



**ОРЖИЦЬКА СЕЛИЩНА РАДА  
ВИКОНАВЧИЙ КОМІТЕТ**

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17.01.2024 № од.1-д/31 На № \_\_\_\_\_ Від \_\_\_\_\_

Open Government Partnership (OGP),  
Local Committee 2024

**Dear OGP Local team,**

As the Head of the Orzhytsia Settlement Council, I hereby support the joint application of the Orzhytsia Settlement and Zviahel City Councils to participate in the international Open Government – Local Programme (OGP Local), which will make the Orzhytsia municipality more transparent, accountable and inclusive.

Our municipality was established on 12 June 2020 in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 721-r "On Determination of Administrative Centres and Approval of Territories of Municipalities of Poltava Region". The municipality consists of 33 localities (15 starostats) with a population of 15,231 people as of 01.01.2024. The administrative centre of the municipality is the settlement of Orzhytsia.

In its activities, the Orzhytsia municipality consistently implements the principles of open government and considers them important for building trust between the authorities and local residents.

Since 2019, the municipality has been a member of the open government network of the Association of Ukrainian Cities and is regularly involved in various events at the regional, national and international levels.

The development of strategic documents and the adoption of important decisions on the development of the municipality is based on the involvement of a wide range of NGOs, researchers, students, business representatives and all active residents in various ways, including through public hearings in accordance with the developed and approved regulations.

In October 2022, the municipality joined the e-DEM web platform, which was created within the framework of the E-Governance for Accountability and Participation (EGAP) programme, funded by the Swiss Confederation and implemented by the Eastern Europe Foundation and Innovabridge Foundation.

The official website has been expanded to include the ability for visually impaired people to view it, and there is a Telegram channel to interact with residents. Verbal and written appeals are accepted by phone, e-mail, during personal meetings or public meetings. There is a YouTube

channel created by the executive committee of the Orzhytsia Settlement Council to disseminate its own and provided media content.

The library system is used for the integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs), of which 1,125 live in the municipality. Among the services provided by the libraries to IDPs, the priority is access to the Internet for remote work and study.

The IMHO Youth Centre was established at the end of 2023 to actively engage young people and inform them about existing opportunities: Information Youth Hub of Orzhytsia – a youth centre of the Orzhytsia municipality, where the opinion of young people is a priority.

The executive committee of the Orzhytsia Settlement Council has the support and partnership in the implementation of this project with "Our Orzhytsia" NGO and the All-Ukrainian Association of Local Governments "Association of Ukrainian Cities".

Joining the Open Government at Local Level programme will help build trustful and transparent relationships between government, community and business through the implementation of open government policies, create an environment that promotes open government through transparency, participation, control and oversight, and increase the effectiveness of local authorities.

We are ready to adopt international experience, analyse it and adapt it to the conditions of the Orzhytsia municipality. We want to introduce new open government tools, including innovative ones. We need to have information about successes in other countries to justify the need to introduce such tools in the municipality.

We are willing to share our experience of implementing open government and public engagement tools in our municipality, both online and offline. Given that martial law has been introduced in Ukraine, we can share tools for taking into account the requirements and peculiarities of this legal regime when interacting with residents, namely how to remain open and accountable even in the face of extraordinary challenges. Our experts will be able to share not only their own experiences, but also a step-by-step algorithm for implementing the tools.

We reaffirm our commitment to promote open government, exchange of best practices and experiences, and the importance of working with transparency and active participation of civil society. The term of office of the current municipality leadership will end in October 2025, which provides an opportunity for our involvement with a good period to implement and complete the action plan without disruption.

In making this commitment to the international and local community, I, as Mayor, reaffirm our desire to expand transparency actions to consolidate it as a tool for social participation so that we can move forward in line with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, in transformational initiatives to make the Orzhytsia municipality a more equitable one.

Sincerely,

Mayor



Olena SYDORENKO



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January 22, 2024 № 02/192

Open Government Partnership (OGP),  
Local Committee 2024

Dear OGP Local team!

I, as the head of the Zviahel City Council, hereby support the joint application of the Orzhitsa Settlement and Zviahel City Councils to participate in the international program "Open Government - Local Level (OGP - Local)", which will give the opportunity to make the Zviahel City Territorial Community more transparent, accountable and inclusive.

Our community was formed on November 1, 2018, initially as the Novohrad-Volynskiy City United Territorial Community, by merging the Maystrivska Rural Council of the Novohrad-Volynskiy district to the Novohrad-Volynskiy City Council of the Zhytomyr region.

According to the order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of June 12, 2020 No. 711-r "On the determination of administrative centers and approval of the territories of territorial communities of the Zhytomyr region", the territories and settlements of the Velykomolodykivska, Didovychanska, Natalivska and Pylypovychanska rural councils of the Novohrad-Volynskiy district were included in the community.

On November 16, 2022, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted Resolution No. 2779-IX on the renaming of the city of Novohrad-Volynskiy to the Zviahel.

Zviahel City Territorial Community is a territorial community in Ukraine, in the Zviahel district of the Zhytomyr region. The community includes the administrative center - the city of Zviahel and 14 villages. The area of the territory is 249 km<sup>2</sup>, the population is 61,603 people (as of 2021).

Zviahel community consistently implements the principles of open government in its activities and considers them important for building trust between the government and residents.

Since 1996, Zviahel has been a member of the Association of Ukrainian Cities (and since 2019 has joined the open government network) and constantly participates in various events at the regional and international levels. Since 2008, a member of the Association "Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine", and since October 2021, the Zviahel City Territorial Community has been a member of the European initiative "Mayors' Agreement on Climate and Energy".

The development of strategic documents and the adoption of important decisions on the development of the community takes place with the involvement of a wide range of public organizations, scientists, students, business representatives and all active residents in various ways, including through public hearings in accordance with the developed and approved provision.

In 2019, the community connected to the e-DEM web platform, which was created within the framework of the "Electronic Government for Government Accountability and Community Participation" (EGAP) program, funded by the Swiss Confederation, and implemented by the East Europe Foundation and Innovabridge Foundation.

Electronic petitions, public consultations, the "open community" service, chatbot, official website, telegram channels, and the territorial community page on the Facebook network have been implemented. All of these tools are regulated by relevant regulations. In the case of public consultations, the possibility of online and offline participation is combined.

Developing openness and transparency of the activities of the community management bodies, the city council and its bodies have ensured the clear operation of the public information access system, work with citizens' appeals, the operation of the mechanism for electronic petitions and public hearings, public discussions, local initiatives, public expertise.

The community has created and operates: the Youth Council, the Council on Internally Displaced Persons, the Public Council and the Council of Industrial Enterprise Managers.

The Zviahel City Council has the support and partnership in the implementation of this project with such public organizations as the All-Ukrainian Association of Local Self-Government Bodies "Association of Ukrainian Cities", the Public Organization "Zviahel City Women's Organization", the Public Organization "Zviahel Development Agency", the Public Organization "Network of Educational Institutions of the City of Novohrad-Volynskyi".

The Zviahel City Territorial Community is very pleased with the opportunity to join the network of municipal and community leaders of OGP, and we would like to inform you that we have the eligibility criteria established by OGP to ensure the proper conditions for the development and implementation of the action plan, focused on the guidelines and principles of open government. We also confirm our commitment to upholding the values of OGP, as set out in the Declaration of Open Government.



By taking on this commitment to OGP, which is a global model in the dissemination and implementation of the culture of open government, we hope to have advantages in several aspects in order to thrive and develop, using global concepts and best practices, making our municipality more transparent and democratic, mainly through the development and improvement of accountability, technology and innovation.

Through the partnership with OGP, the Zviahel City Territorial Community wants to advance in thematic areas related to the usability and improvement of the transparency portal interface, the improvement of social participation tools and the availability of data in an open format, which is a requirement of citizens, as it helps formulation and supervision of policy and services. We will also work to improve digital engagement and connectivity, especially for the most vulnerable segments of the population.

To manage these activities and open government policy, the Zviahel City Council has the Department of Support for Public Initiatives and Energy Efficiency of the City Council and the Department of Software and Computer Support of the City Council, which will be responsible for management, monitoring and further work with projects and activities of OGP Local. The departments include employees who will carry out project activities on transparency and promoting public participation. The departments include specialists who speak English, are knowledgeable about open government issues and are ready to learn and exchange experiences, there are partner public organizations, there is also the IDEA HUB room which is located in the central part of the city, equipped with a shelter and everything necessary for meetings.

We hope to connect to the network of organizations that promote open data to work together for the ethical and unbiased use of new technologies and data sources. We also hope to take advantage of this opportunity to learn from other participants through their successful experience, information sharing, use of new technologies and data sources, as well as OGP support.

In this scenario, we confirm our commitment to promote the development of open government, the exchange of best practices and experience, the strengthening of the importance of working with transparency and active participation of civil society.

By taking on this commitment to the international and local community, I confirm our desire to expand transparency actions to consolidate it as a tool of social participation, so that we can move forward in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (UN) in transformative initiatives to make the Zviahel Territorial Community more just.

Sincerely,

Mayor



Mykola BOROVETS



# ASSOCIATION OF UKRAINIAN CITIES

ALL-UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION  
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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*N4-1/24  
23.09.2024*

Open Government Partnership (OGP),  
Local Committee 2024

*On support of the joint application  
of the Orzhytsia settlement and  
Zviahel city councils for the OGP  
Local competition*

The All-Ukrainian Association of Local Governments "Association of Ukrainian Cities" unites 1,042 local municipalities. We are active participants in the Open Government Partnership International Initiative in Ukraine, in particular through our participation in the Coordination Council for the implementation of the initiative at the national level. The EBA experts are constantly promoting open governance among Ukrainian municipalities.

We would like to inform you that the Association of Ukrainian Cities supports the joint application of the Orzhytsia settlement and Zviahel city councils for the OGP Local competition and is ready to join the development of an action plan for open government in these two municipalities, to assist in the implementation of open government tools, and more.

Experts from the Association of Ukrainian Cities have been involved in the development of the joint application of the Orzhytsia settlement and Zviahel city councils.

Executive Director  
of the Association of Ukrainian Cities

Oleksandr SLOBOZHAN



**ГРОМАДСЬКА ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯ  
«НАША ОРЖИЦЯ»**

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January 2024

Open Government Partnership (OGP),  
Local Committee 2024

**Dear OGP Local team,**

As the leader of a civil society organisation, I support the application of the Orzhytsia Settlement Council for the integration of the local OGP programme. Our organisation is committed to implementing the open government policy jointly with the Orzhytsia Settlement Council to make our municipality more transparent, efficient and inclusive.

Our NGO is a non-profit organisation focused on satisfying and protecting the legitimate social, economic and other common interests of its members and local residents, and facilitating a compromise dialogue between the residents, institutions and authorities to improve the social and economic climate in the municipality. The organisation has a partnership with the Orzhytsia Settlement Council. Our NGO keeps all documents confirming its legal and institutional status open and accessible. We value transparency and strive to promote this principle in our municipality, taking into account such values as ethical behaviour, democracy, pluralism, autonomy, solidarity and commitment to society.

We are willing to participate in trainings, courses and share our experience with other OGP Local members, and we can also provide clarity on the mechanisms available for jointly creating and monitoring the action plan.

With deepest respect,

Leader of "Our Orzhytsia" NGO

Alina STRILETS





ГРОМАДСЬКА ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯ  
«ЗВЯГЕЛЬСЬКА МІСЬКА ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯ ЖІНОК»

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№ 2  
January 22, 2024

Open Government Partnership (OGP),  
Local Committee 2024

Dear OGP Local team,

I, as the head of the non-profit organization "ZVIAHEL CITY ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN", hereby confirm my support for the registration of the Zviahel City Council for integration into the OGP Local program. Our organization is committed to working together to make our municipality more transparent, efficient, and inclusive.

The ZVIAHEL CITY ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the development of civil society, to improve the status of women, children, and youth, and to unite for active participation in the social, cultural, and economic life of the community. The organization has a partnership with the Zviahel City Council.

Our organization keeps all documents that confirm its legal and institutional status open and accessible. We value transparency and strive to promote this principle in our community, taking into account such values as ethical behavior, democracy, pluralism, autonomy, solidarity, and commitment to society.

We are ready to participate in trainings, courses, and share our experience with other members of OGP Local. We also provide clarity on the mechanisms available for joint creation and monitoring of the action plan.

Sincerely,

Head of the organization



Larysa SHUTOVA