**Input from CEE Bankwatch - Ukraine (7 August 2025)**

Dear EIB Climate Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the event and to provide input into the development of the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 (2026–2030) and the revised Energy Sector Orientation. Here in Ukraine, we greatly appreciate the EIB’s leadership in supporting the green transition across Europe and beyond, especially in these times of geopolitical upheaval and climate urgency.

Working closely on the green recovery and sustainable development of Ukraine, I would like to share my feedback, grounded in the current context of my country, and emphasize the critical roles of renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE). You know that Ukraine faces a dual crisis: large-scale destruction of energy infrastructure due to war and the accelerating threat of climate change. While we rebuild, we have a unique window of opportunity to leapfrog to a cleaner, more resilient, and decentralized energy system.

Currently, Ukraine is undergoing a reform of the public investment management system, and for us it is crucial to take into account environmental and climate aspects when preparing investment projects. We are interested in attracting environmentally and climate-oriented financing under EU Taxonomy rules.

From my side I would recommend EIB to mainstream climate resilience and decentralization in Ukraine post-war reconstruction projects. Small and medium-sized Ukrainian communities are waiting for understandable and accessible financial products from international financial institutions.

Also, I suppose that RE and EE must be at the center of EIB’s financial and advisory support in Ukraine, namely:

* support for grid restoration and modernization, enabling variable RE integration. Investment in distributed energy systems, especially in war-damaged and vulnerable communities
* acceleration of off-grid and hybrid solar/wind-battery projects for hospitals, schools, and municipal buildings
* a flagship EE programme for public buildings and housing, especially in cooperation with local governments
* advisory support for developing scalable ESCO and PPP models in municipal heating and industry
* tools to support energy poverty alleviation as part of just transition mechanisms.
* Continued development of green financial instruments, including guarantees and concessional loans
* focused technical assistance on climate risk assessment, DNSH screening, and taxonomy alignment

 Many Ukrainian municipalities and SMEs face major capacity constraints. On my mind, it’ll be great if EIB will expand the use of digital tools such as the Green Checker and Green Gateway Advisory Platform in local languages and allow for proportional application of Paris alignment and taxonomy rules, especially for smaller entities. Also, I hope that EIB could provide targeted capacity-building and training to local public and private actors, including women-led SMEs and energy cooperatives.

I commend the EIB’s commitment to global leadership in climate finance. However, I hope that delivering on this mission will take into account placing Ukraine as a country faced with compounding vulnerabilities - at the center of the next phase.

I am ready to continue collaborating with the EIB and other partners to make the vision of CBR2 and ESO a reality in Ukraine.

I consent to the publication of this feedback.

Sincerely,
Mykola Kobets

CEE Bankwatch Green Investment Specialist