



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

- On November 1, **Regional Working Group** held a meeting on Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy. Participants of the meeting included oblast leadership and permanent members of the sectoral working groups. Among thirty people that were present, there were 14 women and 16 men. Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, chaired the meeting. The following items were addressed at the meeting.
 - Ella Slepyan, Head of the Main Department of Economy, and Serhiy Medvid, Head of the Main Department of Finances presented results of the learning exchange to the Republic of Hungary, which took place in September 2007.
 - Ella Slepyan, Head of the Main Department of Economy, and Volodymyr Glazunov and Lyudmila Serheyeva, representatives of the University of Humanities "ZISMG" provided an update on the drafting of Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy document.
 - Orest Zakydalsky, RGD Project intern, spoke about local initiatives, which are being considered for RGD project support.

The next meeting of the Regional Working Group is planned for November 26 (see below). Its purpose will be to present and discuss the first draft of Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy document.

- During the month of November, **a visit by the RGD project management team to Ukraine** took place. The purpose of this visit was to participate in the third annual forum, regional forums, and the national and regional steering committee meetings. Additionally, Andrew Farncombe, RGD Project Director, Chris VanDooren, RGD Project Manager, Yuri Polianski, RGD Ukrainian Project Manager and Bohdan Onyschuk, Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Urban Institute held meetings with a number of high-level Ukrainian officials responsible for regional policy. They met with Serhiy Romanyuk, First Deputy Head, Ministry of Economy of Ukraine and Olexandra Kuzhel, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction. They also met with the Ambassador of Canada to Ukraine, Mrs. Abina Dann.
- On November 2, an **international investment seminar** was held in Uzhgorod. It was organized by Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration and the State Agency for Innovation and Investment in cooperation with the RGD project. The participants included representatives from Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration, directors of regional state agencies for innovation and investment, representatives from international trade missions, and leaders of large investment projects in Zakarpattia. Materials outlining the possible steps state governments can take to entice investment were available at the seminar. Emphasis was placed upon the importance of creating the necessary agreements to establish public-private partnerships. Natalia Nosa, Regional Manager of the RGD project in Zakarpattia oblast presented the Regional Strategy for Zakarpattia Oblast Development until 2015. The participants concluded that the document is an important instrument to enticing investment as it outlines the developmental priorities. However, the participants also believed that it is necessary to create a collection of investment proposals that could be presented to potential investors. A short video was presented highlighting Zakarpattia's infrastructure and investment potential.
- On November 5, RGD project held a **Regional Forum** in Zaporizhzhia on the theme of **"Development and Implementation of Regional Strategies: Current Practices."** Participants of the forum were the leadership of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, representatives of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry for

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency

Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine, members of the Working Group on Strategic Planning, representatives of rayons and cities of Zaporizhzhia oblast, as well as representatives of Zakarpattia and Luhansk oblasts. There were 56 participants: 35 women and 21 men. Youth and elderly were also represented at the forum. The forum was chaired by Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of the Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration.

The forum opened with a short video about the process of strategic planning in Zaporizhzhia oblast. Welcoming remarks were provided by Leonid Anisimov, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast Council, Vasyl Brenzovych, Deputy Head of the Zakarpattia Oblast Council, Tetyana Kravets, Head of the Section on Mid-term and Long-term Planning of Regional Development, Department for Regional Development, Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, Vyacheslav Zhyhun, curator of Zaporizhzhia oblast at the Department of Cooperation with the Regions, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine, and Andrew Farncombe, RGD Project Director. Then, Ella Slepian, Head of the Main Department of Economy, Volodymyr Glazunov, Head of the Strategic Planning Regional Working Group, and Larysa Sizintsova, Head of the Department of Culture and Tourism spoke about the work carried out in developing and implementing of Zaporizhzhia Oblast Development Strategy.

During the second session, Oleksandr Kulibov, Mayor of Energodar city, Andriy Mamchak, Head of the Economic Division, Executive Committee of the Tokmak City Council, Olena Kalinina, First Deputy Head of the Tokmak Rayon State Administration, Oksana Orhiets, Deputy Head of Berdyansk Rayon State Administration, and Serhiy Mogilny, RGD Project Expert for Zaporizhzhia oblast presented an overview of strategic planning in pilot rayons and cities.

During the third session, Nataliya Nosa-Pylypenko, Zakarpattia RGD Regional Manager, shared the experience of Zakarpattia oblast in developing its regional strategy. Olha Burlyk, representative of the DFID project "Action Donbass" and Andrew Balahura, Analyst of the Department of Economic Development, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Canada, talked about strategic planning experiences of Luhansk oblast, Ukraine, and the province of Ontario, Canada, respectively. As a result of the forum, the participants learned about many Ukrainian and international experiences and lessons learned in strategic planning. This will inform the development and implementation of the regional and local strategies in Zaporizhzhia.

- On November 6, **a press conference on strategic planning in Zaporizhzhia Oblast** was held. Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, provided an update on the process of strategic planning in Zaporizhzhia oblast and presented the results achieved to date. Andrew Farncombe, Director, International Partnerships, Canadian Urban Institute, spoke about RGD project's input into this process. After the press conference, the winners of the oblast youth contest "I Create the Future of My Land" were presented with certificates. Each winner provided a brief outline of the project they submitted for the contest. Additional information about the results of the contest is available on RGD website at http://www.rgd.org.ua/latest_project_news/youth_contest_zap/. The press conference and the award ceremony received wide coverage in the regional mass media.
- On November 7, meetings were held by **the Working Group on Historical-Cultural Tourism and Resort Industry** and **by the Working Group for the local initiative to develop an electronic tourism map of Zaporizhzhia Oblast**. During the first working group meeting, Serhiy Mogilny, Zaporizhzhia RGD Project Expert, presented the results of the background study and a draft action plan for this priority. The participants were encouraged to review the draft action plan and share their feedback. Andrew Balahura, Canadian RGD Project Expert, representative of OMAFRA, participated in both meetings. He provided recommendations on the development of the action plan for this priority and discussed Ontario's experience in tourism development. During the meeting of the project team, he presented Ontario's tourism website and provided recommendations on the development of a tourism information website in Zaporizhzhia oblast. As well, during this meeting, Yevhen Solonyna, representative of an environmental organization, presented a project on developing an "Eco-portal" website, which is expected to include tourism and environmental information. Members of both, the working group and the project team, are mainly women. However, majority of the members of the project team are youth.
- On November 8 RGD project held its **Third Annual Forum**. The theme of this year's forum was **"REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT: FROM PLANNING TO IMPLEMENTATION: UKRAINIAN AND INTERNATIONAL TRENDS AND TENDENCIES."**

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency

The Forum was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, the Ministry for Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine and National Association of Regional Development Agencies (NARDA). It was convened for the purpose of promoting the dialogue between central and regional governments, local self-governments, civil society organizations, think tanks of Ukraine and international assistance projects on regional governance and development. Participants of the Forum had the opportunity to discuss Ukrainian and international practices in regional policy implementation. 120 participants, including representatives of central and local executive authorities, local self-government bodies, regional development agencies, civil society organizations, international organizations, international technical assistance programs and projects, academia from Kyiv and 15 regions of Ukraine, as well as experts from Canada, Hungary and Lithuania attended the Forum.

The format of the Forum included a plenary session and three concurrent workshops. Anatoliy Tkachuk, Advisor to the President of Ukraine, President of NARDA, opened the forum and chaired the plenary session. Introductory remarks were provided by Tamara Romas Figol, Second Secretary, Development, Embassy of Canada to Ukraine, Andrew Farncombe, Director, International Partnerships, Canadian Urban Institute, Olexandra Kuzhel, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine and Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration. Four keynote presentations were delivered during the plenary session. Olena Nyzhnyk, Director, Department for Regional Development, Ministry of Economy of Ukraine discussed new instruments and approaches for regional policy formulation and implementation. Bohdan Onyschuk, Q.C., Chairman of the Board, Canadian Urban Institute, Senior Partner at "Gowling Lafleur Henderson" LLP shared with the participants North America's experience in regional development. Peter Szegvari, Director General, Regional Development Holding, Hungary delivered a presentation entitled "Regional Policy under Europeanization: Europe of the Regions." Volodymyr Vakulenko, Head of Regional Development, Local Self-government and Urban Management Department, National Academy of Public Administration at the President of Ukraine spoke about present day and future trends of regional development in Ukraine.

In the afternoon, three concurrent workshops on major themes in regional development took place. The participants of *Workshop 1: Participatory Approach to Planning and Implementation in Zakarpattia and Zaporizhzhia Regions*, discussed the role of the public in changing approaches to strategic planning; inclusive approach to implementation of regional strategies; effective partnership for sustainable regional development and gender equality in strategic planning process. The panel speakers of this workshop were Ella Slepian, Head, Main Economic Department, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, Vasyl Papp, Deputy Head, Main Economic Department, Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration, RGD strategic planning experts for Zaporizhzhia and Zakarpattia oblasts, as well as RGD Ukrainian gender expert. The workshop was chaired by Yevgen Fyshko, First Vice-President, NARDA. Myroslava Lendel, Associate Professor, Uzhgorod National University, RGD Project Expert, chaired *Workshop 2: Public-Private Partnership for Regional Strategies Implementation*. The participants of this workshop discussed RGD project's research findings on Ukrainian and international approaches to public-private partnerships (PPP); the legal framework and institutional arrangements required to establish these partnerships; challenges and opportunities associated with implementing PPP; the roles of public agencies in developing PPPs; and other issues related to building partnerships between the government and the private sector for the purpose of implementing development programs in Ukraine. Svitlana Slava, Deputy Director, Zakarpattia Regional Center for Social and Economic Studies, National Academy of Sciences, RGD Project Expert, chaired *Workshop 3: Developing Investment Attractiveness of the Regions*. The participants of this workshop had an opportunity to interact with Ukrainian, Hungarian and Lithuanian experts to discuss different approaches to supporting implementation of regional strategies and development programs, including state support and investment into regional development, local initiatives in regional development, investments into innovations, clusters of development, and the use of technoparks and technopolis.

The success of the forum allowed the RGD Project to gather a wide range of ideas, opinions, and concerns from key stakeholders in Ukraine's regional governance and development, which will be instrumental in informing the next phase of the project and in responding to Ukraine's needs in this field. Forum materials are available in the subsection "Forums" in "Project Activities and Events" Section on the RGD website, www.rgd.org.ua/en/.

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency

- On November 9, **the National Project Steering Committee** met in Kyiv. The meeting was chaired by Andrew Farncombe, RGD Project Director. The Ministry of Economy of Ukraine was represented by Serhiy Romanyuk, First Deputy Head, Olena Nyzhnyk, Director of the Department for Regional Development and Larysa Pekarska, Deputy Head of the Department for Coordination of International Technical Assistance. Bohdan Onyschuk, Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Urban Institute also participated in this meeting.

During the meeting, project management provided an overview of the project results during the first half of this project year, the cumulative progress towards anticipated outcomes at the end of the project, and the activities for the upcoming period. RGD regional managers presented the results of strategic planning processes in the pilot oblasts. RGD Project partners, Ministry of Economy, Zaporizhzhia and Zakarpattia Oblast State Administrations provided several useful recommendations for the project's future activities such as institutionalizing strategic planning in the regions in order to make it sustainable, carrying out a demographic survey in Zaporizhzhia oblast, establishing interregional cooperation (Zaporizhzhia-Zakarpattia), etc.

Additionally, the **meetings of the Regional Steering Committees** were held in Uzhgorod on October 30, (see *October monthly update*) and in Zaporizhzhia on November 6. Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration chaired the meeting in Zaporizhzhia. The main items for discussion included the perspectives for public consultations on the draft Zaporizhzhia Development Strategy until 2015 as well as media coverage of the strategic planning process. The next meetings of the National and Regional Steering Committees will take place in spring of 2008. They will be focused on reviewing the results of project implementation during this fiscal year and on approving the annual work plan for the following year.

- On November 12 and 13, two **round table meetings** for regional stakeholders in strategic planning were held. The purpose of these meetings was to **review the draft chapters on Environment and Innovative Investment for Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy until 2015**. The participants included representatives of the University of Humanities "ZISMG," lecturers of several Zaporizhzhia Universities, members of the working groups on environment and innovative investments, representatives of NGOs, members of oblast and city councils, representatives and specialists of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, and RGD project experts Vitaly Lysenko and Volodymyr Nazarenko. The draft chapters were presented by Volodymyr Glazunov, First Vice-Rector of the University of Humanities "ZISMG" and Lyudmyla Serheyeva, Professor of the University of Humanities "ZISMG." The participants reviewed the draft documents and suggested several amendments, including specific actions (measures) to be included into the operational plans. The meetings resulted in a number of useful recommendations that will be taken into consideration in the development of the final Strategy document.
- On November 14, a **press conference on Zakarpattia's Experience in Strategic Planning** was held in Uzhgorod. Vasyl Papp, Deputy Head of Main Department of Economy, Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration, Natalia Nosa, RGD Regional Manager, and Alex Hetmanczuk, RGD project intern, met with regional media representatives. They discussed the results of regional strategic planning activities during the last six months. Vasyl Papp spoke about the work of the five working groups, each targeting a different priority. He stressed the importance of developing operational programs that will set the framework for further investments that will help the oblast achieve its strategy. He also mentioned that the cooperation between the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers and the Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration should lead to a formal agreement outlining the realization of the strategic program. Alex Hetmanczuk presented the local initiatives and announced that implementing some of these initiatives is a part of the next phase of the regional strategic plan. Natalia Nosa emphasized that the strategy outlines the joint vision of Zakarpattia's development to 2015 and that it's very important to understand that the strategy implementation can be financed from different sources, including government funding and local resources.
- The working groups for Zakarpattia's regional priorities continue developing action plans. They hold regular **thematic meetings on operational goals** and the development of the action plans. On November 6, the working group on the priority of Human Development and Improvement of the Quality of Life held a working meeting related to the formulation of new service quality standards. On November 7, a meeting of the working group on Spatial Cohesion and Environmental Protection took place. This meeting was focused on the operational goal of improving environment and providing ecological security. On November 14, the working

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency

group on Expanding Cross-border and Euroregional Cooperation held a meeting related to the operational goal of developing cross-border informational and transportation network. On November 21, a meeting of the working group on Developing Tourism, Recreation and Health Resort Industries was held. It was related to the operational goal of diversification and improvement of competitiveness of the recreation and health resort services. All working groups are developing a collection of investment proposals as a part of the operational programs.

- From November 21 to November 22, an **international investment forum** took place in Zaporizhzhia. The forum was organized by Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration and Zaporizhzhia Oblast Council in partnership with the RGD Project. The forum was focused on Zaporizhzhia oblast's cooperation with Ukrainian and international investors from Lithuania, Hungary, Indonesia, etc. The program of the forum included presentations by representatives of the government, the private sector, the banking sector, insurance companies, industry and agriculture, and regional scientific and academic establishments.

The first day of the forum consisted of a plenary session and sectoral roundtable meetings. Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, chaired the forum. In his opening remarks he underlined that investment is one of Zaporizhzhia oblast's strategic development priorities. He also stressed that Zaporizhzhia oblast made significant progress towards combining the efforts of government, business and the community in forming a common vision for the future of this region. During the second day, representatives of Zaporizhzhia regional government and local self-governments presented their investment projects and outlined the favorable conditions for the investors entering the territories they represent. They also discussed regional and local strategic planning processes in Zaporizhzhia.

- From November 22 to November 26, an annual **CIDA monitoring mission** was held. The main goal of this mission was to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the RGD Project. The delegation included Margot Rothman, CIDA Monitoring Expert, Anik Brunet, CIDA Program Officer (Ukraine), and Valentyna Telychenko, monitoring expert/assistant. During the visit, the delegates met with the project staff, national and regional experts and key project stakeholders. Among the issues discussed were RGD project implementation during this fiscal year, project progress in achieving its outcomes, cooperation with other donor-funded projects, and other relevant issues.
- On November 26, a meeting of the **Regional Working Group (RWG)** was held in Zaporizhzhia. During this meeting, the first draft of Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy until 2015 was presented to RWG members. The meeting was chaired by Volodymyr Kaltsev, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration. During the discussion, the following issues were addressed.
 - Ella Slepian, Head of the Main Department of Economy, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, reported on the status of Zaporizhzhia Oblast Development Strategy elaboration.
 - Volodymyr Glazunov and Lyudmila Serheyeva, representatives of the University of Humanities "ZISMG," organization responsible for the drafting of the Strategy document, delivered presentation of the first draft of the Strategy.
 - The members of the RWG discussed the drafts operational plans for the Regional Strategy and amendments to the terms of reference of the University of Humanities "ZISMG" regarding the drafting of Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy document.

As a result of the discussion, there was a consensus that the draft Strategy needed to be further developed. Hence, the heads of the relevant departments of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration were instructed to provide their comments to the Strategy by November 29, 2007. The University of Humanities was instructed to take into account all comments articulated by Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration and the members of the RWG.

- As a follow-up to the RGD project analytical report and handbook on **"Monitoring and Evaluation of Programs for Regional Development,"** which was published in October 2007, RGD project experts Bohdan Wynnycky, Canada, and Myroslava Lendiel, Ukraine, delivered monitoring and evaluation workshops for regional stakeholders.

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency

- On November 27, the experts facilitated a workshop in Zaporizhzhia. The participants of the workshop were representatives of specialized working groups for regional development priorities, relevant departments of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, academics, regional experts and RGD project staff. During the first session of the workshop, Myroslava Lendiel delivered a presentation about indicators that can be used for evaluation of regional development strategies and programs. Bohdan Wynnycky delivered a presentation about key steps of the monitoring process and the classification of indicators and information sources for this process. During the second session, the participants were split into small groups by priority areas and were asked to identify possible indicators, sources and methods of information collection for monitoring of their respective priority area. The groups then shared the results of their discussions with the rest of the participants. During the third session, Bohdan Wynnycky delivered a presentation, where he outlined the key stages of the assessment process. After this, the participants were again split into small groups and were given an opportunity to develop a model structure for the assessment of development programs in their priority area. At the end of the seminar, it was decided to finalize these model structures with the respective working groups.
- On November 29, the experts delivered a workshop in Uzhgorod. The structure of this workshop was similar to the one in Zaporizhzhia. During the first half of the workshop, the participants received information about the key stages of the monitoring process, classification of indicators and sources of information, the process of identifying the indicators, modern approaches to the development of evaluation systems and the key stages of the evaluation process. Then, as a practical exercise, the participants were given an opportunity to work in small groups to develop their own monitoring process for each of the strategic priorities based on the recommendations of the experts. At the end of this exercise, each group was given an opportunity to present their vision to the rest of the participants. During the second part of the workshop, the facilitators explained how to develop an evaluation plan and system. At the end of the workshop, the participants received a "home assignment," which they were asked to complete by December 14. During the workshop, the participants also discussed different formats for operational programs.
- On November 28, a meeting of Tokmak city and rayon strategic planning working group took place. Volodymyr Nazarenko, RGD Project expert, facilitated this meeting. During the meeting, the participants identified a mission and vision for the rayon development; approved the main development priorities and compared them with the regional development priorities; and approved the outline for the rayon and city strategy document. As a result of the meeting, it was decided to engage additional experts to systematize the materials gathered and to draft the strategy document for submission to the Rayon Council in December 2007.

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

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

Tel.: 390 70 87, fax: 278 07 14

E-mail: info@rgd.org.ua

Regional Governance and Development Project is implemented by the Canadian Urban Institute with funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency