

# Climate change impacts in Ukraine: engagement workshop

## Summary of the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Engagement Workshop

### Met Office & British Embassy Kyiv

Ahead of the COP26 negotiations being hosted by the UK in November 2021, the British Embassy in Ukraine have commissioned the UK Met Office to conduct a study on climate change impacts in Ukraine. In May 2021 Met Office scientists facilitated an engagement workshop with a range of stakeholders to better understand what climate information requirements are needed in Ukraine to inform the content of a report and other communication products. The Ukraine government and civil society were represented by the Ministries of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources; Economy, Trade and Agriculture; Energy; Infrastructure; Hydrometeorological Institute and Odessa University. The information obtained during this workshop will help ensure the knowledge outputs produced can best inform policy and risk management for climate risks and hazards in priority economic sectors in Ukraine. The main outputs from the workshop are summarised below.

#### Socio-economic sectors of interest

- Water resources: droughts, flooding and water quality have important cross-sectoral impacts.
- Health: temperature related illnesses, water contamination and water-borne diseases, and air quality.
- Agriculture: observed and projected seasonal changes bring both challenges and opportunities.
- Infrastructure: disruption to transport and power networks from extreme events; vulnerability of buildings.
- Intersection of man-made hazards with natural hazards.



#### Hazards and climate impacts of interest

- Impacts in cities: heat, air quality, and human health, water resources, energy (including renewables).
- Changes in temperature and humidity: impacts on agricultural productivity; impacts on human health.
- Changes in precipitation: flooding and drought; water quality and availability.
- Changes in seasonality: important for agriculture e.g., longer growing seasons, changes in precipitation.
- Extreme events: heat and cold extremes, wildfire (fire risk), drought and flooding.



#### Locations of interest in Ukraine

- **Southern Agricultural Regions:** Agriculture: low humidity and lack of water requiring expensive adaptation measures e.g. changing crop type and irrigation. Water: flooding, water quality and supply, risk to nuclear power plants due to increased temperatures.
- **Northern Urban Environments:** Cities: air quality, urban heat island effect, water supply reliability all impacting human health; infrastructure and transport vulnerabilities.
- **Mountains:** Ecosystem services: wildfire risk along with increased pests and diseases threatening forests and biodiversity, earlier snowmelt effecting tourism and water supply.

#### Time scales of interest in Ukraine

- Now: information about recent observed changes and their impacts to highlight the reality of Ukraine's changing climate
- Next 10 years: Ukraine's Paris Agreement commitments to define and meet Nationally Determined Contributions need to be monitored over the next decade
- Sector dependent needs: longer time scales required for energy and cities, shorter seasonal scales for agriculture.
- Next 30 years: Important for strategic planning and for demonstrating progress against climate agreements, also important to consider the past 30 years as the benchmark for change.
- More than 50 years: Crucial for understanding the range of potential impacts and opportunities for development in Ukraine under varying scenarios of global warming.

#### Next steps

- Report due to be released in October 2021.
- Knowledge outputs such as a webinar and video summarising the main outputs of the report will be released after November 2021.



Map showing the workshop participant's sectors of interest in Ukraine (Original map from DemocraticUnderground.com, icons added during workshop).

#### Contact us

If you have any questions or comments you would like to make about the project workshop, the content of the report, or other knowledge outputs, or if you would like to be involved with the project, please get in touch. Send us an email using one of the following email addresses:

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