



Information
on the activities within the framework of the Canada-Ukraine Partnership
Project for Regional Governance and Development (RGD)
in November 2008

- **On November 12**, RGD Project held the **Fourth Annual Forum: "REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS – BUILDING STRATEGIES IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION: UKRAINIAN AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE."** Participants of the Forum had the opportunity to discuss Ukrainian and international best practices in regional policy implementation. 105 participants, including representatives of central and local governments, regional development agencies, civil society organizations, international organizations, international technical assistance programs and projects, academia from Kyiv and 20 oblasts of Ukraine, as well as experts from Canada and Poland attended the Forum.

Sergiy Romaniuk, First Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine, opened the Forum and chaired the plenary session. Introductory remarks were provided by Anatoliy Matviyenko, the People's Deputy of Ukraine, and Sherry Greaves, First Secretary (Development), Embassy of Canada in Ukraine. The welcoming remarks were followed by a keynote presentation and speeches delivered by Glen Murray, CEO and President of the Canadian Urban Institute, Grzegorz Gorzelak, Professor of Warsaw University, Yevgen Fyshko, Director of Regional Policy Department of Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine, Valeriy Vorotin, Deputy Director of National Institute for Strategic Studies, Olexandr Sin, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhya Oblast State Administration and Volodymyr Nudelman, Professor of Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture.

Speakers covered North American and European experiences in raising economic competitiveness of cities and regions. Analysis of current problems of Ukrainian cities and regions which they are facing while competing with the rest of the world, as well as specific recommendations on strategies and policy tools were in the focus of discussions. In the afternoon, the participants had an opportunity to participate in two consecutive workshops to explore in more detail the key issues pertaining to the main theme of the Forum: regional innovative development; venture funds; public-private partnership; the process of euro-integration in the context of globalization; eastward investment trends; economic clustering in Ukraine and abroad; variety of tools for promoting regional competitiveness; and strategies for attracting investments for regional infrastructure development etc.

All presentation were placed at the project website at:

http://www.rgd.org.ua/en/project_activities/round_tables/4th_annual_forum/

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- **The Second Module of the Project Management Training (PMT) was held in Zakarpattia, November 18 – 19, and in Zaporizhzhia, November 26 – 27.** The Project Management Training Program has two main objectives. The first objective is to train a number of middle level managers from the regional and local level governments in project management. The second objective is to begin implementation of priority projects by April 2009. The training is delivered in a series of two-day training workshops and includes theoretical and practical components. Each participant of the training leads a project team, consisting of government, business

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and community representatives, which is implementing a small or medium sized project from one of the regional strategic priorities. The Second Module of the Project Management Training introduced participants to stakeholder analysis and social/gender impact assessment, as well as preparing project logical frameworks and was delivered by Ukrainian and Canadian experts.

33 people *in Zakarpattya* and 27 people *in Zaporizhzhya* participated in the workshops, over half of which were women. Ukrainian experts trained participants in preparing project logical frameworks and worked with project leaders and teams to ensure progress with small project development. Ann Szyptur and Carole Houlihan, Canadian Experts on Civil Society and Gender, led the practical sessions and introduced the training participants to the process of social and gender analysis and stakeholder analysis, and provided some tips on how to engage a wider group of stakeholders in project implementation. At the end participants received homework assignments, including: to develop the concept of a project, action plan and a project outline, as well as to start working on the project budget and social and gender impact assessments.

On November 20 – 21 and 24, Ann Szyptur and Carole Houlihan, Canadian Experts on Civil Society Issues and Gender, Yaroslav Boyko and Svitlana Slava, RGD Regional Planning Experts, and Nataliya Lyhkolot, Project Assistant in Zakarpattya oblast, visited 10 small-scale projects located in different rayons of Zakarpattya oblast. They had series of meetings with project teams and discussed the work that has been accomplished to date. Project places visited included Mukachevo, Berehove, Vinohradiv rayon, Rakhiv Rayon, Tyachiv Rayon, Khust, Uzhgorod. Over 32 people participated in these meetings.

- **On November 13 – 14**, Bohdan Wynnycky, RGD Project International Expert, visited Zaporizhzhya oblast. The goal of his visit was to discuss the activities on **monitoring and evaluation of the regional and local strategies in Zaporizhzhya oblast** carried out to date and to assess the needs for further training and capacity development activities in this area. A number of meetings with the project experts and main stakeholders were held during his visit. These meetings included discussions of Project activity in the region and the existing institutional structures for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Regional Strategy.
- **On November 5, 2008 Zaporizhzhya Oblast State Administration held a working meeting with Heads of Rayon Administration Departments and Heads of rural territories of Berdiansk rayon.** This meeting was one of the series of oblast meetings and seminars on strategic planning targeted at rayons and rural territories of Zaporizhzhya oblast. Oleksandr Sin, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhya Oblast State Administration, chaired the meeting. Participants were provided with practical information on development and implementation of strategies for rural territories and rayons. Experiences and lessons learned in strategic planning that emerged in the development and implementation of Zaporizhzhya Regional Development Strategy were also shared.
- Over the month of November, a number of activities were carried out in **follow-up to the Capital Investment Project Training Program** delivered earlier this year by the RGD Project. The training program provided representatives of municipalities and oblast government with knowledge and skills to develop infrastructure investment project proposals according to the international standards. In Zaporizhzhya, as a result of the success of this training program, the oblast authorities asked RGD Project Experts to hold additional training sessions for representatives of small businesses of Zaporizhzhya oblast. One of these workshops was held on November 28. The participants of the workshop included representatives of oblast and municipal governments, member of the project teams and small business representatives. In Zakarpattya, a meeting with representatives of Uzhgorod City Council was held to discuss implementation of infrastructure investment projects that were developed in summer of 2008. Specifically, advice on preparing invitation letters for the representatives of international financial and lending institutions to consider financing of the project “Reconstruction of Sewage System in the City of Uzhgorod” was discussed.

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