effective recovery decision-making. Some stakeholders may also have corrupt motives to overestimate the scale of destruction. For example, citizens may exaggerate the extent of damage to their homes to receive larger compensation. Local authorities may inflate destruction levels to secure more subsidies for their regions or justify building new infrastructure instead of restoring existing facilities. The use of unqualified assessors or inadequate methodologies can lead to both overestimations and underestimations of damage.

⁷ “Murakhivka Lyceum: reconstruction after shelling or irrational spending?”. August 13, 2024. Source: <https://protucor.com/murakhivs%CA%B9kyylitsey/>

⁸ “Reconstruction monitoring: what has (not) been done at the Bashtanka Multi-disciplinary Hospital?”. August 6, 2024. Source: <https://protucor.com/bashtanskalikarnya/>

To avoid these situations in the future, it is important to:

- establish clear mechanisms and strategies: each region should set up a system of measurable and transparent long-term goals with performance indicators for the regional recovery process;
- ensure financial transparency: publish detailed reports on donor and state fund expenditures; implement independent audits of financial flows and project results;
- communicate with the public and ensure access to information for stakeholders: engage communities in recovery prioritization processes and establish feedback platforms;
- provide quality data on destruction and damage: use advanced damage assessment methods, engage qualified specialists, and conduct independent audits;
- ensure the effectiveness and transparency of recovery processes: avoid duplication of funding and ensure control over expenses and the work of contractors, and conduct regular quality checks of works performed.

Rising from the rubble: Rebuilding the "Pinocchio" Kindergarten in Borodianka



Implementing party: Women in Ukraine NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/25>

Region of implementation: Bucha, Hostomel, and Borodianka communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June–August 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 7



"Pinocchio" Kindergarten in Borodianka, Kyiv region

Do you remember fairy tales about miraculous turnarounds? One of those stories happened in the Ukrainian town of Borodianka, which suffered heavily from the Russian aggression. The "Pinocchio" Kindergarten⁹, once filled with the joyful children's laughter, was almost completely destroyed during the Russian invasion. The blast wave demolished the façade, shattered all windows, and caused the roof to collapse inward – as if a giant book had closed on a terrifying page. At first glance, the facility seemed beyond repair. But thanks to collective efforts, solidarity, and the belief in recovery, the "Pinocchio" has reopened its doors to the children of Borodianka.

This story is more than just another piece about reconstruction. It is a symbol of

⁹ Renovation of the Borodianka combined preschool (nursery-kindergarten) "Buratino" (now "Pinocchio") Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=22591>

hope, proving that even in the most difficult times, people can do miracles. As a result of the joint efforts of the community, benefactors, and international organizations, this magical world of childhood has risen from the rubble.

As part of the reconstruction monitoring, experts from Women in Ukraine NGO visited the site, documented the reconstruction stages, and interviewed local authorities, educators, and parents. The goal was not only to track the progress of construction but also to assess whether the restored facility meets the real needs of children and teachers.

The “Pinocchio” recovery process itself became a model of charity and professionalism. Every stage was carefully planned and coordinated. Construction teams worked without days off to bring the kindergarten back to life as quickly as possible. Special attention was paid to safety: new utility systems were installed, a modern shelter was built, and all materials complied with the highest quality standards.



“Pinocchio” Kindergarten in Borodianka, Kyiv region

Thanks to the support of donors such as Project HOPE, GER 3, the Central Project Management Agency of the Republic of Lithuania, NEFCO, the “Vidvazhnykh” Charitable Foundation, and the World Wind Energy Association (WWEA), as well as contributions from ordinary citizens, the reconstruction of the “Pinocchio” Kindergarten became possible.

One particularly touching story came from the city of Kloten, Switzerland, whose

residents raised UAH 1 million to equip the kindergarten's shelter. This act became a shining symbol of international solidarity and support for Ukraine.

The restoration of "Pinocchio" was not merely about rebuilding what was lost. It was about creating a modern and inclusive space for learning and development of each child. The renovation placed special emphasis on inclusivity. The building is now fully accessible to children and adults with disabilities. Doorways, corridor widths, and absence of doorsteps allow for barrier-free wheelchair movement. A tracked stair lift was installed to enable access in wheelchairs between floors (the facility has two floors and a basement shelter) – even in the absence of an elevator. All informational signs are duplicated in Braille. A barrier-free restroom and other adapted facilities enhance accessibility to all children.

However, representatives of the Women in Ukraine NGO had some minor comments regarding inclusivity. At the time of the visit, the ramp was not equipped with handrails. This need was brought to the attention of the facility's administration.

The building is insulated with 200 mm thick mineral wool, double-glazed windows have been installed, and the roof and attic have been insulated. The installation of 12 kW solar panels and batteries has significantly reduced electricity consumption and made the facility more environmentally friendly. This not only reduces utility costs, but also teaches children the importance of caring for the environment.



"Pinocchio" Kindergarten in Borodianka, Kyiv region. Source: Ministry of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine

Looking to the future: the story of Makariv museum restoration in Kyiv region



Implementing party: Territory Development Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/23>

Region of implementation: Makariv community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 12



Vitalii Hedz, historical expert and local historian, director of the Makariv Museum of Local History¹⁰

The Makariv Museum of Local History¹¹ has a legacy spanning more than half a century. Despite intense combat operations and occupation in 2022, the only cultural and educational hub in the community survived and has now reopened to the public.

The Museum's director, Vitalii Hedz, recalls that the institution was established in November 1967. Before the full-scale war, it hosted tours and lectures.

On March 12, 2022, the building sustained damage. On this day, the occupiers shelled the Makariv community with Grad multiple rocket launchers. Windows and doors were blown out. Repair works began in October, and by May of the following year, the museum opened

¹⁰ Makariv Museum of Local History. Source: https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1413218307475287&set=pb.100063613928634.-2207520000&type=3&locale=uk_UA

¹¹ Current renovation of the administrative building of the administrative premises of the Municipal institution "Center for culture and education 'Makariv Museum of Local History'", Makariv. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=113539>

its doors again. The facility restoration project was not selected through a competitive process.

"There was no one to compete with, because the museum is one of a kind here. Schoolchildren and local residents needed a cultural institution, so the decision to restore it was and still is relevant. It was reasonable to reopen the museum for schoolchildren and preschoolers," explained Vitaliy Hedz.

Today, the museum's exhibition spans the history of the Makariv area – from the earliest people to the events of February–March 2022. The museum staff continuously update the displays with artifacts from the ongoing war. Tours and lectures have resumed.

The windows and doors in the building were renovated, but at the time of monitoring, the roof had not yet been repaired; although a restoration design had been developed.

However, the principle of "build back better" was not followed. According to findings by experts from the Territory Development Agency NGO, at the time of monitoring, the building did not meet accessibility standards: no ramps; no hazard markers; no tactile accessibility indicators; doorways narrower than 90 cm. It should be noted that the outdoor area (entryway width, sidewalk, and curb height) met these standards.

In terms of energy efficiency, there was no external insulation on the walls or roof. There are even cracks running through the walls. Moisture enters the premises through the damaged roof and destroys the ceiling. The building lacks a heating system.

Work on accessibility and energy efficiency was not carried out due to budget constraints. Repairs were conducted quickly, with the goal of reopening the museum and resuming excursions for children as soon as possible. Mr Hedz dreams that one day the museum will undergo major repairs and the exhibition space will be expanded. There are many artifacts, but too little room to display them.

The Museum's capital repair plan is now part of the community's Comprehensive Recovery Program. The asset holder has submitted a grant application to raise funds for the reconstruction.

"In a few years," Hedz continues, "our staff hopes to see the museum not only recognized in Ukraine but internationally. We want Makariv to be home to a modern museum that meets all international standards – with sufficient exhibition space, because there is a lot to tell." The Makariv community stood in the way of the occupiers' advance on Kyiv and endured the fiercest fighting and occupation.



Experts from the Territory Development Agency NGO during the monitoring of the Makariv Museum of Local History.

New outpatient clinic in a new location: a story from the Chernechchyna community in Sumy region



Implementing party: Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/28>

Region of implementation: Okhtyrka community (Sumy region), Lubny, Dykanka, and Nekhvoroshcha communities (Poltava region)

Implementation period: June–September 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 10



Construction of an outpatient clinic in the village of Khukhra, Chernihiv region¹²

Every community in the Sumy region has its own tragic chapter of destruction caused by the war. In March 2022, the old outpatient clinic in Khukhra village in the Chernechchyna community was completely destroyed by the enemy's strike. For some time, health care services to residents of surrounding villages were temporarily provided in the local community center.

In October 2023, through a partnership between the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and the World Health Organization, a modular clinic was installed in the village¹³.

¹² Monitoring the construction of an outpatient clinic in the village of Khukhra. Post on the Facebook page of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO. Source: <https://bit.ly/4oXhnRe>

¹³ A new modular clinic has been installed on the site of the outpatient clinic destroyed by the Russians in the Sumy region. Source: <https://moz.gov.ua/uk/na-misci-zrujnovanoi-rosijanami-ambulatorii-na-sumschini-vstanovleno-novu-modulnu-kliniku>

At the same time, site preparation began for a brand-new outpatient clinic on a different plot of land.

The aim of this new facility was to address one of the community's most urgent needs: restoring access to essential healthcare services despite the challenges of the full-scale war. By spring 2024, the cornerstone for the new building was laid in the village of Khukhra.

The new health care facility¹⁴ construction project immediately drew the attention of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO as a unique and socially significant case. The construction was funded through the UNITED24 fundraising platform, and the project aimed to become a showcase of transparency and accountability demonstrating to all Ukrainian benefactors that every donated hryvnia is used in line with the “build back better” principle.

During summer 2024, the Center's team made their first monitoring visit. According to monitoring expert Mariia Bohdanova, by that time the walls had been built, floors had been laid, and the surrounding territory had been partially landscaped. However, the building still lacked a roof and internal utilities.

“We visited the site multiple times, observed and recorded the steady progress. At every stage, we received full information from the local authorities and the contractor. Building an outpatient clinic in the village of Khukhra is a true recovery success story, because this project was fully implemented during a full-scale invasion: from the moment of destruction



and the first steps of reconstruction to the opening,” says monitoring expert Mariia Bohdanova.

Construction of an outpatient clinic in the village of Khukhra, Chernihiv region¹⁵

¹⁴ The new construction of the health care and social assistance institution of outpatient type of general family medicine in the village of Khukhra, Okhtyrka district, Sumy region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=791>

¹⁵ Monitoring the construction of an outpatient clinic in the village of Khukhra. Post on the Facebook page of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO. Source: <https://bit.ly/4oXhnRe>

The team of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO continued its monitoring of the next project stage which launched in autumn of 2024. By that time, the facility had a completed roof, electrical and water supply systems, and ongoing installation of the heating system. At the end of December, monitoring expert Mariia Bohdanova visited the construction site again. The clinic already had some furniture delivered, territory improvement works were in progress, and heating system commissioning preparations were underway.

“It’s incredibly rewarding to see such an important facility coming to life. The new outpatient clinic will offer rural residents access to quality healthcare in a modern, inclusive space. It will be equipped with advanced medical equipment, enabling on-site diagnosis and treatment for residents of Khukhra and Lutyshche starosta districts of the Chernechchyna community,” says Mariia Bohdanova.

The team of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO noted the local authorities’ interest in monitoring the project. The Chernechchyna community submitted the construction project to the DREAM ecosystem and organized a public discussion during the preparatory stage.

Key findings from the monitoring of the outpatient clinic construction in the village of Khukhra:

- final cost of construction by contractor Rembudharant LLC was UAH 20.7 million, which is lower than initially expected;
- no significant overpricing of materials or services was identified by the team of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO during document review;
- the facility complies with energy efficiency requirements. All walls are insulated with mineral wool, and the ceiling is also insulated, which improves sound insulation. The slopes are insulated using frost protection technology, and mineral wool covers the entire area of the slopes;
- the facility meets accessibility requirements for people with disabilities. The outpatient clinic has tactile paving, threshold-free floors, and tactile stickers on the doors and signs. The building is single-story and has no stairs, so there is no need to install ramps. There is an information sign with Braille at the entrance to the premises. There is a toilet room equipped for use by people with physical disabilities.

Can the construction of the new outpatient clinic in the Khukhra village be called a success story of Ukraine’s recovery? The monitoring team of the Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO confidently answers: “Yes!”

Restoring the “Kozachok” Kindergarten in Bucha: fast, transparent, effective but accessibility gaps remain



Implementing party: Women in Ukraine NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/28>

Region of implementation: Bucha, Hostomel, and Borodianka communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: September–November 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 8



Tetiana Morozhenko, director of the “Kozachok” kindergarten (Bucha, Kyiv region), and Tetiana Dolishna, head of the Women in Ukraine NGO¹⁶



Destruction at the kindergarten “Kozachok” during the occupation in 2022¹⁷

As part of the monitoring initiative on the reconstruction of educational institutions in the Kyiv region, the team from the Women in Ukraine NGO visited the “Kozachok” kindergarten in

¹⁶ Monitoring of the kindergarten “Kozachok”. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/womeninukraine/posts/pfbid0pFkSdsuB6Srihiw8aWY-W2A4dMH5C1SrWr1zaCZLHzLPqdpC-GUTSqeMYogGohpdvdl>

¹⁷ Monitoring of the kindergarten “Kozachok”. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/womeninukraine/posts/pfbid0pFkSdsuB6Srihiw8aWY-W2A4dMH5C1SrWr1zaCZLHzLPqdpCGUTSqeMYogGohpdvdl>

Bucha – the largest preschool facility in the town. Before the full-scale invasion, it served 340 children.

During the combat operations and occupation in February–March 2022, the building and surrounding area suffered extensive damage due to shelling and explosions. The roof was perforated, the windows were shattered; a wall in one of the classrooms was pierced by a blast.

After Bucha's liberation, the staff and local authorities quickly mobilized to eliminate the damage caused by the enemy.

The damaged parts of the preschool facility were repaired, the roof was completely replaced and insulated, and the drainpipes were replaced. Twenty-one new windows and three new doors were installed to replace the damaged ones. The classroom with the pierced wall was fully renovated.



The restoration work was financed with the support of international donors. The Taiwanese government allocated funds to replace the roof, while the Volkshilfe NGO from Austria financed the replacement of windows.

Civil protection shelter repairs were covered by the local budget. Volunteers from the B50 Volunteer Community transformed 200 square meters of a dark basement with bare walls into a safe space for children. They primed and then painted the walls with cheerful children's stories and covered the floor with linoleum.

Shelter in the kindergarten "Kozachok" (Bucha, Kiev region)

Although the project was primarily technical (roof, doors, windows), public engagement was not relevant. However, public opinion was taken into account in the facility design stage. Parents and staff participated in cleanup and early restoration activities. “The contractor regularly asked for our opinion on the renovation and consulted with the staff,” says Tetiana Morozhenko, director of the kindergarten “Kozachok”. On September 22, 2022, the children returned to their kindergarten.

The surrounding area of the building largely meets accessibility requirements: sidewalks are sufficiently wide (over 1.2 m), and the entrance opening exceeds 0.9 m, providing convenient and safe access for people with disabilities. The entrance is equipped with a ramp with handrails and a wide turning platform, but its slope probably exceeds the recommended 5 degrees.

There are limited accessibility features inside the building. Doorways are wide enough, but thresholds and narrow corridors restrict free movement. The lack of Braille signage prevents people with visual impairments from navigating the building independently.

The building also lacks an elevator or other alternative to stairs, making the upper floors inaccessible. Given the structural constraints on installing an elevator, options such as a mechanical or inclined stairlift should be considered. Also, the lack of a barrier-free restroom is a significant obstacle for visitors with disabilities.

An inspiring example. Reconstruction of Gymnasium No. 34 in Chernihiv



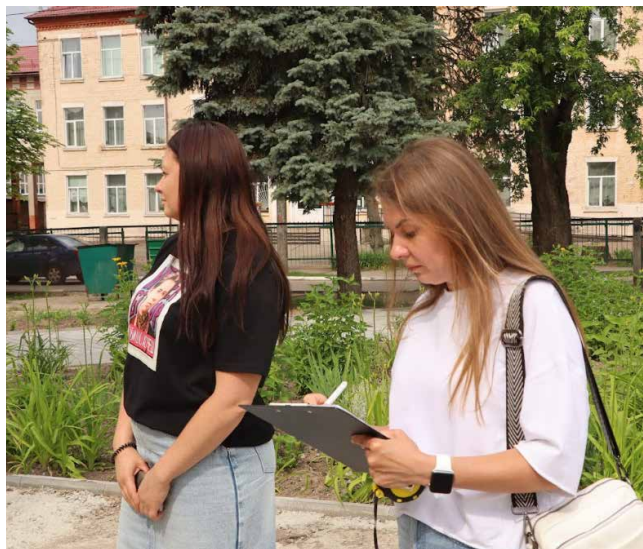
Implementing party: Urban Initiatives Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/18>

Region of implementation: Chernihiv and Mykhailo-Kotsiubynske communities in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 13



Tetiana Romanova (left) and Iryna Vorokh (right) from the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO during a monitoring visit

Gymnasium No. 34 in Chernihiv¹⁸ was significantly damaged during the active phase of military hostilities. Shell fragments struck the corner of the building, shattered windows, and damaged a vocational training classroom.

The reconstruction was made possible through a joint effort by the state, the local community, and international partners. According to the monitoring results from the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO, the Gymnasium has now become a model of modern, inclusive, and energy-efficient educational space.

Over UAH 11 million was allocated from state and local budgets for repairs. The local budget provided UAH 1.9 million for the construction of a protective shelter. An additional UAH 2 million was contributed by the Swiss-Ukrainian project DECIDE. Through support from the international agency ACTED, the school received new heating radiators, LED lighting, furniture and equipment, and a hygiene room for girls and children with special educational needs.

¹⁸ Construction of a shelter at the Chernihiv School No. 24. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=10093>

“Gymnasium No. 34 is an example of a high-quality renovation project with a special focus on inclusivity and energy efficiency,” says Iryna Vorokh, a monitoring expert at the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO.

What was done as part of the renovation:

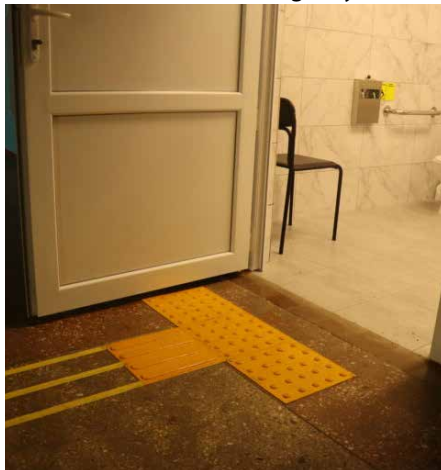
- major repairs of restrooms, water supply and sewage systems;
- repair of the ventilation system;
- installation of a backup power supply system for the kitchen and shelter;
- repairs of the roof and heating system;
- replacement of windows and restoration of the damaged corner of the building;
- water supply and sanitary engineering works.

Overall, the educational institution has created a fully accessible environment: inclusive restrooms, shelters with lifts, ramps compliant with national building codes, call buttons, high-contrast navigation, tactile paving, Braille signage, and a resource room on the first floor with a separate entrance.

Even the smallest details were taken into account: non-slip asphalt on the schoolyard, lowered curbs, tilted mirrors in restrooms, handrails at different heights, doorways of appropriate width for wheelchair access.

The gymnasium also meets high energy efficiency standards: insulation, solar panels, individual heating units, double-glazed windows, renovated ventilation system, and LED lamps.

“Thanks to joint efforts, the facility has not only been completely renovated, but also adapted to modern standards of safety, energy efficiency, and inclusivity,” emphasized Tetiana Romanova, executive director of the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO.



Housing cooperative – a guarantee of more effective reconstruction in Borodianka



Implementing party: Housing Cooperative Council in the Kyiv Region NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/46>

Region of implementation: Bucha, Borodianka and Hostomel communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of monitored facilities: 12

The building at 2 Semashka Street¹⁹, located in war-torn Borodianka, like many others, suffered significant damage in March 2022.



Residential building at 2 Semashka Street, Borodianka, Kyiv region. After the occupation

The residents of this building learned about their inclusion in the reconstruction project under the UNITED 24 procedure only after the fact.

“When our buildings were included in the reconstruction project under the experimental procedure and UNITED 24, we were very happy because we hoped for a rapid restoration of our homes under the “build back better” concept announced by the state,” says Nataliia Zhovner, a representative of the Borodianka-based public organization DOBRO. “But unfortunately, the reconstruction was neither fast nor transparent.”

¹⁹ Major repairs of a residential building: 2 Semashka Street in Borodianka. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=1013>

According to Zhovner, during the initial inspection of the buildings, no one communicated with the co-owners, and people were not informed about what would happen next or what the procedure entailed. This led to inaccurate data being included in technical reports (for example, it was claimed that all apartments had individual gas heating, which was not true). The residents were very hopeful that a heating system would be installed, but it turned out that this was not included in the reconstruction project.

The building did not have a housing cooperative, and when people tried to make changes to the reconstruction project or talk to the representatives of a contracting authority, nothing worked out because everyone represented only their own interests, not the interests of the entire building. "This prompted us to establish a housing cooperative during the reconstruction process, which helped us unite and submit necessary proposals to the project and defend the co-owners' interests," said Oksana Nedashkivska, head of the housing cooperative "Semashka, 2."

During monitoring of the building on Semashka Street in Borodianka, the ROKO NGO recorded the following completed works:

- replacement of 2 elevators and backup power units;
- insulation of the technical floors and basement;
- replacement of windows and balconies;
- replacement of internal building electric cables and switchboards on stairwells;
- installation of LED-lamps with motion sensors;
- reinforcement of floor slabs;
- Insulation of the façade and basement of the building, etc.

The building is located on a flat surface, which generally does not complicate access for people in wheelchairs.

The working project included requirements for barrier-free access for people with limited mobility, including installation of ramps at building entrances with tactile paving and stair markings. All these works were completed.

55% of apartments have individual gas heating. However, during the detailed technical inspection in 2022, specialists failed to document the absence of individual gas heating in the remaining 45%, which was noted in the report mentioned above.

"Owners of around 45% of the apartments use electric devices for heating, which are not classified as electric heating systems. This is a serious problem, as maintaining an appropriate temperature balance in residential premises is not only

a regulatory requirement, but also key to preserving the building's energy efficiency, that's preserving heat which depends on some form of autonomous or individual heating," says Oksana Nedashkivska, head of the housing cooperative "Semashka, 2."



Residential building at 2 Semashka Street, Borodianka, Kyiv region. After restoration

The insulation of the external walls and basement of the building complies with energy efficiency standards and should contribute to heat retention in the building.

Unfortunately, the reconstruction project did not provide for increasing the diameter of the gas pipes on the façade or boosting the capacity of the building's electric cable in line with the changes adopted when the project was developed by the Borodianka municipal council in 2023.

In late 2023, during the reconstruction, the co-owners established a housing cooperative, and prioritized the issue of increasing the electrical capacity of the building to enable the installation of individual heating in 45% of the apartments. The board of the housing cooperative "Semashka, 2" is now actively addressing this issue and is in direct communication with contractors and the local council.

Shared problems and challenges can bring people together. During the reconstruction process, establishing a housing cooperative has proven to be a crucial tool for influencing the housing recovery.

Transparent reconstruction in Kremenchuk.

Vocational School No. 26



Implementing party: Divergent Woman NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/45>

Region of implementation: Kremenchuk and Poltava communities of the Poltava region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10



Vocational School No. 26 after shelling

On June 27, 2022, at around 4 p.m., the Russian army struck the Amstor shopping center with an X-22 missile. The attack damaged Vocational School No. 26²⁰ in Kremenchuk, breaking windows and damaging frames, as well as causing cracks in the walls and ceiling.

The school administration wasted no time and took the initiative into their hands. The following day, priority work began: cracks were filled, windows were covered with temporary film, and the area was cleaned up to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Then, the main phase of restoration began. The Poltava Regional Council allocated UAH 620,000 from its reserve fund for the restoration. All procurements were made through the transparent Prozorro platform under competitive bidding conditions. The first tender procurement did not take place due to the supplier's refusal, but the next one was successful. Three reputable and experienced companies participated in the

²⁰ Restoration of Vocational School No. 26, Kremenchuk. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=204529>



bidding process²¹, which guaranteed the quality of the work and fair competition. A total of 162,955 m² of metal-plastic windows, 66.07 m of window ledges, 60.56 m of window sills, and 21.33 square meters of mosquito nets were replaced. The work was completed in November 2022.

It is worth emphasizing the openness and close cooperation between the administration of Vocational School No. 26 and the project monitoring team. All documents, including premises inspection reports, work completion reports, and financial statements, were provided without delay. This enabled the experts to thor-

oughly verify that the actual work complied with the contract.

The installed metal-plastic windows, insulating glass units, window sills and ledges fully complied with all technical standards. The monitoring project experts confirmed that the replacement of the metal-plastic windows, insulating glass units, window sills and ledges was performed to a high standard and in compliance with the technical documentation. The monitoring revealed no violations or misuse of funds, and the procurement process was transparent.

This facility is a striking example of how a transparent reconstruction system can be established, even under difficult wartime conditions. Open communication, compliance with legislation, and control at every stage enabled the educational institution to swiftly resume operations, fostering trust between the authorities and the community.

²¹ Information about the tender for metal and plastic products. Source: https://auCTIONS.prozorro.gov.ua/tenders/a745f2c08167469b812cf2da7d99d921_6a78de3c58bbe857a6385e6a07864249



A new shelter at Vocational School No. 26 in Kremenchuk



Wheelchair stairlift in the shelter at Vocational School No. 26 in Kremenchuk

Turning a basement into a shelter: How a medical facility in Mykolaiv became an example of efficient reconstruction



Implementing party: Against Corruption NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/26>

Region of implementation: Voznesensk and Pervomaisk districts of the Mykolaiv region, Prybuzhzhia, Oleksandrivka, and Voznesensk communities

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 23



Underground shelter at the Primary Health Center No. 4 in Mykolaiv

Of the 23 reconstruction sites in the Mykolaiv region and the Beryslav district (Kherson region) monitored by the Against Corruption NGO in 2025, only two can be considered “successful examples of reconstruction”. One such example is the basement of the Mykolaiv Primary Health Center No. 4²², which was previously unfit to use. Today, it is a warm and comfortable space, although it only partially provides barrier-free access.

While monitoring the reconstruction, the Anti-Corruption NGO team often encountered obstacles, but here it was the opposite. The deputy mayor of Mykolaiv gladly accompanied the visits, and the head of the healthcare facility was open to cooperation. Moreover, he acknowledged shortcomings and was ready to improve conditions.

During the monitoring visit, the director of the healthcare facility personally gave a tour of the shelter. The shelter has rooms for resting and leisure. They are preparing

²² Ongoing repairs and arrangement of shelters at the Municipal Non-Commercial Enterprise of the Mykolaiv City Council Primary Health Center No. 4 Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=244829>

an area for reading and drinking tea. The walls and floors have been refurbished, the lighting is high-quality, and banners in the photo zone enhance the atmosphere.

“It used to be just a workshop. Now it’s nice and cozy, and it will get even better. We’re going to buy herbal tea, a microwave, and books. We recently found large tables for leisure and conferences at a reasonable price. The shelter is becoming a place where patients can not only take shelter, but also relax comfortably,” said director Serhii Vasylovych.

An important element was the approach to energy supply. They installed new metal-plastic doors and energy-saving lamps, and set up a separate electrical control panel. Additionally, the shelter was equipped with an 8 kW diesel generator, allowing the facility to operate during power outages. Unfortunately, the issue of accessibility was only partially resolved at the time of monitoring. While the medical facility itself has a ramp, an accessible elevator, a call button, and tactile navigation tools, the shelter does not yet have a full-fledged stairlift for people with limited mobility. One was ordered, but due to a delay by the manufacturer, it was excluded from the estimate. The shelter also lacks restrooms specially equipped for people with limited mobility. However, management acknowledges this issue:

“We want all patients to feel comfortable and safe. The stairlift has already been ordered, and we are waiting for its installation. The situation with the restrooms is more complicated, but we are looking for a solution,” said the director.

Against Corruption NGO notes that it was essential for the project experts not only to assess the condition of the premises, but also to monitor the approaches to reconstruction. This includes evaluating whether the institution is open to cooperation, responds to requests, and informs the community. In this case, everything was at a high level.

The government representative and the facility director promptly answered all of the team’s questions. Additionally, the project and its relevant documents are publicly available in high quality, which is important as well²³. During the meeting, the director transparently commented on the current situation and invited the monitoring group back to show the implementation of the next stage.

Why this is a success story

This facility is an example of how reconstruction should be done: not only within the budget, but also with an understanding of people’s needs. There is a sincere desire to do better, and the facility is involved in reconstruction at all stages. It is not perfect, but there is systematic work, openness, and progress. This is more valuable than a “perfectly” executed work report.

²³ Primary Health Center No. 4 in Mykolaiv. Source: <https://prozorro.gov.ua/uk/tender/UA-2024-08-08-008047-a>

Reconstruction based on the principle of “just for the sake of appearance” in the Pervomaisk community



Implementing party: Against Corruption NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/26>

Region of implementation: Voznesensk and Pervomaisk districts of the Mykolaiv region, Prybuzhzhia, Oleksandrivka, and Voznesensk communities

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 23

The team from the Against Corruption NGO identified typical management mistakes in the Pervomaisk community in the Mykolaiv region that lead to unnecessary expenses and systemic violations.

Does the community have nothing to be proud of?

The choice of this community for monitoring was not accidental. For years, the simplification of legislation has been used here when conducting procurement. Needless to say, people here are not asked what they want built or renovated. However, this practice has recently begun to change, as an Office for Restoration and Development has been established.

But during a visit to the Pervomaisk community in June 2025, the Against Corruption experts quickly realized there would be no stories of reconstruction to delight readers. The authorities were clearly not eager to showcase successful projects. When the experts inquired about other facilities, they were met with a sharp response: “You will visit as many facilities as specified in your letter.” Nevertheless, the project experts were glad they had not come in vain and had seen something, at least.

Favorite schemes as examples of questionable reconstruction

Even before the visits, the most notable aspect was that almost every facility in the community had six to seven contracts with the contractors identified on the problem list and quite realistic prospects for additional expenses.

Instead of open tenders, authorities entered into direct contracts with local contractors. One contractor performed work both as an individual and as the founder of a legal entity. Using the example of substandard repairs for the Prestige Lyceum²⁴ and Primary School No. 11, experts assessed the quality of work performed by Power

²⁴ Prestige Lyceum in Pervomaisk: children took shelter, while investigators went to the contractor <https://protucor.com/4415-2/>



Bud, a company currently under criminal investigation.

According to the Against Corruption NGO, such practices call into question the transparency and quality of the reconstruction. Typically, contractors must redo the work of their predecessors.

Shelter at School No. 11, Pervomaisk



Shelter at the Prestige Lyceum, Pervomaisk

Inaccessible and dangerous: the community is not used to thinking about people

None of the shelters at educational institutions in Pervomaisk is adapted to people with limited mobility. Entrances and exits have obstacles, doors are narrow, and restrooms are not accessible.

At the same time, these institutions have inclusive classes, and some children have parents with disabilities. The experts experienced these inconveniences firsthand: during monitoring, one expert almost fell and scraped her

sneaker while walking to the Dyvohrai kindergarten shelter^{25 26}.

We are glad that at least one institution tried to provide accessibility: the kitchen at the Pervomaisk School No. 11²⁷ simulated accessibility with stickers. Although the passageways and entrance to this room are convenient, that is where the accessibility ends.

Ventilation and generators are another story. In almost all shelters, the generators provided by donors were not connected, even though funds had been allocated for such connections. In some institutions, the ventilation system will be redesigned because it does not function properly.

Key findings by the Against Corruption NGO

The Pervomaisk community has set a poor example in terms of both reconstruction and preparation. Public consultations were not held for the projects, meaning residents were not involved in the planning or evaluation processes. Because some repairs are not mentioned in strategic development documents, the selection of project priorities is also questionable. Decisions were made behind closed doors by agreement, creating conditions for abuse and mistakes.

Another interesting observation is that although the amounts spent on repairs are small, there are many violations. Hopefully, some of these mistakes will not be repeated in the future, as the community has started submitting projects to the DREAM platform. This may explain why the practice of complying with accessibility requirements has emerged, as it is important to the platform's experts and donors.

Therefore, it is necessary to improve communication between all stakeholders, particularly with international partners. However, we suspect this is not in the community's best interest. A representative of the authorities noted they are not ready to cooperate with grants and donors. Nevertheless, we hope that the Office for Restoration and Development will resolve these and other issues as it did in the neighboring Voznesensk community. Cooperation there has brought significant results.

²⁵ Food reform in education as an example of dishonest practices. June 30, 2025
Source: <https://protucor.com/4462-2/>

²⁶ Post about monitoring the shelter in the Dyvohrai kindergarten. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/shtabkr/posts/pfbid032UZRRLfSTZEs3tpFJnzKYfXgxSLTUKXckjin-f2j6X73gpFEFyNX8pzxffx2E7Vwbnl?rdid=np6U5lpE3Fo2Ph3r#>

²⁷ A hryvnia from each budget: Five contracts were signed at Pervomaisk School No. 11 to establish safe spaces for two institutions. June 20, 2025. Source: <https://protucor.com/pervomaysk/>

Michel Hazanavicius and other stars. How an Oscar-winning French film director rebuilt a house in Irpin



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 11



Residential building at 42 Davydchuk Street, Irpin, after restoration. Kyiv region

On a cool day in February 2023, the world-class director examined his surroundings: a two-story house burned to the ground with no windows or doors, a shrapnel-riddled fence, and a five-story building half-destroyed with several entrances. This was not a film set, however, but rather damaged buildings. Michel Hazanavicius, the 2011 Oscar winner for *The Artist*, visited Irpin to see the house at 42 Davydchuk Street²⁸ and speak with its residents. He launched a United24 fundraiser and organized a charity auction of movie stars' personal items to rebuild the building. Actor Tom Hanks donated a typewriter from his personal collection to the auction.

²⁸ Major repairs of a residential building: Irpin 42 Davydchuk Street Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=1176>

“Our building was damaged in the last days of the occupation of Irpin,” said Alo-na Drobotenko, a resident of the building. The building was 40% destroyed due to direct hits from incendiary shells. “The building was severely damaged,” said Anhelina Kurii, chair of the Zatyshna Domivka housing cooperative board, which maintains the building and surrounding area.

According to Ms. Kurii, the Russians completely destroyed the roof and the fifth floor. In some apartments, load-bearing walls and floor slabs were damaged, and windows were broken. All utilities were burned out: water, sewage, and gas. Without these utilities, it was impossible to live in the building, even temporarily. Before fleeing Irpin, the occupiers looted the building and broke down almost all of the apartment entrance doors.



Residential building at 42 Davydchuk Street, Irpin, after occupation. Kyiv region.

Michel Hazanavicius was struck by the energy and courage of the Irpin residents who returned home despite the significant destruction to their building and who remained optimistic.

They had reason to be optimistic. A lot had already been done by that point, and the support of a world-famous star bolstered their confidence that the apartments would once again be comfortable places to live.

Immediately after the de-occupation in spring 2022, one of the residents filmed the entire residential complex. The residents found out what had happened to their apartments and began returning to try to restore them on their own.

By summer 2022, the residents still had no clear plan for the building. Full-scale reconstruction required a plan and substantial funding. During the rains, the apartments flooded, and the walls became damp and deteriorated further. So, the residents began clearing away the remains of the burnt roof.

Industrial climbers from Alpcom provided invaluable assistance. Without them, it would have been difficult to cut away the burnt metal. Once the damaged roof was dismantled, a temporary tarpaulin cover was installed.

However, since water was still leaking in, the first challenge was to install a reliable, permanent roof. People donated money, raised funds through social media, and sought sponsors. The LCF Law Group helped install the new roof.

“We were able to raise UAH 4.1 million,” Anhelina Kurii recalls. “This money was enough to start the reconstruction.” Thanks to the funds raised, the residents installed a new roof by the beginning of spring 2023. Next came the reconstruction.

Although the local authorities had promised to restore the building, nothing happened until Michel Hazanavicius became the project’s ambassador. He raised EUR 125,000. Thanks to United24, a total of EUR 250,000 was raised for the building’s major renovation.

The residents formed an initiative group to discuss key aspects with contractors. The contractor also offered various material options and brought samples directly to the construction site so apartment owners could see and choose them.

“The foremen were very attentive to each apartment. They offered various options within the budget, and people made their choices. 99% of residents are very satisfied,” said Anhelina Kurii, chair of the Zatyishna Domivka housing association board.

The building’s load-bearing structures were restored, the metal roof structures were reinforced, and damaged walls, partitions, windows, and doors were replaced. Balconies were repaired, and the facade was restored. Communications and ventilation systems were also repaired. Everything was also repainted and plastered.

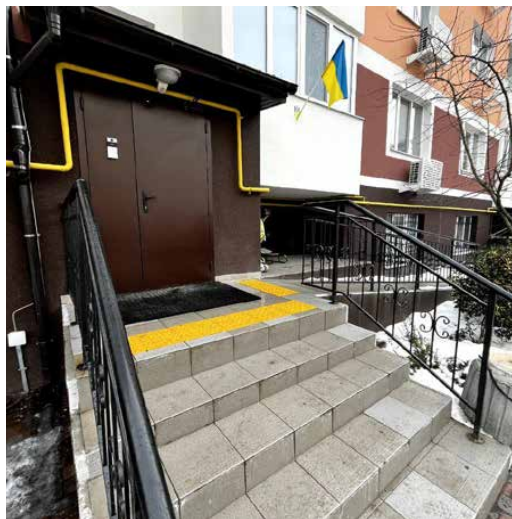
Michel Hazanavicius visited Irpin several more times to see how reconstruction was progressing.

Initially, they had hoped to finish all the work by the end of 2023. These were the terms specified in the agreement with the successful bidder. The project’s star ambassador and the residents hoped to celebrate Christmas and the New Year in the renovated building. However, the work was not completed until March 2024. The building was officially commissioned in July 2024.

The residents and the contractor worked together to make the building comfortable and cozy after reconstruction. However, the building's accessibility for people with disabilities has not fundamentally changed. The contractor installed tactile navigation tools for people with visual impairments on the existing ramps and stairs.

However, an inspection by the Brave Irpin NGO's monitoring group revealed that these navigation elements are of poor quality and create additional obstacles for wheelchair users. Old shortcomings remain as well: the ramps are too steep, the handrails do not extend the full length, and there are no canopies over the porches and ramps to protect them from precipitation. Therefore, it is difficult and

sometimes dangerous for people in wheelchairs to access the entrances without assistance.



Residential building at 42 Davydochuk Street, Irpin, after restoration. Kyiv region.

Thanks to the replacement of facade materials and windows, the building became more energy efficient after reconstruction.

Although residents did not get to spend Christmas 2023 in their rebuilt, cozy homes, Michel Hazanavicius was impressed by his visits to Ukraine. "You usually only see such heroic people in movies. But here, people behave like heroes. They're simple people with a sense of humor, without cinematic heroism," he told reporters.

Alona Drobotenko's story also inspired the Oscar-winning film director. She returned to her half-ruined house with her young daughter. The family witnessed all stages of the reconstruction process. Alona seems to have her own recipe for "non-cinematic heroism": "No matter how depressed we get, it won't bring back what has already happened. We can only pull ourselves together, rebuild, and work. Work for the future."

Rebuilt with love. The Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1, Hostomel community



Implementing party: Women in Ukraine NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/25>

Region of implementation: Chernihiv community of the Chernihiv region, Borodianka, Bucha and Hostomel communities of the Kyiv region

Implementation period: January–March 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10



The Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1, Hostomel community²⁹

The Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1 of the Hostomel community was previously an elementary school and a separate institution. Since 2019, it has operated as a branch of the Hostomel Gymnasium No. 1. The facility has a unique history of successful restoration following the region's liberation from Russian occupiers.

²⁹ Photo from the Facebook page of the Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1, Hostomel community. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=122162985254787170&set=pcb.122162985716787170>

During the active hostilities in the Kyiv region in February and March of 2022, 70% of the school building was destroyed. Approximately twenty strikes were recorded on the premises, three of which hit the building directly. The courtyard was dug up with deep craters. The explosion destroyed part of the wall on one side of the building, the porch, and all the windows and frames. The doors were completely blown out, the ceiling collapsed, and the roof was destroyed. The floor in two classrooms became elevated. The school was located on the front line, which explains why it was so severely destroyed.

The institution's director, Nataliia Roh, describes it as follows: "There was no occupation here, but the front line was very close. This meant that we were constantly living under the threat of shelling and fighting. The enemy was close, and we felt their presence daily. Tanks were on the streets, and the sounds of explosions and gunfire became familiar to us."



Entrance to the shelter of the Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1, Hostomel community³⁰

Nataliia Mykolaivna said that, at one point, there was simply no hope of restoring the building. This was due to the extent of the damage and the building's age — it's over 120 years old. However, the community actively participated in support-

³⁰ Post about monitoring the restoration of the Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1 Source: <https://www.facebook.com/womeninukraine/posts/pfbid02QrNkrTm-57moRAoQR19GJqKvDkj61GxkvFmkbtn7wmCRV23r2ZMvFct93WldYdUCvI>

ing the restoration process. They discussed this issue on various online platforms. People wanted to defend their village's only educational institution. Thanks to the joint efforts of volunteers, charitable organizations, and local authorities, the restoration project was implemented.

The total budget for restoring the facility was approximately UAH 3 million. Of this amount, UAH 300,000 from the local budget was allocated for restoring electricity, repairing utility rooms, and purchasing tiles for landscaping the surrounding area. District No. 1 Charitable Foundation replaced the roof. The GURTUM Charitable Foundation carried out renovation work and was also involved in the construction and equipping of the shelter. Thanks to funding from Greenpeace, solar panels were installed on the premises.

Classes at the Mostyshche branch began in September 2023. At that time, the shelter was already equipped. It is made of monolithic reinforced blocks and reinforced on the outside with an earth embankment. The shelter resembles a hobbit house. The painted walls inside also fully correspond to the design. Two small win-



dows adorn the exterior of the shelter. However, these are not ordinary windows; they are small cages for rabbits. The animals do not live there yet, but the director says they plan to take care of them in the future. The GURTUM Charitable Foundation proposed this design. The foundation was responsible for most of the restoration work on the educational institution.

Underground shelter of the Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1, Hostomel community³¹

31 Post about monitoring the restoration of the Mostyshche branch of Gymnasium No. 1 Source: <https://www.facebook.com/womeninukraine/posts/pfbid02QrNkrTm-57moRAoQR19GJqKvDkj61GxkvFmkb7wmCRV23r2ZMvFct93WLdYdUCvI>

It is important to note that the shelter serves as a space for various community activities for children during their free time. For example, there are creative workshops.

The school also has a new playground. It was relocated from the Hostomel Lyceum No. 2, which was completely destroyed by the Russians and cannot be repaired.

As part of the restoration project, the facility received double-glazed windows and a repaired and insulated roof. However, the roof and surrounding area lack a drainage system. Consequently, the rebuilt porch and the entire entrance area may eventually be damaged by water. This is a significant drawback.

To improve accessibility, all thresholds inside the building were removed. Since the building is one story and has a ramp near the entrance, it can be considered partially accessible. The ramp's angle does not comply with standards.

The facility is partially powered by solar panels.

At the time of monitoring, approximately 150 children were studying at the Mostyshche branch. Students from the destroyed Gymnasium No. 3 also study here. Classes are held in a mixed format because the shelter can accommodate only 50 people.

The community has a significant need to restore other destroyed educational institutions or build new ones. Unfortunately, this issue had not been resolved at the time of monitoring.

The project that failed to set an example for the rest of Ukraine. The village of Posad-Pokrovske, the Kherson region



Implementing party: Legal Development Network NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/39>

Region of implementation: Chornobaivka community of Kherson region

Implementation period: January—April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 13



The Legal Development Network team in the village of Posad-Pokrovske during a monitoring visit

The village of Posad-Pokrovske in the Chornobaivka community, the Kherson region, was first occupied for eight months and then remained on the line of demarcation. During this time, it was almost completely destroyed.

Of the 940 houses in the village, all were damaged, and more than half were destroyed. Before the war, more than 2,000 people lived here, but only a few dozen remained during the occupation and active hostilities.

As of spring 2025, approximately 800 people were living in the village, and more residents were returning, even though many of their homes were damaged or destroyed.

In 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers included the village on the list of settlements subject to comprehensive reconstruction. Unlike other villages and towns, this is not just about rebuilding a single school or hospital, but rather the complete restoration of the village.

These comprehensive reconstruction projects are experimental, and only six villages in Ukraine are included: Borodianka, Trostianets, Tsyrkuniv, Posad-Pokrovske, and Yahidne.

According to the CMU Resolution No. 382, the restoration of Posad-Pokrovske was scheduled for 2023 - 2025. However, it is unlikely that the project will be completed by the end of this year, as work has not yet begun on most of the sites. Mykola Boiko, First Deputy Head of the State Agency for Restoration and Infrastructure Development, wrote on his Facebook page that only 20% of the work is complete³². “Unfortunately, most of the 120 sites are only 20% complete,” he said, promising to speed up the work.

The Legal Development Network NGO (LDN) monitored the village’s restoration for almost a year.

Key problems in restoring Posad-Pokrovske

For its analysis, LDN relied on registry data, conducted interviews with residents and local government officials, and inspected facilities on site. The organization inspected four important social infrastructure facilities and ten private residential buildings.

Monitoring results

- **Reconstruction of the Village Council.** Construction cost: UAH 9.3 million. As of March 21, 2025, according to a response from the Infrastructure Restoration and Development Service in the Kherson region, no work had been carried out on this site, and the design and estimate documentation was still being developed.



Destroyed building of the Posad-Pokrovske Village Council. Photo as of May 2025.

³² Post about the restoration in Posad-Pokrovske. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/mykola.bojko/posts/pfbid0nz5p1QrkwrYYmQkquBDDVvnhNfhufk6qdWkQQVa-cY12SzAJsYThAd2gtMQFwXcCl>

- **Construction of a new outpatient clinic.** The cost of the facility is almost UAH 22 million. As of the end of May, the necessary procurements had been made, but construction had not begun. However, it is questionable whether the community actually needs a new outpatient clinic, given that the village already has a renovated one.
- **Construction of a Security Center.** The cost is nearly UAH 39 million. It will include a fire station, a medical aid station, administrative offices, and an emergency response area. LDN found a number of violations in the procurement process for the Security Center. For instance, the successful bidder is mentioned in criminal proceedings and enforcement cases. Additionally, the tender documentation for selecting the contractor included excessive requirements for equipment, personnel, and financial capacity of the future contractor, which could have limited the participation of other companies. The State Audit Service also detected instances of law violations.



*The site where the Security Center is to be built in the village of Posad-Pokrovske.
Photo as of May 2025.*

- **Restoration of the “Kindergarten – Lyceum” Educational Complex.** The project cost is UAH 640 million. The project involves constructing a new building and arranging educational and play areas, sports infrastructure, etc. As of May 2025, the project was in the stage of developing design and estimate documentation. Construction has not begun, and procurement has not been announced.
- **Renovation of private houses.** On the one hand, tenders have already been held for certain projects, and the successful bidders have been selected, meaning construction has begun. However, the LDN experts found that the community and its residents were minimally involved in discussions about

the village's restoration. They were also unaware of the criteria used to determine which houses would be restored. Second, over 30% of residents lack properly executed title documents and cannot participate in eRecovery and other compensation programs. This could be due to various reasons, ranging from the loss of documents due to hostilities to the absence of homes in electronic registers. Therefore, the LDN lawyers began helping such people restore their documents so they could receive housing from the state.



Damaged post office in the village of Posad-Pokrovske. Photo as of May 2025.

What's next?

By mid-2025, some projects were already underway. The project documentation was available for residential buildings. Procurements had been made and contractor agreements had been partially concluded. The State Audit Service monitored the procurement of the Security Center and the outpatient clinic. Development of design and estimate documentation for the kindergarten continued as well.

Ensuring community participation in the reconstruction of Posad-Pokrovske, transparent decision-making, and adherence to deadlines is critically important. The Posad-Pokrovske project shows that true recovery involves more than just physical construction. It also means restoring human rights and rebuilding trust between Ukrainians and their government. Successful reconstruction requires public monitoring, legal support, and effective communication.

The principles of barrier-free access have been almost entirely disregarded.

Residential building in Kharkiv



Implementing party: Urban Initiatives Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/51>

Region of implementation: Kharkiv City Community, Kharkiv region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 8



Apartment building at 267 Druzhby Narodiv Street, Kharkiv

In 2025, the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO monitored reconstruction in Kharkiv. They analyzed ten facilities, nine of which were apartment buildings being renovated within the budget. Numerous accessibility issues were identified; they were either completely ignored or implemented in a perfunctory manner that failed to meet even the most basic standards.

Most of the inspected buildings lacked ramps, widened entrances, and navigation tools that would be convenient for people with visual or mobility impairments. In some cases, the installed ramps were too steep or required assistance to use. There were no call buttons or contrasting markings, and some entrances remained inaccessible.

The apartment building at 267 Druzhby Narodiv Street in Kharkiv is a clear example of the lack of a unified approach to ensuring accessibility during housing renovation.

Only one of this building's entrances has a modern, convenient ramp. The situation with the other entrances is significantly different: some have no ramp at all, while others have outdated metal structures that have sagged and rusted over time and have not been replaced. The difference in how basic accessibility elements are installed is surprising. How did such different solutions end up being used in the same building? Most likely, it is because a person in a wheelchair lives at this entrance and needs a ramp.



The only entrance in the building at 267 Druzhby Narodiv Street in Kharkiv, where a ramp has been installed.

This case clearly demonstrates a systemic problem: barrier-free access in residential buildings is not yet considered standard practice. Often, implementation depends on the activity of residents, the technical capabilities of the housing cooperative, or the subjective decisions of contractors.

However, ramps and other accessibility features must automatically be included in the project documentation when construction is funded by budget funds or as part of donor-funded restoration projects.

The situation at this building, where each entrance has a different accessibility solution, or no solution at all, proves that, even when requirements are formally met, the result can be inconsistent and discriminatory. Although it's one building, the conditions for residents are completely different. It's not just about comfort; it's about equal rights.

Restoration of the Trostianets hospital: a success story



Implementing party: Community Development and Cooperation Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/28>

Region of implementation: Okhtyrka community (Sumy region), Lubny, Dykanka, and Nekhvoroshcha communities (Poltava region), and Verkhniodniprovsk community (Dnipropetrovsk region)

Implementation period: September 2024—January 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10





Municipal Non-Commercial Enterprise “Trostanets City Hospital” after restoration ³³

As part of the “Monitoring of Reconstruction Projects in the Poltava and Sumy Regions Financed in 2023” project, the Community Development and Cooperation Center team visited 10 sites in the Poltava and Sumy regions. These included renovated apartment buildings, outpatient clinics, and hospitals that were seriously damaged during hostilities.

In particular, monitoring expert Maria Bohdanova inspected the reconstruction progress of Trostyanets Hospital (Sumy Region), which was significantly damaged during the occupation in March 2022.

The hospital is a complex of buildings with several departments, all of which were damaged at the beginning of the large-scale invasion when the Russians shelled the facility with tanks. The facade, roof, doors, and windows were damaged, and the floor slabs were partially destroyed.

Restoration of the hospital, which serves over 30,000 people in the Trostianets and Boromlia communities, began in the fall of 2023. However, reconstruction was not carried out as a single project; rather, the funding was divided into several projects. According to experts from the Community Development and Cooperation Center, this was done to speed up reconstruction and increase the likelihood of securing funding. Another Russian missile strike challenged the reconstruction efforts. By the end of December 2024, reconstruction of the outpatient and inpatient clinics was complete, and repairs in the children’s ward were underway.

³³ Monitoring of the Trostianets hospital. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?-object=875>

Key findings from monitoring the hospital's reconstruction

Major repairs to the hospital's public building and utility (auxiliary) buildings and structures.

- The Infrastructure Restoration and Development Service in the Sumy region was the main initiator and administrator of funds. The funding source was the Fund for the Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression.
- The cost of major repairs increased during the course of the work. This was due to the initial estimate not including all the necessary work. In particular, this concerns the cost of dismantling damaged/destroyed parts of the hospital over a larger area to enable the safe use of the premises. Another reason for the increase in cost was the Russian missile strike and additional destruction of the premises.
- It should be noted that the assessment of the destruction, expert examination, and preparation of design and estimate documentation occurred shortly after the city was liberated, although the occupiers had destroyed some of the documentation. This forced the Restoration Service to review the estimate.
- During a visit to the site in the final stages of repair, experts from the Community Development and Cooperation Center compared the quality of window frame installation and gap foaming. Thus, the openings have enough foam to fill the gaps and maintain the room's temperature. WDS 6S double-glazed windows with an energy-saving coating have been installed throughout. The contractors adhered to the principles of energy efficiency.

The major renovation of the facade and porches (inpatient building and children's ward)

- On March 15, 2024, the Russians shelled the hospital again, after a number of reconstruction works had already been completed. As a result, the newly installed windows and doors were knocked out and the restored facade was damaged. This affected the timeline for insulating the hospital facade.
- The city council, charitable foundations, and organizations that provided financial assistance helped repair the damaged windows, as this work was not initially included in the project.
- Elektrolend LLC was announced as the successful bidder, having offered UAH 19.56 million. This organization is involved in a criminal case related to tax evasion. The tender was announced by the Restoration Service in the Sumy region.
- The difference between the allocated amount and the project's cost is over

UAH 3.3 million. According to city officials, any remaining money at the end of 2023 was redirected to additional work on this and other hospital projects.

- During the verification of the contract prices from the successful bidder, the risk of overpricing for some materials was identified, particularly mineral wool and corrugated sheet metal.

Major repairs (thermal modernization) of the outpatient building, passageway, and children's ward

- The contractor violated the terms of the project.
- In August 2024, the contract with Miske Budivnytstvo LLC was terminated, and a new procurement was announced.
- The project was challenging because facade insulation work is not advisable during the cold season or in high humidity. However, due to delays, the work had to be done at that time.

Major repairs and thermal modernization of the infectious disease ward³⁴

- The project received joint funding from the city budget of the Trostianets City Council and the "Promoting Energy Efficiency and Implementation of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive in Ukraine" project (Germany).
- The community and the donor developed a comprehensive solution that includes replacing the windows, insulating the facade, basement, and technical floor, and installing solar panels. The total cost of the project is UAH 14.4 million.
- During her visit, the expert from the Community Development and Cooperation Center noted that the mineral wool installation did not comply with the technology. The wool was fixed by applying an adhesive in a dotted pattern without using a notched trowel. This created gaps between the surface and the mineral wool, rendering the method unreliable.

The community views representatives of non-governmental organizations as partners, actively communicating with them and listening to their advice. After all, successful recovery requires close cooperation between the authorities, the community, and contractors. All parties must be interested in transparent and effective processes to restore infrastructure and build a sustainable future for the regions. Therefore, the experts from the Community Development and Cooperation Center presented their monitoring results and provided comments to Trostianets Mayor Yuriy Bova.

³⁴ Link to information about the Trostianets hospital on DREAM. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-250324-B9C96898/profile>

Rural outpatient clinic in Sytniaky, Kyiv region: provides emergency care for the community, but lacks accessibility and energy efficiency



Implementing party: Territory Development Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/23>

Region of implementation: Makariv community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: September–November 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 12

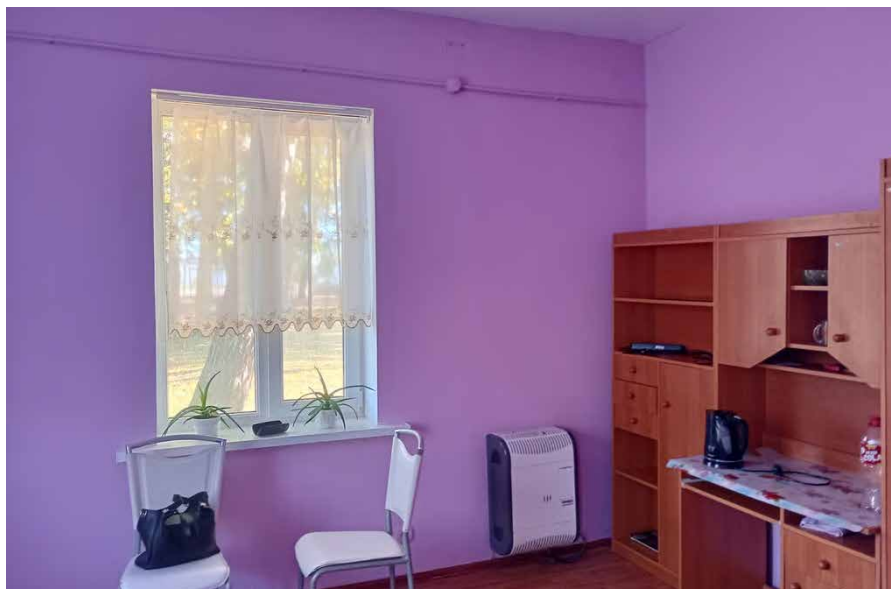


Renovated premises of a primary health center in the village of Sytniaky, the Kyiv region³⁵

The primary health center in the village of Sytniaky was severely damaged during the hostilities in spring 2022 and was renovated with the support of the international medical humanitarian organization MSF (Doctors Without Borders). It is one of the few community facilities that received full funding and assistance from international partners.

Monitoring of the completed works showed that the restoration allowed medical services to be quickly restored for residents. However, the project was implemented without accounting for accessibility and energy-efficiency requirements.

³⁵ Primary health center, Sytniaky Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=142402>



Community after occupation: large-scale destruction

From late February to late March 2022, the Makariv community was in an area of active hostilities. According to official estimates, the following were destroyed or damaged:

- more than 2,800 residential buildings;
- 63 apartment buildings;
- dozens of educational, medical and cultural facilities;
- 373 commercial facilities.

The primary health center in Sytniaky was seriously damaged and required full restoration.

What has been done: the project was implemented quickly and in full.

The renovation of the primary health center building, which was constructed in the late 1960s, was funded entirely by Doctors Without Borders, eliminating the risk of duplicate funding. The international organization controlled all expenses.

The Makariv Village Council confirmed that the project was completed on schedule.

Information was made publicly accessible through the village council website, the official Facebook page, the community leader's Telegram channel, and the local newspaper.

Lack of accessibility and energy efficiency

Despite its restored functionality, the primary health center building does not meet the inclusivity requirements set by the state building regulations (DBN). This means that the premises are inaccessible to people with disabilities or reduced mobility.

Experts noted the following violations:

- doorways are too small;
- inappropriate sizes of sanitation facilities;
- the presence of thresholds.



Due to the thresholds inside the outpatient clinic in Sytniaky, it will be difficult for a person in a wheelchair to move around.³⁶

During the renovation, speed was prioritized over compliance with accessibility standards.

Furthermore, no measures were taken to insulate or modernize the engineering systems during the renovation.

The only energy-efficient solution implemented was the installation of new double-glazed PVC windows. This does not meet energy conservation and energy

efficiency requirements. However, an energy audit is needed to accurately determine the energy characteristics.

Recovery planning: the program exists, but not yet approved

As of the monitoring period for this reconstruction, the community had been working on a comprehensive recovery program for two years. The document was developed in cooperation with the public, international organizations, and experts. By the end of 2024, the program was awaiting approval from the Kyiv RMA.

The Makariv community was active on the DREAM platform, submitting 56 projects totaling over UAH 1.4 billion. However, the project to rebuild the primary health center could not be found on the platform.

³⁶ Primary health center in the village of Sytniaky. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=142402>

Irpin's Phoenix. Thanks to the housing cooperative's proactive position, a four-story building was restored.



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: January - April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 12

A four-story building stands opposite the tall pine trees of Irpin's Central Park at 2K Universytetska Street. Its stylish dark facade makes it stand out from its neighbors. Judging by the numerous parked cars, the laundry drying on several balconies, and the noise coming from the playground, it's clear that many families now live here. However, the fresh, bright colors of the cladding suggest that the building was recently restored.

"A shell exploded in an apartment on the third floor," recalls Oleksandr Stupachenko, head of the Phoenix-Irpin housing cooperative, which currently manages the building. The building was severely damaged by shelling during the height of hostilities in Irpin in February–March 2022.

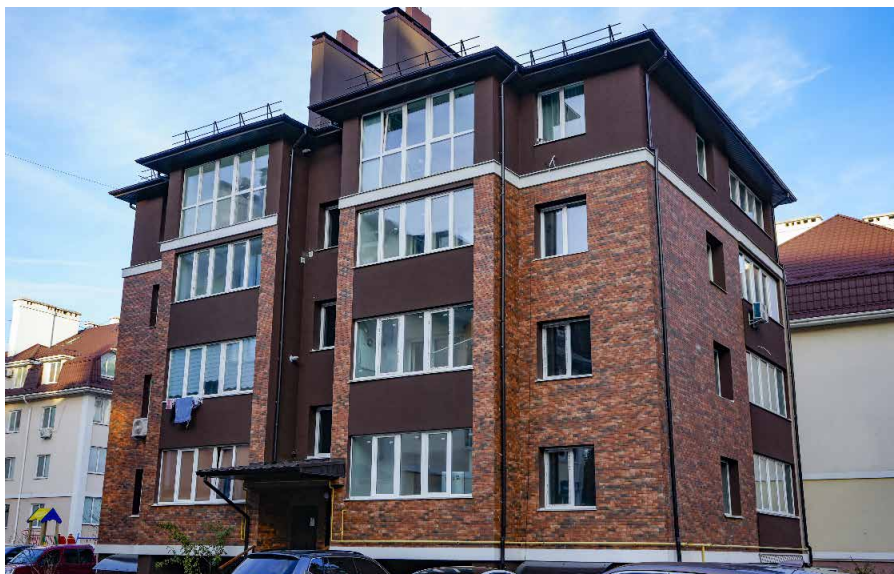
"The fourth floor burned completely, and the floor between the third and fourth floors was damaged. Here, on the second floor, the apartment was completely charred. It's a miracle it didn't catch fire", Oleksandr says. "The utilities were less fortunate. Everything burned down to the ground-floor premises."

After the initial shock wore off, the residents did not despair. On the contrary, it helped them team up, support each other, and take responsibility for the future of their home.

First, they created a housing cooperative because the building had previously been managed by the Municipal Enterprise "Housing and Utilities Services of Irpin", which was not very effective. They didn't spend much time thinking about the name. "Phoenix-Irpin" was symbolic enough, and it added optimism that the residents' homes would rise again from the ruins and ashes. They began collecting documents and funds for a second expert assessment. The conclusion was that the building could still be saved. Immediately after, the neighbors rallied together and began working to preserve the undamaged parts of the building and cover it.



Residential building at 2K Universytetska Street. After the de-occupation of Irpin³⁷



Residential building at 2K Universytetska Street, Irpin. After restoration

³⁷ Major repairs of a residential building: 2K Universytetska Street, Irpin. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=610>

“We cleared away all the rubble, the roof (or rather, what was left of it), dismantled the fourth floor, then rebuilt it ourselves and poured a reinforced belt,” Oleksandr says.

According to his estimates, work carried out in 2022 cost approximately half a million hryvnias. Charitable organizations also joined in, including the Open Door Foundation and the Dobrobat — Volunteer Construction Battalion NGO.

However, this was clearly not enough to restore the building. The residents realized that they needed to apply for reconstruction programs. However, without design and estimate documentation, it was difficult to attract funding, so they paid for its development themselves. According to the head of the housing cooperative, even then, they understood that state programs had strict document requirements. From April to August 2023, they prepared the necessary documentation. Ultimately, they applied to the state Fund for Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression.

After receiving approval from the Kyiv Regional Military Administration, they began searching for a contractor in September. The tender was completed in late autumn. However, according to the program’s terms, the main work had to be completed by the end of the year. Together with the contractor, they analyzed what could be done in time and how the project could be modified.

Another challenge was the amount of funding. If the project remained unchanged, there would not be enough money to repair the ground-floor premises. In this case, the residents had to collaborate with the design company. “We reallocated the money for urgent renovation needs. We decided not to use certain materials or perform certain tasks. This allowed us to renovate the building completely”, says Oleksandr. “Thanks to savings, budget comparison, and reallocation, we were able to renovate the facades, repair the ground-floor premises, and replace the windows.”

The weather also affected the pace of work. The contractor reported regularly that they could finish on time if the weather conditions were favorable. Changes to the estimate and work plan were coordinated with the regional authorities.

Despite all efforts, we were unable to finish the project before the new year. However, the remaining work was completed in 2024. “The most important work for the building was completed on time in 2023”, emphasizes the head of the housing cooperative. This was thanks to the close cooperation between the residents and the contractors.”

The Phoenix-Irpin housing cooperative has received the documents confirming the building’s complete renovation, and it has been officially recommissioned.

People are now finishing repairs inside their apartments.

“It’s much better now. Our building has become much warmer and more breathable because high-quality materials were used in the restoration,” Oleksandr says proudly. “They installed high-quality windows. So even during severe frosts, there are no problems.”

The residents boast that the building is much more beautiful now. They are proud that the residents of Irpin have noticed these changes because “Irpin’s Phoenix” is clearly visible from the park, and everyone remembers what the building looked like before the renovation.

The head of the housing cooperative has one complaint: the entrance is not accessible. The porch and entrance are too narrow to accommodate a ramp that meets all accessibility standards.

Currently, the residents are landscaping the area around the building themselves. For example, they filled in a hole left by shelling.

“Better than it was” perfectly describes the approach that the owners of the apartments at 2K Universytetska Street in Irpin took to their restoration. They probably didn’t say this to each other during reconstruction, but their mutual support, optimism, and determination made it a reality. The “Irpin’s Phoenix” example inspires others and proves that buildings with united, active residents are restored faster.

Effective reconstruction of a medical facility. Rural outpatient clinic in Novyi Bykiv, the Chernihiv region



Implementing party: Expert and Analytical Center “Medical Constructor” NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/35>

Region of implementation: Nosivka, Chernihiv, Dmytrivka communities in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: January—April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 6

Nova Basan and Novyi Bykiv in the Nizhyn district were occupied from the first days of the war. The Russian army destroyed and looted the civilian infrastructure in these settlements. Local schools, clinics, private residences, and other buildings sustained significant damage.

In Novy Bykiv, the blast wave and shell fragments damaged the walls, windows, roof, facade, and roofing of the rural outpatient clinic. The interior and engineering networks of the building were also damaged. As part of the HEAL Ukraine project, which is implemented by the Ministry of Health and the World Bank, the clinic was restored to ensure that patients have access to essential medical services.

The total damage was estimated at UAH 6 million. The area undergoing major repairs was over 200 square meters. The premises were redesigned and the following works were carried out: internal and external construction, roof repair, installation of lightning protection, replacement of power supply and electric lighting networks and equipment, installation of an internal water supply, drainage networks and heating system, finishing works, etc.

The clinic is now accessible to people with disabilities and limited mobility. A ramp has been installed, and orientation aids for people with visual impairments have been placed throughout the entire route.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of local authorities, contractors, and the medical community, the renovation was carried out systematically and to a high standard.

This project sets an example for adhering to the principles of accessibility in reconstruction practice.



The rural outpatient clinic in Novy Bykiv is undergoing restoration



The local authorities also considered the recommendations of the Expert and Analytical Center “Medical Constructor” NGO regarding the creation of a safe environment. These recommendations included ensuring the availability of shelters, improving energy efficiency, and installing modern engineering systems.

This can serve as a model for other communities in the Chernihiv region on how to effectively organize reconstruction efforts, even under limited resources and security challenges.

International funding does not ensure compliance with all requirements. The story of School No. 58 in Mykolaiv



Implementing party: Against Corruption NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/26>

Region of implementation: Berezanka, Nechaiane, Pervomaisk communities in the Mykolaiv region, Vysokopillia and Kalynivske communities in the Kherson region.

Implementation period: January—March 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 20



Underground shelter at School No. 58, Mykolaiv³⁸

The construction of the shelter at School No. 58 in Mykolaiv was funded with the support of the international organization UNICEF. The new shelter enables offline educational activities and protects children and staff during air raid alerts.

However, despite the facility's importance, monitoring of the reconstruction revealed serious shortcomings, ranging from limited accessibility for people with reduced mobility to insufficient transparency in funding.

³⁸ Ongoing repairs and arrangement of shelters at the Mykolaiv Lyceum No. 58. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=190533>

Recovery planning: the city engages international partners and the community

As of spring 2025, Mykolaiv was in the final stages of developing a city recovery program. At the same time, the city had already updated its Master Plan for 2030, identifying areas for residential, industrial, and green infrastructure development.

Several major international initiatives are already underway in Mykolaiv:

- the “Mykolaiv Recovered” project, supported by the UNDP and the Government of Denmark;
- a post-war reconstruction strategy within the #UN4Mykolaiv partnership;
- a city council working group preparing a comprehensive recovery program with public participation.

Although at the time of monitoring there was no information specifically about the construction of a shelter at School No. 58, the community actively interacts with the DREAM platform.

While shelters are important for safety, the financing is not transparent.

The project is directly related to eliminating the consequences of war; the shelter is needed for safe learning amid constant air raid alerts.

Although UNICEF provided the funding, the amount and specifics of the expenses were not disclosed. This makes it impossible to fully analyze the project’s cost. This may indicate duplication of funding. Due to the lack of public data on the scope of work and funding sources, it was impossible to confirm whether other sources funded similar work.

The city did not disclose detailed information about the decision to build a shelter at this site:

- no public opinion survey was conducted;
- project selection process was not competitive;
- only partial information about the start and content of the work was published.

The project was mentioned in news reports about general repairs to shelters, but without specific details.

Were the deadlines and budget met?

According to Mariia Pysmenna, the head of the facility:

- the work was completed on time;

- she is not aware of any increase in cost or adjustments to the work;
- information about the work performed is not publicly available.

Therefore, due to the lack of transparency, it is impossible to verify whether the prices were inflated.

Violations of barrier-free environment requirements

Barrier-free access was largely overlooked during the construction of the shelter. An inspection of the facility revealed the following:

- there is no ramp;
- both entrances to the shelter are inaccessible to people with disabilities and people with limited mobility;
- movement within the premises is difficult due to narrow and low doorways and thresholds;
- no tactile navigation tools or braille signage;
- no elevator in the multi-story building;
- no barrier-free toilet, no handrails, fasteners, or other accessibility features.

The monitoring group concluded that the shelter is completely inaccessible to people with limited mobility and significantly violates state building regulations (DBN).

On a positive note, the shelter is energy efficient and autonomous.

Despite its accessibility shortcomings, the shelter meets energy efficiency requirements:

- energy-saving lamps are installed;
- the ventilation system creates a stable thermal regime;
- there is an inverter, accumulators, and backup batteries;
- a generator is installed to ensure autonomy during power outages.

Therefore, the shelter can operate even during a total blackout.

Conclusion

The shelter is an important and timely project for Mykolaiv. It allows the school to operate offline and ensures the protection of children.

However, the lack of open data on funding, opaque decision-making processes, and significant accessibility issues suggest that the city must improve its management of reconstruction projects and incorporate barrier-free requirements more systematically, even when projects are funded and implemented by donors.

More than just a school. Temporary educational space in the Kyiv region



Implementing party: Territory Development Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/23>

Region of implementation: Velyka Dymerka and Makariv communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: January—March 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 15



Inside the temporary educational space in Bohdanivka. Kyiv region

Hostilities began in the Velyka Dymerka community in the Kyiv region in early March 2022. On March 8, Russian troops began entering the community's villages, occupying 18 of the 23 settlements by the middle of the month. During the three weeks of hostilities, the community suffered enormous losses: over 100 civilians were killed and more than 2,450 private homes, schools, kindergartens, and businesses were destroyed.

Among the structures destroyed by the Russians was the Bohdanivka Lyceum³⁹. The building was completely destroyed by fire.

After the community was liberated, people began to ask: when and how would children be able to study again? The community could not undertake such large-scale restoration efforts alone, so international support became critical.

Funding for the lyceum's reconstruction was made possible through the USAID Dream and Act Program, in partnership with the savED International Charitable

³⁹ Educational space of the Velyka Dymerka Municipal Council. Source: <http://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=189901>

Foundation and the GoGlobal non-governmental organization. The project was selected through a competitive process among initiatives submitted by various communities.

The total cost of the project was nearly UAH 20 million. All funds were provided by donors, excluding the state or local budget.

A new temporary educational space was built on the site of the destroyed building. This is not just a classroom. It is a modern, comfortable, and inclusive space where children can safely learn, develop, and live a full school life. As Anna Novosad, founder of savED, has repeatedly stated in her speeches: “Recovery in wartime is about restoring access to education as a value and a right, and to childhood.”

The space has six classrooms equipped with tablets and interactive multimedia panels. The space is used for learning and various extracurricular activities, such as clubs, workshop sessions, courses, and training. The school has a tutor who runs clubs and assists with self-study.

In the new lyceum:

- modern classrooms with projectors, equipment, and new furniture were set up;
- full inclusivity was ensured: ramps, tactile paving, Braille markings, wide doorways, and adapted bathrooms with handrails;
- waste sorting was organized, and the area around the building was landscaped.

The opening of the temporary educational space in Bohdanivka in the Kyiv region took place on July 24, 2024. US Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink, USAID Mission Director in Ukraine Julie A. Cohen, Ukrainian Minister of Education and Science Oksen Lisovyi, IREX Ukraine Country Director Mehri Druckman, and community representatives attended the event.



It is important to note that the facility will continue to be used after the permanent school is constructed.

Temporary educational space Bohdanivka. Kyiv region.

Chernihiv School No. 24 receives a B for its barrier-free environment



Implementing party: Urban Initiatives Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/18>

Region of implementation: Chernihiv and Mykhailo-Kotsiubynske communities in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: March—June 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 13



An expert from the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO checked whether the ramp at School No. 24 complies with principles of barrier-free access⁴⁰.

Imagine a boy or girl who suddenly becomes affected by an illness that impacts their mobility. They must use a white cane, wheelchair, or other mobility aids.

Should their desire to attend their favorite school be restricted? Is the Chernihiv School No. 24 ready to accommodate such students? Urban Initiatives Agency's team tells us more about this.

The area adjacent to the school

The school has several entrances to the campus. The openings in the gates and doors are more than 0.9 meters wide, allowing people with reduced mobility to enter the school grounds. There are no significant height differences or additional

⁴⁰ Post on Facebook about monitoring the reconstruction of School No. 24. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/agencycityiniciatives/posts/pfbid0P21LuXBrA8YLK7boQYQE-P7e98UfkCdurGbUeYPJHBFUz8FbMvXbwEnMMuB3hkAKUJ>

stairs on most routes between these entrances and the central building entrance. The sidewalk is wide enough for people in wheelchairs and/or with baby strollers to pass each other.

However, the parking lot for people with disabilities is not marked. There is no tactile paving on the school grounds to guide people with visual impairments. The descent from the street to the shelter has many steps that are difficult to climb.

The school grounds are mostly flat, but the asphalt is cracked. The curbs near the sports field may pose an additional barrier for people in wheelchairs.

Entrance

There is a ramp on the stairs covered with non-slip tiles. A canopy covers the stairs and ramp. During rain, the ramp will remain dry and easier to use.

The school door can actually be opened with one hand. However, to enter in a wheelchair, the double doors must be fully opened. There should be a bell near the door to call for help, but the project team could not find one.

Information signs are posted on the entrance doors, but they are not in Braille.

Urban Initiatives Agency NGO sent a letter to the Chernihiv City Council proposing cooperation to monitor social infrastructure facilities in Chernihiv. However, the City Council responded that they could not grant us access.

This affects both accessibility monitoring and the reconstruction process of school facilities. After all, Urban Initiatives Agency's experts monitored the work carried out in several schools in Chernihiv. According to the documents, this school was to receive new windows and doors, along with a number of other repairs. However, the experts were unable to determine the actual scope of completed work without entering the school itself.

The Urban Initiatives Agency team continues to monitor reconstruction projects in Chernihiv and is open to constructive dialogue with the Chernihiv City Council and the Department of Education. Such cooperation could contribute to the city's more effective future restoration.

Restoration of the Pavlivka Gymnasium allowed the students return to school



Implementing party: Lustration Anti-corruption Council of Prydniprovyia, NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/50>

Region of implementation: Snihurivka, Shyrokye, Dniprovskoe, Synelnykove communities in the Mykolaiv region,

Implementation period: March—June 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 10

The Pavlivka Gymnasium, with its preschool and elementary school, was destroyed during an air strike on March 14, 2022. During the occupation, the building was not used and fell into disrepair. After the village was liberated, the question arose: how could the educational institution be restored so that children could return to school?

Shortly after the village was liberated, the school team and the education department of the Snihurivka City Military Administration organized a clean-up of the school grounds. Next, they sought donors, and, as a result, the facility was restored with support from UNDP, ADRA, and AWO (GIZ).

The reconstruction steps included:

- Complete replacement of windows with metal-plastic structures;
- Partial restoration of the damaged roof;
- Paving the basement and outdoor areas;
- Start of repairs to the food service area, which is necessary for providing full-time in-person learning.

Thanks to the support of UNDP and other international partners, the facility also received:

- A water purification system to ensure a high-quality drinking water supply;
- A shelter for 50 people that meets all safety standards, allowing the lower school to study offline while other classes study in a mixed format (as there are 150 students in the gymnasium).

The shelter has sleeping quarters, making it a safe place during and outside of learning hours.

Barrier-free access to the first floor via a ramp, with plans to provide access to the second floor. However, there is no ramp to the shelter or elevator.

Several energy conservation and efficiency measures have been implemented in the renovated lyceum building. The school's own boiler room provides heating



and runs on pellets. The building's roof has been insulated, but part of it still needed repair at the time of monitoring.

Due to the lack of complete infrastructure readiness, the educational process continued in a mixed format. During the Lustration Anti-Corruption Council of

Prydniprovyia's monitoring visit, the gymnasium's director, Tetiana Rudnytska, emphasized that the team's goal is to resume full-time in-person learning by September 1, 2025.

Schooling thanks to joint efforts. Vorozhba Secondary School in the Lebedyn community, Sumy region



Implementing party: NOVA Energiya NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/44>

Region of implementation: Lebedyn community in the Sumy region

Implementation period: March—June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 15



Vorozhba Secondary School⁴¹.

On February 25, 2022, war came to the village of Vorozhba in the Sumy region. The enemy entered the village with a large amount of equipment. After retreating, they terrorized the village with constant air strikes. One of these strikes hit the Vorozhba General Secondary Education Institution⁴², a school with a preschool department, a gymnasium, and elementary classes where more than 130 children studied, including those with special educational needs. The blast wave blew out windows, tore off the roof, and damaged doors, walls, and school equipment. Tanks ran over the fence and tore off the paving slabs. The gym's roof was lifted into the air and thrown back. Amenity buildings were also damaged.

⁴¹ Vorozhba Secondary School of the Lebedyn City Council, Sumy region. Source: <https://vorozhba.lbd-osv.gov.ua/photo/>

⁴² Major repairs of the Vorozhba Secondary School of the Lebedyn City Council in the Sumy region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=213653>

On March 7, enemy troops returned. They occupied the village for several days, with some soldiers staying in the school gym, workshops, and classrooms. They destroyed office equipment, took away property, and broke doors. Surprisingly, before leaving the school, the occupiers left several apology notes. As the school's philologists later noted, the notes were written without a single grammatical error. However, no words could restore the destroyed school.

It was at this point that the story began, which is now an example to follow.

The first people to react were local teachers, parents, utility workers, and employees of the institution. They closed the broken windows, cleaned up the debris, and tried to salvage what remained. Subsequently, the local authorities initiated an official investigation to record the extent of the damage and establish the legal basis for starting the work. Thanks to the Lebedyn City Council's prompt action, the school restoration project quickly caught the attention of donors.

One of the driving forces behind the changes was the participation of a local agricultural enterprise, Vorozhbalatinvest LLC. Although the company itself suffered losses from shelling (amounting to more than UAH 21 million), it not only resumed its operations and carried out a sowing campaign, but also supported

the community by financing part of the school's repair work. Such cooperation between businesses and the community is an example of resilience, trust, and mutual support, qualities that are often lacking in recovery efforts.



Vorozhba Secondary School⁴³.

Next came a tender won by a Kyiv-based company as part of humanitarian aid supported by the European Union in partnership with UNOPS. The work was carried out by an Odesa-based team under the supervision of Kyiv-based

⁴³ Vorozhba Secondary School of the Lebedyn City Council, Sumy region. Source: <https://vorozhba.lbd-osv.gov.ua/photo/>

specialists. All employees treated the project responsibly: inspections were regular, technical supervision was rigorous, and any issues were swiftly addressed. According to the director, the contractor showed great integrity by fulfilling the teachers' wishes down to the smallest detail, even agreeing on the color of the wallpaper with the school staff.

As a result, the school now has a new roof, improved ventilation, updated electrical wiring, new doors, renovated classrooms, and a sports hall. The latter is a particular source of pride.

"We never even dreamed of having such a sports hall before the war. The destruction contributed to a better restoration than before," says the director. The final cost was also impressive at over UAH 7 million (approximately USD 166,000), most of which was financed by donors, with significant contributions from local businesses and the community budget.

There was no broad information campaign in the community, nor any official public discussions or news on websites. However, information spread horizontally: through teachers, parents, and neighbors. People saw the changes, communicated with class teachers, and followed the reconstruction progress. This created trust and demonstrated that the school is a cause that unites the community.

At the same time, however, not everything is perfect. Although the school has retained its ramp and the first floor is adapted for wheelchair users, there is still no separate toilet for people with reduced mobility, no elevators, and no tactile navigation tools. These measures were not included in the project documentation.

A similar situation applies to energy efficiency. Although new energy-efficient windows and doors have been installed, there are no plans to insulate the facade or utilise renewable energy sources, resulting in a "C" energy efficiency rating for the building. However, the individual heating system allows for heat regulation, which partially compensates for these shortcomings.

From closure to development. Reconstruction changed the fate of a social institution in the Poltava region



Implementing party: ZMIST Analytical Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/29>

Region of implementation: Poltava, Myrhorod, Lubny, and Hadiach communities in the Poltava region

Implementation period: June – September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9



The Center for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Children in Poltava, after reconstruction

In 2021, the municipal institution “Center for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Children”⁴⁴ faced closure. The building was old, resources were used inefficiently, with a lack of change. For example, in 2019, there were 57 employees for just 17 pupils, with costs reaching UAH 300,000 per child per year. At the same time, most of the funds were spent on maintaining the institution itself rather than on the children’s needs.

⁴⁴ Major repairs of the building of the municipal institution “Center for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Children”. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=270015>

Everything changed in 2023 when a person experienced in education and social protection became the director. The institution adopted a new approach to management and development.

At the beginning of 2023, the Poltava region was home to about 200,000 internally displaced persons. The management came up with the idea for a project to renovate the building and equip it to temporarily house people forced to flee their homes. By the summer of 2023, the design and estimate documentation had been developed. Supported by the Poltava Regional Council, the project was submitted to the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories for funding through a European Investment Bank subvention.

After a meeting of the commission for reviewing and approving projects and measures to be financed by the subvention in the fall, the project was approved. This project was financed through a subvention from the state budget to local budgets totalling

UAH 11.4 million, as well as co-financing from the regional budget totalling UAH 23.5 million.



The block for accommodating IDPs is located at the Center for Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Children in Poltava

Thanks to the project, energy efficiency measures were introduced in the building, including facade and roof insulation, and window replacement. One block of premises was renovated to accommodate IDPs, with the installation of modern

furniture and equipment. Safety was a particular focus: a shelter for 350 people was renovated within the facility and added to the register of the basic community shelters. During air raid alerts, the shelter is open not only to the facility's residents, but also to the wider community.

During the project's implementation, the need for additional measures became apparent, particularly those ensuring the facility's accessibility. In September 2024, the project documentation was revised to include the redesign of kitchens and bathrooms, the installation of a lift for individuals with musculoskeletal conditions, the expansion of shelter entrances, and the installation of fire exits from the second floor. An additional UAH 2.5 million was allocated to carry out this work.

Once construction is complete, the building, shelter, and the facility's surrounding area will meet modern accessibility standards. The facility is equipped with inclusive restrooms, Braille informational signs, a ramp, and an elevator. Comfortable conditions have been created for everyone. However, these standards do not yet apply to the second floor, which houses the events hall, bedrooms, and the newest computer classroom. However, revival is a process that is undertaken step by step, and the first steps have already been taken.

The facility meets modern energy-efficiency requirements. It is insulated and has modern heating, ventilation, lighting, and energy-saving window systems, ensuring efficient resource usage. Several generators provide uninterrupted operation and increase the facility's energy stability, even in emergencies. In other words, the experts envisioned not only the restoration of the building, but also the creation of a safe and functional space that meets modern standards.

The director shared his plans for the future, which include expanding rehabilitation services for children affected by the war and constructing a sports ground and a swimming pool.

The transformation process is ongoing. This story demonstrates how quality conditions can be created for everyone, step by step.

How the Kamianske Gymnasium “rebuilt” a shelter that could become a trap



Implementing party: Against Corruption NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/26>

Region of implementation: Dnepropetrovsk community of the Dnipropetrovsk region.

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of monitored facilities: 18



Entrance to the shelter at the Kamianka Gymnasium, Dnipropetrovsk region

After the roof at the Kamianka Gymnasium⁴⁵ in the Sofiivska community was repaired, it was decided to build a shelter. More than UAH 400,000 in charitable funds were raised for this purpose. However, during monitoring, experts from the Against Corruption NGO found that the shelter did not meet basic safety requirements and that the two emergency exits led nowhere.

Over 50 children study at the gymnasium, and an additional 50 students from neighbouring schools take turns to attend. The school tried to provide adequate educational conditions during wartime, but failed. After the roof was repaired using UAH 3.4 million from the local budget, the gymnasium converted a 300 m² basement into a basic shelter with the support of the Norwegian Refugee Council.

According to the head of the institution, they initially planned to completely renovate the shelter. However, in practice, they only purchased furniture and installed a generator. An inspection by the State Emergency Service revealed serious vio-

⁴⁵ What is the Sofiivka community's example of reconstruction, and what is surprising about it? October 13, 2025. Source: <https://bit.ly/4oimHxw>

lations. Despite this, the shelter was put into operation, and the deficiencies were not rectified.

These concerns relate to the two emergency exits, which are designed as ladders. These lead to glass windows. In the event of shelling or an explosion (hopefully this will not happen), the glass could shatter and block people's evacuation, including children (!).

In 2024, rescuers officially recommended filling the windows with sand, but the school administration claimed they "did not have time to do so". During the September 2025 monitoring visit, the shelter was still unsafe.

Additionally, the basement does not comply with accessibility principles: toilets lack doors, stairs lack handrails, and the walls are uninsulated. This room is virtual-



ly inaccessible to children or staff with limited mobility.

Bio-toilet in the shelter of the Kamianka Gymnasium, Dnipropetrovsk region.

"We often see similar stories where shelters are hastily constructed just so they can be reported on. But in fact, this is not a shelter, it's just an imitation of safety," notes Yuriy Putria, Head of Against Corruption NGO.

Lessons learned from this story

The Kamianka Gymnasium is an example of how a lack of control, planning, and attention to detail can transform good intentions into potential danger. The problem lies not in the finances, but in the approach when reporting becomes the priority over creating conditions in which children will actually be safe.

Against Corruption NGO is calling on the community to prioritize high-quality over formal reconstruction. To this end, experts recommend following guidelines for barrier-free and safe reconstruction.

Support from international donors in the restoration of the Karlivka Vocational School No. 50 in Poltava Oblast



Implementing party: Divergent Woman NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/45>

Region of implementation: Kremenchuk and Myrhorod communities of the Poltava region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10

On February 20, 2025, the city of Karlivka in the Poltava region was hit by another massive attack involving kamikaze drones. Although the target was critical infrastructure, the powerful blast wave also damaged educational facilities, including the Vocational School No. 50⁴⁶. The explosions blew out the windows of the dormitory, amenity building, practical training building, and boiler room. The institution found itself in extremely difficult conditions in February amid cold weather and without protection from wind and precipitation. However, the school administration acted quickly, and support from partners arrived the very next day.

On February 21, 2025, Proliska NGO provided emergency assistance in the form of building materials. These materials were used to close the window openings, temporarily stabilize the premises, and ensure minimum safety conditions for staff and students. Thanks to this rapid assistance, the school avoided further destruction of buildings and loss of educational equipment.

A second, large-scale phase of restoration followed this.

In June 2025, the international organization Global Empowerment Mission provided the institution with windows, doors, and other materials worth UAH 1.6 million. They also hired a contractor for installation and dismantling work, at an additional cost of UAH 370,000.

By the end of the summer, all of the damaged buildings had new windows and doors. Funded solely by international donors, the reconstruction project exemplified how quickly and effectively an educational institution can be renovated during wartime. Thanks to the coordination of the Proliska NGO, the Global Empowerment Mission, and the school administration, the consequences of the attack were mitigated, and the facilities' energy efficiency and safety were improved.

⁴⁶ Repair of Vocational School No. 50. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=269008>



The renovated dormitory of Vocational School No. 50 in Karlivka, the Poltava region. Source: Global Empowerment Mission Facebook page⁴⁷

Transparency and accountability were also important to the project's success. The Divergent Woman NGO team thoroughly checked all funding sources in Poltava and confirmed that there was no duplication. Experts conducted an in-depth analysis of financial flows, verified data using open state registers and the Prozorro system, interviewed the administration, and inspected the facility to confirm the completed

work. Information about the reconstruction was published in official publications and media outlets. All results confirmed that the project was implemented transparently, honestly, and in full accordance with the purpose of the aid.

Today, Vocational School No. 50 in Karlivka operates in renovated buildings, welcomes new students, and trains young specialists for careers in agriculture and service engineering.

The school's transformation is a testament to the power of partnerships, the effectiveness of international aid, and the autonomy, transparency and proactivity of Ukrainian educational institutions. Where there was once only broken glass, children's voices can now be heard. Workshops are operating again and lights shine in the windows, symbolizing Ukraine's recovery, gratitude, and resilience.

⁴⁷ The renovated dormitory of Vocational School No. 50 in Karlivka, the Poltava region. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1394754185989219&set=pcb.1394754202655884>

Five lessons: how to make donor-funded reconstruction truly effective



Grantee: Charitable Organization “Charitable Foundation Brave”

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/61>

Region of implementation: Kyiv region.

Implementation period: June–September 2025

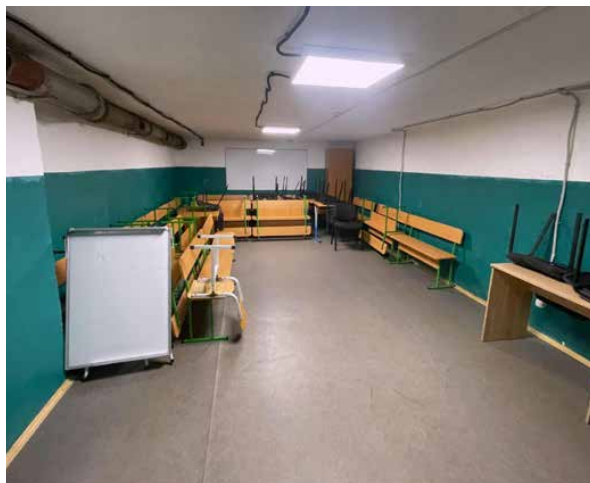
Number of inspected facilities: 8

Even the best intentions do not guarantee good results when projects are developed without consulting staff, building users, and the local community. After monitoring the reconstruction of schools and hospitals in the Kyiv and Chernihiv regions funded by international donors, the Charitable Foundation Brave identified recurring issues in various projects. There is a simple solution for each situation that can make the project more successful.

Participation as an investment in results

Often, reconstruction projects are developed without involving users, such as school principals, teachers, parents, and people with disabilities. This was particularly true of projects funded by foreign donors immediately following the full-scale invasion of 2022–2023.

One example is the Mena Gymnasium in the Chernihiv region, where the Finnish humanitarian organization Finn Church Aid (FCA) began equipping a basement shelter. While preparing the project, the donor considered some of the school



management’s recommendations, including room configuration. However, they did not conduct a thorough needs assessment.

Shelter for the Mena Gymnasium in the Chernihiv Region

For example, they purchased dirty green paint, creating an area in the basement resembling

an old Soviet stairwell, an unpleasant place to spend time. Clearly, this is not an environment children would want to spend time in. A shelter should be a safe place, not a “place of imprisonment”, as one schoolteacher described the donors’ renovation of the school with dirty green tones.

Meanwhile, another benefactor of the same school, the Swiss-Ukrainian project DECIDE, requested workshops with the students before the design phase. This allowed the children to design their own school.

“The children themselves created the walls and design of the school. They made projects, competed with each other, voted, and received a nice, modern renovation where it is comfortable to study during frequent air raid alerts,” said Tetiana Khomenko, director of the Mena hub gymnasium.



Mena Gymnasium in the Chernihiv region

Engagement, or participation, involves users directly in the reconstruction project, particularly through workshops, questionnaires, and in-depth interviews prior to reconstruction. This practice helps make the space more useful and convenient.

Design consistency and design code

When several donors are involved in a single project and funding is expected from local and regional budgets, each donor often wants to implement their own design. As a result, schools, hospitals, and libraries become mosaics of styles and

palettes. This is what happened in the Ripky Lyceum shelter, which was restored by three donors. The basement seems to be divided into different sections, each belonging to a different school. Some are more aesthetically pleasing than others.



A modern, cozy design does not necessarily cost more. It's about making the right choices in colors, lighting, and furniture.

Ripky Lyceum Shelter, the Chernihiv Region

Ideally, there would be general design guidelines for each facility that all donors would follow.

Of course, each donor could add their own accents, such as a logo or design elements, but these additions should all be unified in style. This creates a sense of integrity and care.

We advocate for genuine inclusion, not just the appearance of it

During our monitoring visits, we have repeatedly observed inclusive solutions copied from outdated standards without consulting accessibility experts or assessing their rationale. For instance, at the Mena Gymnasium, two options for arranging an inclusive entrance were considered. According to the designers' calculations, the solution with a stairlift would be much cheaper.

However, we realized that maintaining a stairlift would be more difficult and expensive. In the event of a breakdown, we would have to wait a long time for a specialist to repair it. As a result, we opted for a ramp. Although it is a more expensive solution, our schoolchildren now use it regularly when they need to go down to the shelter during air raid alerts. It is much faster and less traumatic than using the regular stairs," said Iryna Lukianenko, Head of the Education Department of the Mena City Council.

Dialogue with technical staff

It's a classic story: a donor starts facility restoration and hires a professional construction company. According to the documents, everything should turn out per-

factly. However, there are peculiarities regarding the structure, landscape, and how the space is used.

For example, at Ichnia City Hospital, monitored by charitable foundation experts, the maintenance manager warned during the design stage that the drainage system was inadequate for the large roof. However, his opinion was disregarded, and after the facility was commissioned, problems with rainwater drainage began. Several pipes in the new drainage system collapsed under the weight of snow and rain.



Ichnia City Hospital, the Chernihiv region

"I told the designers that the planned pipes would not be enough. I pointed this out during construction. Everyone unanimously said that it would hold up. But now, after the first winter, some of the drains have broken. Now, rain is flooding the walls, and mold and fungus are growing. We have to dry and repair everything," explains Yuriy Chumak, the hospital's maintenance manager.

Therefore, the Charitable Foundation Brave experts advise interviewing technical staff familiar with the building to identify potential problems before developing a project.

Project manager with experience in construction

The donor engages a construction company, provides it with the project documentation, and waits for the final result. At this stage, technical violations often occur that are almost impossible to correct later.

“During construction, I had my own battle with the builders (who were repairing the shelter – editorial note). I literally lived in this shelter. I noticed some shortcomings in the repair team’s work and suggested improvements or corrections. The builders initially agreed, but then found a hundred reasons not to do it: no such material existed, something arrived late, or the paint was unavailable. In the end, we ended up with repairs in horrible colors and poor workmanship,” complains Tetiana Khomenko, director of the Mena hub gymnasium.



Director of the Mena hub gymnasium Tetiana Khomenko

That is why the benefactor must involve a permanent project manager with construction experience. This manager will visit the site at least once a week during the project. This person will not be responsible for the technical supervision of the quality of work. Rather, he or she will serve as a referee who examines the rationality of decisions and can competently influence changes. The project manager communicates with contractors and the community, identifies problems, and proposes changes throughout the process.

Reconstruction that is unsuitable for living. A case from Odesa.



Implementing party: Agency of Lower Dniester Development NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/58>

Region of implementation: Odesa, Odesa region

Implementation period: June–August 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 11



Building at 2 Preobrazhenska Street, Odesa, after a rocket strike

On the night of July 23, 2023, a rocket hit the building at 2 Preobrazhenska Street in Odesa. 29 architectural monuments were destroyed or damaged. Among them was the 19th-century building at 2 Preobrazhenska Street. This three-story building with an attic houses residential apartments.

The strike destroyed the upper floor's walls, ceilings, roof, windows, and doors. Several dozen people were left homeless.

The Odesa City Council allocated UAH 1.5 million to the reconstruction budget for urgent, emergency, and conservation work. The Leroy Merlin Solidarity Charitable Foundation provided an additional UAH 3.5 million for immediate reconstruction.

From November 2023 to June 2024, the debris from the roof and walls was cleared, the destroyed structures were dismantled, and new load-bearing structures, floors, and a roof were erected. High-quality new windows and balcony doors were installed around the entire perimeter of the building. A reinforced belt was installed to support the walls, and brickwork was added to raise the roof higher.

However, residents could not return to their apartments because the explosion damaged the utilities, leaving them without gas, water, electricity, and heat. A separate project is needed to restore these utilities, but no funds have been allocated for it yet. Additionally, the walls need to be rebuilt. After installing the new floor, the walls no longer reach the ceiling, leaving holes through which the street is visible.

One year has passed since the repairs were made, and at the time of monitoring, only the family on the first floor, whose utilities were partially intact, was living in the building. The other apartment owners are unable to return to their homes.

A shelter for 9 million. This is how the now-defunct hospital shelter in Zaporizhzhia was repaired



Implementing party: People's Defense NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/36>

Region of implementation: Matviivka and Zaporizhzhia communities, Zaporizhzhia region

Implementation period: June–August 2025

Number of monitored facilities: 10



Entrance to the shelter of hospital No. 10, Zaporizhzhia

In early 2024, a shelter at Hospital No. 10⁴⁸ in Zaporizhzhia underwent renovations costing UAH 8.9 million. Of this amount, UAH 5.2 million is a subvention from the Ministry of Health, and the remainder is from the city and the hospital itself. The project aimed to provide safe conditions for patients during air raid alerts.

However, in May 2024, the city council liquidated Hospital No. 10 and merged it with the emergency hospital. Despite this, the construction permit was issued

⁴⁸ A major renovation of the shelter at Municipal Hospital No. 10 in Zaporizhzhia. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=2393>

after the liquidation, and the liquidated institution signed the certificates of completion.

The shelter was formally completed in December 2024, and the facility readiness certificate is dated May 2025. However, the shelter is closed and unused. There are no signs indicating accessibility for people with disabilities, nor is there any information about the keys or the responsible persons.

Data from the DREAM system contradicts information that experts received upon request. It states that only 55% of the contracts have been paid for, though the hospital reported full funding.

After the hospital was liquidated, plans were made to establish an Administrative Services Center in the building. However, the Department of Administrative Services, which is identified as the project's initiator, denies any involvement. This suggests unreliable data in the system and possible misuse of funds.

The Ministry of Health stated that it does not check how subsidies are used because other authorities are responsible for that task. Thus, the project designed to improve patient safety was futile because the hospital is no longer operational, and the shelter is not in use.

People's Defense NGO visited the facility and found that it was closed and inaccessible on the day of the visit. The entrance to the shelter is not wheelchair accessible.

From ruins to a new educational space: how the Chervona Dolyna Lyceum resumed teaching after being destroyed



Implementing party: East SOS Charity Foundation

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/53>

Region of implementation: Ivanivka and Kherson communities in the Kherson region, Mykolaiv and Novofedorivka communities in the Mykolaiv region

Implementation period: June–August 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9



Temporary educational space in the village of Chervona Dolyna, Shyroke territorial community

The Chervona Dolyna Lyceum in the Mykolaiv region⁴⁹ was completely de-

stroyed by shelling in 2022. For the community, this meant losing both the heart of the village and the main educational institution for children from seven surrounding settlements. Local authorities, educators, community members, and donors quickly joined forces to ensure educational continuity. Thanks to partners' support, children are back at their desks in temporary and modular facilities. Today, the lyceum is operational, classes have resumed, and jobs have been preserved. The community has witnessed how reconstruction can transform lives, even under frontline conditions.

The East-SOS Charity Foundation monitored the Chervona Dolyna Lyceum, which is part of the Shyroke community in the Bashtanka district of the Mykolaiv region.

Monitoring results

- In 2023–2024, with the support of international partners, two new learning spaces were opened: “Vulyk” in the cultural center, made possible by the saved Foundation, and the temporary educational space “Topchyk,” made

⁴⁹ Temporary educational space in the village of Chervona Dolyna, Shyroke territorial community <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=237018>

possible by the AREX Foundation. Additional equipment was provided by the following charitable organizations: East-SOS, Angels of Salvation, THE Tenth of April, REVIVAL, and Shchedryk.



- Barrier-free conditions were created in these spaces through the installation of ramps and inclusive toilets.

A restroom for people with limited mobility was installed in the temporary educational space in Chervona Dolyna.

- Generators ensure energy security.
- 130 students have returned to school, twelve of whom are learning remotely.
- Additionally, school buses are providing transportation for children from seven villages, and the jobs of 22 teachers and over 30 staff members have been preserved.

Entrance to the temporary educational space in the village of Chervona Dolyna



"I was impressed. The space was built very quickly. I feel comfortable and safe here. I feel completely at ease. In the winter, we stay warm thanks to the heating system, and in the summer, the air conditioners work," said Vladyslav, a student at the Chervona Dolyna Lyceum.

Successes worth emulating:

- The community quickly mobilized donors, preventing an interruption in education.
- Barrier-free and inclusion standards are taken into account.
- Though the multi-donor support model proved effective, better coordination is needed.

Remaining challenges:

- Lack of a full-fledged cafeteria, gym, and workshop.
- Insufficient funds to complete reconstruction.
- Risk of depopulation and youth outflow.
- Monitoring materials include reports, interviews, analytical notes, and photos/videos.

One of nine. Monitoring the reconstruction of residential buildings in Kyiv



Implementing party: Recovery Window NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/54>

Region of implementation: Kyiv

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9

Recovery Window NGO monitored the reconstruction of nine residential multi-story buildings in Kyiv that were damaged by Russian aggression. The organization found that the reconstruction is no better than before. In fact, it is exactly as it was before the shelling. Only one housing cooperative improved the energy efficiency of its multi-story building independently.

Common features and procedures for housing restoration in Kyiv can be identified. Housing is being repaired at the city's expense. The Zhitloinvestbud-UKB municipal enterprise orders restoration work in accordance with the technical passports under which the buildings were commissioned. Therefore, if the buildings did not have insulation before the damage occurred, the façades will remain uninsulated, and no comprehensive measures will be taken to ensure barrier-free access. Cheaper alternatives, such as linoleum flooring and facade paint, are replacing materials that are no longer produced, such as parquet flooring and facade facing tiles, also known as subway tiles. Damaged apartments are renovated with the simplest and most economical interior designs possible.

Monitoring by the Recovery Window NGO has revealed that a human-centered approach is not being followed during reconstruction in Kyiv.

Contractors and the client poorly inform⁵⁰ residents of damaged buildings about the status, scope, and pace of reconstruction of their homes. As a result, residents:

- do not know what work is planned in their building;
- do not have access to documents such as cost estimates, lists, and reports on completed work;
- they cannot influence the quality of repairs;
- they cannot ensure that repairs are carried out quickly and efficiently.

⁵⁰ As of July 4, 2025, the customer commissioning housing reconstruction works in Kyiv does not provide the Recovery Window NGO with access to public information. Source: <https://recovery.win/article/u-kyievi-zamovnyk-robit-z-vidbudovy-zhytla-ne-na-daye-viknu-vidnovlennya-dostupu-do-publichnoyi-informacziyi>

During monitoring visits, some residents complained to the Window of Recovery NGO team that they were not allowed to monitor the progress of the reconstruction of their homes.

Some affected residents, housing cooperative representatives, and company managers said that they could not obtain a clear list of restoration work from contractors. The residents did not fully understand what to expect and wanted more information. Ultimately, although they were grateful that the reconstruction took place, they were still disappointed.

The residents and housing cooperative representatives that the monitoring team spoke with advised other affected parties to hire a lawyer to help them draft proper appeals and requests and send them to the appropriate recipients.

“Five to seven active people are enough to make everything work in the building. We have a board of seven, 2,000 residents, and almost 50,000 square meters. The seven of us have a lot of influence in the building,” said Vitaliy Kupchak, chairman of the Oleh Liebiediev housing cooperative board on V. Lobanovsky Avenue⁵¹. The residents made improvements to the building that surpassed the original developer’s work. They installed solar panels, built a convenient shelter, and replaced the doors in common areas with more energy-efficient models.



Residential building at 4B Lobanovskyi Street in Kyiv

Thanks to the housing cooperative’s efforts, the building was rebuilt to a higher

⁵¹ Better than it was, done by... the residents themselves: the story of the high-rise building on Lobanovsky Avenue in Kyiv, September 4, 2025. Source: <https://recovery.win/article/istoriya-vysotky-na-prospekti-lobanovskogo-v-kyievi>

standard after being hit by an enemy drone. The repair budget was reduced by over 70%. Initially, the cost of restoration was estimated at UAH 11 million, but it ended up costing less than UAH 3 million.

“Without collaborating (with the customer, the reconstruction contractor, and the Kyiv City State Administration — Window of Restoration’s note), the budget might have been UAH 9 million, and no one would have known,” said Vitaliy Kupchak, head of the housing cooperative.

However, the Recovery Window NGO found that the reconstruction estimate was reduced in all nine cases analyzed. Experts found no evidence⁵² that this was an effective savings measure and speculated that the reconstruction design was poor.

Monitoring has shown that repairs are carried out more effectively where there are organized initiative groups, even if they are not housing cooperatives⁵³. These groups influence the process, document violations, and receive responses. Where residents are not united, the quality of repairs largely depends on the contractor’s professionalism.

Unfortunately, reconstruction in the capital is not progressing quickly. Most of the monitored buildings had ongoing work. In one building on Mokra Street,



which was damaged on January 2, 2024, restoration was still underway when monitoring was completed in September 2025.

The main conclusions from the monitoring

- Not better than before, but the same as before
- No participation of the inhabitants
- Partial energy efficiency: Facades are insulated only where insulation was previously installed.
- Partial or no accessibility: No ramps are being built.
- Interior renovations are being carried out in an economical manner.
- Residents are not informed about the full list of work. Communication is along the lines of: "We will do everything."

*Housing Reconstruction in Kyiv: Problems of Quality and Communication*⁵⁴

⁵² In Kyiv, the cost of reconstructing war-damaged homes has decreased. However, this is not a victory. September 11, 2025 Source: <https://recovery.win/article/u-kyievi-pid-chas-vidbudovy-poshkodzenyh-vijnoyu-budynkiv-zmenshuyut-czinu-chomu-cze-ne-peremoga>

⁵³ Control over recovery is the key to success. July 23, 2023. Source: <https://recovery.win/article/kontrol-nad-vidbudovoyu-%e2%80%95-zaporuka-uspihu>

⁵⁴ Presentation by the Recovery Window NGO: “Housing Reconstruction in Kyiv: Problems of Quality and Communication” Source: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11p2DhtV58VdTBcca9hFWTltQ_uLvLQEX_A4RWRBD88/edit?usp=sharing

Monitoring reconstruction in Irpin as a catalyst for a large-scale advocacy campaign



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 11

Since spring 2024, Brave Irpin NGO has monitored over 70 social and residential infrastructure facilities in the Irpin community of the Kyiv region for BRP following damage and destruction caused by Russia's armed aggression. The monitoring group assessed compliance with accessibility standards for reconstruction.

In collaboration with Vitaliy Pcholkin, the executive director of the Group for Active Rehabilitation NGO, the project experts have developed a visually simplified methodology for monitoring⁵⁵ the accessibility of schools, kindergartens, outpatient clinics, and residential buildings. We use this methodology for public campaigns and advocacy for accessibility when working with community leaders, educational and training institutions, medical institutions, housing cooperative heads, and city activists.

Irpin is a typical small town where stereotypical views about people with disabilities prevail. School principals still say things like, "I won't have such children here," and designers say things like, "We put high stairs in the kindergarten to save space because this is not a specialized institution for people like you." Last year, the Brave Irpin NGO and its volunteers launched an information campaign in the community to overcome these stereotypes.

An advocacy campaign on inclusiveness was launched in Irpin in July 2024⁵⁶. The campaign aims to raise awareness among the city council, city officials, and residents about the importance of barrier-free access. The campaign is ongoing. You can learn more about the advocacy for accessibility and how Irpin City Council deputies reacted in the video⁵⁷.

During the campaign, 150 copies of the methodological brochure were printed and distributed to activists, journalists, and the Irpin City Council staff. The brochure was

⁵⁵ Transparent recovery: reports on the results of accessibility monitoring, Brave Irpin NGO, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QQYcm1GB4QAo0-heHm2rMwagmqorYH4a/view>

⁵⁶ Post by the Brave Irpin NGO on the organization's Facebook page. July 18, 2024. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/smilyvy.irpin/posts/pfbid029mFVBsPrniNT6uxXG-1whwhBaN49pZPiMWbmvUVGiBzmijnXjtm1TBo5ZfitSCW7XI>

⁵⁷ Video "Advocacy for accessibility by the Brave Irpin NGO in the Irpin City Council." January 10, 2025. Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mf_HQfkwP84&t=1s

also made available online. The NGO Group for Active Rehabilitation applied this methodology in Bucha during the reconstruction of Lyceum No. 3's assembly hall and shelter. It is now being used in other communities in the Kyiv region. Lyceum No. 3 is installing a stairlift to allow people with disabilities to use the stairs.

During accessibility monitoring, experts filmed educational videos demonstrating common mistakes made by designers and contractors that render renovated buildings inaccessible to people with disabilities⁵⁸.

The project team's experience in Irpin is included in the educational course "Monitoring for Civil Society," dedicated to monitoring Ukraine's recovery, and available on the Diia e-governance platform⁵⁹.

Monitoring by the Brave Irpin team revealed that while reconstruction significantly improves energy efficiency, little is being done to improve accessibility. Entrance areas and courtyards remain barrier-free, but existing ramps do not meet state standards for incline angle or materials.

Barriers preventing people with disabilities from accessing basic services were identified at each site, including physical barriers and stereotypical perceptions of children with special needs.

Overall, this made the problem more visible and changed the attitudes of city leaders toward it. To address these issues, stairlifts are being installed in buildings and accessible restrooms are being added to municipal facilities in the city center, especially in the new Veterans' Space.

Currently, the organization's main focus is raising awareness about the new standards and explaining the importance of barrier-free solutions in rebuilding the Irpin community. Representatives of the NGO, along with colleagues from two other NGOs that advocate for accessibility, lobbied for the creation of the Irpin Community Barrier-Free Council⁶⁰. They are now members of the council and are collaborating with people with disabilities, especially wheelchair users and individuals with musculoskeletal injuries, to implement community-level changes.

The campaign has already yielded results: people with disabilities in Irpin have begun appearing in public, uniting, and contacting the NGO team. This group includes veteran Mykhailo Bakaliuk, marketing expert Mariia Salienko, and a community of cyclists. The experts plan to continue their work until the city's attitude toward inclusion changes radically and there is a clear demand for accessible public spaces.

⁵⁸ Transparent recovery. Irpin. Source: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD74e-Hs4TwJ6-iNo62Tx0jqwYgdzJ6FFI&si=4L3Cim0D7qA0r3Pb>

⁵⁹ Recovery Monitoring for Civil Society. Educational series. Джерело: <https://osvi-ta.diia.gov.ua/courses/recovery-monitoring-for-civil-society>

⁶⁰ Regarding the establishment of the Irpin City Territorial Community Barrier-Free Council. April 15, 2025. Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JtMNioUYZGznIEoVrYH-g3e-NJm1foQPj/view>

How Irpin is rebuilding its medical infrastructure: the case of the Irpin Central City Hospital



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June– September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 14

As a result of the Russian military invasion and active hostilities in the city, 76% of the hospital's infrastructure was destroyed. The city has perhaps suffered the most destruction of housing and civil infrastructure of any settlement in the Kyiv region. Eleven medical facilities have been damaged or destroyed.

"Irpin suffered severe damage as a result of hostilities. Therefore, it is clear that all of our projects are directly related to eliminating the consequences of armed aggression," said Serhii Kaniura, head of the Department of Infrastructure Development, Investment, and Housing and Utilities.

The outpatient building in Irpin was damaged by hostilities in February–March 2022. The building suffered direct mortar hits and severe damage to the facade, windows, roof, ventilation system, and fire alarm system. A ramp was installed.

"The reason for the restoration is that the building was damaged as a result of Russian aggression in 2022. As you can see, there are direct hits, and the facade on that side is also damaged," said Anton Dovhopol, director of Irpin Central City Hospital. Additionally, a shelter was constructed due to the risk of Russian drone and missile attacks.

Reconstruction plans of the community

Back in 2022, the Irpin Reconstruction Summit was created in Irpin. This working group includes city council representatives, experts, and active residents. The group's efforts resulted in a comprehensive Community Recovery Plan for 2023–2033. This plan includes a list of damaged buildings, reconstruction costs, and investment needs. The document has not yet been officially approved, but all of its findings have been published on the city council's website⁶¹.

In 2024, Irpin joined the UN-Habitat project, which supports communities in developing comprehensive recovery programs. The city is currently working on a new official document, and the draft is in its final stages.

⁶¹ On August 24, the official IRS recovery working group will present its projects, memoranda, city recovery plan, and report on the past year and a half to the Irpin City Council. Source: <https://imr.gov.ua/napraciuvannia-irs/>

The public is actively involved in this process. Approximately 200 individuals participated in the Irpin Reconstruction Summit volunteer initiative, and UN-Habitat conducted surveys, workshops, and courtyard meetings. “As part of the public initiative, the public was involved. Everyone who had the opportunity, ability, and desire to work in this group did so,” commented Serhii Kaniura, Head of the Department of Infrastructure Development, Investment, and Housing and Utilities.

Irpin is among the leaders in registering projects on the DREAM platform.

As of March 2025, 240 projects from Irpin have been registered on DREAM, which is the second-highest number in Ukraine. “You can monitor the DREAM website and see that the Irpin City Territorial Community is clearly leading the way in terms of work on this platform,” said Serhii Kaniura, Head of the Department of Infrastructure Development, Investment, and Housing and Utilities. It should be noted that the information in the system is being updated. Most projects already have documents attached and information filled in.

Outpatient clinic: What exactly was rebuilt

The medical facility was damaged in the first weeks of the invasion: explosions damaged the facade, windows, roof, and life support systems. The reconstruction was divided into three stages.

First stage (2022)

All destroyed windows were replaced, and the slopes were repaired. The project was financed by Project HOPE (81%) and the community budget.

Second stage (2023 – 2024)

Design and estimate documentation was developed, and major repairs were carried out on the facade, roof, and entrance areas. The Socar-Blago Charity Fund financed the majority of the work, allocating a total of UAH 66 million.

Third stage (until April 2025)

A shelter was built, and a new ventilation and fire alarm system was installed at Socar-Blago's expense.

The city hospital confirms that the work was completed on time and within budget and that funding from different sources was not duplicated.

Transparency monitoring and oversight

Project documentation procurement took place on Prozorro, and progress on renovation work was actively covered on social media and in the local press. However, no public discussion was held before the project began, and there is no

record of such consultations except for a suggestion box at the clinic.

Does the clinic meet accessibility requirements?

The Brave Irpin NGO, together with experts, checked the accessibility of the renovated facility. Some of the requirements have been met: the territory is flat, the cracks in the pavement comply with the relevant standards, and ramps have been installed.

However, there are also shortcomings:

- there are no tactile elements or mnemonic diagrams;
- there are no designated parking spaces for people with disabilities;
- the handrails on the ramps have not been installed in accordance with the relevant standards;
- part of the entrance area is periodically blocked by cars.

What's next

In April 2025, the clinic officially opened with government officials and Azerbaijani partners in attendance. Meanwhile, the city continues to develop a comprehensive recovery program with UN-Habitat and works on other major projects, including a future cultural center, sports school, and arts center.

Thanks to active resident participation, effective city council and international support, Irpin remains one of the fastest and most transparent communities moving towards reconstruction.

It is never long that comes at last. Reconstruction of a building at Bahirov Street in Irpin



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 14



The walls of the destroyed home of Irpin resident Olha Rakul. 28/1 Bahirov Street

In April 2022, Olha Rakul, owner of house No. 28/1 on Bahirov Street in Irpin, watched a video on social media, numb, as if living a terrible dream. The city where she lived with her family had been liberated. Olha tried to understand what was happening and whether her worst fears had been realized. The most important thing was that her sons were safe and close to her. However, their home was also very dear to them because of the memories they had made there and the hap-

py times they had spent together. She had long feared that their house had been destroyed when neighbors wrote in their group chat, “Tanks are driving down the street.” After watching a video of the completely destroyed neighborhood, Olha recognized her house. Only charred, shrapnel-riddled walls remained. The roof and windows were completely gone. Olha remembered that not long ago, in December, they had celebrated their younger son’s birthday and New Year’s Eve there. She wondered, “When will we be able to celebrate another holiday at home?”

Fierce fighting and constant shelling almost completely destroyed a residential neighborhood on the outskirts of Irpin. Like neighboring streets, Bahirov Street was bombed with Grad multiple rocket launchers, mortars, and artillery. Not a single building remained intact. More than 300 residents were left homeless. When rebuilding Irpin, the local authorities decided to carry out comprehensive reconstruction under a single master plan. They treated Bahirov Street as a whole rather than as a collection of individual houses. In addition to the houses, the plan included restoring roads, street lighting, and sidewalks. The work was financed by the Program for the Restoration of Private Houses Destroyed as a Result of Hostilities in the Irpin City Territorial Community for 2023-2024. A total of 42 houses were to be built from scratch on the street. The initial plan was to finish all the work by the end of 2024.

When the comprehensive reconstruction project began in May 2023, Olha became heavily involved in the planning process. She was in constant communication with the designers, discussing the project and cost estimates. She visited the site three times. However, not all of the family's wishes could be accommodated because the basic project was already complete, and only minor changes were permitted. Some interior details, such as switch placement, were not even discussed. Overall, though, the family liked the project.

The design work for the complex reconstruction was finished in the summer of 2023, and construction began in October. Olha and her sons waited and believed that the house would be commissioned quite soon.

But shortly after construction began on Bahirova Street, a political crisis broke out in Irpin in 2024. A conflict arose within the city council's ruling majority. Then-mayor Oleksandr Markushyn left the New Faces party, which he had led in the city. In January 2025, the Pechersk District Court of Kyiv remanded Markushyn into custody and suspended him from his mayoral duties. The conflict paralyzed the Irpin City Council's work for a long time, delaying the adoption of the community budget.

These events directly affected the financing of work on Bahirova Street, resulting in numerous delays. "First, the executive committee was dissolved, then the session was canceled, and finally, funding was cut. We are 'behind' by 5 months. We weren't paid for 5 months because there was no money. Then, when everyone started getting paid, there was confusion about whether there were funds because they said there wasn't any funding again," a representative of one of the contractors complained in an interview with the Brave Irpin NGO.

The initial deadline for completion of the work, announced to Olha's family, passed, but the house remained unfinished. A second deadline was announced,

but the contractors did not receive funding in time. When the third deadline passed with no progress on the work, Olha stopped telling her children about the “dates” announced by the officials. The children were disappointed when the promised “soon” did not come true. Together, they had dreamed of celebrating their younger son’s 10th birthday in December 2025 in their rebuilt house. At some point, they even stopped hoping for it.

However, their hope was soon revived when the local council provided another



round of funding. Work on Bahirova Street resumed, including at the Rakul family’s house. It seemed that they would be able to move in in a few months.

One of the restored houses at Bahirov Street in Irpin

However, further financing delays postponed the move once again. The contractor promises to complete the work on the house by February 2026...

33 other families on Bahirova Street are in the same situation as the Rakuls. The comprehensive reconstruction project was supposed to be finished by the end of 2024. As of November 2025, only 9 of the 42 buildings had been completed. The first “lucky ones” received the keys to their new homes on October 13. The rest of the families will have to wait until at least February 2026.

The Prolisok Child Development Center opened its doors to 156 children from the Makariv community



Implementing party: Territory Development Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/23>

Region of implementation: Makariv community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10

The Makariv preschool “Prolisok” (Child Development Center), run by the Makariv Municipal Council, has been operating since 1993. It was built for children displaced from the Chernobyl exclusion zone. At that time, the institution had 14 age groups, including two speech therapy groups and two early childhood groups. The kindergarten had 320 pupils.

Since 2006, there have been nine general development groups in which 250 children have been educated. “In addition to Makariv, the facility was also attended by children from seven nearby villages: Lypivka, Makovyshche, Havronshchyna, Kalynivka, Nalyvaivka, Andriivka, and Plakhtianka,” said Director Tetiana Maze-pa. The staff numbered almost sixty people.

During the active hostilities, the facility, like other infrastructure in the village, was damaged. Almost all the windows, balcony blocks, and doors were destroyed. The building’s roof was damaged and still leaks, as do the water and heating systems.

From June 2022 to September 2024, the institution operated remotely. During that period, 450 pupils transferred to Prolisok from two preschool institutions that had been completely destroyed (the Barvinok kindergarten and the Teremok combined preschool).

After renovations, Prolisok opened its doors to children. It was not an easy path. Although the design and estimate documentation for the major repairs was ready in 2023, several problems arose during implementation. The plan was to not only restore the building after the damage but also to create a modern educational space adapted for children with disabilities and to equip a safe shelter. Increasing the number of groups to 13 would allow more children to receive educational services. However, many educational institutions face issues such as protracted tender procedures and a lack of adequate funding.

“Nevertheless, we did not give up. Using local budget funds, we equipped the shelter, repaired the group rooms, corridors, and toilets, and installed lighting.

Now, our children can play, learn, and develop again in a safe and comfortable environment,” said Tetiana Mazepa.

At the time of the expert monitoring, there were seven open groups at the facility. Three of these groups were inclusive, and a total of 156 children attended the kindergarten. Unfortunately, not all of the pupils have returned to kindergarten. Some remain abroad. This includes families whose homes have not yet been restored and those who have found jobs or better educational opportunities for their children in other cities. However, the institution has a full staff.

Two shelters were also built in the building, which can accommodate 180 children and 50 employees simultaneously.

While monitoring the kindergarten’s restoration, the Territory Development Agency team discovered that this project was not selected through a competitive process involving other community members. Nevertheless, they did collect suggestions from the public as part of the restoration process. More than 300 respondents from different localities of the community participated.

Experts found that the exterior walls were insulated with heat-insulating panels and that PVC windows had been installed. However, as of spring 2025, the building did not meet accessibility requirements. The Territory Development Agency team found that the project had received only partial funding and that construction was still ongoing as of spring 2025.

There were no signs of duplicate funding from different sources or overpricing. However, the cost of repairs was adjusted. The “change in the contract price” was indicated as the basis for increasing the contract amount.

How the Vorzel clinic became an example of high-quality reconstruction



Implementing party: Socioconsulting Analytical Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/42>

Region of implementation: Bucha, Borodianka, Irpin and Hostomel communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: March–June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 11



The Vorzel general practice clinic at the Bucha Center for Primary Health Care during reconstruction, before a full-scale war. Source – Bucha news⁶²

Today, the Vorzel general practice clinic at the Bucha Center for Primary Health Care is an example of how reconstruction should be carried out in de-occupied territories. After the Bucha district was liberated, the residents of Vorzel were left without access to medical services. For them, this facility symbolizes the return of life to their community. It now serves more than ten thousand patients and operates in a completely brand new, modern, and accessible environment.

⁶² The Vorzel outpatient clinic is changing beyond recognition <https://www.buchanews.com.ua/2021/11/22/vorzelska-ambulatoriya-zminyuyetsya-do-ne-piznavanos-ti-foto/?srsltid=AfmBOorw42H5nmp4EdTSAkZnF6mLDHXkekxIngAWJascT8lltrmMssEV>

Even before the full-scale invasion, reconstruction was underway, as the previous building was obsolete. However, the war thwarted these plans and forced the clinic to stop working. The facility was also damaged during the hostilities. Unable to return to their workplace, medical staff feared the unfinished building would collapse or be looted. However, according to Oksana Dzham, the director of the Bucha Center for Primary Health Care, the community was fortunate. After the area was liberated, the building was still standing, allowing the team to resume reconstruction.

International partners' support was key to this process. The Global Empowerment Mission, the American Quality of Life Foundation, and other philanthropists provided a significant portion of the funding. Local authorities quickly joined the effort. Thanks to this cooperation, they were able to not only restore the clinic but also create a space that meets modern medical requirements.



The Vorzel general practice clinic at the Bucha Center for Primary Health Care after its restoration in 2022. Source – Kyiv RMA⁶³

The renovated outpatient clinic is an example of how accessibility, energy efficiency, and comfort can be combined. Every detail has been taken care of, from the convenient entrance and intuitive navigation to providing sign language

⁶³ A new outpatient clinic opened in Vorzel on September 25, 2022. It will serve 10,000 residents. Source: <https://koda.gov.ua/u-vorzeli-vidkrylas-nova-ambulatoriya-shho-obslugovuvatyme-10-tysyach-zhyteliv/>

interpretation for hearing-impaired patients via a QR code. People with visual impairments can navigate using tactile signs and indicators. There is a correctly sloped ramp with safe handrails that allows patients in wheelchairs to enter. The inclusive restroom meets all accessibility requirements. If a doctor is seeing patients on the second floor, they must come down to the first floor to ensure that services are accessible to all.

Energy efficiency in this building is not just a bonus; it's a real tool for savings and sustainability. Solar panels on the roof reduce costs by generating electricity. The clinic has a backup power system with inverters and batteries. The insulated facade and modern ventilation system keep the building warm and comfortable in the winter, and electric boilers provide reliable heating.

Special attention has been paid to staff conditions. Bright and spacious offices, a break room, and meeting rooms with high-quality lighting create an environment where medical professionals can focus on helping people. According to Oksana Dzham, the doctors' comfort affects service quality because specialists working in pleasant conditions can devote more attention to their patients.

As a result, the Vorzel outpatient clinic has become an example of how reconstruction in Ukraine should be approached: responsibly, thoughtfully, inclusively, and modernly. It's a story about how the efforts of community members, local authorities, international partners, and a dedicated team can transform a ruined building into a medical space where people come with trust, not fear.

Report from underground Gymnasium No. 110 in Zaporizhzhia



Implementing party: SODA NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/48>

Region of implementation: Zaporizhzhia community of the Zaporizhzhia region

Implementation period: March—June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9

Gymnasium No. 110⁶⁴, located in the Pivdennyi microdistrict of Zaporizhzhia, began blended learning on September 1, 2024. In spring 2025, the SODA team visited the school to assess learning conditions and accessibility in the school shelter. Below is a short report⁶⁵ written by the SODA team after their monitoring visit.

Gymnasium No. 110 is located on the outskirts of Zaporizhzhia. Looking south, only a parking lot can be seen. On the other three sides, however, the spacious and well-kept school grounds are surrounded by multi-story buildings. Because of this, the feeling of being on the outskirts of the city immediately disappears.

Children are running on the school porch. It is now recess and time for a class change. Lower-grade classes are ending, and middle schoolers have just arrived.

The SODA team descends the wide stairs to the shelter. Benches line the wall in



the first corridor. These corridors are intended for the civilian population in case of an air raid.

Entrance to the shelter at Gymnasium No. 110, Zaporizhzhia. Source of this and other photos: SODA⁶⁶

⁶⁴ Major repairs of the basement in Gymnasium No. 110, Zaporizhzhia. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=63338>

⁶⁵ Eight months of blended learning at Gymnasium No. 110, SODA, April 29, 2025. Source: <https://soda.zp.ua/slow-news/vidsutnist-perestinkiv-ta-chastko-vo-oblashtovani-umovy-bezbariarnosti-u-vidremontovanomu-ukrytti-himnazii-103/>

⁶⁶ Eight months of blended learning at Gymnasium No. 110, SODA, April 29, 2025. Source: <https://soda.zp.ua/slow-news/vidsutnist-perestinkiv-ta-chastko-vo-oblashtovani-umovy-bezbariarnosti-u-vidremontovanomu-ukrytti-himnazii-103/>



School Principal Arkadii Demchenko showed us around the premises and told us all about the project.

He places special emphasis on the partitions and multimedia boards, which may not have existed previously.

“Previously, the gymnasium’s shelter did not have partitions. Now, the large room is divided into classrooms. The classrooms are equipped with multimedia boards and cameras,” he says.

This allows students to connect online and see the teacher and the board.

At the time of monitoring, Gymnasium No. 110 had started preparing a computer lab, funded by Finnish donors with UAH 1.5 million. “We planned the renovation work for the summer so as not to interfere with classes and to be completed by September 1,” says the principal.



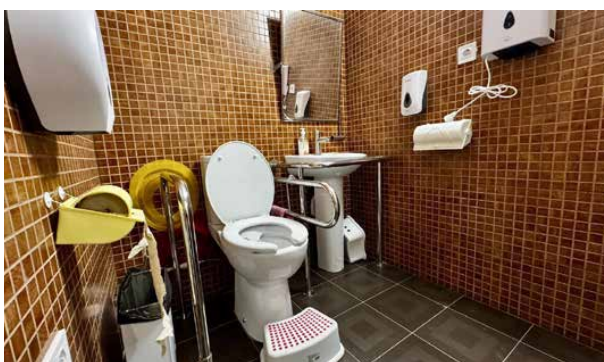
Accessibility requirements

The gymnasium provides a barrier-free environment for people with disabilities. An electric lift has been installed to provide access to the shelter. All signs are duplicated in Braille. However, they are placed at a height that is inaccessible to children.

A separate restroom has been equipped with handrails, a wide passageway, and an inclined mirror. However, there is not enough space for a wheelchair to maneuver.



The project also includes a solitude room. Here, children can play and enjoy some quiet time. A psychologist and a speech therapist can work here as well. The room has a speech therapy mirror for practicing correct lip position and movement.



The room is furnished with a ball pool, a wardrobe, a bubble column, and frameless furniture. The SODA team notices a strange structure resembling a jellyfish with long tentacles. As it turns out, it is a shower lighting system.



"This is a personal space for children," Arkadii Hryhorovych explains as he turns off the light. A soft, pleasant white light illuminates the jellyfish. "If children feel uncomfortable or something else, they go there. This is how personal space is formed."

Center for Catching Up on Educational Losses



The Center for Catching Up on Educational Losses operates at the school from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. At first, it looks like a computer class if you don't know where you are. The desks are arranged in three rows, each with a laptop.



The Center's main goal is to provide children who don't have the opportunity to prepare for lessons at home with their own corner equipped with a laptop and internet access.

"Of course, few children come in the morning," the principal says. "Maybe some come because they

don't want to sit in class or don't have the opportunity to study remotely at home. But more students come in the afternoon. Honestly, distance learning isn't very effective. That's why children need additional support."

Sports field open to Zaporizhzhia residents

The school has a spacious territory. Paved alleys branch off from the main entrance. Most of the schoolyard is occupied by a sports field, complete with table tennis tables, a running track, and a stadium. Local residents often visit these amenities.

Despite the penetrating wind, the sun is shining outside. This makes the coating's red color seem even more saturated, as if it were new. Further on, however, there is a visible hole caused by a UAV fragment. Arkadii Hryhorovych looks sad for a moment, but then waves his hand. "It's okay. We'll fix it! We'll patch it up!"

How the Zaporizhzhia Sich Gymnasium returned to in-person learning thanks to effective reconstruction



Implementing party: Center for Economic and Legal Development NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/52>

Region of implementation: Zaporizhzhia community of the Zaporizhzhia region

Implementation period: March—June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 11

In 2024, the Zaporizhzhia Sich Gymnasium⁶⁷ was unable to hold in-person classes due to the lack of a safe shelter. Therefore, renovating the basement to create a modern educational space became a priority. The project was completed with the support of UNICEF and the local budget. By March 2025, more than 100 students had returned to in-person learning in safe conditions.

Monitoring results

Before the project began, the gymnasium's basement did not meet safety requirements:

- There was a lack of airtight doors and proper ventilation.
- Inability to evacuate students with limited mobility.
- Outdated communications systems (e.g., electrical wiring and water supply).

The Zaporizhzhia Department of Education, together with Sign Industries LLC, carried out a complex of works.

- Safety:
 - 3 blast-resistant doors installed;
 - 2 emergency exits equipped;
- Barrier-free environment:
 - a lift for wheelchair users installed;
 - a ramp with an inclination angle of 8° constructed;
- Infrastructure:
 - 382 m² of electrical wiring replaced;
 - air recovery system installed.

⁶⁷ Major repairs of the basement of the Zaporizhzhia Educational Complex “Zaporizhzhia Sich” with a military-sports profile <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=63337>

Key project indicators

- Implementation period: September - December 2024 (according to the schedule).
- Cost: UAH 6.27 million (budget not exceeded).
- Percentage of children involved: 47% of students returned to in-person learning.

“Our new basement is now safer than many of the upper-floor classrooms,” said Larysa Hanzha, the school’s principal.

Conclusions

This project proved that, even in wartime, high-quality infrastructure can be quickly created if there is

- clear planning with local authorities,
- involvement of international donors, and
- transparent procurement through Prozorro.

5 schools in Zaporizhzhia are using Zaporizhzhia Sich’s experience to set up their own shelters.

Renovation of a house in Horenka: repairs completed, but with corruption risks



Implementing party: Public Ray of the Future NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/59>

Region of implementation: Hostomel community in the Chernihiv region.

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 20



Residential building at 20a Sadova Street, Horenka, Kyiv region, after restoration

The residential building at 20a Sadova Street in Horenka, Kyiv region, was damaged during the hostilities in spring 2022. Restoration of the building was completed in July 2023.

The roof, facade, and glazing sustained the most damage. The roof was particularly damaged by debris during the artillery shelling. The UAH 1.55 million project restored housing for 13 families and returned the building to use by repairing the roof and ventilation ducts.

Despite completing the work on time and within budget, the project has significant shortcomings.

First, no energy efficiency measures were included in the repairs, so the building remains in its original 1950s condition without thermal modernization.

Second, accessibility requirements were not considered.



A person in a wheelchair cannot fit through such narrow doors or over the threshold. Residential building at 20a Sadova Street, Horenka, Kyiv region

The community has a formal renovation program included in regional plans and submitted through the DREAM platform. However, the 20a Sadova Street facility was not uploaded to the system. Although residents, deputies, and village heads were involved in determining reconstruction priorities, no full-fledged public discussion or electronic survey was conducted.

The Hostomel military administration submits projects to the DREAM platform and operates within existing procedures. Funding for the building's repair was provided in full and without duplication of sources. However, approval of this particular project was not competitive. The contracting authority took advantage of the exception provided in Resolution No. 1178, which allows for direct contracts in cases of urgent situations. While this decision was formally in line with the law, it did not eliminate transparency risks.

The procurement of the project was justified by an inspection report and a petition from residents. The contracting authority received three bids that differed slightly: Berls Opti — UAH 1.55 million; Faiser Torg — UAH 1.63 million; and Vaisen-Invest — UAH 1.68 million. The cost of the work was generally in line with the market price, and the analysis of the estimates revealed no signs of overpricing. However, no design organization was involved in the project, which was carried out based on an evaluation report for routine repairs.

However, the risks associated with the successful bidder are significant. Open data and court rulings mention Berls Opti in the context of possible embezzlement of local budget funds, fictitious performance of work, and use of straw directors. Related companies that could have been used to simulate competition include Woodtime, Vaisen-Invest, Budivelnyk REM 1982, and Faiser-Torg.

Although the renovation of the building at 20a Sadova Street was completed on schedule and according to plan, but it is accompanied by transparency and integrity risks. Despite the urgent need for repairs, additional attention is required regarding the choice of contractor and the context of its activities. These factors may suggest a broader issue in post-war reconstruction, where the urgency of the work leads to the use of simplified procedures that create opportunities for abuse.

Barrier-free environment in the underground school at the Elint college, Zaporizhia



Implementing party: Zaporizhzhia Investigation Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/60>

Region of implementation: Zaporizhzhia.

Implementation period: June–August 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 16

The underground school at Elint College was equipped by Positive, a Melitopol-based company that also equipped a shelter at the Logos School in Zaporizhia. Construction on the Elint school began several months earlier. This is noticeable because this shelter is just a few small steps away from being completely barrier-free.

The entrance area is generally convenient. There is tactile navigation, the sidewalk is 2.4 meters wide, and the surface is even and non-slip.

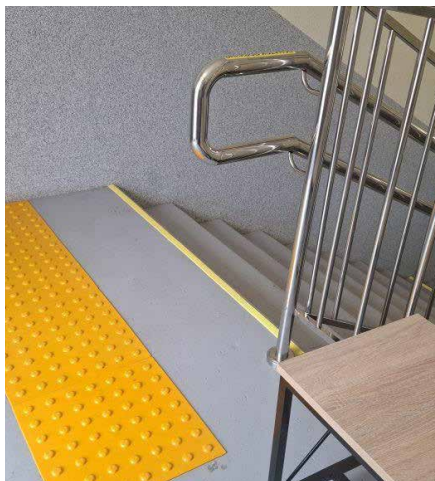
There is no additional canopy over the entrance. However, the entrance is partially protected by the building's overhang. The door has a wide opening and a convenient handle. However, there is a threshold. While not critical, it is not completely level, which is inconvenient for a person in a wheelchair.



Entrance to the underground school in the Elint college. Source of photos here and below: Zaporizhzhia Investigation Center NGO⁶⁸

It is easy to move between floors. The stairs are the correct height and width, and there are handrails on two levels. Braille markings at the beginning of the route

⁶⁸ Barrier-free environment in the Elint college in Zaporizhzhia: “underground school”, which is open to all <https://incentre.zp.ua/bezbaryernist-u-zaporizkomu-liczevi-elint-pidzemna-shkola-do-yakoyi-puskayut/>



are an important detail for people with visual impairments. The stairs have a flat, nonslip surface and tactile warnings.

There is also an elevator, which was operational when experts monitored the facility. There are floor markings and contrasting buttons at the correct height, as well as a handrail, albeit only on one side. There is no folding seat inside, but the cabin size is normal.

However, visitors with limited mobility cannot use the elevator independently, as a magnetic key is required. Without help from another person, access is blocked.

The width of the routes inside the shelter is sufficient. They are marked with contrasting colors, and the waiting areas are located away from the passageways. Some doors also have Braille signs. However, this is not the case everywhere, as the shelter is still under construction. There is an information desk on two levels.

Visitors with limited mobility can use the universal toilet cubicle in the shelter. There is plenty of room to maneuver, and the sink and toilet are at the correct height. There are also handrails and a call button for assistance. However, shelves and hooks for belongings have not yet been installed.

Thus, the Elint anti-radiation shelter has virtually all the features of a barrier-free facility.

Comprehensive restoration after destruction: the example of the Kharkiv Regional Trauma Hospital



Implementing party: Charitable Foundation “Building the Future Together” NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/55>

Region of implementation: Kharkiv Territorial Community, Kharkiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9



Expert review of barrier-free conditions at the Kharkiv Regional Trauma Hospital

The regional trauma hospital⁶⁹ stood out as the best example among the nine medical facilities that the Kharkiv-based NGO “Building the Future Together” inspected during its recovery monitoring.

The hospital suffered severe damage when more than four rockets hit the building and its surroundings. One rocket damaged the technical floor, the surgery block on the seventh floor, and the radiology and laboratory departments on the sixth floor. Others caused significant damage to the main entrance, nearly all of the windows, and part of the facade. This happened in the winter, so restoration required immediate action.

The work was financed from the regional budget (emergency repair work). The

⁶⁹ Emergency repair work at the Regional Trauma Hospital. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=299670>

contracting authority for the major repairs was the Department of Capital Construction of the Kharkiv Regional State Administration.

What was destroyed and restored

- roof and technical floor repaired;
- surgery block (7th floor), radiology department, and laboratories (6th floor) restored,
- major repairs carried out on the entrance area;
- over 170 windows replaced, window slopes installed,
- first-floor corridors renovated;
- engineering networks and ventilation systems restored;
- stairwells underwent major repairs;
- solar panels were installed to increase energy independence.

Barrier-free environment

The hospital's entrance area was renovated to be modern and barrier-free. Ramps with double handrails, tactile navigation, level joints between coverings, contrasting markings, and high-quality lighting were installed. These features increase the safety and comfort of movement for all patients and visitors.



Before and after restoration. Kharkiv Regional Trauma Hospital

Energy efficiency

Significant reductions in heat loss were achieved through roof repairs, ventilation and lighting upgrades, and window insulation. Another step toward energy independence was installing solar panels.

This facility was the only one inspected where the restoration was so comprehensive and large-scale.

During the inspection, the experts were accompanied by Deputy Chief Physician Tetiana Hukova, who has worked at the hospital for over 40 years. She cares for the facility as if it were her own child. She showed us the renovated surgery rooms, areas where rockets had hit, the roof, and the new main entrance.

“When the rocket destroyed the hospital, it seemed that work would stop forever. But thanks to the restoration, we are performing operations again, and patients enter through a modern, barrier-free entrance. For me, this is a real rebirth,” Tetiana shared.



The restoration of the Kharkiv Regional Trauma Hospital exemplifies comprehensive reconstruction after large-scale destruction. It proves that life, safety, and trust can be restored even after the most severe losses.

Key to knowledge: How a modern shelter brought the Royal Gymnasium back to offline learning



Implementing party: Education for Success NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/56>

Region of implementation: Makariv and Bucha communities in the Kyiv region, Ivanivka community in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: June–August 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10



Entrance to the shelter of the Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council. Photo source: Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland⁷⁰

The Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council⁷¹ in the Kyiv region was damaged by Russian aggression in early 2022. Director Petro Kovalenko recalls that the gymnasium first sustained damage on March 6, 2022, including broken windows and a damaged heating system.

Although the Makariv Municipal Council carried out routine repairs to the premises in 2022, including replacing 48 windows and restoring the heating system and roof,

⁷⁰ Grand opening of the newly built anti-radiation shelter at the Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council. Back to School Project. Source: <https://asb.org.ua/foto/urochiste-vidkrittya-novozbudovanogo-protiradiaciynogo-ukrittya-u-korolivskomu-liceyi-makarivskoyi-selischnoyi-radi-proekt-quotnazad-do-shkoliquot/#gallery-4>

⁷¹ Royal Gymnasium, the Makariv community (emergency repairs). Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=100164>

using local budget funds, the gymnasium was unable to bring students back to their desks. Education continued remotely because there was no reliable shelter on the premises.

Common goal: safety above all

The main demand of the students' parents was to resume in-person learning. They constantly emphasized that they really wanted their children to return to school. Petro Kovalenko confirmed this, "Parents really wanted a shelter built for the school so that children could study in person. Therefore, we were constantly looking for opportunities to build a protective structure."

Safety was the key factor in returning to the usual educational process. Petro Kovalenko emphasized, "On September 1, 2024, when a reliable shelter was built, the school returned to in-person learning."

Successful international project

To solve this critical problem, the Makariv Municipal Council found a reliable international partner — the non-governmental organization "Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland" (ASB Ukraine). The ASB Ukraine provided financial support through Aktion Deutschland Hilft as part of the "Back to School" project.



Shelter at the Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council. Photo source: Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland ⁷²

Iryna Voloshchenko, the head of the Makariv Municipal Council's Department of Education, Youth, Physical Culture, and

Sports, commented on the process of finding funding, "To meet the new state building regulations (DBN), the cost of the new project was UAH 23 million. We agreed on this amount with our German benefactor. As a result of the tender they conducted, we saved on construction costs. The actual cost of building and equipping the shelter was UAH 21.8 million."

⁷² Grand opening of the newly built anti-radiation shelter at the Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council. Back to School Project. Source: <https://asb.org.ua/foto/urochiste-vidkritya-novozbudovanogo-protiradiaciynogo-ukritya-u-korolivskomu-liceyi-makarivskoyi-selischnoyi-radi-proekt-quotnazad-do-shkoliquot/#gallery-4>

Barrier-free and comfortable to the highest standards

The construction and equipping of the modular reinforced concrete anti-radiation shelter was completed on September 9, 2024. It is barrier-free and comfortable to the highest standards. This protective structure is designed for 128 students and all staff of the institution. It meets the highest safety and comfort standards, allowing people to stay in it continuously for up to 48 hours.

The shelter meets the accessibility requirements

- One of the two entrances features an electric lift for wheelchair users, providing unobstructed access.
- Tactile strips and Braille information signs have been installed inside.
- There is also an inclusive restroom.
- In addition, the shelter offers ideal conditions for long-term stays.
- Bunk beds with mattresses have been installed.
- A buffet has been set up for catering, which is rare for such facilities.
- Uninterrupted power is supplied by a generator, and a recuperation system provides high-quality ventilation.

Fatima Azizova, head of the ASB Ukraine mission, emphasized the importance of the project, "This educational institution has been closed for more than two years. However, the situation is changing today. Every child has the right to an education, one of the most powerful and proven means of sustainable development."

Transparency and openness

The Makariv Municipal Council ensured transparency at all stages of the project's implementation. Information on the construction's progress was regularly posted on the community's official website⁷³, social media, and donor resources⁷⁴. Information on the new shelter construction project is also posted on the state electronic DREAM platform⁷⁵.

Thanks to international support, the community's active involvement, and transparent implementation, the Royal Gymnasium has resumed providing quality educational services. This confirms the resilience of Ukraine's education system amid military challenges.

⁷³ Post on the Makariv Municipal Council Facebook page. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/makselrada/posts/pfbid02V3QMGM7P8pVNYJ1DhLQkNfKBfumQxFhBxp-pb7WtS7BspcCV5sgUHefXWimnG8xZl>

⁷⁴ Video on the ABS Ukraine Facebook page. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/2347744955604172>

⁷⁵ Construction of a new civil defense shelter (anti-radiation shelter) on the grounds of the Royal Gymnasium of the Makariv Municipal Council in the Bucha community of the Kyiv region Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-120724-80586C53/profile>

Chernihiv District Hospital: from ruins to a modern medical center



Implementing party: Urban Initiatives Agency NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/18>

Region of implementation: Chernihiv Territorial Community, Chernihiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 12



Outpatient building of the Chernihiv Central District Hospital after strikes by the Russian army in 2022. Source: Suspilne Chernihiv⁷⁶

Chernihiv Central District Hospital⁷⁷ sustained significant damage from Russian shelling, destroying buildings, equipment, and networks. Of the 10 buildings and 27 structures on the hospital grounds, the majority were damaged, most notably the infectious diseases, neurology, and laboratory departments, as well as the outpatient clinic. One building is beyond repair.

A team from the Urban Initiatives Agency NGO monitored the facility's restora-

⁷⁶ Awaiting expert assessment and calculating losses: Chernihiv District Hospital after a rocket strike, Suspilne Chernihiv, May 1, 2024. Source: <https://suspilne.media/chernihiv/736383-cekaut-na-provedenna-ekspertizi-ta-rahut-zbitki-vernigivska-rajikarna-pis-la-raketno-udar/>

⁷⁷ Major renovation of the three-story outpatient clinic building of the Chernihiv Central District Hospital. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=20055>

tion to assess the efficiency of using funds and the level of barrier-free access. Thanks to state, local, and international funding, the hospital is being restored and implementing energy-efficient solutions to become accessible to all patients. Restoration work began in May 2022 and has covered dozens of projects financed from various sources.

Sources of funding

According to the Prozorro electronic public procurement system, the cost of rebuilding the facility was nearly UAH 66 million. In particular, more than UAH 23.6 million⁷⁸ was allocated from the state budget in 2024 for the major renovation of the outpatient clinic building of the Chernihiv Central District Hospital. An additional UAH 2.3 million was allocated for preparing design and estimate documentation.

The French charitable foundation “Mécénat Servier” financed the first phase of the project through the United24 fundraising platform, providing approximately UAH 22 million. During the first phase, the roof was repaired, and windows and exterior doors were installed.

International partners and charitable organizations played an active role in restoring the hospital. Thanks to our collaboration with Expertise France, Acted, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), we repaired the slopes, roofs, and windows in the stroke, rehabilitation, and pediatrics departments of the medical facility. The International Medical Corps provided significant support, including financing capital and current repairs for several departments and providing furniture and supplies. Rotary in Ukraine donated rehabilitation equipment to the hospital.

Other significant contributions included the restoration of windows with support from Global Empowerment Mission, the installation of 156 solar panels from the Fortetschny Charitable Foundation, and 6 Tesla Powerwall battery systems from Yevgen Pyvovarov’s Charity Fund. Humedica equipped the mental health center and an inclusive restroom, and Nova Ukraine donated an ultrasound machine and supplies.

The Republic of Latvia financed the renovation of the pediatric department, and the Chernihiv Regional branch of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society provided the hospital with essential supplies. An additional UAH 135,000 was received from an anonymous donor.

⁷⁸ Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 386 dated April 9, 2024, “On the Distribution in 2024 of Funds from the Account Opened by the Ministry of Health with the National Bank to Meet Healthcare Needs.” Source: https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/386-2024-%D0%BF?utm_source=chatgpt.com#Text



The wide entrance to the reception area and other departments meets accessibility standards.



The corridors have gentle slopes and no thresholds, allowing wheelchair users to move around freely.

Barrier-free environment

All renovated buildings have elevators with 120-cm-wide doors that are adapted for people with disabilities. The elevators also go down to the shelter.



The entire facility is lush with greenery and has quiet recreation areas and places for solitude. The sidewalks on the grounds are free of potholes. There is enough space for several people in wheelchairs or with strollers to pass each other.

The entrances to the wards comply with the required width specifications. The doors are easy to open and have convenient handles. There are call buttons for assistance and ramps. At the entrance, there are transportation options for people with limited mobility, Braille signs in departments and offices, and elevators. All multistory buildings have elevators with 120-cm-wide doors that are accessible

to people with disabilities and can descend to a shelter. The pediatric department has yellow tactile paving on the stairs to help visually impaired individuals navigate.

The corridors have gentle slopes and no thresholds for easy wheelchair access. Each department has inclusive toilets (with a shower in the rehabilitation department). There is also an electronic stairlift and designated parking spaces for people with disabilities.

People with hearing impairments are assisted using the UTOG SERVICE system. This program provides sign language interpretation.



Mobile applications are provided for people with speech impairments.

However, there are also shortcomings. "Tactile paving is currently only available near the outpatient department, which is under renovation. It is not available in other areas or buildings. In the rehabilitation department, the doors to the inclusive restroom are narrower than the standard 90-cm width, the space is limited, and handrails are installed on only one side," says Iryna Vorokh, a monitoring expert at the Urban Initiatives Agency.

Energy efficiency

The hospital has replaced all its windows with new double-glazed units and installed 176 solar panels. The hospital has six Tesla Powerwall battery systems. Each building has an individual heating unit that can regulate the heat supply. Five buildings have new metal roofing. The insulation work in the pediatric department is ongoing. There are generators of various capacities. Approximately 90% of the lighting in the buildings is LED, reducing electricity consumption.

The main building needs thermal insulation, and the outpatient and pediatric departments need solar panels. A heat pump is also required for additional energy-efficient heating and cooling.

“In two and a half years, Chernihiv District Hospital has transitioned from ruins to a nearly fully restored, modern medical center. Despite this significant progress, priority tasks remain: insulating the main building and expanding the use of renewable energy sources. This is an example of how public funding, local efforts, and international solidarity can work together to save and develop critically important infrastructure,” says Iryna Vorokh, a monitoring expert at the Urban Initiatives Agency.

Part II

Public monitoring of reconstruction procurement

Quality procurement – successful recovery: the story of restoring a residential building in Bucha



Implementing party: Anti-Corruption Headquarters NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/40>

Region of implementation: Kyiv, Borodianka, and Hostomel communities

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 13



Apartment building at 318–A Yablunska Street in Bucha after de-occupation⁷⁹

During the major repairs of the residential building at 318–A Yablunska Street in Bucha virtually every stage was well arranged: the community was involved in discussions and decision-making regarding reconstruction, and procurement of works and services was carried out properly. But let's go step by step.

The apartment building at 318–A Yablunska Street in Bucha sustained severe damage in March 2022 during the Russian occupation. The roof was destroyed, windows and doors were shattered, and the façade, power supply, and lightning protection systems were heavily damaged. The building required immediate major renovation so that families could safely return to their homes.

⁷⁹ Major repairs of a residential building: 318–A Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=283>

This building was part of a large-scale recovery program for the Bucha community called “VDOMA KRASHCHE”⁸⁰, approved by the Bucha City Council back in 2022. The program identified strategic reconstruction priorities (housing, healthcare and education infrastructure, water supply, and alternative energy) and was developed with input from the public, expert organizations, and independent analysts.



*Apartment building at 318-A Yablunska Street in Bucha after de-occupation*⁸¹

For example, Ya-Buchanets NGO (I am from Bucha), Ecoaction Center for Environmental Initiatives, the Ukrainian Students League, and others contributed to its development. The community’s recovery vision was publicly presented within the Bucha Build Back Better Initiative.

The restoration of the building at 318-A Yablunska Street was financed by the Fund for Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression. The total cost of the work amounted to UAH 17.5 million, of which over UAH 15 million had already been paid at the time of monitoring (winter 2025). The community also published and regularly updated information about this project on the DREAM

⁸⁰ “VDOMA KRASCHE” Recovery Program for the Bucha community. Source: <https://bucha-rada.gov.ua/content/vdoma-krasche-programa-vidnovlennya-buchan-skoyi-gromady>

⁸¹ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 318-A Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=283>

platform⁸². While this is not a mandatory requirement, it helps all stakeholders stay informed about the progress of the building's recovery.

According to the official response⁸³ to the inquiry from the Anti-Corruption Headquarters NGO, as of February 2025 the full scope of works outlined in the design and estimate documentation had been completed. Additional minor renovation work, however, was planned for apartment No. 102.

During the procurement review, experts from the Anti-Corruption Headquarters NGO identified no gross violations. Most listed materials and works were priced at market levels and included clear technical specifications, although a few items required more detailed descriptions.

Three companies participated in the tender⁸⁴, and the contract was awarded to the bidder offering the lowest price.

The project for major repairs at 318-A Yablunska Street in Bucha stands as a strong example of good practice: competitive procurement with three companies involved, transparent information published on the DREAM platform, clear planning aligned with the community's recovery program, effective cost control, and no serious violations. The timely completion of the main works and the active involvement of residents in shaping the reconstruction vision demonstrate the community's responsible approach to recovery.

⁸² Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 318-A Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-110923-DC14B75B/profile>

⁸³ Response to the inquiry from the Anti-Corruption Headquarters NGO. Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Cydy-RYqvKjgwu1YdorvwY_NBRNNunZw/view

⁸⁴ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 318-A Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://prozorro.gov.ua/uk/tender/UA-2023-09-25-012298-a?oldVersion=true>

How to rebuild properly: Dnipro's experience in creating a barrier-free and transparent space for IDPs



Implementing party: Philosophy of the Heart NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/49>

Region of implementation: Dnipropetrovsk and Odesa regions – Pidhorodne, Kryvyi Rih, Verkhnodniprovsk, Dnipro, Avanhard, and Nerubaysk communities

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 19



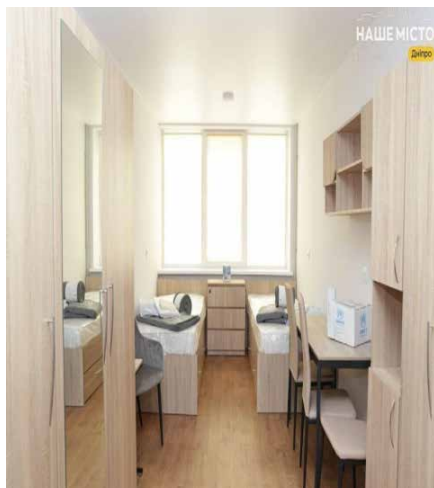
Dormitory No. 2 of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technology, Dnipro

After the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine, the need to provide housing for internally displaced persons (IDPs) became one of the most urgent challenges. Many facilities have been reconstructed hastily, with limited transparency and little dialogue with the community. However, there are also examples that demonstrate how the process should be carried out.

In Dnipro, the ongoing renovation of the ground-floor premises at Dormitory No. 2 of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technology⁸⁵ was monitored on behalf of the municipal institution “Mariupol City Social Dormitory”. This is more than a simple renovation – it is a comprehensive effort to create a safe and de-

⁸⁵ Ongoing renovation of the ground floor of blocks 3 and 4 at Dormitory No. 2 of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technology. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=180033>

cent temporary home for displaced persons, fully aligned with standards of barrier-free access, energy efficiency, and procedural transparency.



The core of the problem

More than 300,000 displaced persons are seeking shelter in the Dnipropetrovsk region. Many of them are elderly people, large families, or people with disabilities. At the outset of the project, the dormitory did not meet the basic conditions required to ensure safe and comfortable living for these groups. Creating an accessible environment and providing high-quality sanitary and living conditions therefore became an urgent priority.

Measures taken

The project provides for a comprehensive renovation of the ground-floor premises in blocks 3 and 4 of the dormitory. Works include:

- renovation of corridors, stairwells, and the entrance area in accordance with state building regulations (DBN) for barrier-free access;
- removal of redundant partitions, installation of new doors at least 0.9 m wide, and construction of ramps;
- arrangement of bathrooms with modern sanitary ware, ventilation, and hot water systems;
- energy-efficient solutions: replacement of lighting, installation of electric boilers, insulation;
- creation of recreation areas, coworking spaces, and sports zones, as requested by displaced residents.

Why this project matters

Transparency of procedures

The procurement process was public. The main tender for repair works was carried out through Prozorro using the “open bidding with special features” procedure. The competition between the two participants resulted in the contract price being reduced by almost UAH 2 million from the expected amount.

Assessment of needs and consideration of community input

The assessment of IDP needs was not a mere formality – residents of the dormitory actively participated in discussions and articulated their requests. As a result, additional coworking and sports spaces were included in the project design.

Barrier-free environment

The project ensures the creation of a barrier-free environment: ramps, handrails, widened doorways, and sanitary facilities adapted for people with disabilities.

Cost control

Monitoring did not reveal any signs of overpricing or discriminatory conditions. Minor deviations in the prices of certain materials (+17–30%) did not affect the overall estimate, and the contract was signed for UAH 9,186,160 instead of the initially planned UAH 11 million.

There are, therefore, positive examples of reconstruction where the contracting authority adheres to the principles of community engagement, transparency, accountability, and the commitment to “rebuild better than before”.

Procurement violations during the reconstruction of the Mykolaiv Gymnasium No.2



Implementing party: Steve Jobs Information Technology Support Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/20>

Region of implementation: Bashtanka, Volodymyrivka, Mykolaiv, and Nechayane communities in the Mykolaiv region

Implementation period: March–June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 30



*The Mykolaiv Gymnasium No. 2, architectural monument of local significance
"City Female School" (second female gymnasium)*

The Mykolaiv Gymnasium No. 2⁸⁶ is an architectural monument of local significance, formerly known as the City Female School, founded in the second half of the 19th century. On September 14, 2022, the building was struck by Russian missile and sustained around 10% damage. At the end of 2023, restoration works began and were expected to be completed within a year.

During the monitoring process, experts assessed the transparency of the building's selection for reconstruction, the procurement procedures, etc. The key elements analyzed are outlined below.

Transparency of decision-making and project information disclosure

The Mykolaiv RMA did not clarify the methodology used to select this project, whether community needs had been assessed, or whether other potential projects competed for funding. At the same time, the Mykolaiv RMA stated that Gym-

⁸⁶ Restoration of the Mykolaiv Gymnasium No. 2 Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=16364>

nasium No. 2 was selected for restoration because it is an architectural monument that must be protected from further deterioration. In addition, local residents supported preserving the school: a petition on the city council's website collected more than 1,000 signatures.

Significant attention was also paid to informing the public about the reconstruction. Regional media covered information about the tender announcement, the contracting authority, sources of funding, the planned scope of work, and the expected budget⁸⁷.

However, data related to this project is not systematized. The facility is listed on the DREAM platform, but key documents such as the project design and estimate documentation or the project plan are missing⁸⁸. Furthermore, the total cost of reconstruction remains unclear. Initially, in 2023, the Mykolaiv RMA requested UAH 400 million for the restoration of the gymnasium; in 2024, it estimated the required funding at UAH 218 million. According to media reports, UAH 149 million was expected to be allocated from the state budget. In reality, only UAH 16.5 million was provided from the Fund for the Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression. As of early 2024, just UAH 3 million had been spent. (At the time of monitoring, reconstruction had not been completed. According to the data from the DREAM platform, the project status remains “not completed”, though it is possible this has not been updated by the RMA – editorial note).

Selection of contractors

The project design organization and the agency responsible for field supervision were selected without a competitive tender, as the cost of their services was below the threshold of UAH 1.5 million.

Autograph-N LLC served as both the project designer and the field supervision provider, while Zhitloprombud-8 acted as the contractor responsible for the restoration work. The companies are owned by two relatives, Nina Sterpul and Hryhorii Sterpul, creating a conflict of interest. This practice poses significant risks to the quality of the project implementation.

Although Zhitloprombud-8 was selected through a tender, it was the only company that submitted a bid. During procurement monitoring, experts found that the seven-day bidding period was too short and created conditions for potential

⁸⁷ Yuliia Boichenko. The government allocated UAH 149.5 million for the restoration of the historic building of the Mykolaiv Gymnasium No. 2. March 26, 2024. Source: <https://nikvesti.com/ua/news/business/restavratsiia-himnazii-2-mykolaiv-uryad-vydilyv-149-5-mln-grn>

⁸⁸ DREAM. The Mykolaiv Gymnasium No. 2. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-200923-71325965/profile>

abuse, however compliant with the simplified procedures established by the Cabinet of Ministers. In addition, the tender requirements themselves appeared to be “tailored” (that is, written to suit a specific contractor – editorial note).

A few additional details are noteworthy. In 2017, Autograph-N conducted an assessment of the gymnasium building and declared it unsafe, whereas a special commission later identified only several roof slabs as hazardous. The construction company Zhitloprombud-8 has also been mentioned in multiple anti-corruption media investigations.

Analysis of material prices

An analysis of the resource specifications in Contract No. 164 for construction work at the Gymnasium No. 2 revealed potential risks of overpricing for many items due to vague and unreliable descriptions of materials.

For example, items such as “160×160 corner” or “Polymer-coated sheet steel” lacked essential characteristics, brand, metal thickness, and other specifications. Without this information, it is impossible to compare material prices with market benchmarks. Numerous similar cases were identified in the resource specifications.

Fragmentation of procurement, overpricing of materials, and other violations. Monitoring of procurement in the Chernihiv region



Implementing party: Anti-Corruption Center of Korop NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/19>

Region of implementation: Korop community in the Chernihiv region

Implementation period: March 2024–June 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 9

While monitoring public procurement for the reconstruction of social infrastructure facilities, experts from the Anti-Corruption Center NGO identified a number of classic procurement violations. Below are some of the most common ones.

Fragmentation of procurement amounts

In 2023, the Korop Municipal Council, located in the Novhorod-Siverskyi district of the Chernihiv region, decided to renovate a public restroom⁸⁹. Instead of announcing a tender, the council split the renovation into two separate projects – for the left and right wings of the facility. And the renovation cost for each wing was set below UAH 1.5 million, allowing the works to be procured without an open tender, since purchases under this threshold do not require competitive bidding.

Moreover, it was found that the prices for construction materials were significantly inflated, particularly for sand and metal-plastic doors. Based on these findings, criminal proceedings were initiated at the request of the head of the Anti-Corruption Center of Korop NGO.

Lack of prioritization in reconstruction projects and overpricing

The premises of the Social Services Center of the Novhorod-Siverskyi Municipal Council had not been affected by armed aggression. They were neither destroyed nor damaged. At the same time, in 2023 the town had numerous damaged facilities that required restoration.

Was it truly necessary to repair the Center in 2023? In fact, this remains unclear. The Novhorod-Siverskyi territorial community did not apply any methodology for prioritizing projects, conducted no assessment of community needs, and did not select the Center's renovation project through a competitive process among other potential projects.

⁸⁹ Major repairs to the right wing of a public restroom in Korop of the Chernihiv region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=5808>



Public restroom in Korop

The Municipal Council spent UAH 414,000 on renovating the Center, and the contractor was selected without a tender. Since the amount did not exceed the UAH 1.5 million threshold, no violation occurred, although a tender could have been held. The funds were allocated from the local budget. At the same time, based on most of the materials reviewed, experts from the Anti-Corruption Center of Korop NGO recorded price increases ranging from 15% to 75%.

Tender avoidance and non-transparent practices

The cost of reconstructing the medical gas supply system at the Central Municipal Hospital named after I.V. Buyalsky in Novhorod-Siverskyi exceeded the UAH 1.5 million threshold. However, the hospital did not conduct a tender and instead used a simplified procurement procedure. (It is a type of tender with significantly reduced requirements and shorter time frames, permitted under the Cabinet of Ministers' decision on simplifying the procurement of construction works during martial law – editorial note). The contracting authority explained that the procurement was conducted due to the introduction of martial law and that the reconstruction was an urgent need for the hospital. Although no legal violation occurred, the question remains whether the reconstruction of the medical gas supply system, which had not been damaged as a result of combat operations, should have been treated as a priority.

The reconstruction efforts were mostly funded from the local budget, and the municipal council did not make any information about this project publicly available. No public discussions were held.

Recovery in Poltava region: what undermines transparency and efficiency



Implementing party: ZMIST Analytical Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/29>

Region of implementation: Poltava, Komyschnia, Kobeliaky, and Kremenchuk communities of the Poltava region

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 18

In September 2024, the ZMIST Analytical Center presented the results of its monitoring of procurement for the reconstruction and recovery of social infrastructure facilities in the Poltava region. The analysis covered 30 projects, representing 15% of all projects submitted by communities in the region to the DREAM platform at the time of monitoring.



Image source: Analytical report “Monitoring of reconstruction and recovery procurement in the Poltava region projects”

Reconstruction as development, not just repair

The full-scale war has destroyed thousands of facilities across Ukraine, and the recovery process is not merely about restoring them to their pre-war condition – it is a step toward modernization. When we speak about reconstruction, we mean

development, modernization, and saving lives. Public monitoring is essential to ensuring that donor and state funds are used effectively.

What was restored

Most communities in the Poltava region already have development strategies or recovery programs. As of summer 2024, 38 out of 60 communities created their own investment profiles in the DREAM system, submitting a total of 198 projects. Thirty of these projects were selected for monitoring, primarily in the fields of education (73%) and healthcare (20%).

These projects include the reconstruction of schools, kindergartens, hospitals, clinics, and housing for internally displaced persons.

Sources of funding:

- European Investment Bank – up to 80% of the cost of individual projects;
- Local budgets – 20% on average;
- Additional support from the Fund for the Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression, the Swiss-Ukrainian DECIDE project, and other international donors.

Common issues: from insufficient competition to non-transparent documentation



Image source: Analytical report "Monitoring of reconstruction and recovery procurement in the Poltava region projects"⁹⁰

⁹⁰ Analytical report "Monitoring of reconstruction and recovery procurement in the Poltava region projects" Source: https://zmist-tech-space.fra1.cdn.digitaloceanspaces.com/2024/10/zvit_monitoryng_zakupivel_z_vidbudovy_ta_vidnovlennya_po_proyektah.pdf

Monitoring revealed a number of systemic problems in the reconstruction process

1. Lack of competition. In 63% of cases, the contracting authority concluded agreements for the development of project design and estimate documentation without conducting open tenders – often awarding contracts to familiar contractors or affiliated companies.
2. Project adjustments. Contracting authorities often revise the estimate multiple times, citing updates to building codes or changes in prices.
3. Formal tenders. Nearly one-third of procurements had only a single participant, effectively eliminating competition.
4. Non-transparent reporting. Contracts or estimates are often missing from the Prozorro system. Some contracting authorities refuse to provide them, classifying the information as “proprietary” and citing “security concerns”.
5. Project defragmentation. In some cases, a large project is divided into several smaller ones, which complicates the oversight of volumes and costs.
6. Data inconsistency. In 30% of cases, the information on the DREAM platform does not align with the real picture at the facility.

What can change the situation

Ukraine has now created a favorable environment for monitoring. This is primarily due to the capabilities of modern technologies, the availability of open information sources, and platforms that promote transparency and accessibility in the country's recovery processes. Transparency issues are also being addressed at the state level. For example, the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On Public Procurement’” adopted on September 19, 2024, requires buyers to publish publicly available information on prices for material resources, routine maintenance services, construction work, and building materials. These measures will contribute to a more efficient, open, and transparent use of resources. This will strengthen the international community's confidence in the possibility of participating in Ukraine's recovery program.

Conclusion

Poltava region demonstrates community engagement in restoring social infrastructure, but the efficiency and transparency of processes require improvement. The main resource, which is no less important than money, is trust. And public monitoring remains a key tool for sustaining it.

Information warfare in response to procurement audits. Case from Brave Irpin NGO



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: June–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 12



Image from the Facebook account of Brave Irpin NGO.⁹¹

After Brave Irpin NGO published information about the reconstruction of buildings at 160-2⁹² and 162-1⁹³ Severynivska Street, many questions arose about the Academy of Building Expertise LLC, which is responsible for developing the project design and estimate documentation.

The information about this company is public and can

be found on the Prozorro, YouControl, and Opendatabot platforms. All procurements involving the company were conducted via direct contracts, meaning they were not subject to open tenders.

During the monitoring, the Brave Irpin NGO identified several important facts:

- According to data from YouControl and OpenData, as of 2023, the company

⁹¹ Post about the reconstruction of the building at 160-2 Severynivska Street. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=784894540524215&set=a.553132963700375>

⁹² Brave Irpin. September 3, 2024. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/BztmB-HFwwokQODJM/>

⁹³ Brave Irpin. September 6, 2024. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/obX-3AXapME64Duxd/>

employed only five people, while its annual income increased by more than UAH 2 million;

- Olga Pariienko, registered in Yasynuvata, Donetsk region, which is an occupied territory, was listed as the company's ultimate beneficiary across all registries. According to Part 2 of Article 13 of Law No. 1207, any contract with a company registered in a temporarily occupied territory is deemed invalid. The ultimate beneficiary is the person who actually receives the company's primary income;
- It is worth noting that on March 1, 2024, the company registered its website on a Russian hosting service – lyubovshapovalova.ru domain, which is pre-paid until March 2025;
- expert reviews of the prepared design and estimate documentation (DES) were done by another company, DN-Consulting LLC, whose management has family ties to the Academy of Building Expertise LLC. The company's owners are Olga Pariienko and her husband;
- And the most striking finding: it appears that the DES was paid for twice.

Following a Facebook post by Brave Irpin NGO regarding the building at 160-2 Severynivska Street, an article was published in the public group My Kyiv Region⁹⁴, containing false statements about the NGO's activities and an alleged refutation of the information published by public experts. The publication appeared to be an attempt to divert attention from the information disclosed by Brave Irpin NGO.

The article also denied that the DES had been prepared multiple times, even though it itself cited facts confirming this: initially, the project was developed for the demolition of the building, then for its renovation, and later for its renovation with apartments. In other words, at least three sets of DED were created for a single facility.

Thus, instead of providing legal arguments to justify its activities, the company chose to discredit the Brave Irpin NGO. The NGO views such actions as an attempt to exert pressure on public oversight. At the same time, Brave Irpin NGO sees this situation as evidence that transparency and monitoring truly work: they increase community awareness of procurement processes and the use of reconstruction funds.

⁹⁴ A city council member spreads fake news about businesses in Irpin. September 16, 2024. Source: <https://mykyivregion.com.ua/news/deputatka-miskoyi-radi-posiryuje-feiki-pro-subjekti-gospodaryuvannya-irpenya>

Non-transparent and high-risk. Procurement for reconstruction in the Poltava region



Implementing party: Poltava Branch of Public Service of Ukraine NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/31>

Region of implementation: Dykanka, Poltava, Orzhytsia, Lubny, Hradyzk communities of the Poltava region

Implementation period: June 2024–September 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 19

As part of the project, the organization analyzed procurements related to the restoration and reconstruction of 20 social infrastructure facilities, which, as of the monitoring date, were at various stages of reconstruction. The study was conducted across eight communities in the Poltava region: Kremenchuk, Poltava, Myrhorod, Dykanka, Reshetylivka, Lubny, Orzhytsia, and Pyriatyn.

The total estimated budget for the restoration of these 20 facilities amounted to UAH 1.57 billion, of which UAH 894.12 million was available at the time of monitoring. This meant that budget coverage stood at 56.9%, indicating a shortage of financial resources to complete the planned work.

In addition to financing delays, experts identified several other problems and risks: changes in the scope of work, a shortage of qualified contractors, potential corruption risks associated with single-bid procurements, and the risk of overpricing when purchasing goods.

Lack of qualified contractors and corruption risks

The projects “Reconstruction of the Cardiovascular Center building in Poltava⁹⁵” and “Reconstruction of part of the building for the Administrative Services Center in the Orzhytsia community” lacked proper contractor selection, which could have affected the quality or timing of works.

According to the analysis, 41% of contractors awarded project work had a documented history of involvement in criminal proceedings or anti-corruption investigations. Among the contractors selected for construction work, this figure reached as high as 75%.

However, during meetings with community representatives, they explained why the same developers were consistently involved. The reason is that very few construction companies are willing to work with budget funds, as it can take 2–3 months to receive payment after the work is completed, and carrying out construction in full

⁹⁵ Reconstruction of the Cardiovascular Center building in Poltava. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=494>



compliance with standards is highly costly. There is also a requirement from the European Investment Bank, which financed part of the projects in these communities, that tender participants demonstrate financial capacity, proven experience in reconstruction, and experience in renovation or restoration. There are only 2-3 organizations meeting these requirements in the region.

Building of the Cardiovascular Center in Poltava⁹⁶

Risk of purchasing from a single participant (RISK-2-15)

In 40% of cases, indicators of RISK-2-15, i.e. purchasing from a single participant, were identified during procurement procedure.

In 30% of non-tendered project work, the contractors were companies whose ultimate beneficial owners are Yuriy Serhiyovych Bielodied and Ruslan Volodymyrovych Rusanov. In 25% of the reviewed projects, the designer was selected from among companies whose ultimate beneficial owner is Larysa Viacheslavivna Abkhairova. In 66% of the cases analyzed, the winner of technical supervision service procurements conducted without using the electronic system was the private entrepreneur Mykhailo Mykhailovych Morozov.

Risk of overpricing during procurement

This risk was identified in 85% of the reviewed DES. In half of these cases, the contracting authority was the Department of Construction, Urban Planning and Architecture, Housing and Utilities, and Energy of the Poltava Regional State Administration, and in the other half it was the Capital Construction Department of the Myrhorod City Council. These two authorities proved to be the most non-transparent administrators of public information during the monitoring.

⁹⁶ Reconstruction of the Cardiovascular Center building in Poltava. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=494>

Insufficiency and lack of updated information in the DREAM system

40% of the project initiators surveyed did not provide complete and accurate information about contractors and procurement procedures in the DREAM system. 70% of project initiators did not provide history of project implementation and procurement procedures. At the same time, Roman Salnyi and Yuliia Hrechnivska, employees of the Department of Construction, Urban Planning and Architecture, Housing and Utilities, and Energy of the Poltava RMA, pointed out issues when filling out the DREAM platform:

- it is not possible to enter the completion date in the following year;
- it is not possible to enter the full name of the owner of the facility;
- there is no lower-level administrator.

Transparency of the selection process

In 2024, the public had almost no official information about the progress of the recovery process in the Poltava region, was not involved in the selection and control of project implementation, and public authorities and contracting authorities did not post official information about the recovery (plans, announcements, copies of documents, estimates, etc.) on their websites.

Top level of cooperation:

The Kremenchuk, Pyriatyn, and Lubny communities demonstrated a high level of cooperation, providing timely responses to requests regarding procurement procedures. These communities provided full access to information, allowing for an in-depth analysis of procurement and recovery processes.

Low level of cooperation:

The Myrhorod municipal community and the Poltava RMA proved to be uncooperative in responding to requests for information. The Poltava RMA submitted incomplete responses, which also complicated the assessment process.

The lack of additional documents and insufficient information from these authorities affected the transparency of procurement procedures.

Based on the identified problems and risks, experts prepared recommendations to improve the efficiency of project implementation and provided them to local government representatives. Key recommendations include increasing transparency in decision-making on recovery and reconstruction and engaging the public in these processes. It is important to adopt strategies to minimize risks, which have grown during the war. It is also important to follow tender procedures and avoid direct contracts in order to use budget funds effectively.

22 reconstruction contracts awarded to two contractors. Analysis of procurement in the Makariv community of the Kyiv region



Implementing party: Our Council NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/27>

Region of implementation: Makariv community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: July–October 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 12



The NGO analyzed procurement at 15 facilities damaged by Russian shelling in the Makariv community in the Kyiv region. These included six educational institutions (lyceums of Lypivka, Sytniaky, Korolivka, Motyzhyn, Kopylivtsi, and the Makariv Lyceum No. 1), a hospital, a recreation center, and seven apartment buildings (1 Sadova Street; 4, 10, and 14 Proektna Street; 64 Rostovskoho Street; 25 Chornovola Street; and 25 and 34 Dovzhenka Street).

Residential building in Makariv, 1a Sadova Street⁹⁷

The procurement was ordered by the Kyiv RMA's Department of Regional Development, the Infrastructure Restoration and Development Service in the Kyiv region, the Makariv Municipal Council, and its structural subdivisions.

⁹⁷ Major repairs of a residential building, Makariv. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=936>

The total budget for the restoration of the 15 facilities examined is almost UAH 422 million (UAH 44 million from the Makariv municipal budget, UAH 23 million from the Kyiv regional budget, UAH 173 million from the state budget, and UAH 182 million from the European Investment Bank).

Fifteen private enterprises (PEs) were involved to perform works and provide services under 23 contracts, and 19 companies implemented 51 contracts.

Most of the contracts were awarded to PE Holovatiuk, with 4 contracts, and PE Rehida, with 3 contracts.

The largest number of contracts was awarded to the following companies:

- I.B.K. Development LLC – 14 contracts totaling UAH 5.4 million;
- Arch-Bud LLC – 8 contracts totaling UAH 12.1 million.

The contractors were selected by both the Makariv Municipal Council and the Kyiv RMA's Department of Regional Development.



Reconstruction of a residential building in Makariv, 10 Proektna Street⁹⁸

Out of 74 procurements reviewed, only 8 were conducted through open tenders. The remaining procedures were carried out without the use of the Prozorro electronic procurement system. Contracting authorities entered into direct contracts

⁹⁸ Major repairs to a residential building, Makariv. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=101>

with contractors. While this is allowed under the simplified procurement procedures adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, open tenders could have fostered competition and potentially reduced reconstruction costs.

None of the 74 procurements were preceded by public hearings, and the public was not involved in the working groups responsible for selecting priority reconstruction sites. In some cases, this may be considered justified, as there was an urgent need to eliminate the consequences of Russian shelling and prevent further damage.

However, subsequent decisions by the authorities resulted in the simultaneous closure of all five general secondary education institutions in Makariv for renovation. As a consequence, students in grades 5–11 were forced to study online, while students in grades 1–4 had to follow a blended learning format and were transported by bus to other towns and villages in the community where schools continued to operate full-time.

Most contracts for capital and emergency repairs do not include cost estimates and expense reports, which makes it impossible to monitor prices and work.

In response to information requests from the NGO regarding electronic versions of project estimates and related documentation, the Department of Regional Development of the Kyiv RMA issued invoice, the highest of which amounted to UAH 1,049.42.

Among the estimates analyzed by the Our Council NGO team, the most significant potential overstatement was found in the price of building materials under Contract No. 2K-23, dated July 28, 2023. The contracting authority was the Infrastructure Restoration and Development Service in the Kyiv Region, and the contractor was I.B.K. Development LLC. With a total contract value of UAH 63.3 million, the estimated potential overpayment amounted to UAH 3.1 million.

According to the YouControl analytical system, I.B.K. Development LLC has been involved in several criminal investigations. According to the YouControl analytical system, I.B.K. Development LLC has been involved in several criminal investigations. In 2018, investigators suspected the company of fictitious entrepreneurship and securities fraud.

The second largest potential overpayment was identified under Contract No. 176/2912, dated December 29, 2022, for emergency capital repairs. The contracting authority was the Makariv Municipal Council, and the contractor was Arkh-Bud LLC. The possible overpayment amounted to UAH 0.9 million out of a total contract amount of UAH 7.2 million.

The third largest potential overpayment was identified under Contract No. 173/2712, dated December 27, 2022, also for emergency capital repairs. The estimated overstatement amounted to UAH 0.6 million out of a total contract value of UAH 3.2 million. The Makariv Municipal Council acted as the contracting authority, and the contractor was Arkh-Bud LLC.

Integral Bud-Standard LLC, which is carrying out major repairs of the apartment building at 1 Sadova Street, under a contract for a total amount of UAH 70.3 million, has been associated with criminal activity and fictitious business practices, according to data from open registries.

Diproinbud LLC, which is renovating the Makariv Lyceum No. 1 under a contract for a total amount of UAH 89 million, was registered in Kyiv in 2004, and has had experience executing similar contracts since March 2024. "Nashi Groshi" (Our Money) mentions the company in its investigation "The State Fiscal Service suspects Stolitsa Group beneficiaries of tax evasion amounting to 100 million".

All estimates and information are available in the contracts for the reconstruction of the Sytniaky Lyceum. Based on the results of the price analysis, no excess of the purchase prices for building materials was found.

Overall, the monitoring revealed that there are no dominant players in the regional reconstruction and restoration market. This refers to companies that are willing to participate in public procurement. Design work is often carried out by PEs, who also often lack substantial experience. At the same time, there is a notable risk of overpricing in construction contracts. However, for many projects, cost estimates are missing, making it impossible to assess the accuracy of pricing.

Transparent solutions, but opaque reconstruction processes. Analysis of procurement for the reconstruction of Irpin, Kyiv region



Implementing party: Brave Irpin NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/16>

Region of implementation: Irpin community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: September 2024–January 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 13

While monitoring the reconstruction of Irpin, experts from the Brave Irpin NGO concluded that the local community is interested in rebuilding the city's infrastructure and social and residential facilities, all of which are under monitoring. The Irpin community is actively filling the DREAM platform⁹⁹ with reconstruction projects and uploading all available information. As of October 2024, the system had registered 230 projects, 198 of which were active. This was the highest figure in the Kyiv region at that time.

However, monitoring revealed that during that period, the executive committee of the Irpin City Council did not upload most documents to DREAM, including estimates, contracts, work performance reports, and other documents. For example, regarding the major renovation of an apartment building at 4 Shevchenko Street in Irpin¹⁰⁰ and the reconstruction of the Irpin Gymnasium "Osvita", only an expert report and a summary estimate were uploaded to DREAM. These documents do not provide sufficient information to determine the logic of the planned repair work or the adequacy of the cost of work and services.¹⁰¹

At the same time, the ICC uploaded information about facilities damaged by Russian aggression to the DREAM portal, as well as other community facilities that needed repairs before hostilities began and were not damaged during the conflict. For example, this includes the Irpin Gymnasium "Osvita" located at 5 Pryvokzalna Square in Irpin.

⁹⁹ Irpin, project initiator. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/community/514>

¹⁰⁰ Major repairs to an apartment building at 4 Shevchenko Street. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-090224-FE254CEC/profile>

¹⁰¹ Reconstruction of the gymnasium "Osvita". Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-140224-80465073/profile>



*Residential building at 4 Shevchenko Street in Irpin is undergoing restoration.*¹⁰²



*The Irpin Gymnasium "Osvita" at 5 Pryvokzalna Square, before restoration*¹⁰³

¹⁰² Major repairs to an apartment building at 4 Shevchenko Street. Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-090224-FE254CEC/profile>

¹⁰³ Reconstruction of the gymnasium "Osvita". Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-140224-80465073/profile>



The Irpin Gymnasium "Osvita" at 5 Pryvokzalna Square, restoration project ¹⁰⁴

Transparency of decision-making and coverage of the reconstruction process

The process of approving reconstruction projects was open and transparent. All information regarding major repairs to each monitored facility was posted on social media. However, the community did not always influence changes to these projects.

At the same time, local residents' opinions were not always considered before the development and approval of the reconstruction plan and DED. Residents were often faced with a fait accompli when the implementation plan was presented. Social media only serves as a platform for transparency and openness with the community, not for community involvement. An example of this is the major repairs¹⁰⁵ to the multi-story buildings at 4 Shevchenko Street and 61 Zarifa Aliyeva Street.

When accessing the documents, the project team found that local authorities often misunderstand how transparency should work and are unaware of the purpose of the DREAM platform.

¹⁰⁴ Reconstruction of the gymnasium "Osvita". Source: <https://dream.gov.ua/ua/project/DREAM-UA-140224-80465073/profile>

¹⁰⁵ On October 25, 2023, Suspilne reported that major repairs were funded for two buildings in Irpin's city center. Source: <https://suspilne.media/kyiv/602393-v-irpeni-profinansuvali-kapremont-dvoh-budinkiv-aki-roztasovani-u-centri-mista/>

For instance, when a facility was rebuilt, the authorities did not consider it necessary to complete its profile in the DREAM digital system. In most cases, design and estimate documentation was not uploaded to the DREAM platform.

Most purchases were made through direct contracts. There are no competitive terms when concluding direct contracts. The contractor is not selected from among many options (because there is only one), the most advantageous offer is not selected (because there are not many offers), and the agreement is not transparent. Even in the case of open tenders through the Prozorro electronic system, the tender documentation is often prepared for a specific contractor with whom the price and essential terms of the agreement have already been negotiated.

While monitoring the Irpin City Council's profile in the DREAM system, Brave Irpin NGO found discrepancies between the system's information and the situation at the reconstruction facilities. Specifically, the DREAM system listed the buildings at 160 and 162 Severynivska Street in four projects simultaneously, including major renovations and new constructions. Additionally, they were listed as buildings to be demolished for new construction. However, renovation work funded by the International Organization for Migration has been ongoing since summer 2024.

Therefore, the executive committee of the Irpin City Council failed to update the DREAM data according to the actual state of affairs. Despite the decision to demolish the buildings being partially revoked in 2022, the system still contained outdated information about the "new construction" of a residential complex consisting of three buildings, though only one was planned.

Violations in tenders and contractor selection

It should be noted that the DED was often developed without considering the inclusiveness and accessibility of social facilities and housing.

Additionally, the monitoring team found the unjustified rejection of proposals from individual bidders, double contracts for services/works, and repeated payments for procurement.

Some contractors had reputational risks and were involved in criminal proceedings. For instance, contractors involved in the major repairs of kindergarten No. 2 "Vesnianka" (in particular, Architecture and Construction Company Sigma Bud LLC) were suspected of forgery. Construction Company Big Bud Invest LLC faced criminal charges for misappropriation, embezzlement, and the unlawful seizure of property arising from the abuse of office.

By the end of 2024, during the monitoring period, a lawsuit was ongoing against this company to recover more than UAH 4 million from Construction Company

Big Bud Invest LLC¹⁰⁶ for the late fulfillment of a monetary obligation to return an advance payment.

Moreover, some contractors were selected despite having no proven track record. One example is Dariia Oleksandrivna Kravtsova, a sole proprietor who was contracted in January 2024 to prepare DED for the reconstruction of the Irpin Gymnasium “Osvita”. The contract amount was UAH 3.5 million. Kravtsova registered as a sole proprietor on October 28, 2023, in the Kyiv region, Bucha district, Irpin, Sadova Street).

Direct contracts were frequently uploaded to the Prozorro system in violation of statutory deadlines, often incompletely and poorly presented. For instance, 80% of the procurements monitored in the project in the Prozorro system did not include contracts for technical and field supervision, which are mandatory for capital construction. After reviewing available estimates, experts identified a risk of overestimating the cost of work/services at reconstruction sites by more than 30%.

The preschool educational institution No. 2 “Vesnianka”, for example, not only exceeded the estimated cost but also increased the construction cost of the kindergarten from UAH 85 million to UAH 184 million over two years¹⁰⁷.

Thus, the ICC has often publicly announced reconstruction and recovery projects. At the same time, community residents and active citizens were not involved in discussions about priorities and projects. Unfortunately, there are procurement violations. Contracts are awarded to inexperienced entrepreneurs, and some information is not submitted to Prozorro. The city council did not update the information on the DREAM platform either, making it impossible to find out about the current status of project implementation.

¹⁰⁶ Construction Company Big Bud Invest LLC Source: https://youcontrol.com.ua/catalog/company_details/43468483/

¹⁰⁷ Passport of preschool educational institution No. 2 “Vesnianka” Source: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kNAVOSKmknyM8WY_DvK_BYgW6fx1JQrp/edit

Non-transparent procurement processes are common in the Sumy and Chernihiv regions



Implementing party: Public Monitoring of Ukraine, NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/32>

Region of implementation: Sumy community in Sumy region, Chernihiv community in Chernihiv region

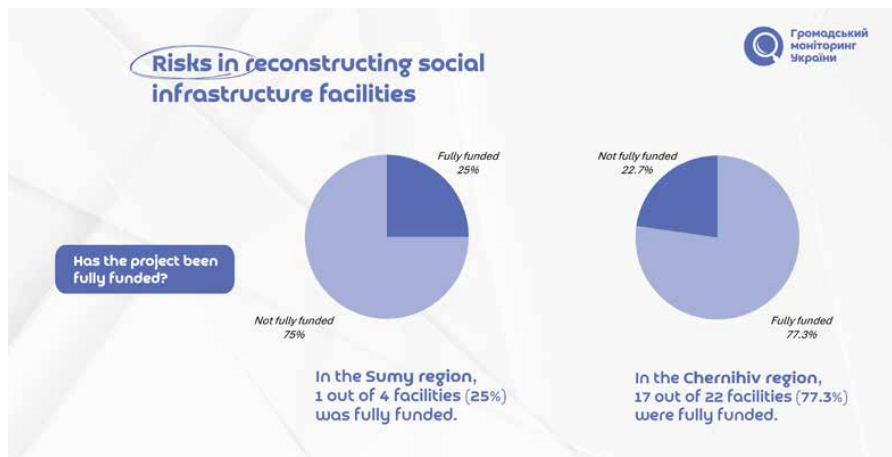
Implementation period: September–November 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 26

Public Monitoring of Ukraine NGO (PMU) monitored procurement related to the reconstruction of social infrastructure in the communities of the Sumy and Chernihiv regions. The study covered 26 objects, including schools, kindergartens, residential buildings, hospitals, administrative buildings, and other institutions.

Procurements totaling UAH 189 million were audited (including UAH 122 million in the Sumy region and UAH 67 million in the Chernihiv region). The monitoring results indicated a lack of transparency in the procurement procedures. Most procurements were conducted in a non-competitive manner and did not use the Prozorro system. Often, contracting authorities did not publish cost estimates or submit their projects to the DREAM platform, which makes public oversight impossible.

In the Sumy region, only 1 out of 4 projects (25%) received full funding, while in the Chernihiv region — 17 out of 22 projects (77%). However, significant violations were also recorded there:

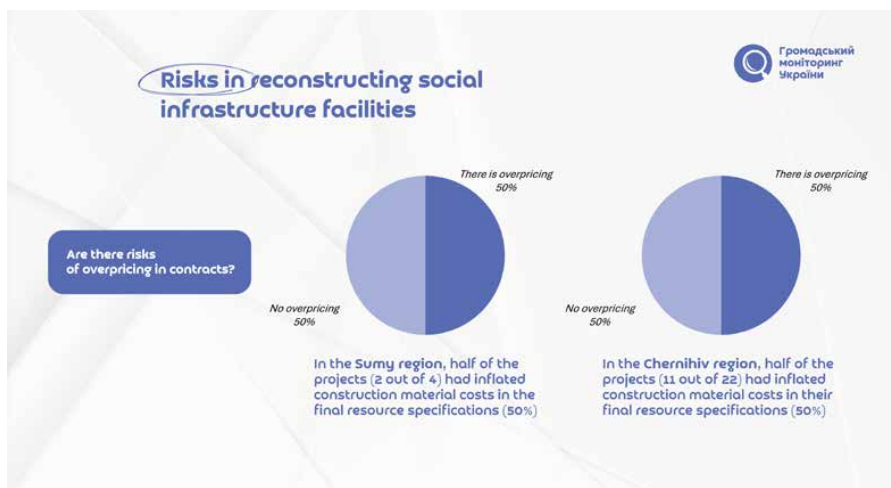


Presentation of the project results: «Monitoring of reconstruction-related procurement in the communities of Sumy and Chernihiv regions»

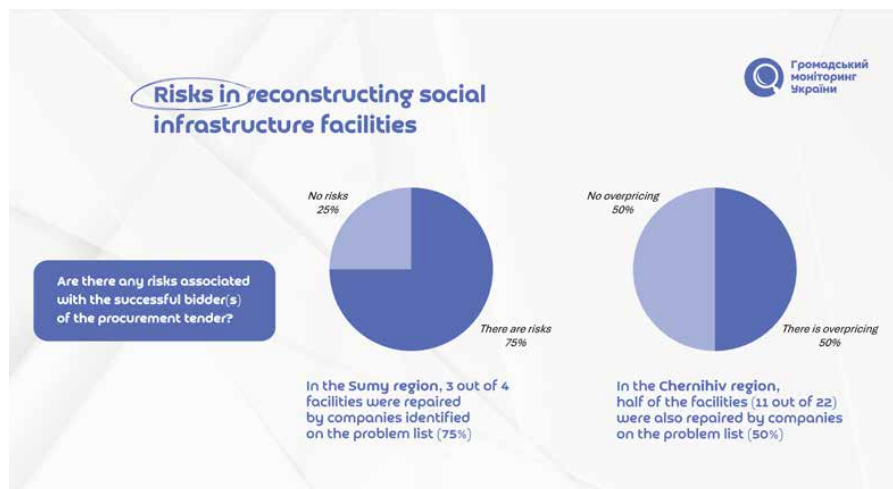
- only 9% of the projects underwent a competitive selection process for the project design organization;
- half of the facilities were at risk of overpriced construction materials;
- in 50% of cases, contractors were companies identified on the problem list.



Among the identified cases are kindergarten No. 23 “Zolotyi Kliuchy” in Sumy and a residential building located at 143 Peremohy Avenue. These cases revealed a lack of competitive procedures, the seizure of documentation due to ongoing criminal proceedings, and an overestimation of project costs by UAH 3.64 million.



In Chernihiv, risks were identified concerning kindergartens No.54, No.60, and No.70, including conflicts of interest, inflated prices, and insufficient data on Prozorro.



PMU experts recommend that communities enhance data transparency, avoid conflicts of interest, improve contractor selection, ensure public oversight, and provide regular reports on fund usage.

Systemic violations in the reconstruction of Zaporizhzhia: facilities are constructed without permits, and information is being concealed



Implementing party: People's Defense NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/36>

Region of implementation: Zaporizhzhia, Molochansk, and Novobohdanivka communities in the Zaporizhzhia region

Implementation period: September–December 2024

Number of inspected facilities: 15

In 2024, People's Defense NGO monitored reconstruction procurement and found that the restoration of social infrastructure in the Zaporizhzhia region often occurred with serious violations, ranging from transparency issues to unpermitted construction.

One major violation is ignoring the principle of involvement, which means failing to include local communities in selecting facilities for reconstruction. The level of information transparency in the region is extremely low: Zaporizhzhia Regional Military Administration, Shyrokye Village Council and Zaporizhzhia City Council, which were analyzed by the NGO, do not provide public information about their projects. This lack of transparency may suggest a deliberate effort to conceal data.

The monitoring also revealed poor design by the Municipal Enterprise Gradproekt of the Melitopol City Council, necessitating changes to sites for several educational institutions.

Rather than supporting communities, the Zaporizhzhia RMA shifted up to 44% of costs to local budgets, despite state requirements allowing for 30% co-financing.

All construction projects for new radiation shelters in educational institutions risk exceeding estimates. As of October 1, 2024, none of the underground school projects had permission to start construction.

The study also revealed that most contracts were awarded to companies from Melitopol. In most cases, contractors from Melitopol who had moved to Zaporizhzhia from the temporarily occupied Melitopol were engaged in construction, technical, and field supervision. Half of the projects were for the State Enterprise "Local Roads of the Zaporizhzhia region". All contracts were amended to include an advance payment and shorten the construction period from the end of 2023 to the end of 2024, which could negatively impact the quality of the work.

According to experts, these facts reflect poor reconstruction management in both the Zaporizhzhia RMA and regional communities.

People's Defense NGO has submitted recommendations to the authorities, including professional development for officials, engagement of project management specialists, establishment of internal control systems, and ensuring transparency and accountability across all reconstruction processes.

Analysis of procurement for reconstruction in the Poltava region



Implementing party: Poltava Branch of Public Service of Ukraine NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/31>

Region of implementation: Dykanka, Poltava, Orzhytsia, Lubny, Hradyzk communities of the Poltava region

Implementation period: November 2024–January 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 12



Screenshot of the video “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”¹⁰⁸.

Ukraine is currently recovering from the devastating consequences of military operations, which caused significant damage to its infrastructure and social fabric. While the Poltava region was not under direct occupation or intense hostilities, many of its settlements have become shelters for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Additionally, many buildings are subjected to regular shelling. This has created new challenges for local authorities, which must provide housing, health-care, education, and social support to all residents, including IDPs.

As of the end of 2024, 193 projects of varying scales and focus areas, reflecting

¹⁰⁸ Video: “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”, October 29, 2024. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEZn3rFdqKM>

the region's priority needs, had been submitted to the DREAM platform for reconstruction in the Poltava region. The total budget allocated for their implementation amounted to over UAH 7 billion.

Most of the budget was allocated for capital expenditures, including construction work and the purchase of necessary equipment. As of the project implementation date, more than UAH 4 billion had been allocated for construction work, indicating the scale of reconstruction measures. Other significant expenses were allocated for equipment purchases (almost UAH 1.6 billion) and to address various capital issues (approximately UAH 547.6 million). Total operating costs amounted to nearly UAH 749 million.

Due to the large number of recovery projects being implemented in Ukraine, particularly in the Poltava region, it was necessary to monitor their effectiveness, transparency, and integrity. The project team monitored the procurement of 20 social infrastructure reconstruction projects in the region and summarized the monitoring results.

The analysis phase included comparing planned work with completed tasks, evaluating financial resource usage, and identifying possible problems and risks.

Budgets for restoring facilities vary significantly depending on their type and the extent of the damage. Total funding includes state and local budgets, subventions, and grants from international organizations.

Key findings on reconstruction priorities

Education was the most funded sector in the Poltava region, with a total planned amount of funding for sector projects of about UAH 749 million.

Healthcare was set to receive over UAH 614 million in funding, making it the second largest recipient.

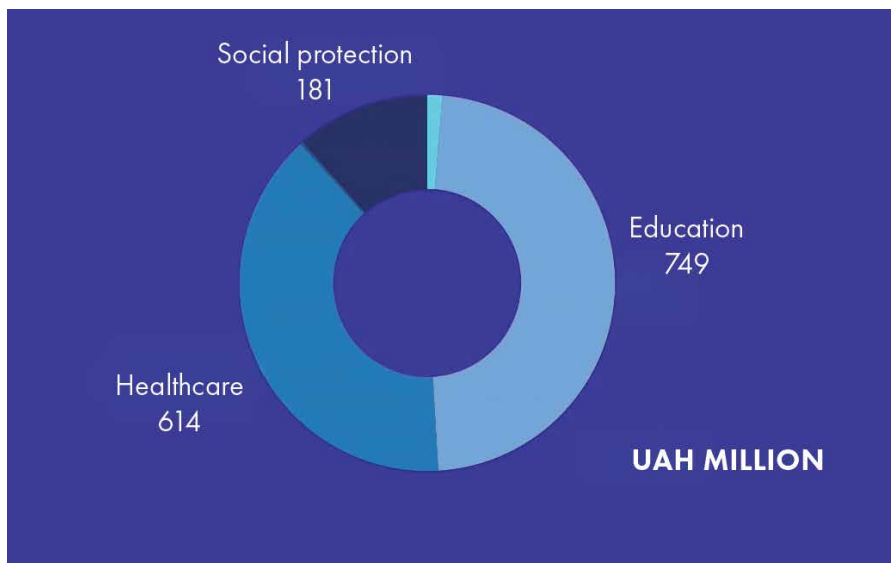
Social protection was set to receive approximately UAH 181 million.

Public administration projects were allocated a smaller share of funding at approximately UAH 20 million.

Industry, trade, and services included projects worth nearly UAH 4 million.

Monitoring findings

The analysis of reconstruction projects shows that restoring educational and medical infrastructure in the Poltava region is a priority.



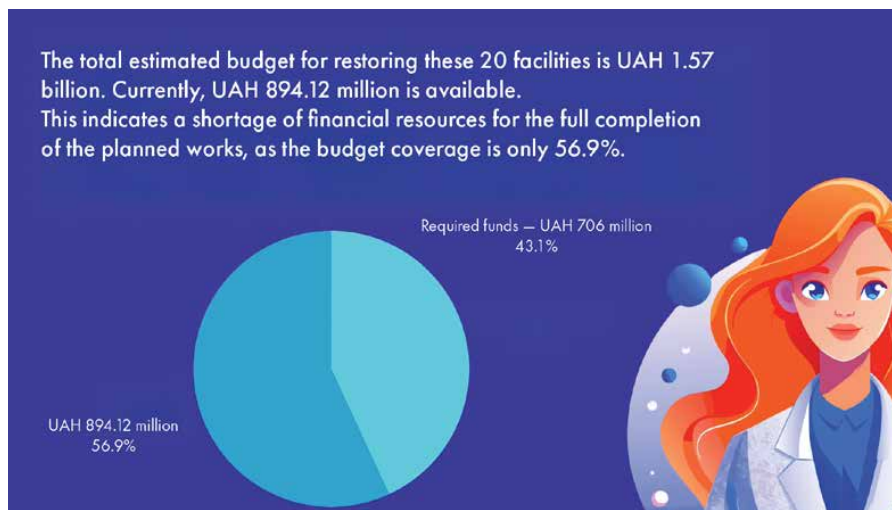
Screenshot of the video “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”¹⁰⁹.

At the same time, sufficient funding has been allocated, varying depending on the scale and needs of each facility. Project implementation is mostly efficient, although some projects are still in the early stages of planning and implementation.

Monitoring shows that most projects use budget resources rationally.

However, minor delays in project implementation were identified in some cases due to funding delays and design decision adjustments. The total estimated budget for restoring the 20 social infrastructure facilities monitored by the project team was UAH 1.6 billion, of which UAH 894 million was available at the time of monitoring (57% of the required funds).

¹⁰⁹ Video: “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”, October 29, 2024. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEZn3rFdqKM>



Screenshot of the video “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”¹¹⁰.

This indicates a shortage of financial resources to complete the planned work.

Violations in tenders and contractor selection. The majority of the budget, or UAH 1.3 billion, was allocated for capital expenditures, including construction, equipment purchases, and other investments.

Construction works. UAH 1 billion, which indicates a focus on the restoration and reconstruction of facilities.

Purchase of equipment. UAH 158 million was allocated to ensure the facilities’ functioning after reconstruction.

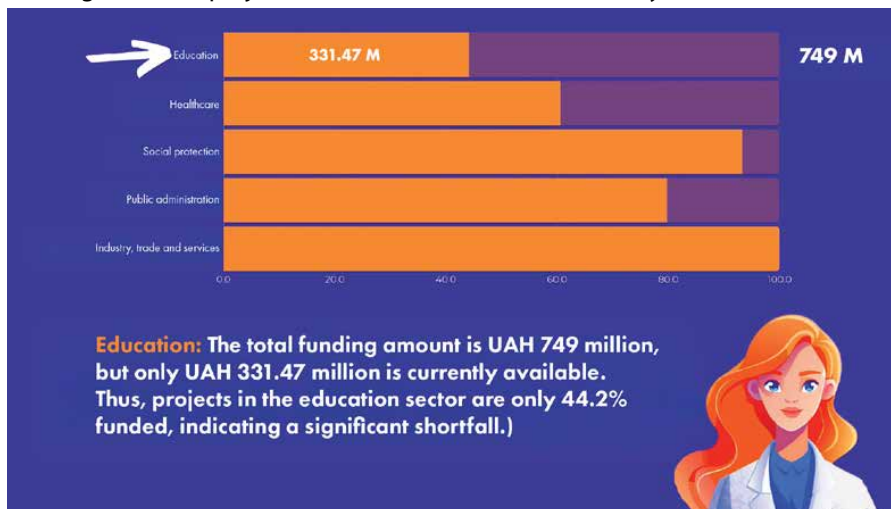
Taxes and other capital expenditures. UAH 108.9 million and UAH 102.4 million, respectively. Thus, when restoration projects are implemented, part of the money spent returns to the budget in the form of taxes, while another part generates economic development.

Operating costs total UAH 227 million and include unforeseen expenses, design costs, and maintenance and service costs.

¹¹⁰ Video: “Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region”, October 29, 2024. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEZn3rFdGKM>

Sufficiency of funding by economic sector

Education. According to DREAM, the amount of funding was UAH 749 million as of the monitoring date, but only UAH 331 million was available. Thus, the financial coverage level for projects in the education sector was only 44.2%.



Screenshot of the video "Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region"¹¹¹.

Healthcare. The total budget is UAH 614 million, of which UAH 372 million has been financed, providing 60.6% coverage.

Social protection. The budget amounts to UAH 181 million, and UAH 169 million has been made available (93.3% coverage).

Public administration. Despite the small budget of nearly UAH 21 million, financial coverage is 79.8%.

Industry, trade and services. This sector has the smallest budget of almost UAH 4 million, but it is fully funded at 100%. However, it should be noted that housing is the main focus of this group, and its restoration was indeed a priority in the Poltava region.

The level of overall funding has always been inadequate to complete all projects, particularly in the education sector.

¹¹¹ Video: "Project report: Monitoring reconstruction and recovery procurement in communities of Poltava region", October 29, 2024. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEZn3rFdqKM>

Additional funding is needed for sectors with large budget deficits, such as education and healthcare. Above all, however, clear rules for prioritizing reconstruction must be established.

Key issues and risks

The monitoring process has identified key issues and risks that could affect the quality and timing of reconstruction. These include funding delays, changes to the scope of work, and a shortage of qualified contractors.

Based on the analysis of the restoration and reconstruction of 20 monitored sites, it can be concluded that public involvement in selecting projects and monitoring their implementation was insufficient. Limited citizen participation in project selection, insufficient transparency and access to project information, and limited involvement impacted the effectiveness of reconstruction. Enhancing this process requires greater access to information and the active involvement of local residents throughout all phases of reconstruction.

Level of cooperation between authorities in monitoring procurement procedures

The monitoring analyzed the interaction with the authorities responsible for providing public information on procurement and recovery processes. The Kremenchuk, Pyriatyn, and Lubny municipal communities demonstrated the highest level of cooperation by providing timely responses to requests for information on procurement procedures.

The Myrhorod municipal community and the Poltava RMA demonstrated the lowest level of cooperation. Providing complete information and additional documents is important for effective monitoring. Some communities provided only simple answers and did not include any additional materials.

Therefore, to facilitate more effective public monitoring, communities should consider the following steps:

- providing more detailed and clear responses to requests;
- coordinating and clearly dividing responsibilities among authorities to avoid situations where it is unclear who should provide information;
- systematizing the process of providing additional documents;
- training and professional development of local authorities in procurement and transparency;
- responsibility for incomplete provision of public information.

Improving the transparency of tender procedures

Monitoring 20 facilities revealed gaps in the procurement of reconstruction and recovery works and services. These include a lack of transparency, direct contracts, manual decision-making, and the risk of overpricing.

Therefore, the grantee team developed the following recommendations for local authorities in public procurement to increase the effectiveness of reconstruction and recovery efforts.

- Improve the publication of tender documents and expand access to information on conducted and planned tenders. This will allow more contractors to participate and improve the quality of services.
- Public engagement across all stages of the project. Ensure the active involvement of local residents and non-governmental organizations in project selection and monitoring processes. This can be achieved by organizing public hearings and online consultations and by creating platforms for collecting public suggestions.
- Improve access to information about project implementation. Open information resources, websites, and portals must be created to provide detailed data on the status of each project, including plans, deadlines, budget, and the current status of work.
- Strengthen quality control of the work performed. Regularly conduct independent monitoring of work quality across all stages of project implementation. This includes engaging independent experts to verify that the work complies with standards and project documentation. Systematic field monitoring must also be ensured, and feedback mechanisms must be introduced to receive feedback from the public.
- Optimizing the use of budget funds. Additional cost control mechanisms should be introduced to this end, including regular reporting and financial audits. These mechanisms will help prevent delays caused by financial difficulties or resource misuse.
- Promptly respond to changes in community needs. It is important to allow for adjustments to projects during implementation, especially if new needs arise or circumstances change.
- Developing a risk minimization strategy. Introduce an early warning system to identify potential risks in the recovery process, enabling timely adjustments to plans and avoiding problems.

An example of how not to conduct procurement for recovery. Ploske Village, Kyiv region



Implementing party: Our Council NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/27>

Region of implementation: Makariv, Bucha, and Borodianka communities in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 14



Andriivka Gymnasium, after it was destroyed. 1 Shevchenko Street, Andriivka Village, Makariv district, Kyiv region¹¹².

Our Council NGO monitored the procurement of 14 facilities in the communities of Makariv, Borodianka, and Bucha in the Kyiv region, which were affected by Russian aggression.

No public hearings were held regarding the restoration of the monitored facilities, and the contracting authorities identified all works as urgent.

Of the 14 facilities, only one, the Andriivka Gymnasium in the Makariv community, was monitored and found to have no significant procurement violations regarding reconstruction work. This may be because only windows were replaced, and technical documentation for the land was ordered at the expense of the budget. Current repairs are being carried out with the support of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) under a memorandum of cooperation.

¹¹² Major repairs of the Andriivka Gymnasium: 1 Shevchenko Street, Andriivka Village, Makariv district, Kyiv region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=124856>



Andriivka Gymnasium, after it was destroyed. 1 Shevchenko Street, Andriivka Village, Makariv district, Kyiv region¹¹³.

An example of how not to conduct the procurement process is the repair of a school in Ploske Village, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Velyka Dymarka Municipal Council.

The Department of Regional Development of the Kyiv Regional State Administration, the contracting authority for the school's major repairs, signed an agree-

¹¹³ Major repairs of the Andriivka Gymnasium: 1 Shevchenko Street, Andriivka Village, Makariv district, Kyiv region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=124856>

ment with Budtemp LLC on December 22, 2023. The department paid the funds, totaling UAH 17.3 million, on December 27, within five days (of course, they were in a hurry; otherwise, they would have had to return the money – editorial note).

The department did not explain what kind of work the contractor could have done so quickly, despite two requests from the project team. Initially, the Department of Regional Development did not provide information, claiming that the request was not in the correct format. They said it should be a request for clarification, not a request for information. After the request was changed to an appeal, the department took three weeks to respond, stating that all the necessary information had already been provided in an earlier reply. However, this was not the case.

Therefore, the team submitted a complaint to the Head of the Kyiv RMA, requesting that the department officials be obliged to provide the requested information. We are currently awaiting their response.

In total, the Department of Regional Development of the Kyiv RSA and the Executive Committee of the Velyka Dymarka Municipal Council conducted four procurements to rebuild the I-III-degree school damaged in March 2022 in Ploske village.

Although the municipal council commissioned an expert evaluation for a project development under the simplified single-participant procedure at the community's expense, it later modified the project twice. The contracting authority did not include requirements for energy efficiency measures or access for people with disabilities in the school building.

The department used the state budget to fund major repairs and two additional major repairs, as well as field supervision.

The UAH 108 million major repairs were the only procurement for the facility's restoration that went through an open bidding procedure with special features. Two companies participated in the tender, and the contract was awarded to Budtemp LLC. The department directly procured additional overhaul works from the same contractor, Budtemp LLC, without going through a bidding process.

Budtemp LLC, which carried out the major repairs, was registered in Brovary¹¹⁴, Kyiv region, in 2013. The company is mentioned in the Glavkom article "Prison Corruption in Ukraine"¹¹⁵. According to the article, Budtemp belongs¹¹⁶ to Armen

¹¹⁴ BUDTEMP LLC. Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=6316386#express-universal-file>

¹¹⁵ "Prison corruption of Ukraine". Source: Glavkom, July 21, 2021. <https://glavkom.ua/digest/tyuremna-korupciya-ukrajini-770652.html>

¹¹⁶ An assistant to a member of parliament from the Servant of the People party received a UAH 58 million contract to build a prison. Source: <http://www.fin.org.ua/news/1401829>

Nazaryan, who is an assistant to Mykola Halushko¹¹⁷, a member of parliament from the Servant of the People party and a member of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Law Enforcement.

As of the date of the monitoring, the total cost of major repairs with additional works amounted to UAH 160 million: UAH 108 million for the major repairs, and UAH 39 million and UAH 13 million for the additional works.

The total cost of services for preparing and adjusting the project amounted to UAH 1.1 million. The State Audit Service monitored the procurement of additional overhaul works. The contracting authority, the Department of Regional Development, justified the procurement at SASU's request. SASU did not find any violations¹¹⁸.

During the monitoring process, the project team discovered that three of the four contractors with whom the Makariv Municipal Council collaborated were implicated in criminal proceedings: I.B.K. Development LLC¹¹⁹, New Heat Technologies LLC¹²⁰, and Terra Project LLC¹²¹. This means that 75% of the contractors have a flawed reputation. According to the Kyiv RSA's Department of Regional Development, three out of seven contractors are mentioned in criminal cases: Ukrbudproektrekonstruktsiya LLC¹²², Ukrbudengineering LLC¹²³, and Arkhstroitechnadzor LLC¹²⁴. According to the Restoration Service in the Kyiv region, none of the seven contractors is under investigation by law enforcement.

Consequently, the monitoring results indicated minimal public involvement in restoring social infrastructure facilities. There are also concerns regarding the transparency of local reconstruction efforts. At the same time, analysis of reconstruction procurement indicates a risk of price overstatement and awarding contracts to "favored" companies.

¹¹⁷ "Prison corruption of Ukraine". Source: Glavkom, July 21, 2021. <https://glavkom.ua/digest/tyuremna-korupciya-ukrajini-770652.html>

¹¹⁸ Major repairs of a comprehensive school building at 2 Kyivska Street in the village of Ploske, Kyiv region <https://prozorro.gov.ua/tender/UA-2023-12-25-012008-a>

¹¹⁹ I.B.K. DEVELOPMENT LLC Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=6359153&tb=courts&CourtSearch%5bfilterCsnb%5d=759/12657/23>

¹²⁰ NEW TECHNOLOGIES LLC Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=9309174&tb=courts&CourtSearch%5bfilterCsnb%5d=205/7591/24>

¹²¹ TERRA PROJEKT LLC Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=7014408&tb=courts&CourtSearch%5bfilterCsnb%5d=953/756/23>

¹²² UKRBUDPR LLC Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=16344912&tb=courts&CourtSearch%5bfilterCsnb%5d=761/45557/24>

¹²³ UKRBUD-PROEKT-REKONSTRUKTSIYA LLC Source: <https://youcontrol.com.ua/contractor/?id=16344912&tb=courts&CourtSearch%5bfilterCsnb%5d=591/2676/23>

¹²⁴ UKRBUDPR LLC Source: <https://bit.ly/4iI5UIS>

Violations in procurement as a mass phenomenon. Monitoring in Mykolaiv, Sumy, Odesa, Zaporizhzhia, and Dnipropetrovsk



Implementing party: Public Monitoring of Ukraine, NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/32>

Region of implementation: Odesa, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Kryvyi Rih, and Pavlohrad communities

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected procurements: 40!

“In more than half of the facilities we inspected, we identified overpricing risks in procurement,” said Vladyslav Maksymenko, Head of Public Monitoring of Ukraine, NGO (PMU). “The practice of concluding contracts without holding open tenders is still widespread, creating significant corruption risks. We also found conflicts of interest among contractors, as well as limited public access to information about the progress of work.”

The PMU examined 40 social infrastructure projects in the Mykolaiv, Sumy, Odesa, Zaporizhzhia, and Dnipropetrovsk regions and published its findings.

In 60% of the analyzed cases, signs of overpricing in the concluded contracts were found. In 57.5% of the cases, significant risks associated with the project design organizations were identified, particularly due to their involvement in criminal proceedings or journalistic investigations. Monitoring experts identified the highest level of risk among contracting organizations, finding that contractors were involved in anti-corruption investigations or criminal cases in 87.5% of cases.

Here are three examples.

Example No. 1. Of all the procurements related to the reconstruction of the Kryvyi Rih Gymnasium No. 60¹²⁵, only one was conducted on a competitive basis. The remaining procedures took place outside the electronic procurement system, significantly reducing the process’s transparency; however, they complied with legislation simplifying the procurement of construction works in force at the time.

The main contractor was Vikna Vikonda LLC. This company has been mentioned in journalistic investigations and criminal proceedings regarding the alleged embezzlement of budget funds on a large scale.

A separate non-tendered contract for window installation was awarded to Vitaliy

¹²⁵ Kryvyi Rih Gymnasium No. 60 of the Kryvyi Rih City Council. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=184887>

Reshetniak, an individual entrepreneur who had registered his business only six months before signing the contract. An analysis of the final resource specifications revealed significant overestimation of the cost of certain construction materials, which may indicate inefficient or improper use of budget funds.

Example No. 2. Another case involves the reconstruction of building 1A on Kanatna Street in Odessa. M-Build Plus LLC developed the project documentation without holding an open tender. The contract work was performed by Eurotransstroy, a company involved in criminal proceedings for providing false information in work performance reports. Both companies are registered at the same legal address, and their representatives are believed to have family or other informal ties. Additionally, an audit of the estimate revealed significant overpricing of some building materials.

Example No. 3. Finally, we should mention the reconstruction of building No. 43 at Ivan Franko Street in Zaporizhia¹²⁶. During the analysis, a conflict of interest was identified. The company that developed the design and estimate documentation (Anstroy Project LLC) and the construction contractor (Zaporizhbuidgroup LLC) had the same owner at the time the project was implemented. This situation poses serious risks to the objectivity of technical decisions and financial calculations. NVP Novi Inzhenerni Tekhnolohii LLC provided technical supervision. The company's director had previously been involved in criminal proceedings for abuse of office and falsification of documents, causing damage to the community's interests. An audit of the estimate documentation revealed that costs were overestimated for only 12 items, totaling approximately UAH 3.6 million. This indicates large-scale violations in the budgetary process and suggests the need for enhanced control over such projects.

"When procuring reconstruction services, it is necessary to ensure genuine competition. Open tenders and clear contractor selection criteria should become the norm. Only through transparent procedures can the effective use of funds and high-quality work be guaranteed. It is equally important to introduce independent technical supervision of the work performed to minimize the risks of poor-quality construction and abuse," Vladyslav Maksymenko, Head of the PMU, emphasizes.

¹²⁶ Major repairs and restoration of load-bearing structures in residential building No. 43 at Ivan Franko Street, Zaporizhzhia. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=896>

Overpricing, lack of funds and open bidding procedures. Violations in procurement for the reconstruction of the Zaporizhzhia and Dnipropetrovsk regions



Implementing party: People's Defense NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/36>

Region of implementation: Zaporizhzhia, Molochansk, and Novobohdanivka communities in the Zaporizhzhia region

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 20



Screenshot of the video “Public monitoring of reconstruction: results of the initiative in two regions”

Throughout the project, People's Defense NGO monitored facilities in Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro, Kryvyi Rih, and Kamianske, as well as the Bilenke and Shyrokye communities in the Zaporizhzhia region.

In particular, experts in the Dnipropetrovsk region monitored procurement during reconstruction work in educational institutions in Dnipro, Kryvyi Rih, and Kamianske, identifying the following risks:

- lack of community reconstruction plans and chaotic decision-making regarding certain facilities;
- underfunding of projects;
- shifting the financing of facilities to the local budget;
- extending project implementation deadlines;

- overstating purchase prices;
- conducting non-competitive procurement;
- choosing the same contractors.

Recovery and development plans

Monitoring identified no approved community recovery plans in the Dnipropetrovsk region. The situation with project selection is no better than it is with the adoption of strategic documents.

The situation is similar in the Zaporizhzhia region, although it is improving over time. In particular, the Bilenke and Shyroke communities have adopted reconstruction and development plans.

Choosing the same contractors

Despite the different regions and contracting authorities, many shortcomings and risks are similar across regions.

For the pre-project work on the shelters of Gymnasium No. 118, Lyceum No. 144, and Gymnasium No. 29, the Dnipro City Council's Capital Construction Department selected the following companies:

- Private entrepreneur Oleksandr Serhiiovych Tkachov;
- DN-Consulting LLC;
- Construction Company Stroyinvest LLC

Archiko LLC developed the design and estimate documentation for these gymnasiums and provided field supervision. Only the construction contractors were selected through open tenders.

The situation is similar in Kamianske, where the same contractors performed work on several sites. For example, during the major repairs to the food service facilities at Lyceums No. 3 and No. 30, Company Zhytlo-Bud 1 LLC served as both the project designer and the field supervision provider, Interlit LLC served as the construction contractor, and private entrepreneur Liubov Mykolaivna Demchyshyna served as the technical supervisor.

During the major repairs to protective structures at the Lyceum of Information Technologies and Lyceum No. 26, the work was carried out by the same companies: KV Proekt LLC, Ukrstroy Alliance LLC, and individual entrepreneur Oleh Leonidovych Gorydko.

In the Zaporizhzhia region, the contracting authority for most anti-radiation shelters in educational institutions was State Enterprise "Local Roads of the Zaporizhzhia region", which selected the so-called Melitopol pool of contractors. These contractors were the Municipal Enterprise Gradproekt of the Melitopol City Council, Gradproekt-M LLC, and individual entrepreneur Maksym Yegorkin (who performed

technical supervision). Company Positive LLC was the contractor for most of the construction work. The company was previously one of the contractors for the Great Construction projects in Melitopol. Notably, the Head of the Zaporizhzhia Regional State Administration is Ivan Fedorov, the former mayor of Melitopol.

Financing and signs of inflated purchase prices

Cost control for projects in Dnipro was complicated by discrepancies in various sources. For example, at the Dnipro Lyceum No. 144, named after Levi Yitzhak Schneerson, discrepancies in payment data for construction contractor services amount to UAH 18.97 million. This difference concerns data on the spending.gov.ua portal and the contracting authority's response to the monitoring group's request.

A similar situation exists at the Dnipro Gymnasium No. 118. There is a discrepancy of UAH 708,400 between the data on spending.gov.ua and the data received in response to the request.

Additionally, signs of overpricing were found in the Zaporizhzhia and Dnipropetrovsk regions. For instance, when purchasing curbs (curb stones BP 100.20.8) for Lyceum No. 144 in Dnipro, an 833% markup over retail prices was found. In Kryvyi Rih, Gymnasium No. 89 tried to purchase trash cans for UAH 5,000 each.

Use of facilities without commissioning

Separately, experts found that facilities in the Zaporizhzhia region were being used without being commissioned. This endangers citizens and raises questions about the legality of using budget funds for maintenance. Before a building is put into operation, connecting utilities and charging for services is illegal. Accordingly, using buildings that have not been put into operation carries a number of risks, including corruption.

Monitoring results and recommendations

The described violations are only part of what was identified during monitoring. As a result, NGO experts developed the following recommendations:

Central authorities shall

- improve the mechanism for controlling the distribution of subsidies;
- strengthen control over the use of budget funds.

Local communities shall

- develop recovery plans with public participation;
- establish clear project selection criteria;
- introduce control over the implementation of reconstruction/recovery projects.

Non-governmental organizations shall

- continue monitoring of reconstruction projects;
- create public passports of facilities on the Big Recovery Portal;

A loan for the city instead of participation in the state program. How shelters are being built in Kremenchuk



Implementing party: ZMIST Analytical Center NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/29>

Region of implementation: Poltava, Komyshnia, Kobeliaky, and Kremenchuk communities of the Poltava region.

Implementation period: January–April 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 30



Lyceum No. 11 "Garant" in Kremenchuk ¹²⁷

Lyceum No. 11 "Garant" is located on the site of a former lake. Because of this, it does not have a basement that could be equipped for shelter. To enable in-person learning, a decision was made to build a modular shelter using credit funds.

Approximately 1,000 students attend Lyceum No. 11 in a hybrid learning model because the educational institution lacks a shelter due to its location on the site of a former lake. In 2023, the city council decided to build a modular quick-build amenity building to be used as a simple shelter. It will be a combined type, i.e., it will have an underground section and a superstructure above ground. This innovative facility will serve as a shelter for 400 people in emergencies and as an amenity building in peacetime.

¹²⁷ Construction of a new, quick-build, modular building to be used as a shelter for the Lyceum No. 11 Garant community in Kremenchuk. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dash-board?object=21408>

In September 2023, the Kremenchuk community's stabilization fund allocated more than UAH 600,000 for design work.

In November 2024, the State Savings Bank of Ukraine granted Kremenchuk a UAH 30 million loan to build a shelter at the lyceum. The loan term is up to five years.



Project for a shelter near Lyceum No. 11 in Kremenchuk

During the same period (April – December 2024), Ukraine had a financial program called “State Subvention for the Provision of Safe Conditions in Institutions of General Secondary Education”¹²⁸, which aimed to finance the construction of new school shelters. However, the lyceum did not participate in the selection process for this initiative. In response to a request from experts, the educational institution replied that they were unaware of the program at that time. The Kremenchuk City Council’s Department of Education did not respond to the request.

Consequently, the Kremenchuk Lyceum No. 11 decided to build a shelter that is 2.5 times smaller than the required capacity, using borrowed funds. This occurred simply because they were unaware of the state program that could have financed the construction without attracting a loan.

This story shows how ignorance can cost the community dearly.

¹²⁸ There are certain issues regarding the provision of state budget subsidies to local budgets for the implementation of a public investment project to create safe conditions in institutions that provide general secondary education (arrangement of shelters), particularly in military (naval and military sports) lyceums and lyceums with enhanced military physical training. Source: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/419-2023-%D0%BF#Text>

Recovery after shelling: how buildings were repaired in Kryvyi Rih



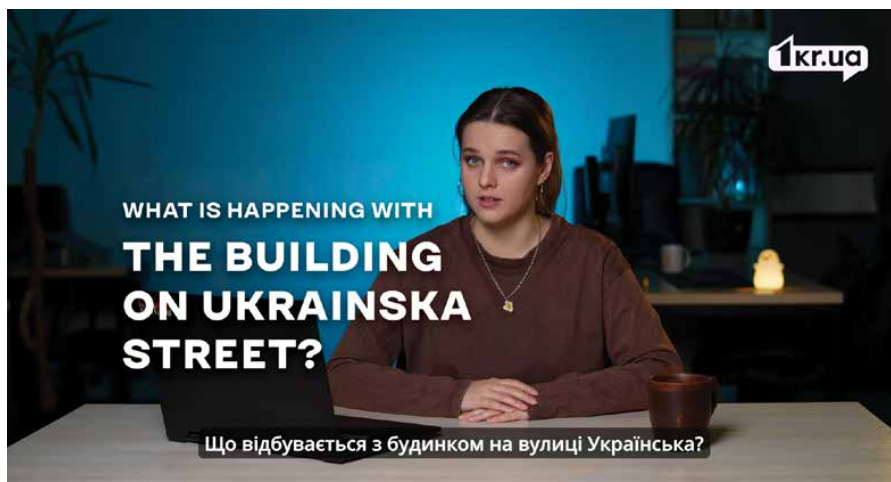
Implementing party: ZMI-NY Kryvyi Rih NGO

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/47>

Region of implementation: The city of Kryvyi Rih and the Kryvyi Rih district – Kryvyi Rih, Lozuvatka, Hrushivka, Karpivka, and Vakulove communities

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 20



*Screenshot of the video “Recovery after a missile strike”
by ZMI-NY Kryvyi Rih NGO and 1kr.ua¹²⁹*

The team of ZMI-NY Kryvyi Rih NGO and journalists from “Pershyi Kryvorizkyi” analyzed purchases for the restoration of 19 facilities damaged by Russian shelling. They found millions of hryvnias, dozens of signed agreements, and the same contractors.

Of the 19 procurements analyzed, 14 were conducted without tendering (direct contracts were signed), and 5 were conducted through open bidding.

Below are several stories from the project team’s monitoring.

Reconstruction of a building at 55 Ukrainka Street

July 31, 2023. Morning. The Russian army launched a missile strike on the nine-sto-

¹²⁹ Video “Recovery after a missile strike”, March 24, 2025 Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2b7CK_TvSMU

ry building at 55 Ukrainska Street¹³⁰ in Kryvyi Rih. The 4th to 9th floors of the first entrance were destroyed, and a fire broke out, covering an area of about 70 m².

September 2023. The Capital Construction Department ordered a major repair project and documentation for the demolition of the fourth section of the building. The work was carried out by Vait. In March 2024, a tender was announced. Vait was the successful bidder once again and received a contract worth UAH 8.7 million. August 2024. The field supervision of the demolition was ordered for UAH 21,360.

October 2024. Major repairs began. Total cost amounted to nearly UAH 16 million. This includes strengthening the walls and floors, insulating the facade, repairing the basement and parapet, and exterior finishing of the building.

How was the repair performed? It was divided into several stages.

October – December 2024 — strengthening structures, insulating walls, and preparing for finishes. January – February 2025 — completion of the main works.

March 2025. Final works on finishing the facade. However, at the time of monitoring, the insulation and facade work had not been completed. The project team tried contacting Vait, but the phone number listed on the website was invalid.

The residents of the building declined to comment, saying that they had no idea how the repairs were progressing.

According to official data, as of the monitoring date, the Capital Construction Department has already paid Vait over UAH 8.3 million since December 2024. Of this amount, over UAH 6.4 million was spent on partial demolition, and UAH 1.9 million on major structural repairs. On March 20, the Capital Construction Department ordered adjustments to the project documentation for UAH 457,000, again appointing Vait as the contractor. The project was supposed to be adjusted by April 24, 2025.

Major repairs of a residential building at 75 Heroiv ATO Street ¹³¹

June 13, 2023, 3 a.m., explosion. A Russian missile hits a multi-story building on Heroiv ATO Street. The destruction was extensive. Eleven people were killed, and 28 more were injured.

Funds for restoring the damaged housing were to be allocated from the city and regional budgets. Some residents were left homeless, and the building itself needed restoration.

¹³⁰ Major repairs to dangerous structures of a residential building at 55 Ukrainska Street, Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=189035>

¹³¹ Video “Major repairs of a residential building at 75 Heroiv ATO Street”, April 18, 2025. Source: youtube.com/watch?si=k5DBdoBa0xrnK94Q&v=iAbquilq4yo&feature=youtu.be

In September 2023, the city authorities commissioned a technical survey and project development. The expertise was necessary to determine whether the building could be repaired or if it needed to be demolished.

More than half a million hryvnias were allocated from the budget for this purpose. Subsequently, an additional 200,000 hryvnias were allocated to prepare a demolition plan. The Kryvyi Rih-based company Vait was contracted for all the work, including repairing the building at 55 Ukrainska Street.

Demolition work began in December of that year, and two sections of the building were removed. Concrete structures, balconies, partitions, and ventilation shafts were removed, as were roofs, brick walls, and staircases. Old windows and doors, the basement, and all remnants of engineering systems were also dismantled.

At the same time, new elements were installed, including plumbing, ventilation, water, and heating pipes, as well as metal structures. This stage cost the city budget almost UAH 8 million.

In July 2024, the next stage began – major repairs. The goal was to restore the load-bearing walls made of aerated concrete and brick, insulate the facade, and renovate the foundation. They also planned to replace the roof, install electricity and water systems, and set up new communication systems. More than UAH 2 million were allocated from the budget for this work.

Vait was again awarded the contract. Initially, they planned to finish the repairs by November 2024, but the deadline was pushed back to June 20, 2025. By the time the work is finished, the facade should be insulated and the electrical installation and commissioning should be complete. At the time of monitoring the building, part of the planned work had not yet been completed.

Typical problems identified during monitoring

- In most cases, the contracts were awarded to the same companies (Vait LLC and Vikna Vikonda LLC). Moreover, direct procurement without tenders was common.
- Even when open tenders are held, there is little competition.
- Completion time extension — all tenders for the reconstruction of residential buildings had several additional agreements to extend the deadlines. For instance, the repair of buildings at 75 Heroiv ATO Street and 27 Kashtanova Street¹³² was postponed yet again until July 20, 2025. At the same time, residents often do not receive information about the status and timing of their home's reconstruction.

¹³² Video “How the building at 27 Kashtanova Street is being renovated”, May 7, 2025. Source: youtube.com/watch?si=rAGHw4h167vq1-ls&v=ZQ5-PxugEmw&feature=youtu.be

Monitoring procurement for reconstruction in Bucha: suspicions, schemes, and fraud



Implementing party: Sigma Irpin Charitable Organization

BRP link: <https://brp.org.ua/ngo/41>

Region of implementation: Bucha community in the Kyiv region

Implementation period: March–July 2025

Number of inspected facilities: 10

The Sigma Irpin Charitable Organization's project "Monitoring of Reconstruction in Bucha" revealed the significant misuse of budget funds and reconstruction delays in areas where the return of housing to affected individuals is critical.

After inspecting ten reconstruction sites, the organization's team found that the design work was awarded to the same designer without a competitive bidding process and that the contractor for the repair work had several criminal convictions.

According to eyewitnesses, the restoration process in Bucha began chaotically. Initially, the city council did not understand how the Fund for the Elimination of the Consequences of Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation's financing program worked. Then, the responsible individuals actively prepared documents and underwent training. This may have been the reason for the gross errors and systematic violations of the law. Or, it could have been a planned algorithm to create conditions for illegal enrichment.

Most of the tenders for restoration work on the selected sites were held between June and November of 2023. From October to December of that year, the main contractor agreements were signed. Three of the ten facilities (17 Yablunska Street¹³³, 101 Vokzalna Street, and 203H Yablunska Street¹³⁴) were restored by NIDKOM LLC. At the time of signing the contracts and beginning work in the second half of 2023, NIDKOM LLC did not have sufficient staff. Instead, the company had numerous criminal proceedings against it.

Another "outstanding" contractor, private entrepreneur S. H. Tsybulskyi, won two tenders and received contracts totaling UAH 27.2 million. He is also the director of GRINLANA LLC, which has a controversial reputation and is involved in criminal proceedings. At the same time, it appears that private entrepreneur S. H. Tsybulskyi was most likely used as an intermediary between the contract-

¹³³ Major repairs to an apartment building at 17 Yablunska Street in Bucha, Bucha district, Kyiv region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=138>

¹³⁴ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 203-H Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=281>



ing authority and the actual contractor, whose experience, certification, and compliance with requirements were not evaluated.

Residential building at 17 Yablun-ska Street in Bucha. After de-occu-pation¹³⁵

Residential building at 203-B Yablunska Street in Bucha. During the restoration¹³⁶



¹³⁵ Major repairs to an apartment building at 17 Yablunska Street in Bucha, Bucha district, Kyiv region. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=138>

¹³⁶ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 203-H Yablunska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=281>

In general, the project team noted several features common to each of the inspected facilities. The project designer, ARMABUD ENGINEERING LLC, entered into several direct contracts with the Bucha City Council, each time making significant errors in calculations and in determining the total amount of the estimate.

Contracts for repair work on all facilities were extended — some for one year (until December 31, 2024), others for two years (until the end of 2025). Repair work at 11/6 Borys Hmyria Street¹³⁷ in Bucha was extended until June 30, 2026. Each new expert assessment that resulted in contract extensions cost significant amounts and increased the project's overall cost.

For some facilities, such as 10 Sklozavodska Street¹³⁸, 2 Enerhetykiv Street¹³⁹, 17 Yablunska Street, and 5 Sklovozavodska Street¹⁴⁰, the contracting authority held additional tenders (usually for adjustments) and naturally entered into agreements with the same contractors. These agreements ranged in value from UAH 2 million to UAH 13 million and were valid for periods ranging from several days to one month. It was not possible to verify how these funds were spent, as some of the estimate documentation is missing.

The recovery in Bucha has repeatedly drawn the SASU's attention. After inspections, administrative fines were imposed on responsible Bucha City Council members, and training was recommended. However, according to the project team, none of these methods changed the community recovery process algorithm.

In terms of accessibility and energy efficiency, none of the restored buildings meet the necessary requirements. The entrance area is not adapted for use by people with disabilities or limited mobility. Due to a systemic drainage problem, energy efficiency standards have been grossly violated, and the renovated buildings are at risk of foundation dampness, which will lead to corrosion, increased humidity, and increased heat loss. We did not find any solar panels or heat pumps at any of the restoration facilities.

In August 2025, residents of the building at 11/6 Borys Hmyria Street appealed to Sigma Irpin Charitable Organization for help getting answers from the Bucha City Council. Specifically, they wanted to know why the work had been postponed for

¹³⁷ Major repairs to an apartment building at 11/6 Borys Hmyria Street in Bucha, Bucha district. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=102>

¹³⁸ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 9 Sklozavodska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=288>

¹³⁹ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 2 Enerhetykiv Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=761>

¹⁴⁰ Major repairs of a residential building damaged as a result of military aggression: 10 Sklozavodska Street, Bucha. Source: <https://brp.org.ua/dashboard?object=289>

another year, why there was no progress on the reconstruction, and what the city council planned to do about the lack of a gas supply in the section adjacent to the restored part. The organization helped the Bucha community residents obtain an honest and transparent response and a clear action plan from the municipality.

While Bucha is often cited as an example of rapid and successful reconstruction, monitoring by the charitable organization has revealed serious concerns about the transparency and accountability of reconstruction project implementation.



Residential building at 5 Sklozavodska Street in Bucha during the restoration

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