

Interactive workshop "Developing Development Cooperation Projects with Design Thinking and Artificial Intelligence Tools."

Working languages: Latvian and Ukrainian (simultaneous interpretation).

24 November 2025

13:00 – 17:00 (time in Latvia and Ukraine)

Online seminar (Zoom).

Design thinking is a method that allows for structured and creative problem-solving based on empathy and user involvement. It is a thinking approach that **combines creativity and analytical thinking** to create practical solutions that really work for people — be it a service, policy, product or experience. Within the framework of this interactive seminar, the design thinking approach will allow you to **evaluate ideas for development cooperation activities and projects** that could be the most sustainable and successful, as well as focused on the involvement of local communities. Participants will also get acquainted with several **artificial intelligence tools** that will help in the preparation and implementation of international activities and projects.

At the same time, this seminar will focus on the **cooperation of Latvian municipalities with municipalities in Ukraine**, in order to better understand the planning documents and priorities binding for Ukrainian municipalities, to better see the intersections of cooperation between municipalities in both countries and select areas that can be tactically developed to promote the sustainable development of municipalities in Latvia and Ukraine.

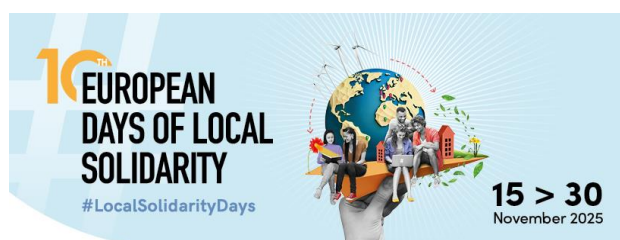
The seminar is organized by the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG) in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the PLATFORMA coalition of European municipalities and their associations active in development cooperation, and the Association of Ukrainian Cities. It takes place within the framework of the European Days of Local Solidarity, celebrating this year their 10th anniversary and being organised annually in several European countries from 15 to 30 November.

Agenda

Moderator: Ms Agita Kaupuža, Adviser on EU Issues, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments

13:00 – 13:10

Opening of the seminar and introduction with the activities planned.
Ms Mudīte Juhna, Secretary General, LALRG



Intersections of cooperation between Latvian and Ukrainian municipalities.

13:10 – 13:30

Latvia's development cooperation policy priorities and support opportunities for development cooperation projects.

Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

13:30 – 14:00

Perspectives of development planning of Ukrainian municipalities: priorities and key documents.

Ms Nataliia Hokina, Representative of the Association of Ukrainian Cities (tbc)

Interactive workshop on the creation and implementation of projects' ideas.

14:00 – 17:00

Design thinking as a tool for identifying and implementing ideas for development cooperation projects.

Mag.paed. Kristīne Tjarve, lecturer at several Latvian educational institutions and communication industry practitioner with more than 20 years of experience in various sectors.

