

Pressemitteilung

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Supporting Ukraine's Urban Development with Digital Tools

HafenCity University's chair of Digital City Science supports sustainable urban planning and reconstruction in Ukraine. The cooperation between HafenCity University (HCU) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH implements a project focused on urban development and reconstruction planning in Ukraine. The SURPRISE project introduces state-of-the-art digital planning methodologies and tools, along with the respective capacity building for Ukrainian stakeholders. In the project, HCU partners with the Ministry of Restoration of Ukraine and four municipalities—Vinnytsia, Poltava, Zhytomyr, and Chernivtsi, among others.

SURPRISE ("Sustainable Urban Planning and Resilient Reconstruction in Ukraine with Spatial Data Science") is a project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the Special Expert Fund (SEF). In March 2024, the project kicked off with two days of workshop that addressed issues and challenges faced by the participating cities regarding the updating of such existing planning concepts, including their urban planning cadasters.

Throughout June and July 2024, the Digital City Science team at HCU led a series of scoping and project planning online workshops for both representatives of the Ministry of Restoration of Ukraine and the municipalities of Vinnytsia, Poltava, Zhytomyr, and Chernivtsi.

In-depth exchanges took place under the moderation of GIZ, during which the Digital City Science team introduced digital planning methodologies and tools to establish the project's scope and planning, considering both topical and emergent needs from both the state and local levels to accelerate the updating of existing planning concepts and to enable new levels of citizen participation and co-creation.

The project entered recently its execution phase, aiming to conclude in November 2024 with completed pilot projects to support Ukraine in its ongoing urban development and reconstruction efforts.

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Participants of the SURPRISE workshops exchanging ideas on digital tools for Ukraine's recovery
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