# CYBERSECURITY IN EUROPE AND EURASIA
## DEFENDING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

USAID is leading the fight against cyberattacks on critical infrastructure in Eastern Europe and bringing lessons learned back to the United States.

Cyberattacks pose a serious danger to critical infrastructure around the world.  Most utilities are not prepared to address cyberattacks, thus exposing entire countries to potentially devastating impacts.  **Extended power outages caused by cyberattacks can cripple economies.** Critical sectors—from healthcare to financial services—depend on reliable electricity supply.  As utilities modernize and implement digital control systems, opportunities to disrupt energy supplies and other critical services will increase.

IN 2015

A CYBERATTACK ON UKRAINE'S POWER GRID COMPROMISED 3 DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES AND LEFT 230,000 CUSTOMERS IN TOTAL BLACKOUT

Utility regulators, natural gas and electricity companies, telecommunications providers, governments, and other critical infrastructure operators must make cybersecurity investments to adapt to evolving threats.  However, in Eastern Europe, the need to reform business practices and operations will challenge utilities in a region where it is often a struggle to keep energy flowing.

**USAID cybersecurity training programs and frameworks are guiding investments in critical infrastructure protection in Eastern Europe.**

USAID's efforts, via cooperative agreements with the United States Energy Association (USEA) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), are improving cybersecurity in Eastern Europe and using lessons learned to bolster energy security in the United States.  **Regulators and utilities in several U.S. states are now using tools from these partnerships to upgrade their cyber defenses.**

# U.S. TECHNOLOGIES IMPROVE CYBERSECURITY

## PRIORITIZING INVESTMENT

U.S. utility staff and industry experts are supporting Eastern European utilities to **develop tools to identify and prioritize the most pressing actions and investments necessary to protect their systems**.  Simultaneously, U.S. and EU regulators are working with their regional counterparts to establish clear criteria for evaluating prudent cybersecurity investments.

## PILOT PROJECTS

USAID is **facilitating Eastern European utilities' purchase of U.S. equipment and services** through targeted pilot projects, paving the way for greater transfers of technology from U.S. companies—which have a proven track record of adhering to rigorous U.S. critical infrastructure standards—to the region.

# BUILDING CAPACITY TO COMBAT CYBER THREATS

## COORDINATED THREAT RESPONSE

To better anticipate cyberattacks and strengthen responses, USAID is leading utilities in the development of a **regional forum to share threat information**.

## BUILDING UTILITY CAPABILITIES TO DEFEND AND RECOVER FROM CYBERATTACKS

**USAID is helping utilities incorporate cybersecurity best practices** in key areas, such as risk management; network configuration; identity and access management; and event and incident response.  To ensure cybersecurity is addressed at all levels of the organization, USAID is assisting utilities to establish corporate policies, procedures, and training programs to strengthen defense and response capabilities.

## CYBERATTACKS: A GROWING THREAT

A 2016 STUDY* SHOWED THAT

# 75%

OF ENERGY COMPANIES EXPERIENCED CYBERATTACK

IN 2019

U.S. GRID REGULATOR NERC WARNED THAT HACKERS WERE CONDUCTING RECONNAISSANCE INTO THE IT NETWORKS OF ELECTRICAL UTILITIES.

*Tripwire, 2016

## CYBERSECURITY STRATEGIES

**USAID supported Eastern European energy regulators in the development of the region's first-ever regulatory cybersecurity strategies**, laying the foundation for the establishment of national critical infrastructure policy frameworks.  USAID's programs also enabled the creation of a tool and training program for regulators in the region and across the U.S. to better assess utility cyber preparedness.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

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