

Panorama Ukraine – Mission Statement

Introduction

Ukraine is fighting for its very existence and self-determination. The impact of the war on the country, its cities, landscapes, and society is devastating and the future is unpredictable. There is no doubt, however, that this future will bring massive spatial, social, and cultural changes, regardless. After all, the spatial impacts of climate change come on top of the destruction caused by the current conflict. Transition scenarios have to be imagined. A comprehensive vision and inspirational process based on mutual respect, knowledge exchange and guided by a solid methodology will accommodate the nation's urge to rebuild the country with resilient civic actors and differentiated urban environments: Panorama Ukraine.

Mission

Panorama Ukraine works towards interconnected, far-reaching, and aspirational perspectives, supported by a method of spatial planning for the (re)development of Ukraine. A panorama works on different scales and connects different temporalities. Panorama Ukraine explores and illustrates how the fundamental restructuring of today's challenges can become an opportunity to enable structural (spatial) improvements in the coming decades. Through this project, different networks and coalitions of planners, designers, and active (cultural) thinkers from a variety of disciplines are working toward an integral outcome.

Vision

Panorama Ukraine explores resilience in the areas of water, housing, mobility, energy, governance, circular economy, biodiversity, and agriculture. Within these themes, it is developing a series of events to distil an integral methodology to connect long-term goals and strategies with short-term needs and emergencies. Panorama Ukraine co-creates knowledge, experiences and practices developed in EU countries, in particular in the Netherlands, and builds on these insights to create a vision and strategies for the future of Ukraine.

Topics

Panorama Ukraine evolves over seven key topics:

- Working on Water (Regenerative water management and biodiversity)
- Healthy and future-proof neighbourhoods
- Good governance

- Sustainable mobility
- Resilient energy production
- Circular economy
- Regenerative agriculture

Who

Panorama Ukraine is a joint project of the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam (IABR), the Ukraine – the Netherlands Urban Network (UNUN), the Dutch Board of Government Advisors (CRa), Nieuwe Instituut (NI), the Independent School for the City, and the Vereniging Deltametropool (VDM) and is generously supported by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW). Panorama Ukraine works in close collaboration with various Ukrainian architects, stakeholders, citizens, and other initiatives based on specific themes and case studies. This approach results in a meaningful exchange of knowledge between Ukrainian and Dutch experts through webinars, workshops, and collective research, which is also shared with a wider audience through lectures, educational, or cultural projects and on a website. Key to the initiative is a transnational network connecting relevant actors: municipalities, experts, NGOs, citizens and businesses.

Strategy

Panorama Ukraine focuses on developing scenarios to rebuild and convert Ukraine as a sustainable, connected, and resilient country. As a process – Panorama unfolds in several workshops, research assignments, and matchmaking sessions that bring together various initiatives and professionals to develop principles and active guidelines on how to get there. The lessons learned from these encounters will provide stepping stones for building an integral action plan for the transition on the horizon, allowing for concrete short-term actions as well as a roadmap of inspiring long-term perspectives.

This process of co-learning and rebuilding by design is understood as a method and documented in a way that can be shared with others who need a perspective on understanding conflict zones as leverage for a brighter future.