

4.2 Comprehensive solutions for financial development in the conditions of overcoming socio-economic rejection

The current state of the ecological and socio-economic development of the regions is given in the section, the consequences of hostilities and, as a consequence, the trends of damage to the surface layer of soils, pollution of atmospheric air and subsoil with heavy metals and other harmful substances are indicated. The author emphasized the socio-economic realities and potential trends of social security for internally displaced persons who were forced to leave their place of residence due to hostilities. On the basis of the analysis of potential total losses by region, a complex of socio-economic solutions is provided for strengthening sustainable economic and ecological development of its regions. It was emphasized that the main environmental problem for the coming decades will remain the problem of demining a large part of the territory. On the basis of the factorization of the given trends, the definition of catalysts of ecological development is proposed, which should signal the need for additional specialized research. It is concluded that despite the importance of solving environmental problems and the catastrophic consequences of hostilities for the surrounding environment, the social component and its economic support are fundamental in the processes of "regeneration" of the normal life activity of the regions.

Sustainable financial and ecological development of the country depends on natural resources, their economical use, preservation and protection of the environment. However, as of 2023, about 1.2 million tons of pollutants have already entered the atmosphere, including 430,000 tons of carbon monoxide, 700,000 tons of dust, 40,000 tons of light organic compounds, a significant amount of heavy metals and other harmful substances [111]. The consequences of these emissions turned out to be catastrophic and have already reached almost 4.2 billion dollars: 1.8 billion dollars. is damage from forest fires, 1.6 billion dollars. — from grass fires and \$752 million from burning oil and oil products.

To this should be added the losses suffered by the regions and the state from external and internal population migration. Official statistics claim that only about 2.5 million people were registered as internally displaced persons (IDPs) [113]. However, as international experience shows, the longer the conditions for return are absent, the fewer people will return to their previous place of residence if such conditions arise. Therefore, it can be assumed with high probability that a significant part of those who went abroad may not return to the places from which they left, and this will significantly affect the system of resettlement in Ukraine and the placement of productive forces in the regions of Ukraine.

Therefore, it is quite problematic to determine and finally predict the consequences of total losses by region. However, it is already possible to envisage a set of socio-economic solutions to strengthen financial development in the conditions of overcoming socio-economic rejection.

Among the methods of scientific knowledge that were involved, it is possible to note: analysis (to identify modern modifications of the concept of sustainable development), induction (to form conclusions regarding the priority of actions regarding complex socio-economic and environmental solutions); statistical analysis (to highlight quantitative indicators regarding the current situation); comparison (to compare the goals of sustainable development).

In order to form complex socio-economic solutions, it is necessary to have a complete and sufficiently reliable assessment of the socio-economic and ecological situation in the country. However, none of the existing assessments made by various international and domestic agencies [111], [112], [113], [120] can form a sufficiently realistic picture of the ecological situation in the country. Based on this, it is quite difficult to make any predictions for the future. Although, thanks to the conducted research, it is possible to identify the main problems in monitoring the state of regions, in obtaining certain information about pain points and sensitive areas, as well as priorities in assessing the ecological state.

Most of these assessments will be very difficult to carry out in the conditions of martial law in some regions of the country, but after the end of hostilities, it will be

necessary to make the most comprehensive socio-economic decisions regarding sustainable ecological development, which we must already talk about now, namely [114]:

1. Monitoring of the state of the environment, ecological consequences of individual territories through the prism of the expected post-war restoration and reconstruction of production.

2. Development of forecasts and scenarios for the future development of regions on the basis of cooperation models integrated into the European Union. For this purpose, it is possible to invite authoritative European experts, organizations for assessment and ensuring ecological balance in the regions.

3. Creation of platforms for verification, processing, documentation and identification of a large amount of data on the direct and indirect effects of military actions on the environment based on those regions that received the greatest negative consequences. On the basis of such consolidated information, it is possible to hold various kinds of debates regarding the correction of subsequent decisions at the national, international, including European levels.

4. Determination of catalysts of ecological development, which should signal the need for additional research, and if necessary, to change, adjust or fundamentally revise the set of socio-economic solutions for the sustainable development of regions.

5. Dissemination and distribution of the received results of the assessment of the state of the environment in order to ensure effective communication with stakeholders and other target audiences.

The identified measures will allow identifying critical gaps in environmental information regarding the sustainable development of regions, implemented socio-economic measures [115], and the existing capabilities of regions to independently eliminate recognized problems; to find the right priorities in environmental protection and to give answers to the public reaction and various multidimensional connections that arise between the territorial community and the environment.

Today, business remains the backbone of sustainable socio-economic and environmental development in the country. According to the results of a survey [116]

of the European Business Association, 96% of businesses that continue to operate adhere to the goals of sustainable development and strive to implement them. This indicator coincides with the pre-war level recorded in 2021. At the same time, according to the results of an expert study of the level of integration of the UN sustainable development goals into the strategy of business structures and into regional and national strategies, this integral indicator improved by 0.23 points and at the beginning of 2023 amounted to 3.5 points (out of a maximum of 5). The contribution of business to the implementation of the goals of sustainable development was assessed by experts at the level of 3.79 (out of a maximum of 5).

Despite the importance of solving environmental problems and the catastrophic consequences of war for the environment, the social component is fundamental in the processes of "regeneration" of the normal life activity of the regions. 97% of working business owners (according to the results of the same survey [117]) note that the main efforts are made to preserve human capital: help employees and their family members in the process of relocation; timely payment of wages (even in case of temporary downtime of production); financial support for workers and their families affected by hostilities.

The main reasons for the reduction of export products: inability to carry out production due to the presence of explosive objects; destruction of production facilities; disruption of logistics channels. The largest decrease in exports was recorded in the Donetsk, Luhansk, and Kherson regions, where the decrease over the year took place by 85-95%.

All analysts agree on one thing: new manifestations of the modern crisis await us ahead. The change in the amount of international financial aid, the uncertainty of financial support, the growth of debt indicators, new external positions, the indicators of changes in migration support have already made their contribution to the future of the economy: today we state that the external debt is too large, the projected growth rates are not supported by production, and the decline in export potential. Of particular concern are the consequences of these new manifestations of economic turbulence, namely public anxiety and tension among all stakeholder groups.

External financial aid plays a critically important role in maintaining the external stability of the Ukrainian economy, curbing inflationary processes and providing public social services.

But the volume of this assistance and the predominance of credit sources in its composition generate high risks of a debt crisis.

In order to level them, it is necessary to seek an increase in the share of grants in the financing structure and to work out the issue of post-war restructuring of the external state debt under the conditions of its partial write-off.

In 2022, the Government received 31.1 billion dollars. external financing to fill the state budget, including 14.3 billion in the form of non-compensated assistance (grants).

The largest amounts of grants came from the USA - 12 billion dollars, some contributions were also made by the EU, the Governments of Germany and Italy (Table 1).

For Ukraine, the fact of being in a state of turbulence is undeniable. As the Center for Economic Strategy notes, there is a possibility that up to 3.5 million people who left the country due to military operations will not return to Ukraine. If this forecast is correct, the non-return will have a significant impact on the economy, which could lose up to 7% of its GDP each year.

A significant factor in catalyzing the state of turbulence is the time of life in debt. In the modern world, not only certain business entities, but also individual states become bankrupt. In particular, the annual inflation rate in Argentina exceeded 100%.

On November 9, 2023, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law on the State Budget of Ukraine for 2024. According to the adopted Law, the revenues of the state budget for 2024 are determined in the amount of: 1.7685 billion UAH, expenses: 3.309 billion UAH. It is easy to calculate that the size of the state debt in 2024 for Ukraine is UAH 1.541 billion, i.e. 87% of the total state budget revenues.

Table 1 – External official financing of Ukraine in 2022-2023 billion dollars. USA

Creditor/donor	2022	2023
Total external financing	31,1	37,0
Foreign grants	14,3	18,0
including from the USA	12,0	10,0
from Germany	1,3	-
from the EU	0,7	-
Foreign loans	16,8	19,0
including EU	7,3	18,0
the IMF	0,7	-2,5
of the World Bank	1,4	2,0
Government of Canada	1,9	-
UK Government	1,0	-
other creditors	4,5	1,5

Preliminary agreements with Western partners for 2023 provide for Ukraine to receive \$37 billion. official funding, including \$18 billion. grants, 18 billion euros of credit from the EU, 2 billion dollars. from the World Bank.

In the current year, it is planned to create a Fund for liquidation of the consequences of armed aggression as part of a special fund of the State Budget.

The sources of funding will be foreign financial aid funds, 50% of the NBU's profit, confiscated assets of residents of the aggressor country. The annual volume of this fund, according to the Government's estimates, may amount to 17 billion dollars. USA.

The Law on the Budget (Article 29) provides that the funds of the fund for liquidation of the consequences of armed aggression are directed to the construction, reconstruction, restoration, capital repair of public buildings and protective structures, critical infrastructure facilities (water supply, drainage, heat supply, electricity supply, lighting); housing for IDPs and other citizens of Ukraine, which was destroyed as a result of hostilities; purchase of school buses, transport for health care facilities and land improvement enterprises.

The receipt of external financial assistance to Ukraine in 2022-2023 played a critically important role in the stability of the economy, slowing down inflationary processes and the provision of social services by the state.

But the scale of such financing and the predominance of credit sources in its structure generate high risks of a debt crisis.

The impossibility of carrying out economic activities at the pre-war level led to a reduction of income in the budgets of local communities. This approach is well-founded, because the preservation of human capital will allow the process of ecological and economic recovery of the regions to be launched. Moreover, it is necessary to pay attention to the fact that in each case the priority of tasks of a social, ecological and economic nature will be determined depending on the state of each component of a specific territory (region).

The presented modification of the concept is already being actively implemented in the regions: it is the social component with the main problems that comes first: surviving in war conditions (including evacuation to safer regions), providing all those in need with food and an appropriate level of medical care [118]. The fourth goal of social development (peace, justice, and strong institutions) is the ideal state that our society strives to achieve.

The environmental component is superimposed on the social one: providing the population with proper sanitary living conditions and restoration of territories affected by hostilities (mining, first of all). The economic goals of sustainable development are superimposed by the "third layer", because in the existing conditions, their implementation in the regions is possible only if the goals of social and ecological development are achieved.

Depending on the situation observed in each individual region, the modification of the concept may change. Where the ecological consequences are catastrophic (regions where the evacuation of the population is still ongoing, and the territory has suffered significant losses of natural and recreational resources due to the attacks of the aggressor country), after the end of hostilities, the ecological goals of sustainable development will come to the fore, because in some territories before the return of the local population, it is necessary to carry out a process of complete demining and restoration of critical infrastructure to ensure the minimum household needs of the population.

Based on the identified priority goals of sustainable development and the proposed modification of the concept of sustainable development, which is relevant for [119], it is possible to formulate strategic directions of socio-economic development that will contribute to the "reanimation" of the country's ecology in the period of post-war reconstruction [120]:

1. Development of renewable energy and implementation of autonomous energy systems based on "green" technologies. In part, the problem for businesses is solved by purchasing generators, but most of the existing equipment runs on environmentally harmful substances (gasoline, diesel fuel, etc.).

2. Greening of all spheres of the economy. Significant losses in the industrial sector set ambitious tasks for the restoration of production, but most large enterprises worked with outdated technologies dangerous for the environment, so the restoration should not be based on the principle of "modernizing the old" but "building new", safe for workers and the local community, future consumers of products, etc.

3. Determination (search for new) strategic spheres of ecologically safe economic activity of each region for sustainable socio-economic and neutral ecological development. The most promising is the same renewable energy sector, which is showing rapid growth at the global level, generating a large number of jobs. Among the most relevant areas that are already attracting the attention of foreign investors: IT, construction, logistics, the financial sector, medicine.

Taking into account the above research results, it can be concluded that the basis for the identification of modern environmental challenges and the determination of strategic directions for the implementation of complex socio-economic solutions for the recovery of Ukraine are:

- 1) harmonization with the level of global requirements for decision-making regarding the established socio-economic and ecological development of the country and the reconstruction of its regional development;

- 2) prioritization of the development of the economy of regions and territorial communities, taking into account the ecological factor as a system-forming factor in the concept of sustainable development of the state;

3) audit of effective management and use of natural potentials of regions, on the basis of which it is possible to adopt complex socio-economic decisions regarding sustainable ecological development of regions;

4) implementation of the concepts of ecological development of the territories of Ukraine in the strategy and development program of the European community thanks to the activation of an inclusive consultative process among ecological, economic, demographic, political and economic experts, representatives of the business community, local self-government bodies and other groups of stakeholders who provide geographic and ecological - the economic balance of territorial development and their careful socio-ecological-economic use;

Thus, the strategic directions of restoration and sustainable development of the regions of Ukraine proposed in the study, based on ecologically neutral solutions, will make it possible to stop the process of socio-economic and ecological degradation of the regions, and the introduction of alternative spheres of economic activity will contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of local communities and the return of internally displaced persons and refugees, who left the country.

Further research will be aimed at forming objective criteria for assessing the level of further established development of socio-economic and ecological regional systems and their level of balance to the requirements of the European Union, taking into account the non-renewability of some natural resources.