



Information
on the activities within the framework of the Canada-Ukraine Partnership
Project for Regional Governance and Development (RGD)
in July 2007

- From July 2 to July 14 a **mission from Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)** took place to Ukraine. The purpose of the mission was to carry out workshops on state support to regional development in Kyiv and in Project pilot regions. This mission became the next step in developing partnership between WD and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, that was established during the study tour of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine representatives to Canada in October 2006, and the following visit by Oryssia Lennie, Deputy Head of WD and her meeting with Serhiy Romanyuk, First Deputy Head, Ministry of Economy of Ukraine in November 2006. In July 2007, WD representatives Barry Lake, Senior Program Advisor, responsible for the Community Futures Program, WD Headquarters in Edmonton and Mark Gale, Senior Business Officer, WD, Manitoba Region visited Kyiv, Uzhgorod and Zaporizhzhia.
 - July 4-5, a two-day *workshop on state support to regional development* was held in Kyiv for the representatives of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine. The training course was carried out by Canadian experts Mark Gale and Barry Lake (WD). Svitlana Slava, RGD expert, facilitated the workshop from the Ukrainian side. During the workshop the Canadian experts delivered presentations on the activities of WD, explained the specifics of regional development and communities economic development in Canada. Barry Lake delivered a presentation on Program and Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC) in Western Canada and presented CFDC cases. Mark Gale gave an overview of Urban Development Agreements (UDA) - agreements between the federal, provincial and municipal governments – designed for the development of cities in Western Canada, outlined major objectives and mechanisms of their formulation as well as the role of the public and other stakeholders in their formulation and implementation. The Winnipeg agreement was presented as a case study of Urban Development Agreements. The participants of the workshop discussed financial, institutional and legal frameworks of the establishment and the activity of CFDCs and implementation of UDAs. It is necessary to emphasize that while the quantitative distribution among male and female representatives at the workshop was equal, the quality of participation was very different. Women were much more actively engaged into the discussion focusing on specifics of regional development in Canada and financial issues of UDA and CFDCs functioning. At the end of the workshop the participants suggested holding a number of practically oriented workshops for the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine staff in the future.
 - On July 9 in Uzhgorod a *workshop on development and strengthening partnership between authorities and communities for regional and local development* was held. The workshop was facilitated by Barry Lake and Mark Gale. During the workshop the participants discussed Canadian regional development experience, in particular, the experts presented the experience of Western Canada on development and implementation of UDAs and CFDCs. The representatives of other CIDA-funded projects, which operate in Ukraine, also participated in the workshop. Anatoliy Furda, Business Center Coordinator, presented the experience of Ivano-Frankivsk region in support to regional development through the activities of local development funds. Bill Pardy, volunteer of the “Community Economical Development” Project, made an overview of the project activity in Zakarpattia oblast, and major challenges encountered. Among the participants of the workshop representatives of women NGOs of the region made up more than 60%. They expressed interest in Canadian experience with regional development and planning.
 - On July 11 a workshop entitled “*Partnership for Regional Development*” was held in Zaporizhzhia. Eighty people attended the workshop. The participants of the workshop included representatives of the Oblast Council for Regional Development, members of Regional Working Group, oblast and rayon authorities, RGD regional and Kyiv staff and WD experts. During the workshop Canadian expert Mark Gale delivered presentations on the Canadian experience with regional development and UDAs. Barry Lake spoke about CFDCs. It is necessary to mention that notwithstanding the fact that number of women and men was almost equal, men were more active in discussion, while women demonstrated knowledge of foreign languages and communicated with the experts in English.

- During July 3-13 within the framework of the RGD Project Action Plan for Zakarpattya region Oleg Luksha and Oksana Stankevych, RGD regional strategic planning experts, held a **6 inter-rayon workshops-consultations** aimed at evaluating and analyzing the results of the development of the local strategies for rayons and cities in Zakarpattya region. The experts facilitated workshops as follows:
 - On July 3 workshop took place in Irshava city engaging representatives of Irshava Regional State Administration and Irshava city council representatives;
 - On July 9 workshop was held in the city of Mukachevo. Representatives of Mukachevo and Beregovo Regional State Administrations and City Councils participated in the event;
 - On July 10 workshop took place in the city of Vynogradiv engaging Vynogradiv Regional State Administration and City Council officials;
 - On July 11 workshop was held in the city of Khust. Representatives of Khust, Tiachiv, Rakhiv Regional State Administrations and City Councils participated in the event;
 - On July 12 workshop took place in the city of Svaliava engaging Svaliava, Mizhgyrya, Volovec Regional State Administrations and City Councils officials;
 - On July 13 workshop was held in the city of Uzhgorod. Representatives of Uzhgorod, Perechyn, Velykyi Bereznyi Regional State Administrations and City Councils, as well as Chop City Council participated in the event.

Participatory strategic planning process was launched at the rayon and city levels in Zakarpattya oblast for the first time. RGD project experts facilitated the development of local strategies through provision of advice and methodology. Moreover, RGD experts provided individual consultations for the rayons on the most challenging issues, reviewed problematic areas. This activity lead to improved quality of local strategies. During the process of local strategies development the gender equity issues were taken into consideration. In particular, each working group, which worked on development of the local strategies, had equal representation of men and women of different age and social status. As a result of workshops and individual consultations it became clear that almost each of 13 rayons and cities of Zakarpattya region will finalize their local strategies in the nearest future.
- Within the **Training Program for Regional Specialists in the Preparation of European Standard Proposals for Capital Investment Grants** organized by the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine and RGD project and funded jointly by CIDA and DFID a second round of workshops was held for Central and Northern cluster of oblasts of Ukraine from 9 to 13 July in Kyiv. The trainers were Polish experts Zbigniew Jedrzejewski and Jacek Kawala of Lemtech Consulting. The participants of the training included representatives from Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Sumy, Khmelnytsk, Cherkassy, Chernigiv oblast state administrations and Kyiv city state administration. During the week-long training, experts reviewed infrastructure project proposals prepared by each oblast within the strategic priorities of their oblasts development. The main outcomes of the seminars were the completed capital grant project proposals from the majority of oblasts. At the end of the training all the participants of the seminars were awarded with certificates. With this event the training program was completed. The RGD input into the program lead to the development of 21 capital grants project proposals throughout Ukraine.
- Within the framework of **background studies development** on two strategic priorities for Zaporizhzhia region – cultural and historical tourism and resort industry, and innovative investment development - RGD experts for Zaporizhzhia oblast held a number of working meetings on the premises of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration. The purpose of the studies is provision of practical assistance in drafting action plans for two oblast strategic priorities that will become part of the Regional Strategy for Zaporizhzhia Oblast Development until 2015. In particular, on July 10 Volodymyr Nazarenko held a meeting with Olena Pavlova and Oleksandr Petryga, representatives of International Affairs Department of the regional state administration. The purpose of the meeting was to develop the structure of the background study on innovative investment development. On July 24 Sergiy Mogylny participated in the meeting with the representatives of Department of Culture and Tourism of the Regional State Administration, in particular, with Larysa Sizitsova and Kateryna Malakova. Vitaly Lysenko held the meeting with the representatives of the Main Economic Department of the Administration, in particular with Ella Slepyan and Svitlana Kruglyak. It is necessary to mention that Oblast Administration representatives assist in background studies development not only by providing the experts with necessary

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documents and materials, but also by providing practical recommendations as for the contents of the studies. First draft of background studies should be completed by August 15, 2007.

- From July 17 to 21 **Mission from Waterloo Regional Municipality, Canada** took place in Zaporizhzhia Oblast. Participants of the mission included Terry Boutillier, expert on innovative investment development and Valerie Bradford, expert on culture and tourism development. Within the mission a number of meetings and workshops took place, in particular:
 - On July 18, Canadian experts took part in the round table meeting that was held in Zaporizhzhia Humanitarian University. The participants of the meeting included representatives of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, in particular heads of Main Departments of Economy, Ecology, Culture and Tourism, International Affairs, academia, university staff, Regional Working Group members, and representatives of Kyiv and Zaporizhzhia RGD Project offices. Volodymyr Glazunov, First Vice-Rector of the University of Humanities ZISMG, head of Public working group on Strategic Planning, chaired the meeting. The following information was presented by the participants of the meeting: Sergiy Mogylny, Ukrainian Strategic Planning expert of the RGD Project, delivered a presentation of the results of Regional Strategy development process. Ella Slepyan, Head of Main Department of Economy briefed on beginning of action plans development. Terry Boutillier presented the experience of Waterloo region in investment attraction and sustainable development of innovative technologies. Valerie Bradford delivered a presentation about marketing strategy of tourism development in Waterloo region. Taking into account information about the development of action plans for regional strategy the round table meeting resulted in adoption of a resolution to create three specialized working groups on strategic priorities of the Oblast. Hence, in July three specialized working groups were established for the development of action plans on three oblast strategic priorities in Zaporizhzhia. The groups consist of authorities, business and NGO representatives. Gender aspects were taken into account while forming the groups. Number of women and men is approximately equal in groups on environment and innovative investment development. The majority of the cultural and historical tourism group is women (12 out of 18 persons). As for the youth, the majority of them are representatives of the group on innovative investment development.
 - On July 19 within the framework of the mission, visit to Energodar city took place. Energodar city was selected by the project and Oblast State Administration as a pilot on the city strategy development. The mission participants included Ella Slepyan, Head of Main Economic Department, Svitlana Kruglyak, Deputy Head of Main Economic Department, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, Volodymyr Glazunov, Head of RWG on strategic planning and representatives of RGD project staff. The delegation had a meeting with the Mayor of Energodar city. After that round table meeting took place. The participants of the event included not only members of the delegation but also leaders of big industrial enterprises of the city, media and NGOs representatives. Olexander Sin, Deputy Head of the RGD Project Regional Steering Committee, chaired the meeting. Iryna Lekh presented the activities of the RGD project in Zaporizhzhia region. Results and prospects of strategic planning process in Energodar city were presented by Anrdiy Urbanovich, Head of Economic Department of Energodar City Council. Terry Boutillier delivered a presentation on the Canadian experience in the field of innovative development and support to small business development in Waterloo region. The meeting resulted in exchange of ideas about the implementation of strategic planning in Energodar city development.
 - On July 20, another round table meeting with participation of Terry Boutillier and local authorities was held in the City administration of Energodar city. Boutillier delivered a presentation on strategic planning in Kitchener city. The participants were very interested in administrative structure of the Canadian government and the system of budgeting.

The same day in Berdyansk city in Rayon State Administration the workshop on cultural and historical tourism development of Azov rayons took place. Before the workshop, Sergiy Mogylny, RGD expert, held the round table meeting with the representatives of Rayon State Administrations, cities and rural territories of four rayons (Priazovskiy, Primorskiy, Yakymivskiy, Berdyanskiy). There he presented the draft concept for the strategic development of four territories. Irina Lekh, RGD Project Regional Manager in Zaporizhzhia,

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chaired the workshop. Heads of Departments of culture of four rayons delivered their presentations on strategic planning of historical and cultural tourism development of the Azov Sea Coast territories. The interesting fact is that all Heads of Departments of Culture in four rayons are women. Borys Khatyonchenko, Deputy Mayor of Primorsk city on economic issues delivered a presentation on the development concept of Nogaysk resort-city. Oksana Orgiets, Deputy Head of Berdyansk Rayon State Administration, Head of Staff delivered a presentation on the project entitled "Creation of Rayon Tourism Center "Petrovs'ka Fortress". Valerie Bradford, Canadian expert of the Project, delivered her presentation during the second session of the workshop. She shared her experience in the area of historical and cultural tourism of Waterloo region with the participants. The workshop resulted in a number of suggestions as for the further development of historical and cultural tourism industry in Zaporizhzhia Oblast.

The same day a round table meeting called "*Innovative Investment Development of Berdyansk City: Tourism*" was held in Berdyansk municipality. Petro Goncharuk, First Deputy Head of Berdyansk City Council, chaired the meeting. The participants of the meeting included not only members of the delegation but also businesses, NGOs and media representatives.

- On July 18 the regular **Regional Working Group meeting on strategic planning** took place at the premises of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration. Ella Slepian, Head of Main Economic Department chaired the meeting. During the meeting the outlines of RGD experts' background studies within two strategic priorities - historical-cultural and tourism-resort industry and innovative investment development were approved. The list of pilot rayons and cities of Zaporizhzhia Oblast where the RGD Project will assist in local strategies development was also approved. These were Energodar city, Tokmak city and Tokmak rayon, 4 Azov rayons: Priazovskiy, Primorskiy, Yakymivskiy and Berdyanskiy; Komunarskiy rayon of Zaporizhzhia city. The RWG members also approved radio announcements about regional strategic priorities that will be broadcasted as a part of the media coverage of the regional strategy development process. Terry Boutilier and Valerie Bradford also participated in the meeting.
- Within the framework of integrating gender issues more actively into the RGD project activities **gender expert missions to the project's pilot regions** took place in July. Olga Pishchulina, Ukrainian Gender Expert, Ihor Sanzharovskiy, RGD Senior Technical Advisor and Nataliya Betsa, RGD Project Coordinator traveled to the regions with the purpose to meet with the regional staff and experts, as well as oblast authorities responsible for gender issues and discuss the progress made to date and areas for further works. In particular:
 - On July 25 a coordination meeting on gender issues took place in Zaporizhzhia. The participants of the meeting included members of the delegation, the RGD project staff in Zaporizhzhia, regional experts Serhiy Mogylnyj and Vitaliy Lysenko, as well as Olexandr Vasyliev, Chief Specialist, Department for Family, Youth and Sport, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration and Nataliya Selyukova, representative of media company "Ukrprostir" responsible for media coverage of the strategic planning process in Zaporizhzhia region. The discussion covered the activities of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration in the field of gender equality and how the RGD project can assist. The decree of the Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration on "Activities on Ensuring Gender Equality in Zaporizhzhia Oblast until 2010" was discussed. Media coverage of the strategy development process was also discussed, resulting in recommendations on how to reflect gender and age-related issues. It was stressed that it is very important to avoid gender patterns and be more gender neutral in TV and radio broadcasts. Nataliya Selyukova briefed the participants on youth competition and the interactive-internet forum in Zaporizhzhia that was established with the purpose to engage residents of the oblast into the strategic planning process. RGD experts for Zaporizhzhia region presented structures of the background studies they are preparing and Olga Pishchulina provided her comments as to where in particular gender issues can be reflected. It was agreed that the draft documents will be reviewed by Ukrainian Gender Expert. It was also decided to amend the Vision Statement for Zaporizhzhia Oblast Development and add "equal opportunities for all Zaporizhzhia citizens" into its formulation (equal rights are guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine while equal opportunities are an ongoing challenge). It was decided to discuss the new formulation at the next RWG on strategic planning meeting. At the end of the workshop integration of gender and youth related issues into the project reporting process was discussed. It was specified that quantitative and qualitative participation should be reflected in all project reports including the following: attendance of meetings, participation in

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workshops, forums etc (number of male and female participants, adults, youth, the elderly); which organizations (NGO, government, business, academia) they represent and what the quality of their participation is (role played, views expressed), as well as gender or youth/elderly issues brought up.

- On July 31, a mission to Uzhgorod took place. Participants of the meeting included members of the delegation, RGD Zakarpattya staff, Oleg Luksha, Oxana Stankevych, Kateryna Sochka, Svitlana Slava, Myroslava Lendiel, Mariya Popadynets, Zakarpattya regional experts, Oksana Guranych, Chief Specialist, Department for Family and Youth, Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration and Meleganych Anna, representative of Gender Resource Centre. During the meeting the participants discussed the gender specifics of Zakarpattya region, and the Program on Gender Equality until 2010 approved by the Head of Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration on February 2, 2007. Oksana Guranych suggested establishing a Coordination Council on Gender Issues at the Head of Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration (similar coordination council already exists in Zaporizhzhia region). The participants from Zakarpattya oblast noted that there is a very vague and simple understanding of what gender is about, meaning mainly women and increase of women's status in society. Olga Pishchulina explained to the participants the general approaches to understanding gender issues. She said that gender issues do not mean only women's issues, but equal opportunities for men, women, youth and the elderly to participate in the decision-making process. RGD regional experts briefed on the background studies they are preparing and Olga Pishchulina gave her comments on how to ensure that the studies are gender-sensitive. She stressed that it was very important to keep in mind gender issues and that they do not have to be presented separately (i.e. gender analysis per se) but have to be integrated, incorporated into the studies, be cross-cutting. It is very important to document participation of males and females, youth and elderly and the quality of their participation (issues raised). Regional Development Strategy for Zakarpattya Oblast Development until 2015 was also discussed in terms of inclusion of gender considerations in it. It was confirmed that the Strategy does include gender issues, however not to the extent that it could. It is very important that Zakarpattya's Development Vision mentions "equal opportunities for all residents of Zakarpattya oblast". The work on Regional Strategy implementation was also discussed. Regional working groups within 5 priorities for Zakarpattya oblast development are being established; the lists of members were disseminated among the participants and will be finalized in the nearest future. The first meeting of the working groups is scheduled for mid-August. The experts suggested including representatives from women organizations into every working group. After the discussion, the participants suggested conducting gender analysis within the framework of 5 priorities of Zakarpattya region development as well as a sociological survey on what the residents, and in particular women, of the oblast think of their status and role in the society.
- On July 27 in Uzhgorod Nataliya Nosa, Zakarpattya Regional Project Manager, and Dmytro Miroshnikov, Regional Project Coordinator, held a meeting with Mariana Kolodiy, Director of Zakarpattya regional gender resource centre. During the meeting the progress on integrating gender-related issues into the programs for the regional development was discussed. Methodology of conducting gender analysis as well as gender indicators was discussed. Nataliya Nosa outlined major activities of the RGD Project in Zakarpattya region, focusing specifically on the activities, included into the Joint Action Plan till March 2008. Zakarpattya Regional Program on Gender Equity in Ukrainian society till 2010, approved on February 2, 2007 by the Decree of Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration was also discussed. A number of activities, planned in the program do not have any financial support from state budget and need additional sources for financing. Mariana Kolodiy suggested the RGD Project to support some activities, which go in line with the RGD Project activities in Zakarpattya oblast.

More detailed information about Project events and activities can be found online at www.rgd.org.ua

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