



---

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

- From 2 to 8 September, the RGD project held a **learning exchange to Hungary** for representatives of regional and local governments from pilot oblasts. The participants of the study tour were Svitlana Verkhoglyadova, Deputy Director, Department for Regional Development, Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, Ella Slepyan, Head of the Main Economic Department, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, Sergyi Medvid, Head of the Main Financial Department, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, Yustyna Rotaru, Head of Division, Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, Maria Shabanova, Lead Specialist, Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration and two project representatives from Zaporizhzhia and Kyiv. The learning exchange was aimed at studying the experience of the Hungarian Republic in implementation of modern mechanisms, instruments and organizations for regional development. The participants attended meetings with the Ministry for Local Self-governance and Regional Policy, the Ministry of Economy of Hungary, National Development Agency, Regional Development Holding and with several Hungarian non-profit regional development and urban planning organizations. The delegation also met with local authorities and self-government bodies in the Western Panonia region, in particular, the Regional Development Council and the Regional Development Agency, the municipalities of Sombotely and Sengottard, and the Innovations and Technologies Park in Dyor.

As a result of the meetings, the participants gained knowledge about new approaches and practices of strategic and operational planning used in Hungary, the EU criteria of defining depressed territories, the EU requirements for preparing proposals for regional development projects, and other topics on regional development. Each of the participants received a package of informational materials, including samples of legislative and programmatic documents, presentations from speakers and their recommendations on regional and local development issues.

- From 11 to 13 September, a **three-day workshop** on **“Methodology for Development of Operational Plans”** was held for working groups on regional development goals. The workshop was held in the Azov rayon and was facilitated by the RGD strategic planning experts. The purpose of this workshop was to commence the development of operational plans for Zaporizhzhia oblast's strategic priorities, namely the Environment, Historical-Cultural and Resort-Tourism, and Innovative Investment.

Participants of the workshop included members of the RWG on strategic planning, representatives of the working groups for the three strategic priorities, government officials, and representatives of civil society organizations. The number of women and men, as well as the number of young and mature participants was approximately equal.

For each of the strategic priorities, a presentation was delivered by a representative of the respective department of the oblast administration. Laryssa Bondarenko, Head of the Section of Environmental Economics, Regulation of the Use of Natural Resources, Analysis and Reporting of the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, spoke about the environment as a regional priority. Kateryna Malakova, Head of the Section of Tourism and Preservation of Cultural Heritage at the Department of Culture and Tourism of the Oblast State Administration, delivered a presentation about the Cultural-Historical and Resort-Tourism priority. Snizhana Kyrylova, and Oleksandr Petryha, Chief Expert Economists of the Department of Foreign Policy and Foreign Investment of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, discussed the Innovative Investment priority. Following these presentations, RGD experts

---

3, Triohsvyatyetska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

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

E-mail: [info@rgd.org.ua](mailto: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*

Volodymyr Nazarenko and Serhiy Mohylny, presented the findings of the background studies on the strategic priorities of Cultural-Historical and Resort-Tourism, and Innovative Investment. Vitaly Lysenko, RGD Project expert, presented findings of the study on national and regional long-, mid- and short-term state programs, sector plans and international technical assistance programs. The results of these studies were distributed to the participants and discussed during the event.

In the second half of the workshop, participants were split into three groups in accordance with the strategic priorities. These groups worked on developing a vision and operational goals for each priority, and the activities necessary for implementation of these strategic priorities. They also identified stakeholders, assigned responsibilities for implementation of activities, and defined the required resources and the possible timetable for completion of the planned activities. At the end of the workshop, each of the groups presented a draft operational plan for their strategic priority. These operational plans will be included in the Regional Strategy.

- Within the framework of **educational and informational campaign** on strategic planning, Zakarpattya Regional Mass Media Expert, Maria Kovach, developed a mass media communication plan to disseminate project information and to educate the public about the implementation of the Regional Strategy. In the month of September, two round table discussions were organized and broadcasted on regional TV channel "Tysa 1."

On September 11, Ernest Nuser, Head of the Main Department of Euro-integration, Foreign External Relations and Tourism, Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, participated in a program on results of strategic planning process in Zakarpattya. This program was broadcasted live on "Tysa 1." Mr. Nuser presented the short version of the Regional Strategy for Oblast Development until 2015. He stated that the Strategy would serve as a guideline for foreign investors. Also, he talked about the next steps for the development of operational plans and the implementation of the Regional Strategy. In addition, he presented the video film about Zakarpattya region, which provided a visual illustration of elements of the Regional Strategy.

The second round table was held on September 14. Oleg Luksha, Regional Strategic Planning Expert, participated in this round table. Oleg Luksha also spoke about the strategic planning process in Zakarpattya Oblast. He said that the strategic planning process has been expanded to include the rayons and cities of Zakarpattya. Local councils have already approved regional strategies in five rayons and two cities. Additionally, he stated that a regional strategic planning process is an ongoing process. In his opinion, Zakarpattya is at a very important stage of strategic planning, because operational goals and operational programs will be the instruments for the implementation of the regional development strategy.

- Three preliminary **meetings of the working groups for regional development priorities of Zakarpattya Oblast** were held in Uzhgorod in September. These meetings included working groups for the priorities of Human Development and Raising the Standard of Living, Territorial Harmony and Environmental Protection, and Developing of the Cross-Border and Euro-Regional Cooperation.

During the meetings, participants discussed objectives for their work, planned activities, and created a strategy for internal communication. Furthermore, participants discussed the formatting of operational plans and decided to explore examples from successful development programs from around the world. Undoubtedly, the most important discussion of the meetings was about formulating a joint vision for future activities of the working groups. The participants expressed an interest in combining the work of different working groups and decided to organize joint meetings to share information and results. They also came to a conclusion that an expert on each specific operational goal had to be identified and invited to all future meetings on their specific field of expertise. Similarly, the participants proposed to organize a meeting with the RGD project expert Maria Popadynets to discuss the results of her research on state and regional programs, so that they may be taken into account during the development of future operational programs. In addition, during the meeting of the working group on Developing Cross-Border and Euro-regional Cooperation, participants were informed about the development of a Ukrainian-Polish cross-border cooperation strategy that was initiated within the framework of Zakarpattya's Neighborhood Program. The participants of this working group agreed that Zakarpattya oblast priorities have to be reflected in the cross-border development strategy.

- Within the framework of implementation of strategic plans and action plans in priority areas, the RGD regional office in Zaporizhzhia began identifying **local initiatives** that could be supported by the RGD Project. Among ideas suggested during different project-supported events, five of the most interesting and sustainable initiatives

---

3, Triohsvyatytska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

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

E-mail: [info@rgd.org.ua](mailto: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*

were selected for further review and discussion. The champions of these local initiatives include Zaporizhzhia Oblast and Rayon authorities, and representatives of regional NGOs and the academia.

- Within the framework of **local strategies development**, four public meetings were held in Energodar City in accordance with the activity plans for Zaporizhzhia oblast pilots. As a result of an extensive public information campaign, the meetings were very well attended. In particular the meetings attracted a large number of participants, both women and men, of mature age. Some of the meetings were covered by regional TV. These meetings provided many constructive ideas and suggestions with regard to strategic planning in Energodar City.

Tokmak City prepared amendments to its development strategy to include the development of local vegetables processing industry. The proposed amendments were reviewed by standing commissions of the City Council and will be discussed at the next City Council session. In Tokmak rayon, a meeting with representatives of small farms and public associations took place on September 17. During this meeting, the following issues were discussed: farmers' cooperation with the city's vegetables processing centre, improvements in the ecological conditions of the Molochnaya river, and the way the public can contribute towards implementing solutions for eliminating river water pollution.

- On September 18, a **round table discussion** on the findings of the project-supported research on available national and regional long-, mid- and short-term state programs took place in Uzhgorod. Representatives of Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration and Zakarpattya Regional Council participated in this event. Maria Popadynets, Regional Project Expert on national and regional programs, presented an inventory of specific legislation and documentation related to available national and regional long-, mid- and short term state programs, sector plans and international technical assistance programs and projects. The collected information will be used to support operational planning and assist in implementation of Zakarpattya Regional Development Strategy. The expert also provided a brief description of state and regional programs related to each of the strategic priorities and operational goals of Zakarpattya Regional Development Strategy. She emphasized that the majority of regional programs (51 out of 90) are related to the implementation of priority of Human Development and Raising the Standard of Living. She explained that this is a natural result, because the majority of regional state budgetary allocations are directed towards various social and environmental programs. Volodymyr Hoblyk, Deputy Head of Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, assured the participants that the information provided would be taken into consideration in developing the oblast's budget for the following year. The research findings will be distributed to all project stakeholders in a formal report as well as posted on the project website.
- Within the framework of donor coordination, RGD project assisted in preparing and carrying out of the **mission from Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) to Zaporizhzhia region** in September. The mission was held from September 18 to September 21. The purpose of the mission was to conduct research in horticulture and to explore options for micro crediting in Zaporizhzhia region. Vladislav Sergienko, member of the strategic planning Regional Working Group (RWG) and member of Zaporizhzhia Oblast Farmers Association, was specifically invited to participate in this mission. He assisted in arranging several meetings and visits to small farms in Zaporizhzhia oblast. Other MEDA meetings, which took place as part of this mission, were a meeting with the head of the Main Department of Agriculture Development in Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, a round table meeting in Zaporizhzhia regional office of the RGD Project, and a meeting with Zaporizhzhia Credit Association representatives. During the mission, the delegation also visited Melitopol City and Mennonites centre in Molochansk City. The mission resulted in the establishment of a network for future cooperation.
- In September, during a meeting of the regional working group on strategic priority of Developing Cross-Border and Euro-Regional Cooperation, an initiative for the development of a Polish-Ukrainian cooperation strategy was presented. The implementation of this initiative is supported by the European Commission. Polish-Ukrainian cooperation is one of the operational goals of the regional priority of Developing Cross-Border and Euro-Regional Cooperation. The members of the working group found this initiative to be very important for Zakarpattya region since it shares a border with Poland, and also because, both Ukraine and Poland, face common problems in their border regions. It was agreed that the development of the Polish - Ukrainian

---

3, Triohsvyatytska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001

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

E-mail: [info@rgd.org.ua](mailto: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*

cooperation strategy should be included into the operational program for the priority of Developing Cross-Border and Euro-Regional Cooperation.

- The analytical report entitled ***“Monitoring and Evaluation of Strategies and Programs for Regional Development”*** was published in Ukrainian. The report was prepared by a team of RGD project experts, including Bohdan Wynnycky (Canada), Myroslava Lendel (Ukraine) and Justyna Ratajczak (Poland). It analyses different approaches, procedures, and institutional arrangements for monitoring and evaluation of development strategies and programs that are used in the European Union countries and in Canada. It also provides recommendations for Ukraine on monitoring and evaluation of the State Strategy for Regional Development. This report will contribute to raising the awareness of Ukrainian regional development practitioners of international experience in monitoring and evaluation of development strategies and programs. This publication is also available on the RGD Project’s website at: [http://www.rgd.org.ua/project\\_publications/publications\\_list/](http://www.rgd.org.ua/project_publications/publications_list/)

More detailed information about Project events and activities can be found at [www.rgd.org.ua](http://www.rgd.org.ua)

---

*3, Triohsvyatytska Str, office 60, Kyiv 01001*

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

*E-mail: [info@rgd.org.ua](mailto: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*