



AndriyYermak (Twitter)

How does civil society contribute to promotion and protection of basic human rights and freedoms in Eastern Europe?

ENVIRONMENTAL Activism in Focus

Vladlena Martsynkevych

25.4.2024

Bankwatch Mission

- a strong network grounded in CEE
- that works in solidarity with communities
- to ensure the use of international public finance for socially responsible, just and environmentally sound purposes
- and promotes public participation to bring meaningful systemic change.

29 years of campaigning on
International Financial Institutions





CEE Bankwatch Network is an international non-governmental, non-profit organisation (NGO) with 15 members from 13 countries of CEE. *(Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovak Republic and Ukraine)*

Part of Green 10 – together with Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, Transport and Environment, EEB, etc.

Our headquarters are in Prague, Czechia, but our staff is based in offices across the region. We're in Brussels too.



Key areas of work

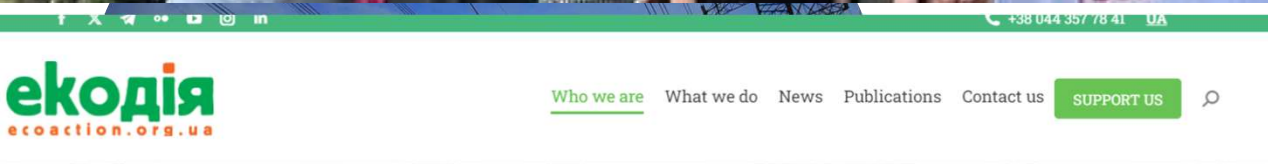
- Fossil Fuels
- Energy Transformation
- Finance and Biodiversity
- Democratisation and Human Rights
- Cities for People

Apprx 70 BW staff located in Prague, Brussels or in member groups



Key activities

- Campaigns on specific projects
- Campaigns on policies
 - Sectoral policies
 - Safeguards
- Advocacy and lobbying
- Media work
- Info materials
- Support for local groups



Who we are

Center for Environmental Initiatives Ecoaction is a civil society organization that unites efforts of experts and activists in a joint struggle to protect the environment. We advocate for energy efficiency, renewable energy,

Fields of activity:

In its development, humanity preserves a clean and safe environment

Act to protect the environment by influencing decision-making and developing an active community



Key Figures:
40 employees, +6
31 members, +2
145 supporters, +53
476 volunteers, +115



Key goals and campaigns

- **Climate change:** Climate policy (international, national, local), Networks (UCN, CAN, EEB)
- **Energy transition:** 100% RES, Energy efficiency, Coal phase-out and just transition, Anti-nuclear
- **Agriculture:** Land Use, Sustainable agriculture, Support of local communities, Ecosystems
- **+ Environmental impact of war, Green Recovery of Ukraine**

Consequences of war

- every 4th Ukrainian is a displaced person – either nationally, or internationally
- Children victims
- More than **34'000 war crimes** committed by Russian military registered. The EU and the International Criminal Court are helping to investigate these crimes
- **Cities:** some are **heavily destroyed**, in some areas nearly to the ground (Bucha, Irpin, Mariupol, Rubizhne...)
- **Infrastructure damages:** 120k buildings destroyed, 23'900+ kilometers of roads, 660+ kindergartens, 300+ bridges, hundreds of healthcare institutions and factories - direct infrastructure damage is about USD 114,5 bln
- **Drop of Ukraine's real GDP** will be 30-50%

What Ecoaction has been doing before & after







Environmental impacts of war

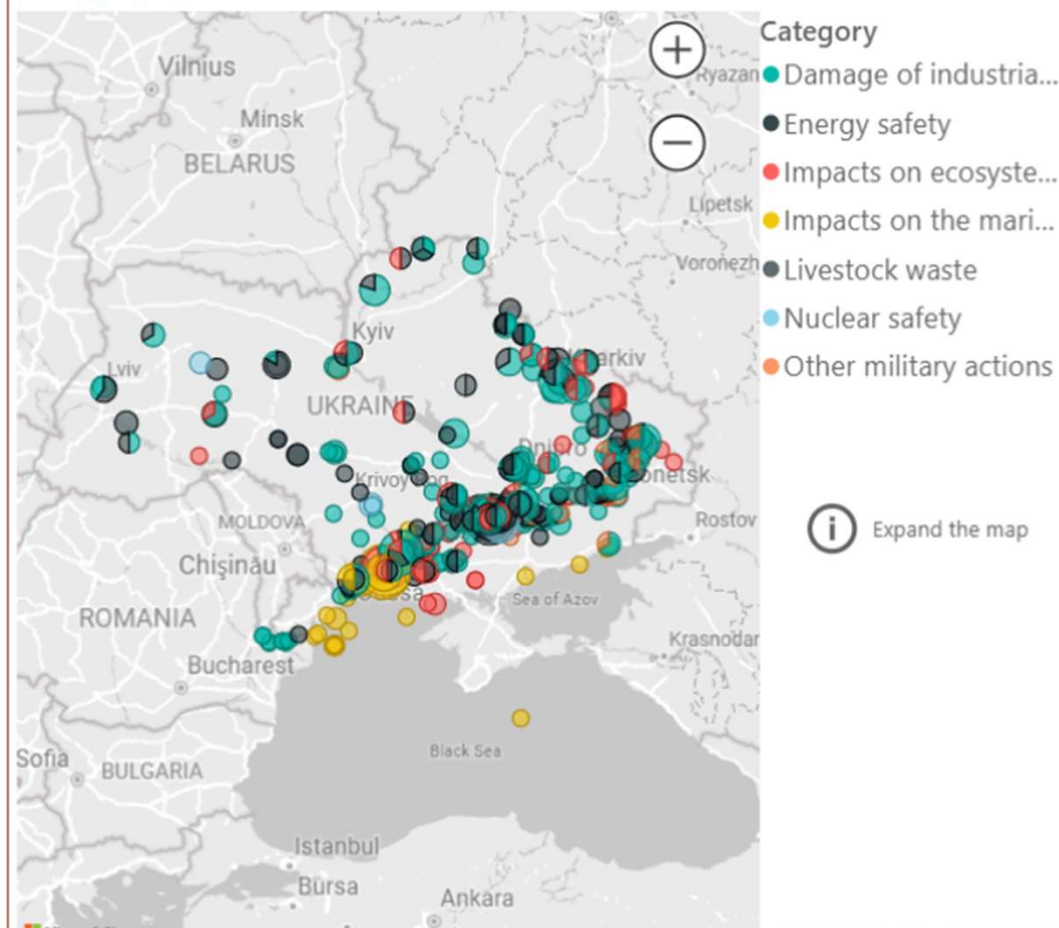


Number of cases

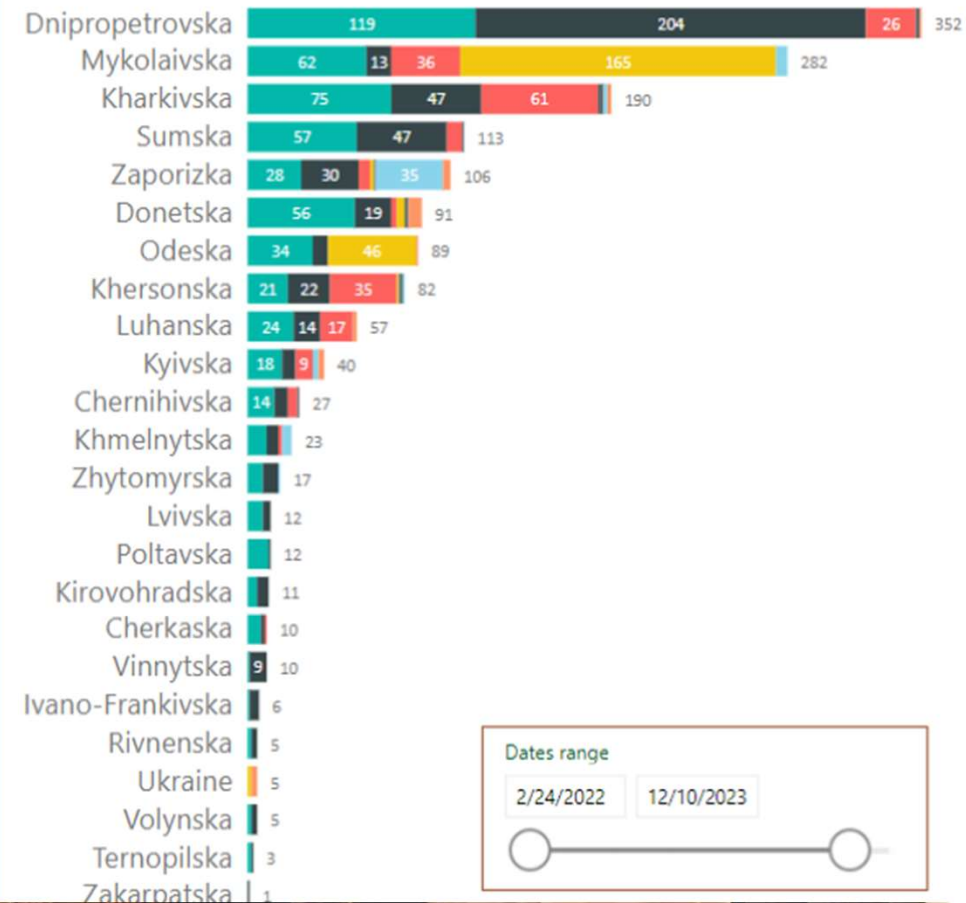
1549

Disclaimer. The data is based on media reports and is not independently verified. The map does not show the exact location of the events and for some cases system shows wrong locations.

Geography



Number of cases per region per category



April 2024

Damage to Environment = Ecocide

Flooded coal mines

Since 2014, Ukraine lost control of 80% of coal mines in Donetsk and Luhansk regions

Mismanagement of the mines by occupiers before February 2022, power cuts due to hostilities in 2022-23 led to flooding of many mines

Flooding of mines leads to methane explosions -> damage to infrastructure

Flooding causes acidification and mobilisation of heavy metals into the local groundwater and riverine environment -> impacts on human health and wildlife

No understanding of real scale of damage and consequences.

Kakhovka dam destruction

USD 1 billion - rebuilding the energy infrastructure

USD 311 million - transport infrastructure

> USD 100 million - industrial sector and businesses

USD 25 million - agricultural sector direct damage

USD 182 million annual losses for crop producers

> 20,000 houses affected

USD 270 thousand - annual loss in ecosystem services

Nature reserves "Nyzhniodniprovskyi," "Kamianska Sich," "Biloberezhzhia Sviatoslava," and the UNESCO-protected Black Sea Biosphere Reserve affected



High level working group with support of the President



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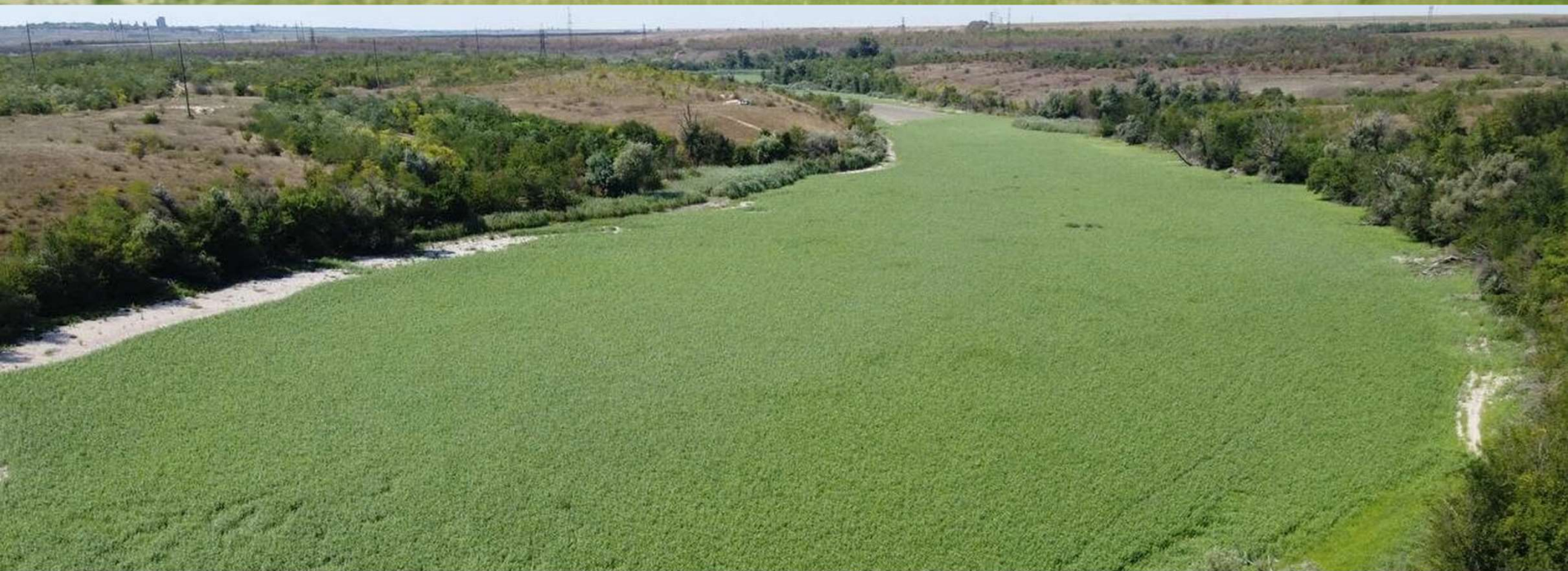
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Coal mines

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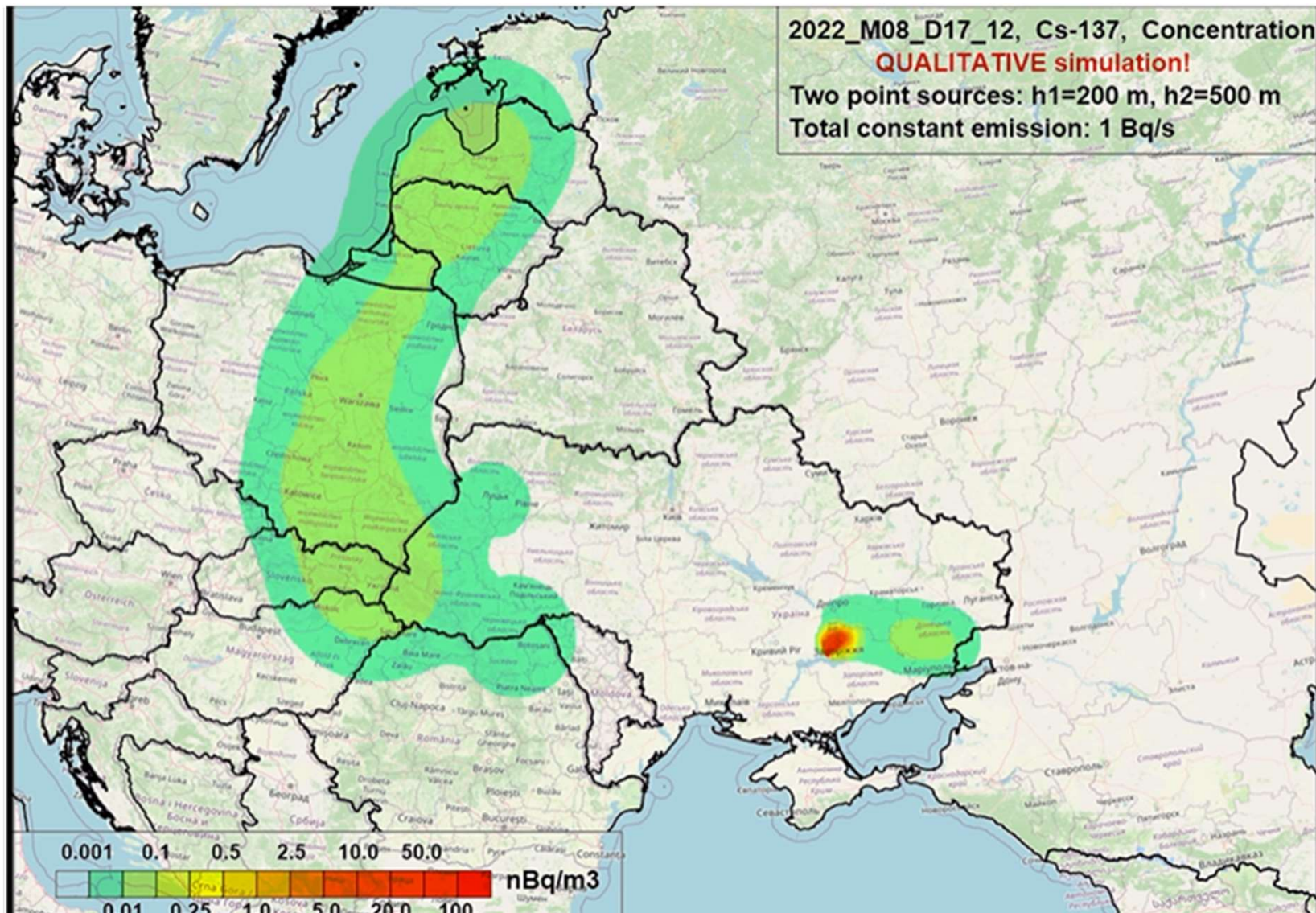
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Nuclear risks are the highest: ZNPP



Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute Modelling for August 14th

Indirect loss for agriculture USD 23,3 bln



at this 1 km² of field:

- 50 t of iron,
- 2,35 t of copper,
- 1 t of sulfur
- 90k t of soil turned out

Source: [KSE Agrocenter](#), [UNCG](#)

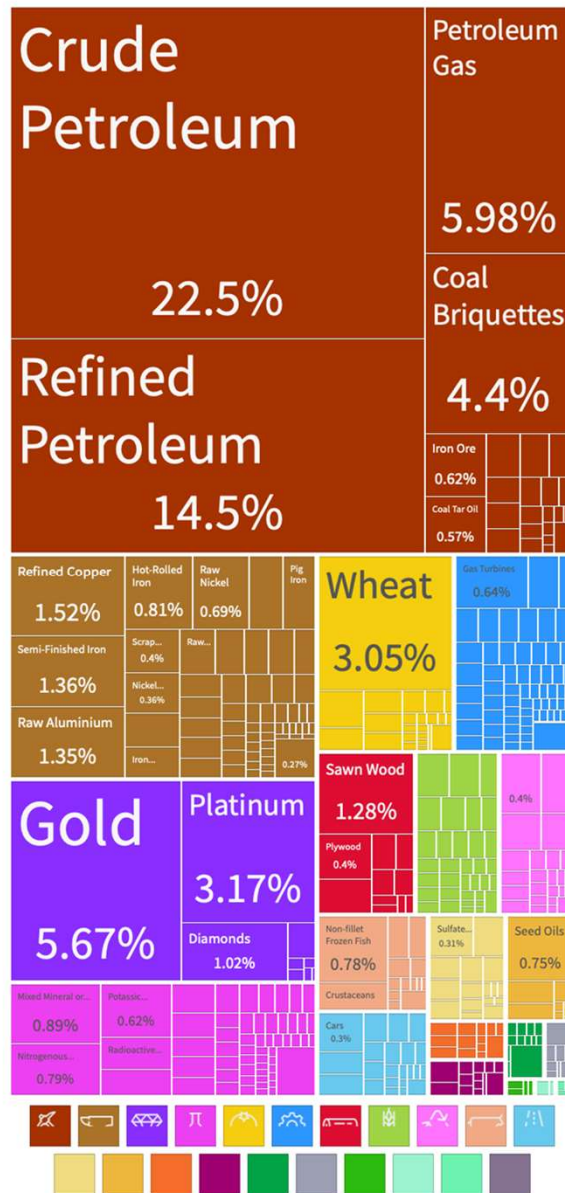
Russia exports fossils

oil and gas industry makes:

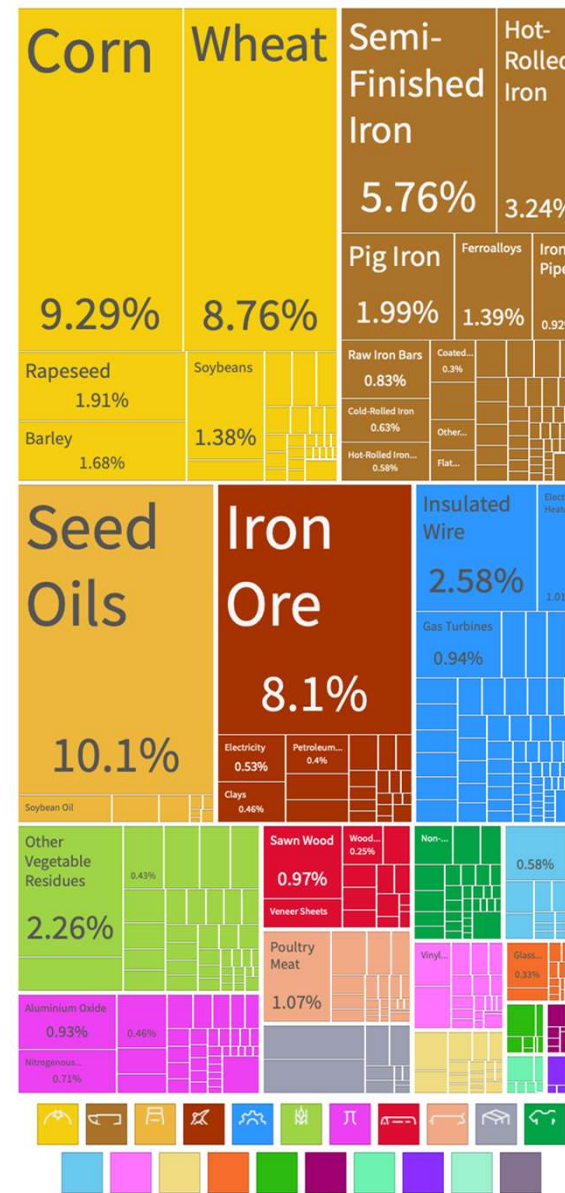
~40% of federal budget revenue

~60% of Russian exports

Exports (2020)
[Click to Select a Product]
Total: \$330B



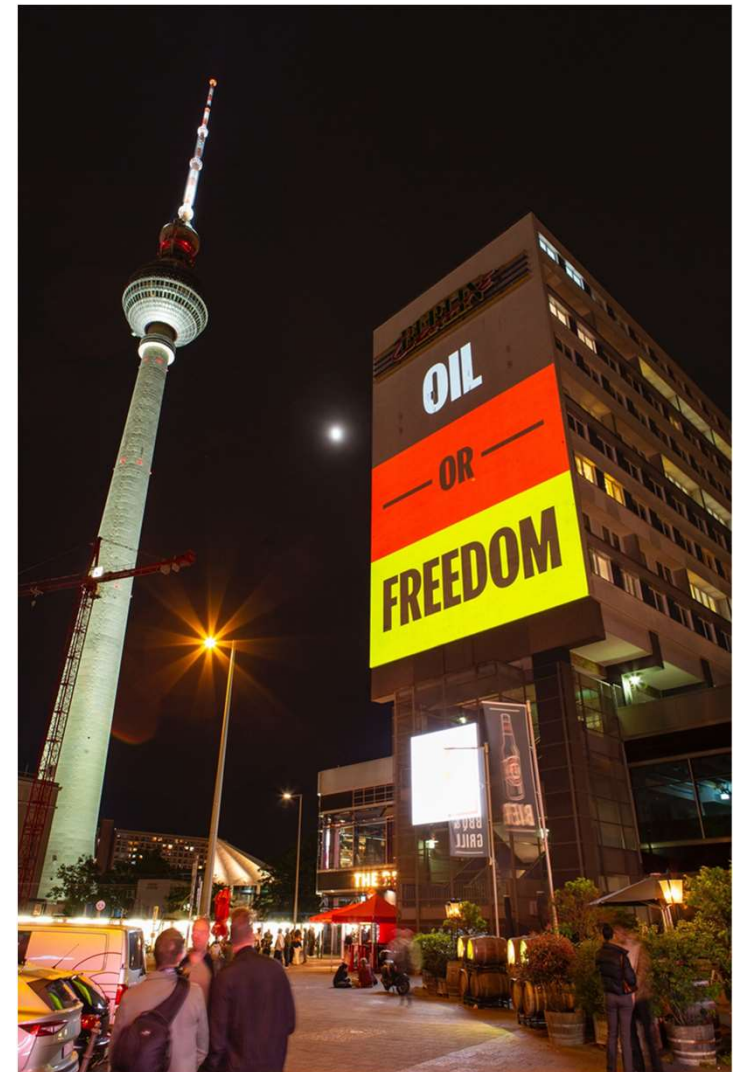
Exports (2020)
[Click to Select a Product]
Total: \$52.7B



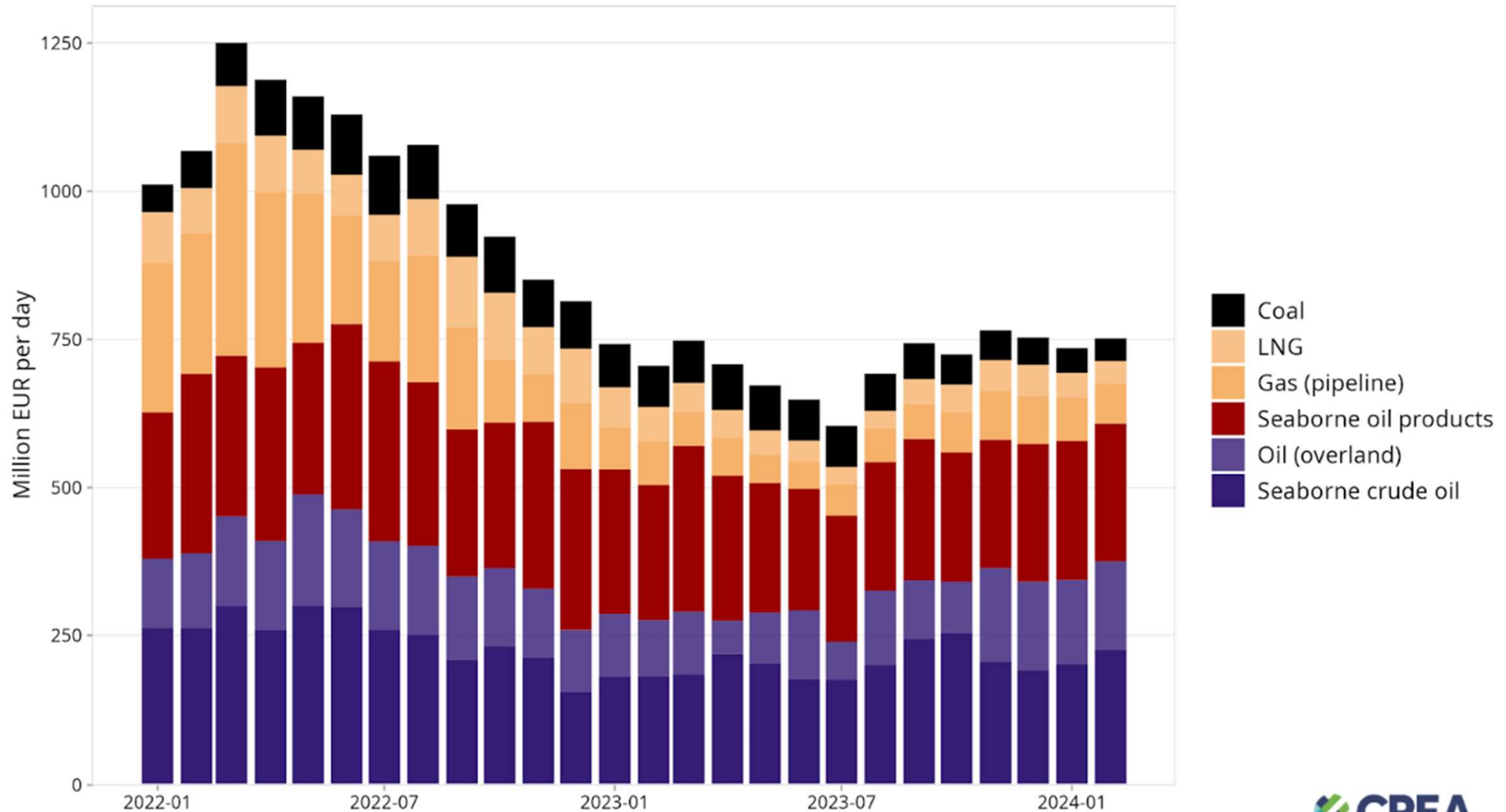
Ukraine exports food

Role of fossil fuels in this war is crucial

- Advocacy aimed at governments, companies, big consumers (industry)
- German, Finnish, Austrian, Hungarian, Japanese, Taiwanese companies & governments
- Working with CSOs on everyday basis: Urgewald, CREA, Greenpeace, Oil Change International, CAN, Europe Beyond Coal ...
- Goal: **embargo on Russian fossils as soon as possible** (also a unique chance to speed up energy transition)



Russia's fossil fuel export revenue

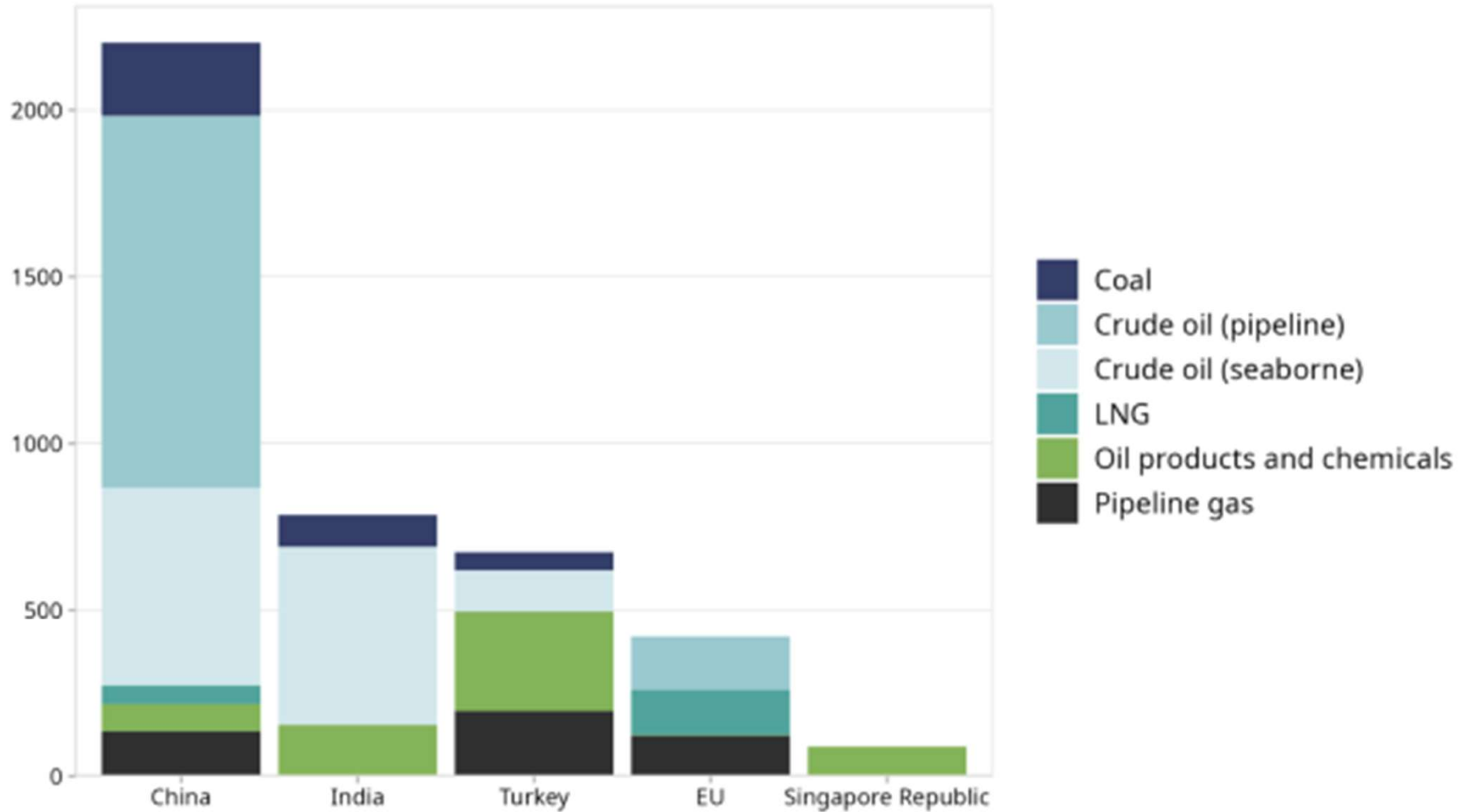


Source: CREA analysis based on Kpler Marine Traffic, FNTSOG and customs data.

Source: [Financing Putin's war: Fossil fuel imports from Russia in the first 100 days of the invasion](#)

Top 5 importers of Russian fossil fuels

Million EUR | 08 April 2024 - 14 April 2024



Source: [Financing Putin's war: Fossil fuel imports from Russia in the first 100 days of the invasion](#)

*Ukraine's **green reconstruction**
is a sustainable reconstruction realized
using the best available technologies
and practices*

Read more here:
[Ecoaction's Principles of
the Green Post-war
Reconstruction of Ukraine](#)

War impact on Ukrainian Environment and Climate and advocacy of green recovery

Research together with The Initiative on GHG Accounting of War:
Analysis of greenhouse gas emissions caused by Russia's war in Ukraine: greenhouse gas emissions during the 18 months of the war amount to **150 million tons of CO₂e**. This is equivalent to the annual emissions of Belgium or Austria.

Ecoaction made a research on war impact on soils. It was based on satellite data as well as on laboratory tests of the polluted soils from Vilkhivska and Sartanska communities (Kharkiv and Donetsk oblast). The research proposes a recommendation set on soils conservation and renovation on local and national levels

Post-war green reconstruction of Ukraine principles: Position by 50+ NGOs



Integration of environmental and climate policy **into all sectors**



Serve needs of **Ukrainians** & promote sustainable development



Environmental **standards** at all levels



Local self-government, transparency, and **involvement of the public and communities** in decision-making



Development of the **green economy**



Effective functioning and use of targeted/donor **funds**



Adherence to **European environmental planning tools**

Read more here: [“Green Reconstruction of Ukraine: Position of Civil Society”](#)

Green Reconstruction ...until now



Cons:

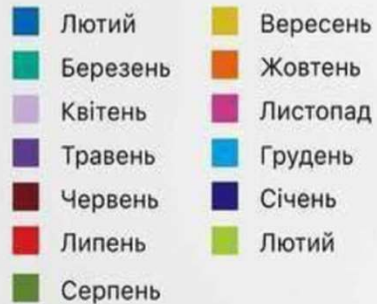
- clear demand for fast reconstruction/solutions
- anticorruption concerns - work on increasing transparency
- considered more expensive
- no political will
- no long-term national recovery plans - Lugano plan did not fit the purpose
- Martial law...

Pros:

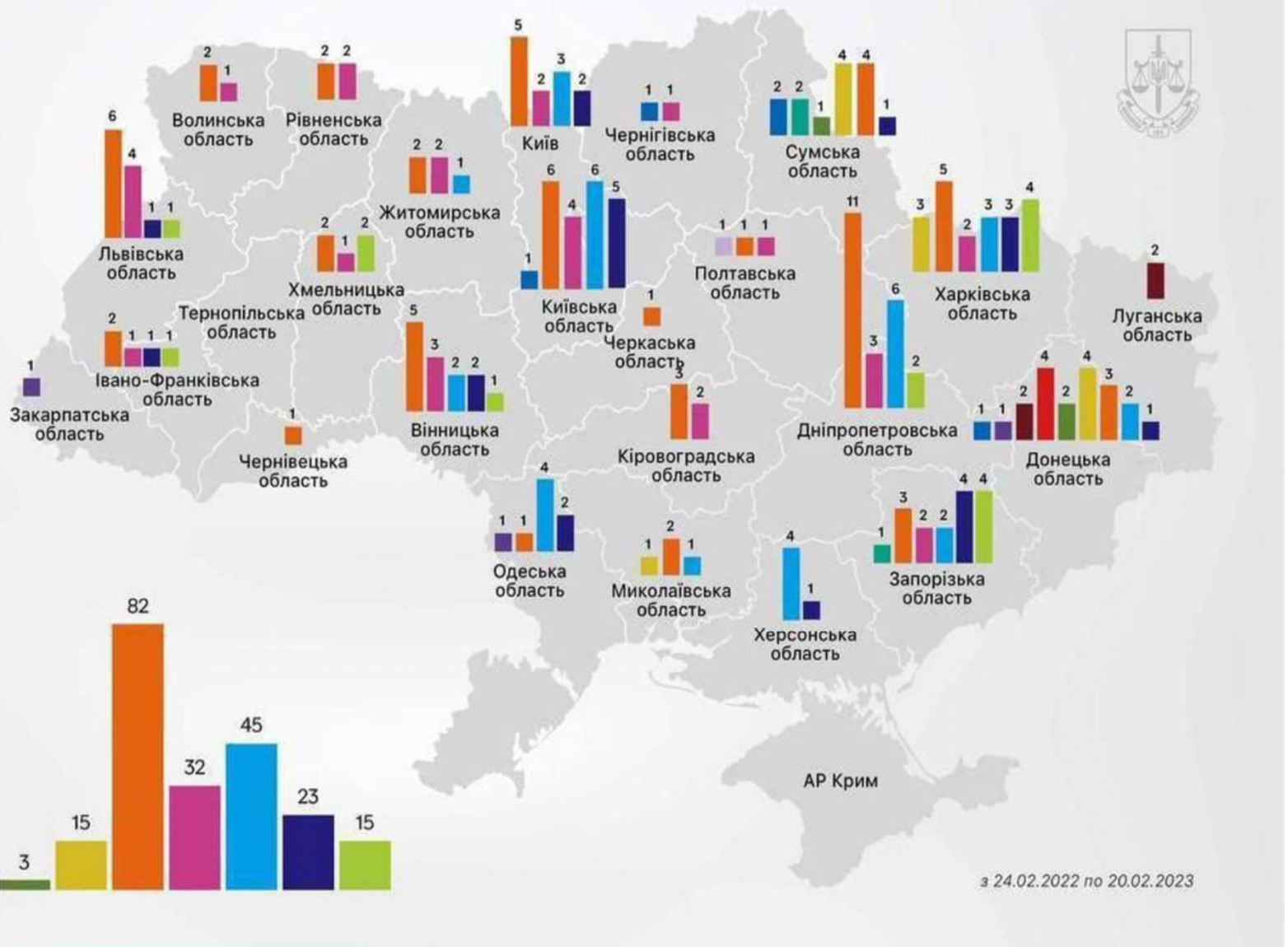
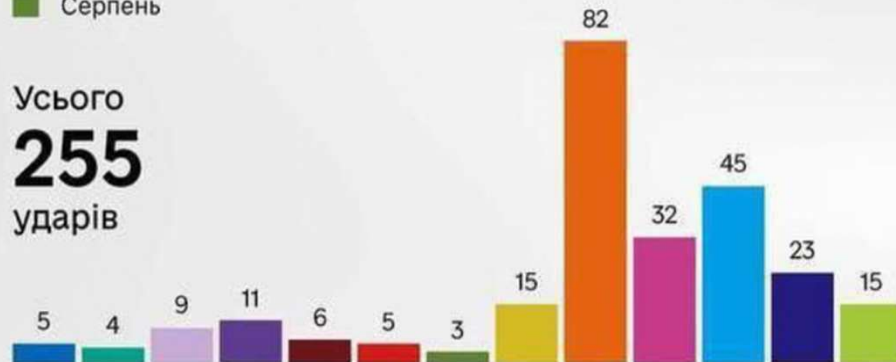
- Ukraine's reconstruction process will go hand in hand with **the EU accession process**
- reconstruction must be seen through the prism of the European Green Deal
- **long-term vision** to be developed as the basis for the future growth and modernization
- applicable to all sectors (Best available technologies, inclusive and sustainable cities for people, decarbonized energy sector and RES, energy efficiency, local food systems)
- booming **regional/local show cases**
- sustainable solutions increase overall **resilience**

Winter 2022-2023

Удари РФ по об'єктам електроенергетики України



Усього
255
ударів



22-24.3.2024 Energy system attacks



208

засобів повітряного нападу
застосували росіяни за два дні



Renewables in the war

IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS (1/4)

Project 1. Hybrid solar power plant for emergency electricity supply needs on the roof of the Horenka hospital

LOCATION: Hostomel community, Kyiv region.

INSTALLED CAPACITY: 12.6 kW with an 8-kWh storage system. Additionally, hybrid (5 kW) and grid connected (10 kW) inverters are installed.

EXPECTED PRODUCTION: 13,000 kWh per year, when grid-connected.

TOTAL COSTS: EUR 10,700 (EUR 7,000 – solar panels, EUR 3,700 – 8kWh of battery storage).

PROJECT INITIATED by non-governmental organisations (Greenpeace, [Ecoclub](#)), in partnership with the charity fund Ukraine Victory, supported by Hostomel Military Administration and the communal non-commercial enterprise Hostomel Centre for Primary Health Care.

More details about the project:



Solar panels on the roof of Horenka hospital.
Source: Greenpeace

IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS (3/4)

Project 2. Solar power plant with storage system, Irpin Academic Lyceum Mriya



Solar power plant in Irpin city.
Source: Energy Act for Ukraine

LOCATION: Irpin city, Kyiv region

INSTALLED CAPACITY: 20-kW solar power plant with a 20-kWh storage system (the storage system can be charged from the grid and/or from the solar power plant).

TOTAL COSTS: EUR 48,000 (equipment provided by the German Solar Association; the installation was financed by the German Federal Foreign office).

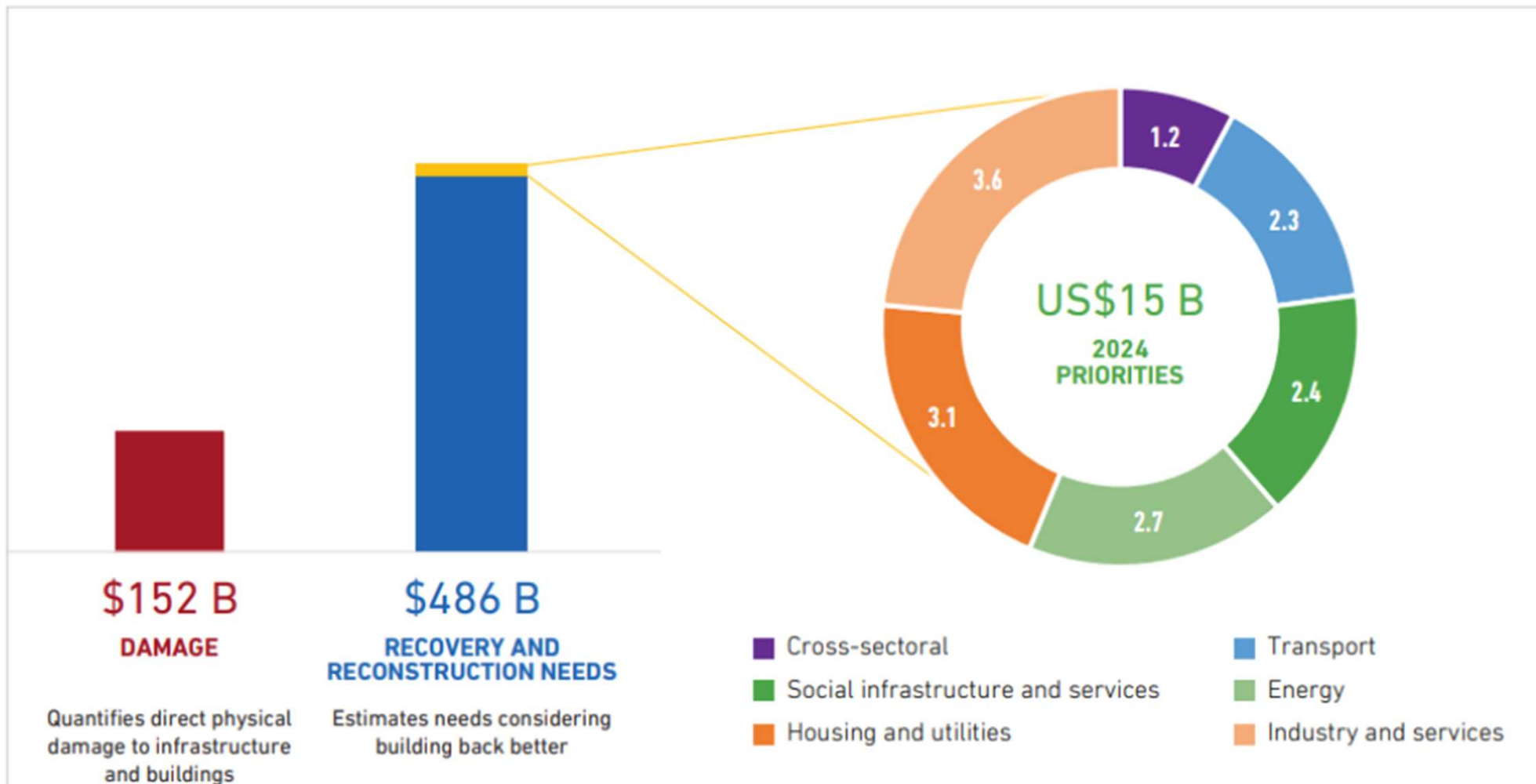
PROJECT WAS REALISED VIA the campaign 100RESforSchools.

More details about the project:

How to support civil society & Ukraine



Figure 6. RDNA3 key results: damage, needs, and 2024 financing priorities



На передовій відновлення:
українські громади та
особливості фінансування

On the reconstruction front
line: Ukrainian municipalities
and the funding landscape

Local budgets and
the reconstruction
of Ukraine



28.03.2024



Ukrainian municipalities:
Accessing domestic and
international financial resources
for reconstruction efforts
at the national level



International financial
support for Ukraine's
recovery



GROUPS OF REGIONS

- Group I** | Frontline regions
- Group II** | Support regions
- Group III** | Backline regions
- Group IV** | De-occupied regions

- Agro-industrial complex**
- Logistics center**
- Provision of mineral fertilizers**
- Provision of wood**
- Mining and metallurgical complex**
- Engineering**
- Elimination of the consequences of the occupation**
- Defense of Ukraine's borders**
- Food production**
- Re-equipment of enterprises for the needs of the military-industrial complex**

- Production of building materials**
- Information counteraction**
- Support for the pre-war economy**
- Mining**
- Export of electricity**
- Humanitarian activities**
- Creating an alternative export center**



- Relocation of enterprises**
- Evacuation of the population**
- Providing shelter to migrants**

Strong environmental NGOs in Ukraine



Charity foundations we trust



August
2021





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