



**Canada-Ukraine Partnership Project for
Regional Governance and Development (RGD)
- Results achieved and activities completed in June 2009 -**

RESULTS ACHIEVED:

The RGD Project continues to achieve great success in working toward sustainable regional development in the two oblasts of Zakarpattia and Zaporizhzhia, as well as collaborating with national government agencies to implement the State Strategy for Regional Development. In June, the following specific results have been achieved:

- On June 25 2009, two laws were adopted by the Ukrainian Parliament: the *Law on Public-Private Partnerships* and the *Law on Stimulation to Development of Regions*. The RGD Project provided significant programmatic input into these two laws in its 2nd, 3rd and 4th Fiscal Years. The laws have created clarity on the definition of and selection criteria for depressed territories. And, without a doubt, the adoption of these laws will positively influence the development of economically depressed territories, the regions and local communities.
- The creation of the *Temporary Monitoring Committee (TMC) of Zakarpattia Regional Development Strategy until 2015* was approved by Decree of the Head of Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration on June 05, 2009. The main role of the TMC will be to develop a monitoring system as part of the implementation of Zakarpattia's Regional Development Strategy. The immediate task of the TMC, carried out during its first meeting, was to start the revision of the existing monitoring indicators of the Strategy.
- A number of small-scale projects, led by participants of the Project Management and Strategy Implementation Training (PMT) in Zaporizhzhia and Zakarpattia, made significant progress toward implementation:
 - *"Establishing a Hospice-type Institution Providing Palliative Care in Vynohradiv Rayon, Zakarpattia oblast" project results to date:* Project team consisting of 8 people has been recruited; a building for hospice was allocated by Vynohradiv Rayon Council (value of the building – 250,000 UAH, land parcel – 2,5 hectares, value – 3,5 million UAH); an agreement was reached with the Head Doctor of Lviv hospice on practical assistance during the starting period of the hospice in Vinogradiv rayon; through the Vynogradiv's Program for Development of Palliative and Hospice Care, 70,000 UAH were allocated from the rayon budget to conduct the project feasibility study.
 - *"Establishing a Tourism Information Centre for the Disabled People in Uzhhorod Rayon, Zakarpattia oblast" project results to date:* the NGO responsible for the project implementation was established and registered; premise for the Tourist Information Center has been located; necessary equipment has been purchased; organizational agreements have been reached with partners (22 cottages in Novoselytsya, Turia Pasika, Vyshka, Lazy, Korytnyany villages will be equipped to meet the needs of disabled people); financial contributions from project partners received to date: 13,000 UAH from Uzhgorod Rayon State Administration; and 10,000 UAH from Tourism Association for Disabled People "Vidrodzhennya".
 - *"Creation of Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled People in Irshava Rrayon, Zakarpattia oblast" project results to date:* the premise for rehabilitation center has been located; protocol on cooperation between the local authorities and municipal enterprise "Local Development Agency" engaged in project implementation has been signed; an application for funding has been submitted to the Carpathian Foundation.
 - *"Developing a Concept on Establishment of the Industrial Park with Logistical Elements «Bereg - Karpathy» on the Territory of Berehovo Rayon of Ukraine and Sobolch-Sotmar-Bereh Region of Hungary" project results to date:* the project concept has been approved by Berehivska Rayon State Administration.

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

- “Developing a Concept and Plan for Establishment of Euro-Integration Centre for the Development of Rakhiv Rayon called European Common Home” project results to date: Rakhiv City Council has formally decided to support the project implementation and allocated 50,000 UAH for reconstruction of the building provided to the center; decision of City Council of Szeget and Village Council of Desk (Hungary) to support the establishing of the centre and allocating the amount of 16,500 USD (127,050 UAH).
- In Zaporizhzhia, local businesses allocated a total of 1.4 mln. UAH and the oblast budget allocated a total of 1.3 mln. UAH for the implementation of small-scale projects developed as part of RGD's Project Management Training in Fiscal Years 4 and 5. In addition, 60 000 UAH were allocated in the Zaporizhzhia oblast budget to broadcast programming in support of local producers, as part of the “Strategy of the local producer support “Buy Zaporizhzhia Products – Choose ours!” project.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED:

In June 2009, the following specific activities took place:

- *June 1-3*, Zaporizhzhia oblast delegation, including Svitlana Kruhliak (Deputy Head of the Main Department of Economy, Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration), and Irina Lekh (RGD Regional Project Manager in Zaporizhzhia oblast) took part in the Fourth International Conference entitled “Development of Innovative Clusters within the Contemporary Economic Restructuring” in Sevastopol, Ukraine. Irina Lekh presented on the RGD Project and spoke specifically on the Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy development and implementation via the establishment of small-scale projects. Exemplifying RGD results and successes, she discussed three cluster-based projects: “Establishment of Bee-Keeping Cluster “Bees without Boundaries” in the City of Melitopol”, Local Producers’ Cluster “Buy Zaporizhzhia Products – Choose ours!” and “AgroBOOM” Innovative Technological Cluster. The conference participants showed great interest in Zaporizhzhia’s innovative approach to fostering regional economic development. Another significant topic of discussion was the draft resolution to be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Parliament to more quickly approve the *Concept of Clusters Policy in Ukraine*, which would require amendments to specific Ukrainian legislation.
- *June 4*, representative from the small-scale project “Establishing a Hospice-type Institution Providing Palliative Care in Vynohradiv Rayon” participated in the workshop “Economic, Medical and Humanistic Aspects of Palliative Care. Economic Aid Effectiveness to Incurably Sick - Belgium Experience” held in Kyiv. The objective of the workshop was to share international experiences in providing palliative and hospice care, including the cooperation between the state authorities and civil society, financial aspects of palliative and medical care for the incurably ill at home. This workshop benefited the project team significantly, not only in terms of gathering knowledge and gaining insight into palliative care outside of Ukraine, but it also provided a formidable opportunity for establishing new relationships and networks with specialists and experts in the field.
- *June 10-11*, the final module of the RGD Project Management and Strategy Implementation Training Program (PMT) took place in Zakarpattya. Representatives from six rayons and two towns presented and defended the proposals for 13 small-scale projects (ranging in costs from \$ 50 thousand UAH to \$ 6.3 million UAH) to a committee consisting of Heads of Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, Oblast Council, representatives of business and academia as well as RGD experts. Proposals presented meet the five strategic priorities of the Zakarpattya Regional Development Strategy: Human Development and Improving Quality of Life; Developing Competitive and Sustainable Economy; Expanding Cross-Border Cooperation; Developing Tourism; and Recreation and Health Resort Industries. Small-scale project teams were awarded two types of certificates: RGD Project certificate and certificate from the Zakarpattya Regional Center of Retraining and Skill Improvement for Public Officials, Local Authorities, State Enterprises, Institutions and Organizations.

The members of the defense committee provided extremely positive feedback to the project teams. Viktor Pogorelov, Head of the Economic Department of the Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, noted that all projects are very important and relevant for the oblast’s development. He was impressed with the documents prepared by each team to attract potential investors, consisting of comprehensive information, detailed budgets, and a team ready to implement the project. Also commenting on the successful defense of the projects, Vasyl Brenzovych, Deputy Head of the Zakarpattya Oblast Council, iterated that the authorities welcome the success of representatives from rayon administrations. According to Volodymyr Hoblyk, Deputy Head of the Zakarpattya Oblast State Administration, the PMT immensely benefited the

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

training participants. This is noticeable since some of the projects presented are already at the first stage of implementation while others have commenced the search for funding. In this respect, RGD Lead International Expert Duncan Leitch commented that the training program led by RGD experts provided opportunities to develop programmatic and financial documents as well as understand project management tools. Each project has also successfully considered community needs, as noted by RGD Gender Expert Marianna Kolodiy.

- *June 17*, RGD Experts Marianna Kolodiy and Svitlana Slava visited project teams in Irshava, Beregove, Vinogradovo and Uzhgorod rayons of Zakarpattia to consult and provide further support for the implementation of the projects. Marianna Kolodiy, RGD's Gender Expert, provided specific recommendations on how to integrate gender considerations into project activities. Svitlana Slava, RGD's Planning Expert, discussed how to search for funding as part of the first step leading to project implementation.
- *June 16*, final presentations and defense of small-scale projects developed through RGD's Project Management and Strategy Implementation Training (PMT) program were held in Zaporizhzhia. 23 projects, with a total budget of 30 mln UAH, were presented. They were positively received by the defense committee, including representatives from the Dnipropetrovs'k Regional Institute of National Academy for Public Administration. Oleksandr Sin, Deputy Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration (OSA), was sincerely impressed and found the success of the projects profound. The OSA's commitment to the project management approach was solidified by his announcement that training of public servants in Project Management in a future will be funded as part of the oblast's annual budget. It was also decided that information on all projects should be submitted to the OSA to be considered for budgetary inclusion, and that the most successful projects should be presented at the 3rd International Investment Forum to be held in October 2009.
- *June 18*, a Temporary Monitoring Committee (TMC) meeting was held in Zakarpattia, including representatives of local governments, the Main Department of Statistics, and members of the general public. The goal of the meeting was to discuss the TMC objectives; brainstorm relevant international models of monitoring systems; revise monitoring indicators for the Regional Development Strategy based on its compliance with strategic and operational goals; identify relevant sources of the data; as well as determine the format for presenting the monitoring results. The meeting resulted in the approval of a proposal to establish working groups on monitoring the five priorities of the Zakarpattia Regional Development Strategy.
- *June 22–23*, a collaborative workshop was held in Zaporizhzhia, co-hosted by the RGD Project, representatives of the Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration and the Zaporizhzhia Chamber of Commerce. The workshop focused on how to develop and attract innovative business ventures, an integral component to the Zaporizhzhia Regional Development Strategy. Drawing on their practical experience, a team of experts from the "InvestInRivne" project provided insight into the creation of investment advantages and favorable conditions in order to attract investors. Specifically, they found the internet to be a highly useful tool for locating potential investors. Following their own experience, experts cautioned participants to avoid overloading the website with too much information which deters investors' interests. Workshop participants included representatives from the local business community and oblast government, as well as participants of the RGD's Project Management and Strategy Implementation Training Program (PMT program) for whom the development of skills for investment attraction is now an important next step. The workshop ended up with a discussion which revealed the need for further training in investment attraction in the region. The "InvestInRivne" experts agreed to assist their colleagues in Zaporizhzhia in further training and sharing their experiences and knowledge.
- *June 26-27*, the workshop entitled "Successful Fundraising Fundamentals, Project Proposals Development and Project Management Practice" took place in city of Prymors'k, Zaporizhzhia oblast. The main goal of the workshop was to share knowledge and skills gained from RGD's PMT Program, with representatives of rayon state administrations, local self-governments and NGOs from the Azov Sea coastal territories of Zaporizhzhia oblast. The workshop focused on the application of a project management approach to implementing regional development strategies. More specifically, workshop participants gained insight into the following: defining problems and causes; analyzing alternative solutions and setting project objectives; elaborating project concept and logical framework; operational planning, including techniques and practical tools; the fundamentals of fundraising; as well as identifying project products and results. In addition, the workshop provided opportunities for participants to brainstorming ideas for projects as well as to develop first draft of project proposals. Some of the innovative ideas discussed were projects on alternative energy

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

development; tourism initiatives in Rozivs'ky rayon; waste processing enterprise in Prymors'k rayon; and a creative arts center for children in Berdyans'k rayon.

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