

UKRAINIAN CLIMATE LAW

in infographics

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Despite the ongoing Russian invasion and the resulting humanitarian crisis, Ukraine stands strong, showcasing its resilience not only in its fight against aggression but also in its commitment to addressing the climate crisis.

On October 8, 2024, Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine) **adopted the Law** "On the Basic Principles of the State Climate Policy" aligning with EU environmental acquis.

This landmark legislation marks a significant advancement in Ukraine's climate action, establishing a pathway toward **Climate Neutrality by 2050**.

Drawing inspiration from John Lang's **analysis** on the "Essential Features of a National Climate Law" (October 14, 2024), these infographics examine the key components of the Climate Law of Ukraine.

Our analysis addresses critical questions: What are the fundamental elements of this legal framework, including its targets, public participation mechanisms, long-term strategy, and overarching goals? How does Ukraine's climate governance approach compare to international best practices, positioning it within the global climate policy landscape?

The presentation unfolds across seven distinct parts, each analyzing the separate section of the **Law**.



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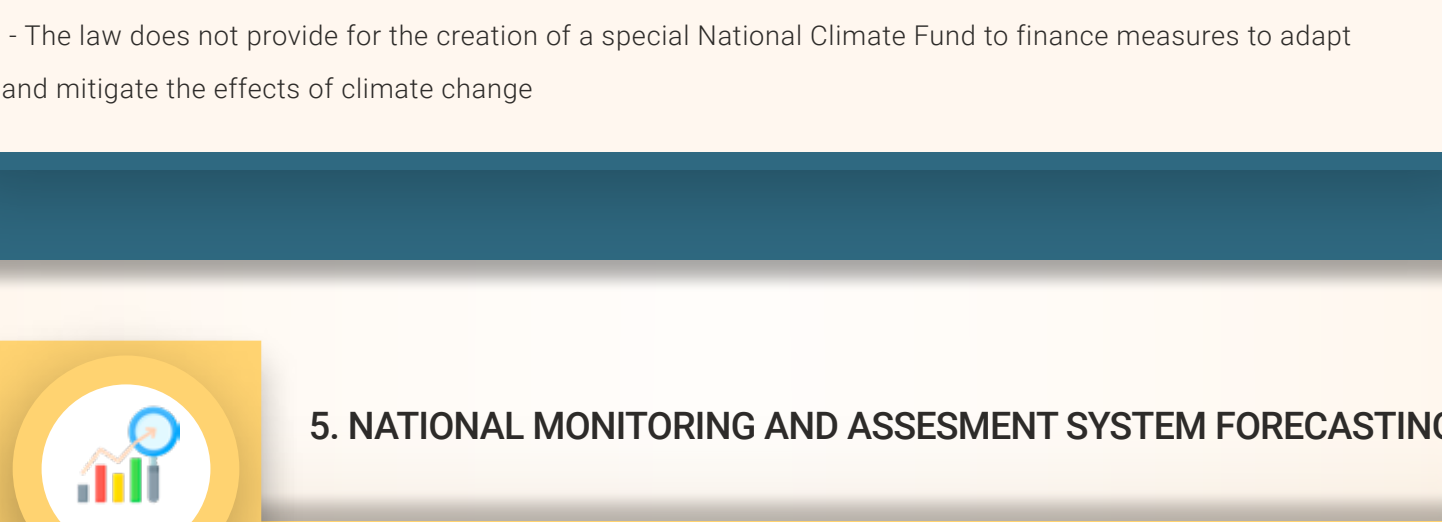
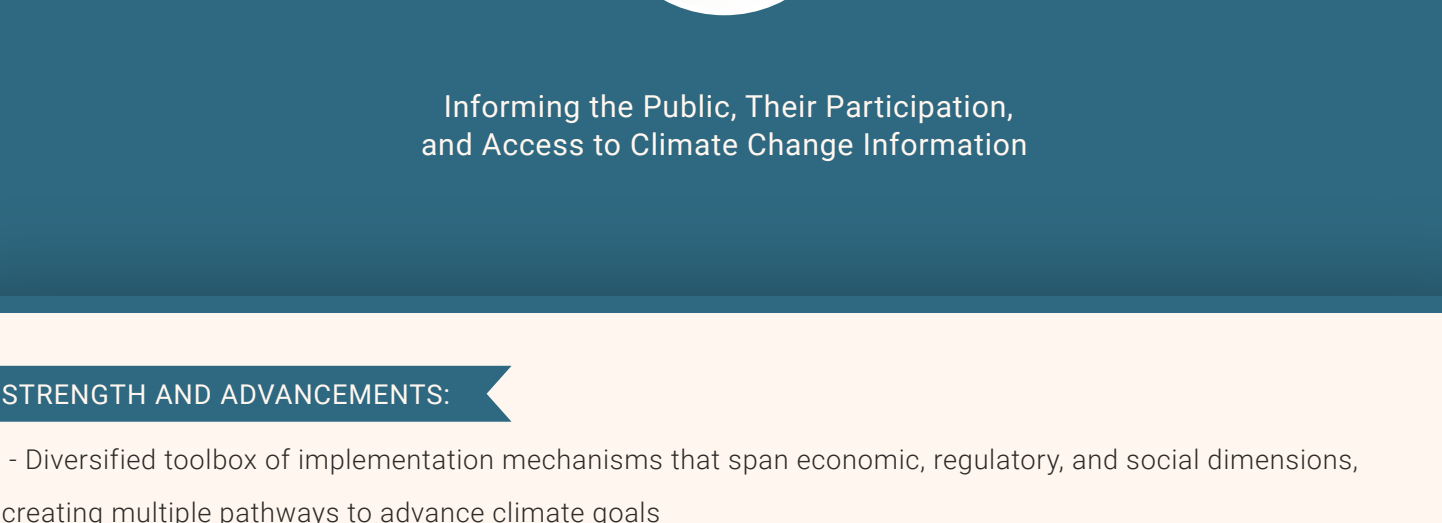
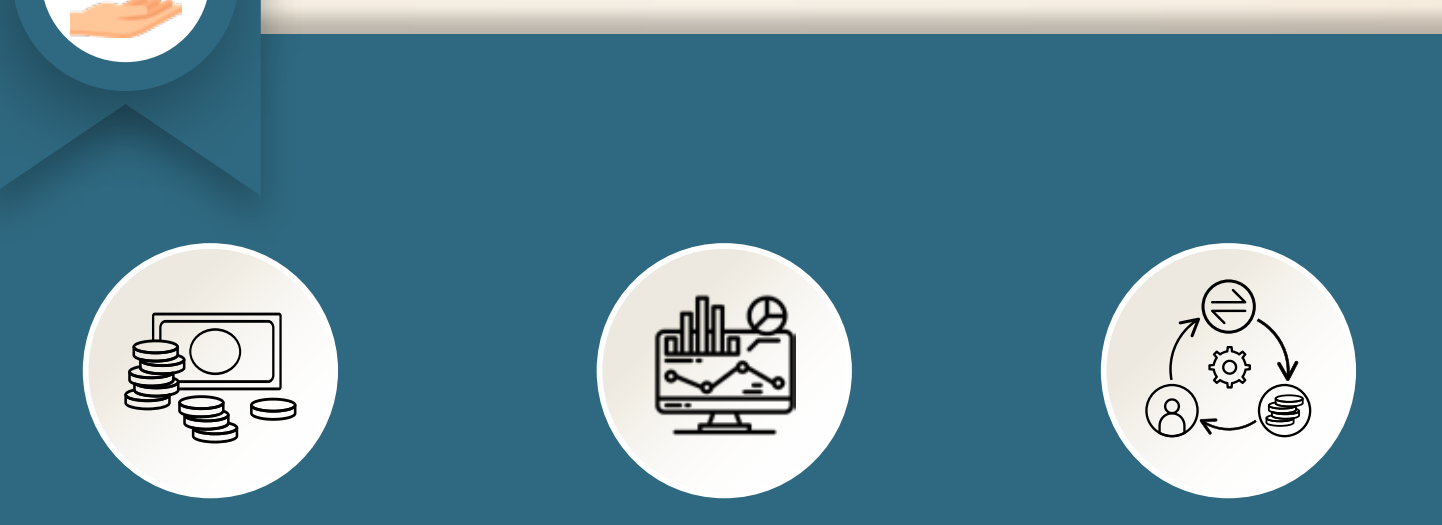
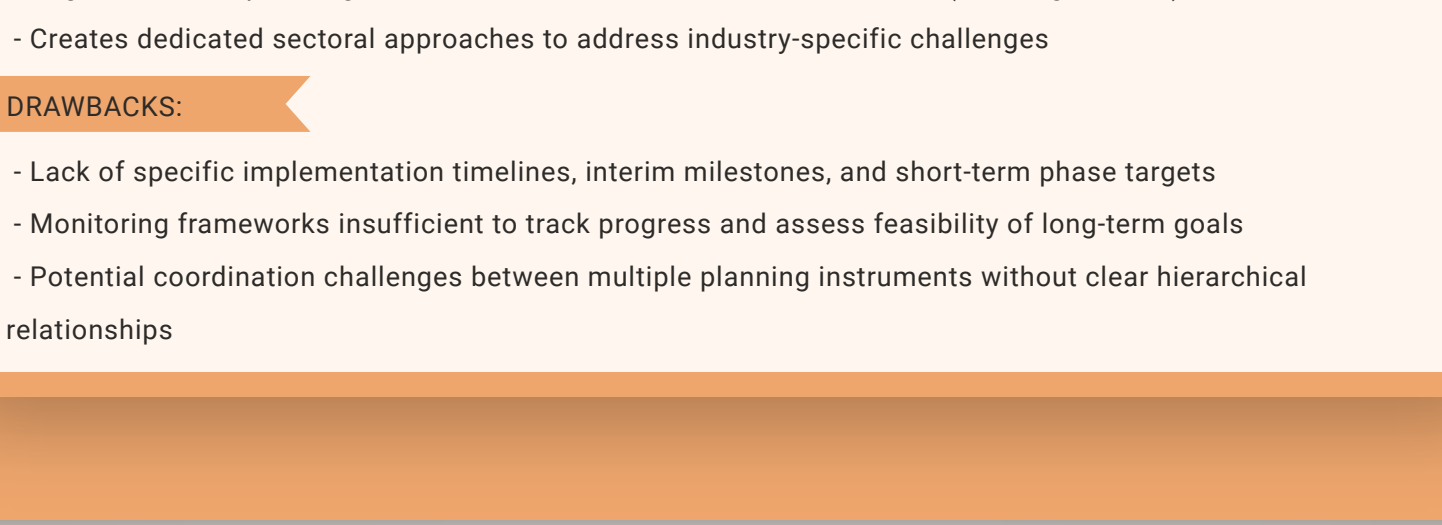
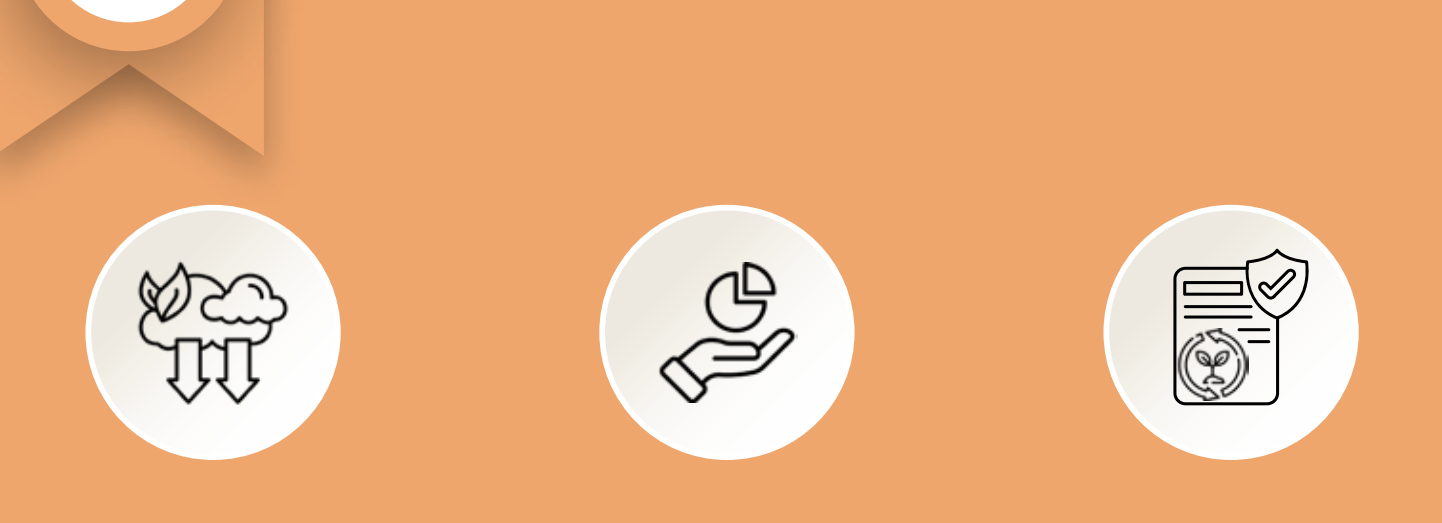
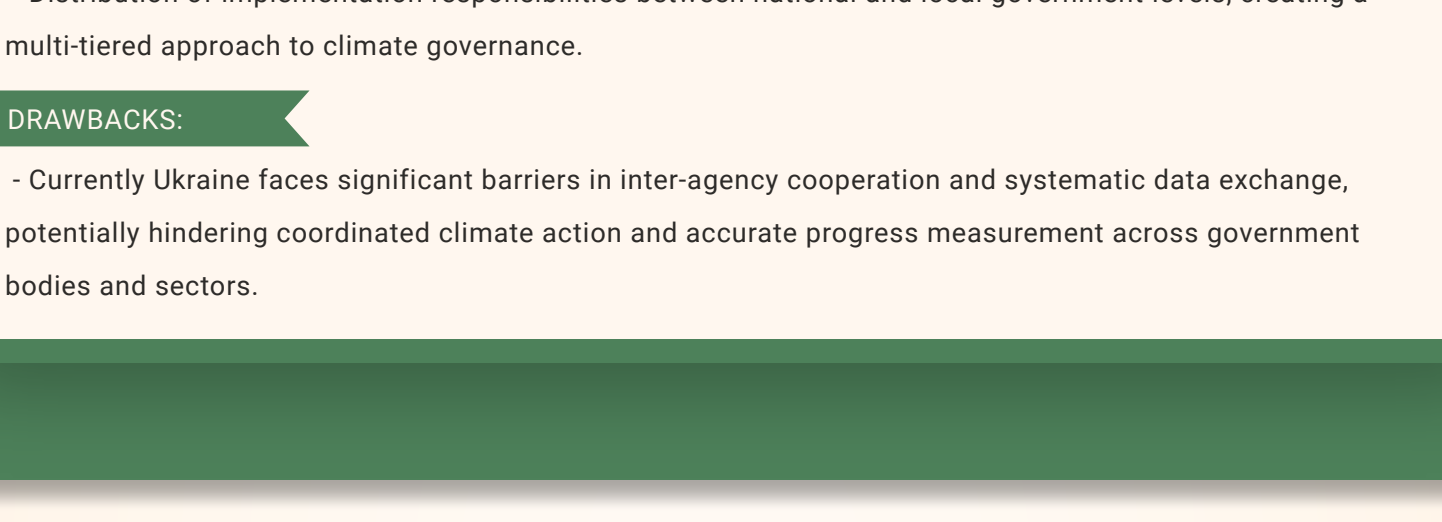
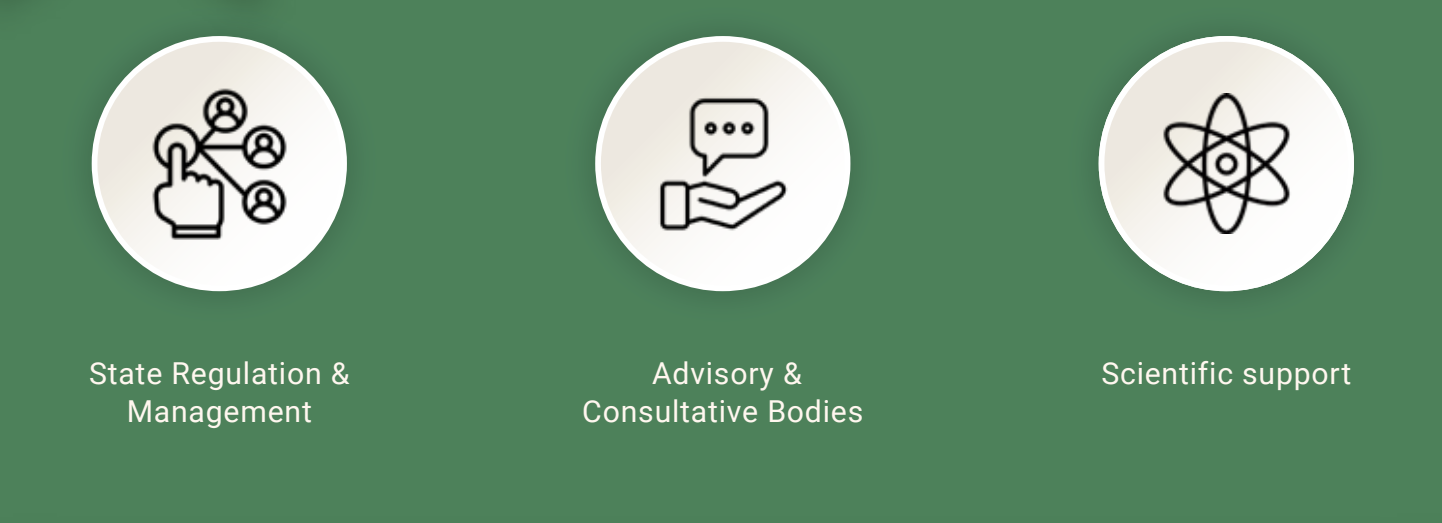
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1. GENERAL PROVISIONS



Ukraine's Climate Law in Practice: The Good, The Bad, and The Just

THE GOOD: CRISIS-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE GOVERNANCE AMID WAR

Ukraine's climate law represents a remarkable case of crisis-responsive environmental governance. Adopted amid active military aggression, it demonstrates Ukraine's commitment to long-term sustainability despite immediate existential threats. This dual focus on both current defense and future environmental security positions Ukraine as a pioneer in crisis-resilient climate policy, offering potential frameworks for other conflict-affected regions worldwide. By pursuing climate action during wartime, Ukraine signals that environmental protection remains fundamental even in the most challenging circumstances, establishing a precedent for integrating climate considerations into post-conflict recovery planning from the earliest stages.

THE BAD

The law directly addresses war-related issues only once (in paragraph 8 of Article 21), calling for the establishment of mechanisms for war risk insurance, including the involvement of funds from international organizations. However, the Final Provisions of the Law stipulate that Article 21 (financial measures) will come into effect only one year from cancellation or termination of the martial law introduced by the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the Introduction of Martial Law in Ukraine" dated February 24, 2022; No.64/2022. It creates significant uncertainty now, during the ongoing war. After all, the provisions of this article do not apply to state or local budgets and can be financed even under martial law.

THE JUST

Climate justice demands recognition of Ukraine's unique wartime context. The law's environmental justice principles should call for international frameworks to establish legal pathways for accountability and reparations for war-related environmental damage. Ukraine's climate law could reference such mechanisms, positioning the nation as an advocate for strengthened global standards that recognize environmental destruction during conflict as demanding specific remediation measures and financial compensation from aggressor states. Similarly, justice requires immediate mobilization of frozen Russian assets for ecological restoration and climate-resilient reconstruction of war-affected regions as well as for the sustainable post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. While Ukraine has ecocide in its national legislation, this concept should be expanded as a crime against climate – and embedded in law to acknowledge that deliberate environmental destruction constitutes an assault on our planetary systems. This approach would position Ukraine at the forefront of an emerging legal framework that treats severe ecological damage not just as a direct threat to climate stability, creating a model that other nations could follow. Ultimately, true justice necessitates that Ukraine's green transition not be delayed by aggression, but rather accelerated through international solidarity and targeted support for communities most affected by both climate impacts and conflict.

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