

KfW partnership with Chernivtsi

As of June 2025

Sustainable drinking water supply and eco-friendly wastewater management in the city of Chernivtsi

Title	Water Programme in Chernivtsi	
Region	Ukraine, Chernivtsi	
Description	The Programme contributes to a continuous, sustainable and demand-oriented water supply and to ensure environmentally sound and sustainable sanitation and wastewater treatment, by rehabilitating water supply and wastewater infrastructure in the city of Chernivtsi.	
Donor	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), European Union (EU)	
Project / Political Partner	Municipal Enterprise Chernivtsivodokanal (CVK), the City Council of Chernivtsi and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.	
Project Volume	BMZ	approx. EUR 62,2 mio.
	EU	approx. EUR 37,7 mio.
	Total	approx. EUR 100 mio.

Background

The infrastructure for basic municipal services in Ukrainian cities dates back to the Soviet era and is largely outdated. Economic difficulties following the collapse of the Soviet Union have severely limited maintenance and investment in these systems. As a result, they often do not meet modern technical standards, are not able to meet existing needs effectively and efficiently, and are in urgent need of replacement and modernization.

Chernivtsi, located in western Ukraine only 30 km from the Romanian border, is the oblast capital and the largest city in the region, with a total population over 265.000 residents. It has become a hub for IDPs since the invasion of Russia and is currently home to more than 50,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), increasing the demand for essential services. This has put additional pressure on infrastructure that as already been overburdened, leading to frequent water shortages and service interruptions. As a result, there are significant challenges in providing reliable drinking water and sanitation services, which are essential to the well-being of its residents. In 2021, Chernivtsi recorded the highest average number of minutes without the provision of water among Ukraine's largest cities, due to emergency repairs and service interruptions. These issues underscore the urgent need to improve Chernivtsi's municipal services.

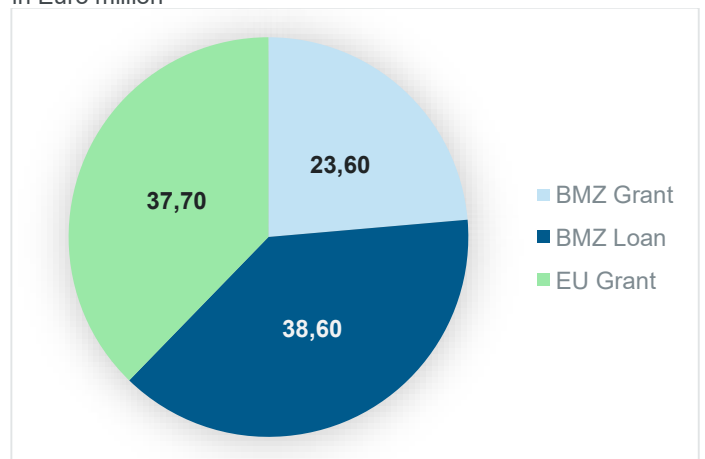
Cooperation objectives and approaches

The Chernivtsi Water Programme is being implemented in partnership with the Ministry for Development of Ukraine, the City Council of Chernivtsi (CCC) and the Municipal Enterprise

Chernivtsivodokanal (CVK). It builds on KfW's long-standing cooperation with CVK and the CCC since 2009.

Funding Sources: Water Programme in Chernivtsi

in Euro million



Chernivtsi receives about EUR 100 mio in both loan and grant funding by the European Union as well as the Federal Government of Germany (represented by BMZ) to modernize the city's water infrastructure.

The Chernivtsi Water Programme will improve the quality of life of the population of Chernivtsi by providing a reliable and environmentally sound water supply and sanitation system closer to EU standards. The main objectives of the programme

are to ensure the sustainable use of water infrastructure, improve water and sanitation service delivery, and strengthen Chernivtsi as a supportive community for IDPs.



This water pumping station has been operational since 1895. Image Source: KfW Photo Archive / Jonas Wresch

Furthermore, water losses and energy consumption for water pumping will be reduced, and the monitoring of pollution in transboundary waters to Romania will be supported. Overall, the project promotes environmental sustainability in Chernivtsi by improving water quality and increasing energy efficiency in wastewater management, in line with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 14 – Life Below Water, and SDG 13 – Climate Action.

Activities and expected results

Priority investments include the rehabilitation of three sections of the main transmission water pipe of the city, of a raw water intake, sections of the water supply and sewage network as well as the partial reconstruction of the wastewater treatment plant, including waste water pumping stations.



A water pipe is being rehabilitated in Chernivtsi. Image Source: Hennadii Dudko, Strategic Development Department Chernivtsivodokanal

Within the overall programme, about 11km of water pipes will be rehabilitated. Technical Water losses will be reduced by about 20% and it is anticipated that the interruptions of the water

supply of Chernivtsi can be reduced by 300 hours per year. In total about 190.000 people will benefit from improved access to drinking water. Furthermore, the water quality will be brought closer to EU standards – an important step on the way to EU integration.

Publisher

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