

ODU HIGHLIGHTS of 2019

OpenDoorUkraine.NL (ODU) was established as a Dutch public platform to support businesses, humanitarian organisations, civil society actors and cultural players working with Ukraine. In order to realise its goals, the launching of its website and Facebook page were the fundamental achievements realised in its first year of operation. As a donation in kind, Moqod Software Development provided the ODU website and the IT solutions related to it.

Through its three thematic tables - **economy, humanitarian affairs, and culture & civil society** - OpenDoorUkraine.NL was to bring together actors and stakeholders from Ukraine and the Netherlands. In 2019 Beja Kluiters-Albers and Irina Papusha were appointed as the coordinators of the Humanitarian and Economic Table respectively and started to identify partners and opportunities for their activities.

ODU contributed to the realisation of the so called "Ukraine Days" that were organised on 30 August -1 September 2019 in the National Park De Hoge Veluwe. This entailed, in the first place, the financial support of the Ukrainian delegation travelling to the Netherlands for this occasion. Secondly, in this framework, ODU set up a "Business Café" and the first public meeting of the Humanitarian Table. The participation of multiple Dutch and Ukrainian professionals and organisations at this event created the possibility to discuss future opportunities for cooperation with potential business and humanitarian partners.

Another important achievement of 2019 was equally that the Dutch tax authorities officially recognised the OpenDoorUkraine.NL Foundation as a public benefit organisation (*algemeen nut beogende instelling* or ANBI). Under the ANBI status, donations to OpenDoorUkraine.NL are tax-deductible. Additionally, the foundation is exempted from taxes on gifts or inheritances that we would receive. Given the above, a good foundation was built for fundraising activities in the coming years.