

The winners of the first round of the grant competition “KNOWLEDGE IN ACTION: Strengthening the Research Capacities of Civil Society Organizations,” implemented by the “Askold and Dir” Foundation and administered by ISAR Unity as part of the project “A Strong Civil Society in Ukraine—A Driving Force for Reforms and Democracy,” funded by Norway and Sweden.

№	Organisation	Main Areas of Work	Sum in NOK
1	VoxUkraine	The research aims to support the implementation of reforms outlined in the Ukraine Facility Plan by preparing the public for change, increasing awareness about the essence of these reforms, and countering widespread myths and stereotypes. It seeks to foster informed dialogue between authorities, experts, and citizens, contributing to better governance, improved well-being, and Ukraine's EU integration path.	147 194,90
2	Fiscal Policy Research Center	The research aims to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in using Ukraine Facility funds for education by creating a verified expenditure database, analyzing local-level educational project implementation, and identifying systemic barriers. Results will be accessible through interactive visualization tools, fostering public engagement and improving education investment management.	148 148,15
3	Institute of legislative ideas	The research aims to enhance the effectiveness of criminal prosecution for sanctions violations by analyzing European practices and developing recommendations to strengthen Ukraine's sanctions legislation.	146 973,04
4	Institute for sustainable development of communities	The research aims to analyze the role and capacity of civil society in the recovery of de-occupied communities in northern Kyiv region. It seeks to identify both successful practices and common challenges in cooperation between CSOs, local authorities, and residents to strengthen inclusive and participatory recovery processes.	166 618,36
5	Against Corruption	The research aims to assess the readiness of territorial communities to implement the public investment management reform under ongoing war and recovery conditions. It seeks to identify key barriers and opportunities for adopting a strategic, transparent, and accountable approach to planning, implementing, and monitoring public investments, as well as to develop recommendations for enhancing community capacity in this process.	142 003,68

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6	Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting	The research aims to assess the impact of the electronic queue system (eQueue) on border logistics, the socio-economic situation, and the environment in border communities, providing conclusions on the effectiveness of digital reform in reducing transport downtime, improving transit, and reducing environmental impact.	146 946,08
7	National Association of Agricultural Advisory Services of Ukraine	The study aims to identify problems related to the capacity of civil society organizations to influence decision-making in the field of agricultural and rural development and to develop practical recommendations for effective cooperation with public authorities. The project aims to strengthen the advocacy and communication capacities of civil society organizations, especially in the context of European integration and the implementation of the Strategy for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas of Ukraine for the period up to 2030, through the analysis of mechanisms for interaction with the authorities and the development of tools for effective influence on political decisions.	122 549,02
8	NOVA Enegiya	The research aims to support advocacy and protect the interests of residents in territorial communities where mining of nationally significant minerals takes place. It seeks to ensure public dialogue on resource justice by analyzing legal and procedural frameworks, communication practices between communities, companies, and authorities, and studying examples of effective and ineffective interactions. The project will develop a practical guide for communities and provide policy recommendations to enhance transparent participation of local authorities and the public in natural resource management.	147 058,82
9	Media Development Foundation	The study aims to identify trends in media consumption during times of crisis and highlight the role of regional media as a potential source of high-quality, focused, and valuable information for local communities. The project aims to outline directions for the development of regional media in conditions of war and recovery for media managers and donors, based on an analysis of news consumption during times of crisis and the role of local media in meeting the information needs of communities, especially in the context of information fatigue and the growing need for content that is closer to everyday life.	148 197,53

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10	Ukrainian Analytical Center U8	The research aims to reduce the level of sanctions evasion against Russia by 30% by analyzing schemes related to the supply of sanctioned critical products. It seeks to provide authorities and businesses with data to improve regulations and sanctions policies.	143 148,15
11	Internews Ukraine	The study aims to comprehensively examine the state of news consumption in Ukraine's information environment by analyzing Ukrainians' habits in consuming news, using media resources, and attitudes toward manipulative and false narratives during Russia's full-scale aggression. The project aims to conduct a quantitative representative study of the media audience, a qualitative study of trust in information sources, skills in recognizing disinformation, and the influence of manipulative narratives, especially among the military and various social groups.	241 845,41
12	Center for Economic Strategy	The research aims to improve the efficiency of public spending by enhancing the alignment between government strategic goals and medium-term budget planning. It seeks to identify institutional gaps and develop practical recommendations for integrating strategic documents into the budgetary process.	146 867,73
13	Health Solutions for Open Society	The research aims to ensure the effective implementation of the temporary disability assessment reform by analyzing legislative shortcomings and developing practical recommendations for improving the regulatory framework. The project aims to improve the quality of medical services for the most vulnerable groups of the Ukrainian population in conditions of martial law by creating a transparent and effective medical assessment system.	146 853,80
14	Locus –	Develop the capacity of CSO representatives to systematically integrate analytical work into their activities, conduct effective research, use its results, and communicate them, taking into account the interests of various stakeholders, in order to strengthen the influence of CSOs on social processes.	147 407,41