

Project Title:

Ukraine Nature Network: a platform to document and disseminate information on environment and nature conservation initiatives in Ukraine in the context of the war

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**Projekt-Akronym:
(Ukraine Nature Network)**



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1.Executive summary

This report presents the progress and key outcomes of the project “Ukraine Nature Network,” a collaborative initiative aimed at establishing a centralized platform to gather, share, and disseminate information on environmental projects in Ukraine within the context of the ongoing war. Implemented by the Research and Transfer Centre “Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management” at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences.

Over the past 4 years, numerous projects have sought to support the protection and restoration of Ukraine’s natural environment, addressing critical issues such as water and soil pollution, ecosystem and habitat restoration, and forest conservation. However, information on these initiatives has remained scattered, unintegrated, and often difficult to access. The prevalence of misinformation further complicates efforts to accurately track and coordinate conservation work. Additionally, Ukraine’s fragile scientific infrastructure and pressing socio-economic challenges have hindered systematic communication efforts, resulting in missed opportunities for collaboration and international funding support.

The Ukraine Nature Network addresses these challenges by providing a central hub that links diverse stakeholders—researchers, practitioners, governmental bodies, and NGOs—working on nature conservation and sustainable development. The platform promotes transparency, facilitates knowledge exchange, and fosters cooperation across sectors focused on sustainable agriculture, nature protection, renewable energy and waste management, all crucial for mitigating the environmental impacts of the war. Key achievements include the successful launch of the network’s online platform, the organization of international events that facilitated cross-border dialogue, the submission of joint project proposals and scientific papers, and the dissemination of educational resources. The network has attracted broad participation, reflecting its vital role in mobilizing expertise and resources at a time when ecological challenges are increasingly intertwined with the impacts of conflict.

Although the project has ended, the Ukraine Nature Network continues to build on its results through active engagement of network members, coordination of collaborative efforts, and broad promotion of current and past projects via the network’s webpage. Ongoing work focuses on maintaining the partnerships and momentum created during the project period, while preparing the network for its next stage of development. A strategy to ensure the sustainability of the network was designed. The strategy also included proposals for follow-up activities to support the network’s long-term sustainability. It builds on the analysis of the network’s strengths, weaknesses, and resource needs, consultations with members, identification of sustainable funding options, partnership opportunities, and governance models, as well as lessons learned from similar networks.

The project further highlighted the essential role of international cooperation in providing the expertise, facilities, and financial support needed to respond effectively to Ukraine’s environmental crisis.

2. Objectives of the project

The main objective of the project “Ukraine Nature Network” is:

“To set-up and maintain a platform to congregate and disseminate information on environment projects in Ukraine, in the context of the current war. The platform is designed to act as a central hub for information on ongoing and planned environmental projects in Ukraine, especially those that intend to address the many impacts and damages associated with the war”.

This includes data on project objectives, methodologies, outcomes, and their positive impacts on local ecosystems.

The specific objectives of the project “Ukraine Nature Network” are:

- a) To document and promote projects related to the conservation of Ukraine’s diverse natural resources, including its forests, rivers, wildlife, and biodiversity, as they struggle with the war and suffer the impacts of the conflict.

- b) To link the stakeholders working in the field of nature conservation and foster practices that ensure sustainable development across Ukraine. This includes promoting the use of renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and waste management to minimise the environmental impacts of the war.
- c) To increase public awareness and understanding of environmental issues facing Ukraine, in connection with the war. This will be achieved by supporting the set-up and undertaking of educational programmes at universities, co-organising specialist workshops, and campaigns that inform the public about the special need to promote environmental conservation and foster sustainable practices during and after war times.

The key themes and focus of the project are:

- a) Matters related to soil (including agriculture);
- b) Forests and forests conservation;
- c) Waste management;
- d) Energy production.

The future cooperation between these focus areas could be very beneficial not only for environmental protection but also within the socio-economic perspective (for example organic waste from agriculture or forestry could be used for energy production or for the). Other topics may also be considered, according to requests from the government agencies, research organisations and NGOs which will be part of the partnership.

Collecting, analysing and disseminating environmental data is crucial now, for informed decision-making and for future policy development.

3. Steps and methods

The project “Ukraine Nature Network” will be undertaken over a period of 24 months and consists of 3 phases. The description of the work in each phase is as follows:

Phase 1 – Introduction (Month 1 to Month 3)

This phase entails all procedures related to the formalisation of the cooperation with the local partners, preparation of a schedule of events, workshops and technical activities.

Phase 2 – Operational (Month 4 to Month 21)

This phase encompasses the following activities:

- Establish the information hub, with a dedicated multi-feature web site, gathering information on current and planned projects, to promote them.
- Set-up a mailing list to facilitate collaboration among environmental NGOs, government agencies, academic institutions, and the private sector, on the one hand, as well as international funding agencies on the other, encouraging joint work in projects.
- Set-up the “Ukraine Nature Network-Germany Partnership” to link German and Ukraine higher education institutions interested to develop new, join projects.
- Share resources and information via the platform and social media, so as to maximise the impact on current and future projects on conservation and restoration efforts.
- Promote opportunities education, awareness and training on matters related to nature conservation.
- Co-organise courses to be offered by the partner universities, offering students the opportunity to learn and possibly engage in projects as part of their courses and in the context of BSc and MSc thesis, as well as doctoral research.
- Coordination or support to the preparation at least four project applications, to be submitted to international agencies, to support nature conservation efforts in Ukraine, in collaboration with local partners.

Phase 3 – Consolidation (Month 22 to Month 24)

This phase entails all procedures related to the consolidation of the network, evaluation of its performance and outputs, and possible follow-up activities. In Phase 3, a strategy to ensure the sustainability of the project will be designed, aiming at a long-term engagement (at least 5 years).

The project “Ukraine Nature Network” was designed to be implemented in three distinct phases to ensure a logical and effective progression of activities. To further structure the implementation, we developed dedicated Work Packages (WPs) with clearly defined tasks, responsibilities, and timelines. This approach allows for better coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of the project's progress and outcomes.

In each working package, different tasks and actions were planned. According to the developed structure of the project, the road map was elaborated and updated monthly. For the “coordinating working group”, weekly group meetings are held and documented with follow-ups. All documents and deliveries are organized at the HAW online drive.

Table 1. Description of actions and the methods used according to the working plan

Actions	Methods used	Duration, Months
WP1 (Project management and partner coordination)		
T1.1 Establishing the Management structure and plan	The management structure and plan were established using internal coordination methods, including by development of a Gantt chart, analysis of the results, and preparation of internal reports—defining roles, responsibilities, and timelines through collaborative planning within the project team.	M1-M2
T1.2. Financial and Administrative Management	It was conducted through regular budget monitoring, expenditure tracking, and compliance checks. Standard accounting procedures, financial reporting templates, and internal audits are used to ensure financial transparency. Administrative management included systematic tracking of deliverables and analysis of project results to support informed decision-making and continuous progress monitoring.	M1-M24
T1.3. External monitoring and final report	Intermediate report for the period 25.05.24-25.05.2024 was submitted in June 2025. Final report is presented in this document.	M12,M24
WP2 (Platform and network establishment)		
T2.1. Identification of actors and their analysis	The process involved desk research, and expert consultations. Key actors were identified through a review of media, and project-related networks. Their roles, interests, and potential influence were assessed using qualitative analysis. The results were systematically collected and organized into a dedicated project database to support future engagement and collaboration planning.	M1-M3
T2.2. Engagement of actors to join the network	Actor engagement was supported by public events, newsletters, social media outreach, and personal meetings.	M4-M24
T2.3. Gathering and promoting on the web page information on current and planned projects	Information on current and planned projects was gathered through regular communication with partner organizations, as well as monitoring institutional updates and public sources. The collected data was curated and continuously updated on the project website to ensure visibility, accessibility, and stakeholder engagement.	M4-M24

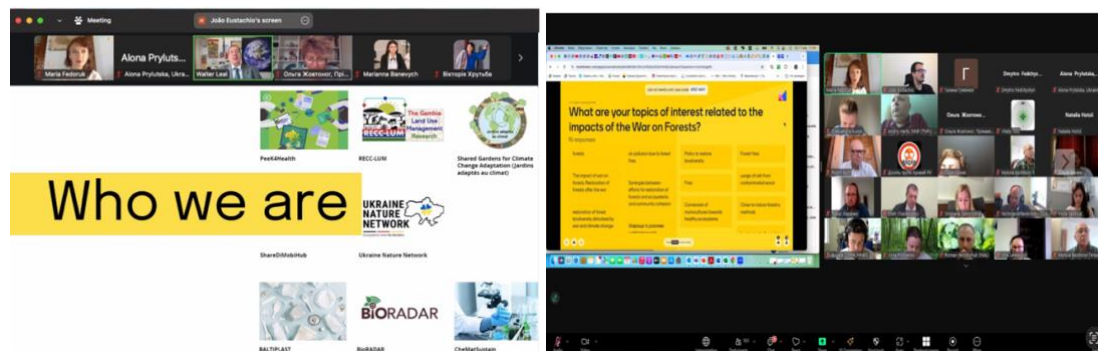
T2.4. Development and signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with main partner	The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was developed and presented during the final event held on 23–24 April in Hamburg. The document was signed by several key partners during and following the event.	M20-M24
WP3 (Consolidation of the network)		
T3.1. Coordination or support to the preparation at least four project applications, to be submitted to international agencies.	Consortium development through partner engagement and collaborative drafting of the project outline to ensure alignment with the call objectives. The process also involved managing the preparation, review, and consolidation of all required application documents to guarantee compliance with submission guidelines and deadlines.	M1-M21
T3.2. Evaluation of network performance and outputs.	Evaluation of network performance and outputs was completed successfully. The main KPIs (website and social media views, newsletter contacts) and outputs (number of new core partners, number of project proposals, and joint papers submitted), as well as the related results and performance indicators, are presented in this report.	M17-M24
T3.3. Design of a strategy to ensure the sustainability of the network.	Design of a strategy to ensure the sustainability of the network was completed. The strategy was developed based on an analysis of the network's strengths, weaknesses, and resource needs, consultations with members, identification of sustainable funding options, partnership opportunities, and governance models, as well as a review of best practices from similar networks. The resulting sustainability plan supports long-term collaboration and impact.	M21-M24
T3.4. Proposition of follow-up activities.	Proposition of follow-up activities was included in the strategy to ensure the sustainability of the network.	M21-M24
WP4 (dissemination and upscaling activities)		
T4.1. Communication material and digital outreach of target groups through events attendance, webpage, social media, mailing list and media	Communication materials were developed to ensure clear and consistent messaging to target groups. Digital outreach activities included website management, active engagement via social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and a WhatsApp group), and a regular newsletter (every 3–4 weeks). In addition, participation in relevant events (9 in-person) was carried out to maximise visibility and stakeholder engagement throughout the project duration.	M1-M24
Task 4.2. Project website	The project website was launched through a structured process that included initial planning to define objectives, target audience, and content structure. Development involved collaboration with technical experts to design and build the site, followed by thorough testing to ensure usability and functionality. The website was further improved based on feedback from partners, including the addition of a new "Education" section.	M1-M3, M18-M20
Task 4.3. Networking, Dissemination and Promotion events	The first partner meeting, an in-person forum in Ukraine, the final event in Germany, and two online sessions were conducted using structured agendas, presentations, and facilitated discussions to initiate collaboration and enable information exchange among network members and external	M3-M22

	experts. In addition, a pitch event was organised with nine potential coordinators from Germany and Sweden.	
Task 4.4 Scientific papers	This structured process, involving both our team members and invited researchers from the network, included defining research topics, organizing collaborative writing efforts. In total, four scientific papers were submitted on circular economy solutions, waste management under war conditions, ecocide and ecosystem destruction in Ukraine, and international legal accountability and ecological recovery. In addition, relevant scientific publications from experts within the thematic area are collected and made available on the project website.	M11-M24
Task 4.5 Co-organise courses to be offered by the partner universities.	Introductory workshop for lecturers on educational materials was conducted. Teaching materials were provided for integration into partner universities' programmes. In addition, 7 lectures for Ukrainian students were delivered by the HAW team. Two project applications were submitted: one to implement the Green Deal by developing competencies for climate leadership, and one focused on sustainable education. An education section, including online courses on the environmental impacts of war and conservation and mitigation measures, is also available on the project website.	M10 - M24

4. Final results:

4a. Engagement of actors to join the network

As a key initial activity of the Ukraine Nature Network, the **first online meeting** was successfully held on 11 September 2024, with the participation of 114 individuals representing various institutions that marked the official launch of the initiative.



Source: Mariia Fedoruk

Figure 1. First online meeting of the Ukraine Nature Network

During the meeting, the objective and main aim of the network were presented, along with an explanation of its structure, functions, and how organisations can register and share their project and research results. An interactive workshop was also conducted to gather input from participants on their topics of interest. The responses provided valuable insights into potential working groups to be formed within the network and helped identify key areas for future project proposals and scientific papers. The strong turnout and active engagement demonstrated high interest in the platform and its collaborative potential.

On 17 March 2025 in Ivano-Frankivsk (Ukraine), the Ukraine Nature Network successfully conducted the forum “*Conservation & Recovery in Times of War*” as part of its outreach and knowledge exchange activities. The event engaged a around 190 participants, including 16 expert speakers, 24 attendees on-site, and 179 participants joining remotely.



Photo by Uliana Lavruk for the Ukraine Nature Network project.

Figure 1. Ukraine Nature Network Forum “*Conservation & Recovery in Times of War*”, Ivano-Frankivsk (Ukraine)

The forum facilitated the exchange of knowledge and experiences related to the environmental consequences of the ongoing war in Ukraine. Presentations from selected projects provided critical insights and innovative approaches in the areas of soil restoration, forest management, energy, and waste management.

An interactive panel discussion further explored broader environmental impacts and recovery frameworks, while the Q&A session enabled active participation and direct dialogue between project leaders and the audience.

The event demonstrated effective facilitation of networking and collaboration opportunities among Ukraine Nature Network members and new potential partners. The provision of simultaneous translation ensured full accessibility for both Ukrainian and international stakeholders, increasing the reach and inclusivity of the forum.

Overall, the forum contributed significantly to strengthening the network’s capacity for collaborative environmental recovery efforts during and after the war.

The 10th Hamburg Sustainability Session (HSS10): Ukraine Nature Network was successfully held online on 15 May 2025, attracting approximately 160 participants from around the world. The session focused on the environmental consequences of the Russian war against Ukraine and highlighted the critical role of international support in addressing these challenges.

Speakers:

Doug Weir
Doug Weir has undertaken research and advocacy on the polluting legacy of armed conflicts and military activities since 2005. After working on conflict pollution and the toxic remnants of war for many years, he established the non-profit Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOBS) to monitor and raise awareness of the environmental and derived humanitarian consequences of conflicts. He has contributed to a wide range of domestic, regional and international initiatives on conflict and the environment, and CEOBS' current research focus is on Sudan and Ukraine.

Ivan Tymofeyev
He has a degree in Tourism and Ecology. For over six years, have been working for the German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union, where have successfully coordinated and implemented more than 30 nature conservation and environmental education projects across Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

Marharyta Zhynchuk
Over 20 years of professional experience and, as a Senior Project Manager, supports the ministry in advancing the climate agenda into national policy. Her work included coordinating the development of Ukraine's National Climate Law, supporting Ukraine's participation in UNFCCC negotiations, and establishing Ukraine's first national pavilion at COP27. She also provides analytical expertise on carbon removals, voluntary carbon markets, and environmental finance mechanisms.

Dr. Olena Maslyukivska
A Senior Lecturer at the Department of Environmental Studies at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and the lead author of the Circularity Transformation Pathways chapter in UNEP's flagship report, Global Environment Outlook-7. With over 20 years of experience, she conducts interdisciplinary research, policy analysis, and consulting on environmental and sustainability issues for governments, private sector entities, and international organizations.

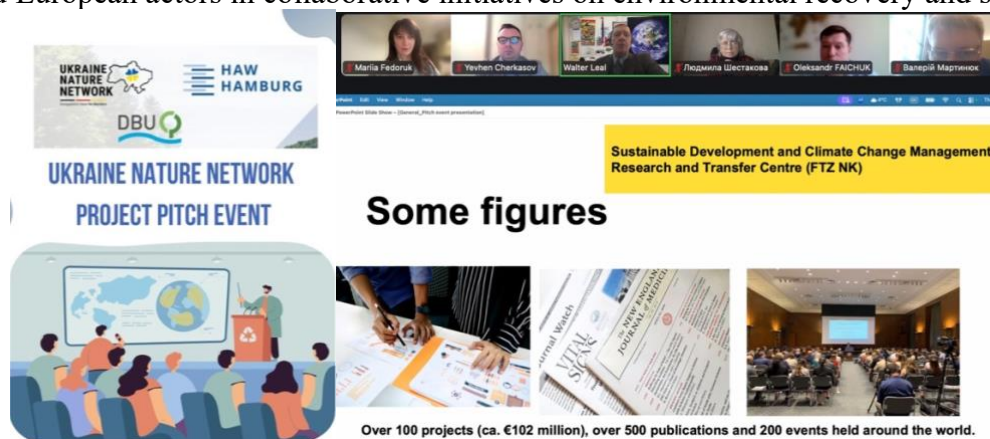
Source: Ukraine Nature Network project

Figure 2. Hamburg Sustainability Session (HSS10): Ukraine Nature Network

Speakers from international organizations presented their involvement in environmental research, protection, and recovery efforts, underscoring the global significance of these activities. Contributions included detailed discussions on financial mechanisms for nature conservation during wartime, with particular emphasis on reparations as a key funding source. A representative from a Ukrainian ministry provided valuable insights into how international support for Ukraine's environmental protection has evolved over the past three years.

Conducted entirely in English, the session fostered meaningful international dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among participants, reinforcing the urgent need for coordinated global efforts in environmental recovery linked to conflict contexts

On 27 November 2025, the Ukraine Nature Network organised the Project Pitch event as part of its outreach and capacity-building activities aimed at expanding the network and fostering new project ideas. The call launched in autumn 2025 generated over 130 applications, demonstrating strong interest from Ukrainian and European actors in collaborative initiatives on environmental recovery and sustainability.



Source: Mariia Fedoruk

Figure 4. Navigating Polycrisis Together: Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, Energy, and Circular Waste

Following evaluation, 14 selected project teams presented their concepts at the pitch event, covering biodiversity protection, soil practices and sustainable agriculture, waste management, and energy management. Nine potential coordinators from Germany and Sweden participated, representing institutions such as HAW Hamburg, Hochschule Zittau/Görlitz, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Uppsala University, Linnaeus University (Faculty of Health and Life Sciences), Luleå University of Technology, Stockholm University, and Umeå University. The event facilitated direct dialogue between project teams and potential coordinators, supporting the formation of new partnerships and strengthening international collaboration. As an outcome, nine projects were selected for further mentoring.

After the project pitch event, coordinators from Germany and Sweden worked closely with the selected project authors to refine their ideas and prepare funding applications. Through this mentoring process, the concepts were further developed and aligned with the requirements of relevant national funding schemes in both countries. As a result, three projects were submitted to national funding bodies in Sweden, while three additional projects reached the final preparation stage for submission to funding organisations in Germany. This follow-up phase strengthened cross-country collaboration, enhanced proposal quality, and supported the mobilisation of new resources for environmental recovery and sustainability initiatives.

On 23–24 April 2026 in Hamburg (Germany), the Ukraine Nature Network held the event “Navigating Polycrisis Together: Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, Energy, and Circular Waste” as part of its outreach, knowledge-exchange, and actor-engagement activities. The two-day event, opened by Prof. Dr. Walter Leal, engaged about 40 on-site from Ukraine, Germany, Sweden, Poland, and Finland and 150 remote participants from all over the world.

Across 17 presentations by Ukrainian and EU partners, sessions offered practical, case-based solutions for mitigating impacts on nature, improving resource efficiency, and advancing circular approaches, building on recent findings about the environmental impacts of the war in Ukraine. A presentation of two years of achievements by HAW team (Maria Fedoruk and João Eustachio) preceded a joint workshop on the Future Plans and Strategic Outlook of the Ukraine Nature Network, stimulating discussion on scaling sustainability, strengthening partnerships, and mobilising additional actors to join the network.



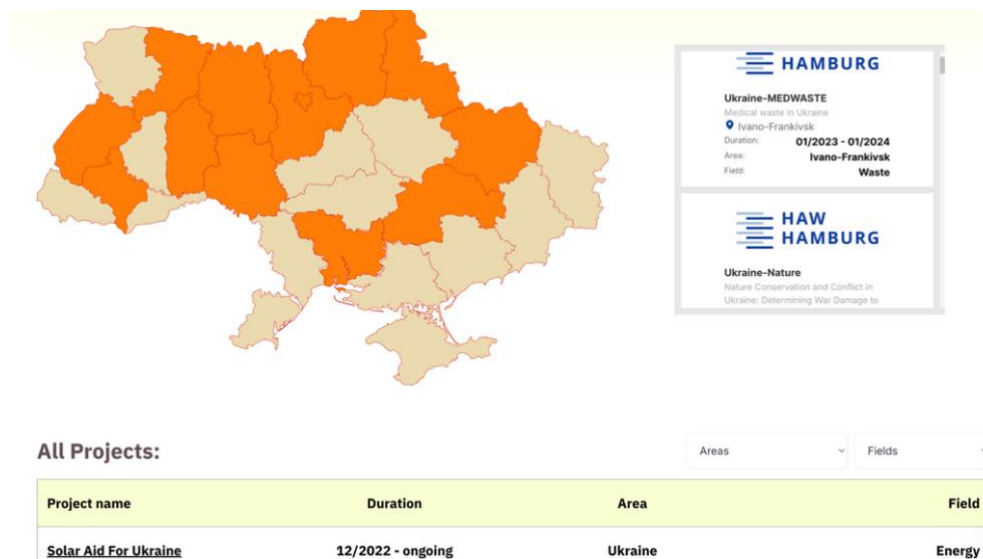
Photo by FTZ team for the Ukraine Nature Network project.

Figure 5. Navigating Polycrisis Together: Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, Energy, and Circular Waste

The outcomes of the workshop were subsequently integrated into the developed strategy to ensure the long-term sustainability of the network and to guide future engagement and collaboration.

4b. Project website: development and launch

The project website <https://ukrainenaturenetwork.org/> was successfully developed and launched through a structured and collaborative process. Initial planning defined the site's objectives, target audience, and content architecture to support effective communication, outreach, and stakeholder engagement.



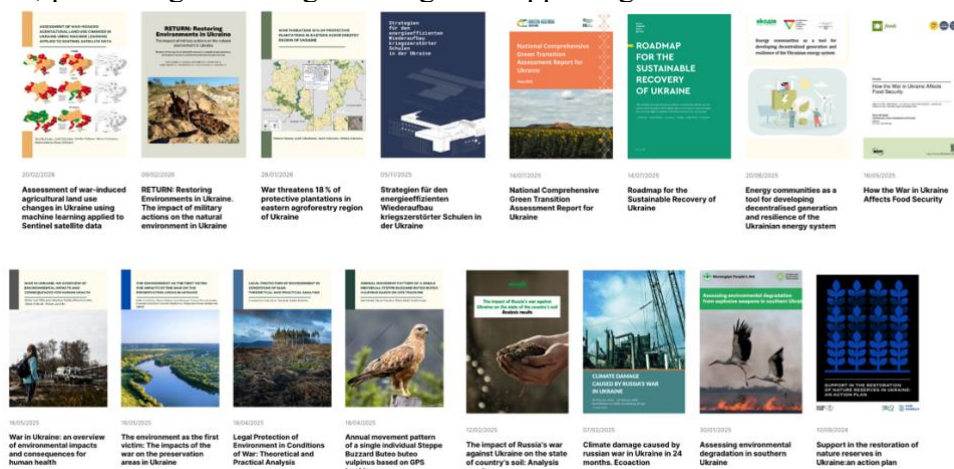
Source: Screenshot of the Ukraine Nature Network website.

Figure 6. Projects database on the Ukraine Nature Network website

As part of the technical setup, a dedicated domain was registered and hosting services were purchased to ensure stable and secure access to the website. The development phase involved close collaboration with technical experts to deliver a user-friendly, accessible, and responsive platform. Comprehensive testing was conducted to ensure functionality, performance, and compatibility across devices and browsers.

The website was further improved based on feedback from partners, including adjustments to the design and the addition of a new “Education” section. It provided detailed information on current and planned

projects, with 48 projects included in the database, helping to increase transparency and stakeholder involvement. Content was continuously updated through regular communication with partner organizations and systematic monitoring of institutional updates and public sources. In addition to project updates, the website hosts a dedicated section for scientific publications related to the network's themes, promoting knowledge sharing and supporting research collaboration.



Source: Screenshot of the Ukraine Nature Network website.

Figure 7. Scientific publications database on the Ukraine Nature Network website

To enhance transparency and partnership recognition, the website displays the logos of main partner organizations. Furthermore, it includes a dedicated button that allows interested stakeholders to register their organization and express interest in joining or collaborating with the project.

The launch of the website has significantly strengthened the project's digital presence, providing a central hub for communication, collaboration, and community-building.

The website was further improved based on feedback from partners, including adjustments to the design and the addition of a new “Education” section. Also, analytics instruments were integrated to collect data on site usage, enabling evidence-based improvements to the platform over time.

Although the project had ended, the website remained active, continued to function, and is maintained through ongoing updates to support long-term communication and visibility of the network's activities.



Source: Screenshot of the UKN website analytics panel.

4c. Submitted proposals and scientific papers with network members

As part of its strategic collaboration and capacity-building efforts, the project team actively engaged in the development and submission of project proposals in cooperation with partner organizations. This process involved targeted partner engagement, collaborative drafting of project outlines, and alignment with the specific objectives and requirements of each funding call.

To ensure the quality and compliance of each submission, the network coordinated the preparation, internal review, and consolidation of all required application documents, adhering to submission guidelines and deadlines.

A total of 8 proposals were submitted during the project duration:

1. Towards Integrative Responses to Chemical, Biological, and Radionuclear Risks in the EU Food System (AGROTHREATS-EU), HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-01;

2. Energy Efficiency Network – Ukraine (EENet-UA) SI Baltic Sea Neighbourhood Programme – Cooperation Projects;
3. Implementing the Green Deal by Developing Competencies for Climate Leadership ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE;
4. Solutions for sustainable ecosystem management and restoration in Ukraine (UASustain). BMBF Bridge2ERA-EaP;
5. Bio-Based Strategies for Sustainable Agriculture and Community Revitalisation in Conflict-Affected European Regions (AgroRECOVER), *HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-13*;
6. Bio-based Restoration and Demonstration of Soil Recovery Pathways in Conflict-Affected Agricultural Lands in Ukraine through German Expertise and Standards (BIORESTORE-UA-DE), *DBU*;
7. Valorisation and circularity of post-harvest biomass for bio-based industry from Conflict Affected soils (BB4Circular Action), *COST*;
8. Flood-Resilient Civil Protection Shelters through Monitoring and Forecasting (SAFE-SHELTER), *NATO*.

The project team and invited researchers from the Ukraine Nature Network prepared and submitted several scientific papers addressing war-related environmental challenges in Ukraine. These include studies on circular economy solutions for hazardous waste management and the feasibility of circular models under infrastructure and financial constraints, as well as analyses of ecocide, geospatial and environmental evidence of ecosystem destruction, and pathways toward international legal accountability and ecological recovery.

1. Ecocide in Ukraine: an assessment of geospatial and environmental evidence of war-related ecosystem destruction in Ukraine;
<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/environmental-science/articles/10.3389/fenvs.2026.1823887/full>
2. Challenges and pathways for renewable energy transition amid crisis: a case study on community perspectives during Russian war against Ukraine;
3. Circular economy solutions to overcome hazardous waste challenges associated with the Russian war against Ukraine;
4. Ecocide in Ukraine and the pursuit of international legal accountability and ecological recovery.

5. Discussion

5.1. To what extent were the objectives achieved?

By the end of the project, all three specific objectives of the “Ukraine Nature Network” were fully achieved. Objective (a) was met by documenting and promoting on the website a broad range of projects (48) related to the conservation of Ukraine’s natural resources, grouped into energy, soil, waste, nature, and education, and clearly linked to the geographic areas where they were implemented. Objective (b) was fulfilled through effective linking of stakeholders working in nature conservation and fostering sustainable development practices across Ukraine, including the preparation of joint project proposals (8) and scientific papers (4), engagement through offline and online meetings, participation in events, a dedicated WhatsApp group with 37 participants, a regular newsletter reaching over 500 email contacts, attendance at in-person conferences, as well as promoting core partners on the website.

Objective (c) was achieved by significantly increasing public awareness and understanding of war-related environmental issues via university-level lectures, co-organised specialist workshops, collecting scientific papers on the website, and the development of Ukraine Nature Network social media channels (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram). In addition, the educational section on the project website provided accessible learning materials and information on relevant initiatives, further supporting outreach and fostering sustainable practices during and after wartime.

5.2. Deviations from the results obtained via planned

By the end of the project, the planned results were achieved, with several positive deviations that reflect broader reach and deeper engagement than originally foreseen.

The information hub was successfully established as a multi-feature website that gathers and promotes information on current and planned projects and was further enhanced with an education section, a structured project database, analytics tools, and visibility for core partners. The planned mailing list was implemented and complemented by a regular newsletter reaching over 500 email contacts, a dedicated WhatsApp group with 37 participants, and regular online and offline meetings, which together created more dynamic channels for collaboration among environmental NGOs, government agencies, and academic institutions. Collaboration with the private sector proved more challenging; however, several companies were engaged primarily through joint project proposals, and efforts to involve them in future initiatives are ongoing.

The “Ukraine Nature Network–Germany Partnership” was effectively realised through the Project Pitch event, which brought together not only German but also Swedish higher education institutions and thus extended the original bilateral focus into a broader international academic partnership. Resources and information were actively shared via the platform and social media channels (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram), as well as through international events and forums, substantially amplifying the visibility and impact of conservation and restoration efforts.

In the area of education, awareness, and training, activities went beyond the initial plan. Instead of fully co-organised courses at each partner university—which was not feasible due to limited institutional capacities—the project delivered guest lectures for students at partner universities, provided online educational materials accessible via <https://dl4sd.org/>, supported by workshop for lecturers, and developed a dedicated educational programmes section on the project website. These measures still offered students opportunities to learn about and engage with ongoing initiatives, including links to potential BSc, MSc, and doctoral research topics. Two project applications were submitted: one to implement the Green Deal by developing competencies for climate leadership, and one focused on sustainable education.

Finally, coordination and support for project applications exceeded the initial target of four proposals, resulting in the preparation of eight joint project proposals with international consortia. This higher-than-planned output, together with several co-authored scientific papers, demonstrates a significant strengthening of international collaboration and the project’s contribution to mobilising resources for nature conservation in Ukraine.

5.3. Partners cooperation processes

Cooperation between partners has been organized in accordance with the communication approach developed for the Ukraine Nature Network project. This approach not only supports dissemination efforts but also structures interaction between network core partners, members, DBU project officers, and decision-makers.

Partner coordination and engagement take place through regular online meetings, email communication, and participation in dedicated project events, including forums, workshops, and partner meetings. In addition to these formal exchanges, cooperation is supported by WhatsApp group for the core partners, enabling dynamic and responsive collaboration.

The communication and cooperation processes occur at three distinct levels:

- With key stakeholders, such as, academic partners, NGOs and preservation area administrators, through joint activities (like proposal submissions), co-authorship of scientific papers, and active participation in events.
- With funding agencies, via events, and proposal submissions, ensuring that the network's priorities and collaborative efforts align with available funding opportunities and broader program goals.

- With the wider public, using various communication channels including developed pages in social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram), newsletters (sent every 3-4 weeks to a contact list of 500), media outreach, and platforms such as the HAW website and the BUP network.

These structured and multi-layered cooperation processes have helped to maintain momentum, ensure inclusive participation, and build a solid foundation for long-term collaboration within the Ukraine Nature Network.

6. Public relations:

6.1. Communication and Dissemination of the results

All communication and dissemination activities were strategically designed to engage identified actors and encourage them to join and actively contribute to the Ukraine Nature Network. These efforts focused on raising awareness of the project's objectives and collaboration opportunities, while also fostering trust and interaction among stakeholders.

Key events, including the first partner meeting, the Ukraine Nature Network Forum in Ukraine, the Hamburg Sustainability Session #10, and the Project Pitch event, were organised with structured agendas, expert presentations, and facilitated discussions to stimulate dialogue and promote collaboration between network members and external experts. The project was also presented at a wide range of events, including the Networking and Cooperation Event 2024: Ukrainian Researchers in Germany, Woche der Umwelt, IAMO Forum 2024, POCHEN Biennale, CEECON 2024, the HAW poster session, the Final Event of the TransLearnN Project, the ConnectED project event, and the Joint Conference on European Land Use in Times of Change.

The project's visibility was further enhanced through media coverage, social media engagement, and dissemination via online platforms such as Build Ukraine Back Better, the BUP newsletter, and the HAW Hamburg website.

Social media pages were developed on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#), with regular posts sharing event updates and relevant news. A regular newsletter, distributed every 3–4 weeks to a curated contact list of around 500 individuals and organisations, kept stakeholders informed and invited further participation. In addition, a WhatsApp group with 37 core members supported more direct and responsive



Source: Screenshot of the UKN LinkedIn analytics panel.

communication within the network. Lectures for Brazilian and Ukrainian students, together with planned network activities such as member meetings and matching meetings, continued to support the expansion and activation of the network through consistent, targeted outreach.

The following communication and dissemination actions were taken:

- Reports in media: Wilderness society; Ukrainian media
- Social media: LinkedIn, Facebook
- BUP news letter
- Build Ukraine back better platform
- HAW web page and social media
- Ukraine Nature Network news letter
- Presentation about the project on events:
 - Joint Conference on European Land Use in Times of Change (19–20 January 2026)

- ConnectED project: From Collaboration to Impact – Strengthening Academic Partnerships (8–12 Dec 2025)
- Final Event of the TransLearnN Project (25-26 September 2025)
- HAW poster session (12 March 2025)
- CEECON: Congress of Central and East European Studies (7-8 October 2024)
- POCHEN Biennale: Ex Oriente Ignis – The Fire Comes From the East (1 October 2024)
- IAMO Forum 2024: The Functions of Land in Times of Change: Environmental, Social, and Economic Perspectives (26 - 28 June 2024)
- Woche der Umwelt (4- 5 June 2024)
- Networking and Cooperation Event 2024: Ukrainian Researchers in Germany (17-18 April 2024)
- Events organised by project team:
 - Ukraine Nature Network's first online meeting on 11th of September 2024;
 - “Ukraine Nature Network Forum: Conservation & Recovery in Times of War” in Ivano-Frankivsk (Ukraine) on 17th of March 2025;
 - Online Hamburg Sustainability Session #10 - Ukraine Nature Network on 15th of May 2025.
 - Navigating Polycrisis Together: Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, Energy, and Circular Waste” in Hamburg (Germany), 23-24 of April 2026.

The list of publication about the project Ukraine-Nature is presented in the Table 2.

Table 2. *The list of publication about the project Ukraine Nature Network*

No	Title of the publication	Media	Link to the publication
1	Ukraine Nature Network	HAW web page	https://www.haw-hamburg.de/forschung/forschungsprojekte-detail/project/project/show/ukraine-nature-network/
2	We are warmly inviting you to join us at the Ukraine Nature Network's first online meeting	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/research-and-transfer-center-sustainable-development-and-climate-change-management_we-are-warmly-inviting-you-to-join-us-activity-7233829545211015168-zbF?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAANu_QEBg0zrePWEoVP-Pnlf0L-wK-_Je68
3	Ukraine Nature Network Forum: Conservation & Recovery in Times of War	Build Ukraine Back Better	https://buildukrainebackbetter.org/events/ukraine-nature-network-forum
4	Join the Forum Conservation & Recovery in Times of War	The European Wilderness Society	https://wilderness-society.org/war-and-recovery-the-ukraine-nature-networks-role-in-environmental-restoration/
5	Invitation to the Ukraine Nature Network Forum: Conservation & Recovery in Times of War	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/research-and-transfer-center-sustainable-development-and-climate-change-management_invitation-to-the-ukraine-nature-network-activity-7297331369234292736-otzR?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAANu_QEBg0zrePWEoVP-Pnlf0L-wK-_Je68

			um=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAANu_QEBg0zrePWEOVP-Pnlf0L-wK-_Je68
7	Join Us for the Hamburg Sustainability Session #10 - Ukraine Nature Network	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/research-and-transfer-center-sustainable-development-and-climate-change-management_hss10-activity-7315729829885079552-6Bt-?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAANu_QEBg0zrePWEOVP-Pnlf0L-wK-_Je68
9	Hamburg Sustainability Sessions (#HSS10): Ukraine Nature Network	ESSSR	https://esssr.eu/events/hamburg-sustainability-sessions-hss10-ukraine-nature-network/
10	Event Report: Hamburg Sustainability Session #10 - Ukraine Nature Network	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/maria-fedoruk-54136017_sustainability-environmentaljustice-ukraine-activity-7330150800394027008-5SVI?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAANu_QEBg0zrePWEOVP-Pnlf0L-wK-_Je68
11	Nature Restoration During Wartime Discussion	Online media Reporter	https://report.if.ua/socium/u-frankivsku-na-ukraine-nature-network-govoryly-pro-vidnovlennya-pryrody-pid-chas-vijny/
12	Hamburg Sustainability Session on Ukraine Nature Network	Build Ukraine Back Better	https://buildukrainebackbetter.org/events/hamburg-sustainability-session-ukraine-nature-network
13	Ukraine Nature Network at Hamburg Sustainability Sessions	International Relations Office Khmelnytskyi National University	https://iro.khmnu.edu.ua/%F0%9F%8C%8D-hamburg-sustainability-sessions-hss12-ukraine-nature-network-navigating-polycrisis-together/
14	Ukraine Nature Network Collaboration Update	The European Wilderness Society	https://wilderness-society.org/tag/ukraine-nature-network/
15	Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, and Energy	ESSSR	https://esssr.eu/events/hamburg-sustainability-sessions-hss12-ukraine-nature-network-navigating-polycrisis-together-sustainable-toolkit-for-land-forests-energy-and-circular-waste/
16	Ukraine Nature Network Project Announcement	FB	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19MjSqPu2p/
17	Ukraine Nature Network Community Highlights	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DYG9lOADUD0/?img_index=2
18	International Research Collaboration on Sustainability	The Aragon Institute for Engineering Research (I3A)	https://i3a.unizar.es/en/node/3653

19	Department Lecturers at Ukraine Nature Network Forum	Department of Biology and Ecology, CNU	https://kbe.cnu.edu.ua/2025/03/07/vykladachikafedry-na-forumi-ukraine-nature-network/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
20	Environmental Networking and Cooperation Event	Linkedin	https://bit.ly/4ukDh33
21	Environmental Initiatives and Community Recovery	Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University	https://snu.edu.ua/index.php/2025/03/20/naukovicya-snu-im-v-dalya-pro-ekologichni-iniciativi-ta-vidnovlennya-gromad/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
22	Opportunities for Young Researchers and Educators	NUBIP	https://nubip.edu.ua/news/mozhlyvosti-dlya-molodykh-doslidnykiv-ekolohichnykh-initsiatyv-ta-osvityan-novyny-vid-ukraine?utm_source=chatgpt.com
23	Ukraine Nature Network Project Launch	Uniwersytet Kazimierza Wielkiego w Bydgoszczy	https://www.ukw.edu.pl/strona/aktualnosci/archiwum/81026
24	Call for Project Proposals in Ukraine Nature Network	Uniwersytet Kazimierza Wielkiego w Bydgoszczy	https://prawoiekonomia.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/wydzial-prawa-ekonomii/prawo_aktualnosci/81038/
25	Collaborative Approaches to Sustainable Land Use	Europe-LAND	https://europe-land.eu/news/collaborative-approaches-to-sustainable-land-use-insights-from-the-hamburg-joint-conference/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
26	Ukraine Nature Network Partnership and Outreach	Linkedin	https://bit.ly/4nQJJgh
27	Ukraine Nature Network Site Update	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02rR1Ye2hffhHTZqJ7nEiDcvcz5g1fLLWZpHnx3p9m93QLaeKZseeZDNigtS6t7CeZl&id=61579350090867
28	Environmental Research Collaboration Update	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0HKRcYxdD9bkCCye23xJ9dsHhAxoES1s2cM9ua3quppo8BJzPrAF7gN4w8WQwHt36l&id=61579350090867
29	Call for Scientists and Experts	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02c2yPbVRwYiEPif2wka8mdZATiYWH1ZkuF1FNNxrWEikRSo23GpDbDFgpWf8VZhVPl&id=61579350090867
30	Biodiversity and War Impact Discussion	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid028a9HPad1HBAhkoPUYFThw8TMYPrfS3eKHFsySRPdiBpRsGPxnk5TbKQ4xTEja75Rl&id=61579350090867
31	Educational Opportunities and Networking	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02B3yQYVcBwdCfsW9z6jEUJQM6

			YW1EdfWUQ7Qvhpe7Yk318Qj42443ewQufRo1Hmiki&id=61579350090867
32	New Year greetings	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid021uYGG8rprCHn8TPTFEhnNTcGsfcfQEU3L24BE2kAz8dcrguF6CPfqy16E7HT6JLil&id=61579350090867
33	Sharing Environmental Initiatives and Projects	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0F5nxbdPq1bBF6QuaRLuDVW1uyoJozAiGLtAQhvCo4daw62SD6ezw6qjjwNmGDNmfl&id=61579350090867
34	Community Engagement and Platform Development	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0mGKdaC3Kr4Vjiz3qk5VnKf9xJyEcogSGsP7kxCNqb8uY6UdJGieDaHHhiXJzz2bal&id=61579350090867
35	Ukraine Nature Network Progress and Outreach	FB	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0s2waVAYnNdZzS5GFzNiJgQMynyWjsmft48T5hRSwLPD3QdRza8hZSySZ4funTpJMI&id=61579350090867
36	Ukraine Nature Network Site Update	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DYo02IPiHkL/?img_index=1
37	Environmental Research Collaboration Update	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DXv-NcXiK6P/?img_index=1
38	Call for Scientists and Experts	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DWl4lEaiEE1/
39	Biodiversity and War Impact Discussion	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DVLQKeGCJUJ/
40	Educational Opportunities and Networking	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DUF1UIZCLVd/?img_index=1
41	New Year greetings	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DSpBBTxCCim/
42	Sharing Environmental Initiatives and Projects	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DSUv2ZwCKIF/?img_index=1
43	Community Engagement and Platform Development	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DR6oKKVCEZL/
44	Ukraine Nature Network Progress and Outreach	Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DQ_pSSigmI/
45	Ukraine Nature Network Site Update	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_exciting-news-from-the-ukraine-nature-network-activity-7463543762338643970-UfCx?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
46	German-Ukrainian Environmental Cooperation	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_ukrainenaturenetwork-haw-dbu-activity-7455536394489294848-A983?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
47	Partnership with Ukrainian Forestry University	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_ukrinenaturenetwork-haw-unfu-activity-

			7422582000802234369-yUJF?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
48	International Networking and Conference Participation	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_last-week-the-ukraine-nature-network-was-activity-7408898034669064195--lwd?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
49	Recognition of Environmental Leadership and Awards	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_unwla-kovaliv-fund-2026-laureat-activity-7437785675304796160-IKEc?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
50	Sustainability and Environmental Research Forum	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_hss12-ukrainenaturenetwork-haw-activity-7445114925020217345-sjSt?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
51	Building a Collaborative Environmental Community	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_ukraine-nature-network-is-building-a-collaborative-activity-7432359053068013568-jkz1?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
52	New Year greetings	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_dearmembersoftheukrainenaturenetwork-activity-7409518746572271616-nTTS?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
53	Successful Ukraine Nature Network Pitch Event	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_successful-pitch-event-for-ukraine-nature-activity-7404102259791364096-EZ28?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII
54	Connecting Scientists and Nature Protection Experts	Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ukraine-nature-network_ukraine-nature-network-is-a-platform-uniting-activity-7399353403941965824-QVFf?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAKobSUBKnhocGH6z0ORhxoAzLjTfqzFtII

6.2. *International partnership*

International partnership was crucial for the development of the Ukraine Nature Network, providing essential expertise, access to advanced facilities, and important opportunities for financial support. Strengthening global cooperation has been a core focus from the outset, enabling the network to build a solid foundation for sustained collaboration across borders.

The first online meeting of the network, held on 11 September 2024, marked the official launch of the initiative and brought together 114 participants from a wide range of institutions and countries, laying the groundwork for ongoing international collaboration and knowledge exchange. Building on this, the Ukraine Nature Network hosted the forum “Conservation & Recovery in Times of War” in Ukraine, which attracted around 190 participants and enabled cross-border dialogue on innovative approaches to nature conservation and ecosystem recovery in the context of war, highlighting the indispensable role of international expertise and support.

The 10th Hamburg Sustainability Session (HSS10): Ukraine Nature Network was successfully held online on 15 May 2025, further strengthening international networking by engaging a diverse group of 160 researchers and practitioners and showcasing Ukraine-focused environmental initiatives in a global forum. On 27 November 2025, the Ukraine Nature Network organised the Project Pitch event as part of its outreach and capacity-building activities aimed at expanding the network and fostering new project ideas. Nine potential coordinators from Germany and Sweden participated, representing institutions such as HAW Hamburg, Hochschule Zittau/Görlitz, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Uppsala University, Linnaeus University (Faculty of Health and Life Sciences), Luleå University of Technology, Stockholm University, and Umeå University.

On 23–24 April 2026 in Hamburg (Germany), the Ukraine Nature Network held the event “Navigating Polycrisis Together: Sustainable Toolkit for Land, Forests, Energy, and Circular Waste” as part of its outreach, knowledge-exchange, and actor-engagement activities. The two-day event, opened by Prof. Dr. Walter Leal, engaged about 40 on-site participants from Ukraine, Germany, Sweden, Poland, and Finland and around 150 remote participants from across the world, further strengthening international links and joint problem-solving.

These networking and collaboration efforts resulted in the development of eight joint project proposals with international consortia and four scientific papers co-authored with international partners. Collectively, these outputs not only advanced the project’s scientific and practical objectives but also significantly strengthened the Ukraine Nature Network’s international partnerships and long-term collaboration potential, while broadening its global reach and mobilising wider support for post-conflict environmental protection and sustainability.

6.3. *Continuation of the project*

The continuation of the Ukraine Nature Network was actively discussed during the joint workshop on the “Future plans and strategic outlook of the Ukraine Nature Network”, held on 23–24 April 2026 within the event “Navigating polycrisis together: sustainable toolkit for land, forests, energy, and circular waste” in Hamburg. The workshop focused on three key topics: networking, with an emphasis on how to foster collaboration between members; financial sustainability, including how to ensure the long-term viability of the UKN Network; and the transition from project to policy, exploring what could be done to translate the outcomes of the UKN Project into policy action.

For networking, the main ideas were to foster matching between members, organise more in-person meetings, summer schools, and joint proposals, develop network management by involving more staff, and create an expert database. For financial sustainability, the discussion focused on defining the structure and value of network costs, mapping stakeholders who could support the network, including national authorities, businesses, and universities, and developing revenue streams through paid courses, events, and network services. For the transition from project to policy, the key questions were what policy level should

be targeted, how the transfer should take place, what kind of network outcomes could realistically be translated into policy, and how this could support the EU integration process.

The sustainability strategy for the network was completed to ensure its long-term continuation. It was developed on the basis of an analysis of the network's strengths, weaknesses, and resource needs, consultations with members, identification of sustainable funding options, partnership opportunities, and governance models, as well as a review of best practices from similar networks. The resulting sustainability plan supports long-term collaboration and impact.

Proposed follow-up activities were included in the strategy to strengthen the network's sustainability. The strategy is built around six pillars: (1) governance and institutionalisation, (2) financial sustainability, (3) network growth and partner value, (4) programme and project pipeline, (5) knowledge, visibility and influence, and (6) monitoring, learning, and adaptation. The recommended target budget structure by year 3 is 60% competitive project grants, 20% services and training revenues, 15% sponsorship and philanthropic support, and 5% in-kind support converted into cost savings.

Although the project had formally ended, work continued through the HAW team and core partners, who remained engaged in expanding the network by participating in external events and maintaining cooperation with stakeholders. This included attendance at the event "Protected areas in focus of observation: Ecosystems, Methods, Interaction. Notice Changes. Combine Knowledge. Act Together." held on 23 of July 2026 in Ivano-Frankivsk, as well as preparation for new activities within the BUP 35th anniversary series, including the webinar "Build back safe – sustainable & circular: bio-based materials revolution" planned for 1 October at 14:00 CET. The website and social media channels are operational and regularly updated. These follow-up activities demonstrate that the network's development did not stop with the formal end of the project. Instead, they helped sustain momentum, enlarge the partnership base, and prepare new opportunities for collaboration, visibility, and impact beyond the project lifetime.

7. Conclusion

7.1. Modifications in the project's approach

Over the course of implementation, the project's approach was adjusted to better reflect stakeholder needs, institutional capacities, and the evolving context in Ukraine, while remaining fully aligned with the original objectives. The information hub developed into a more comprehensive web platform than initially planned, with an expanded project database, educational section, organisation and project registration options, and enhanced visibility for core partners. Communication also shifted from a simple mailing list to a multi-channel model, combining a regular newsletter, a dedicated messaging group, and both online and in-person meetings to support more dynamic networking.

The originally envisaged "Ukraine Nature Network–Germany Partnership" was effectively broadened into a wider international cooperation framework. While German institutions remained central, the partnership was extended to include additional European universities and research organisations, notably through the pitch event and subsequent joint activities. This adjustment from a primarily bilateral to a multilateral approach enabled the development of more joint project proposals and scientific outputs than initially foreseen and helped to consolidate a stronger international network.

In the educational field, the plan to co-organise full courses at partner universities was adapted due to limited institutional capacities and wartime constraints. Instead, the project focused on guest lectures at partner institutions, integration of Ukraine-related topics into existing courses, provision of online educational materials, and the creation of an educational section on the project website. Engagement with the private sector also became more targeted and opportunity-driven, concentrating on joint proposal development and selected events. Together, these modifications optimised the pathways to achieve the project's goals and contributed to more sustainable and resilient outcomes.

7.2. Changes to the objectives

No formal changes were made to the project's overall objectives during implementation. The three specific objectives defined at the outset remained fully valid and continued to guide all activities throughout the project period.

The only substantive adjustment concerned the thematic focus: in addition to the originally planned themes of soil (including agriculture), forest conservation, waste management, and energy production, an additional key theme on sustainable education was incorporated. This extension complemented the existing focus areas and reinforced the project's objectives without altering their scope or intent.