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**Canada-Ukraine Partnership Project for  
Regional Governance and Development (RGD)  
October 2009**

**Results Achieved**

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

A **number of small-scale projects** identified as strategic priorities, led by participants in the Project Management and Strategy Implementation Training (PMT) in Zaporizhzhia and Zakarpattia, continued to make significant progress toward full project implementation:

Svitlana Slava, RGD Regional Expert, held individual consultations with the small-scale project teams and informed them about the competition for small initiatives financing announced by the Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives. As a result, **“Establishing a hospice-type institution for providing palliative care in Vynohradiv rayon”** project team submitted the application to establish a training center for hospice staff for the amount of 68 540 UAH.

In Zaporizhzhia within the informational campaign on promoting cluster model of cooperation specialized TV-show with participation of clusters' initiators were broadcasted live by the local TV where the support from RGD Project and Zaporizhzhia OSA was highlighted.

**“Establishment of Beekeepers' Cluster “Bees without boundaries” in Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia oblast”** project team sent a letter to the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea suggesting to establish cross border cluster cooperation initiated by clusters' representatives from both oblasts.

**“Establishment of Innovative Technological Cluster “Agroboom” in Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia oblast” project:** Businesses-participants of the cluster participated at the international agricultural exhibition in Kazakhstan. Investment attraction activities are under way. Negotiations between the project management and the potential partner, Piero Pecorari, President of the SAI (agricultural machinery producing company) regarding the future cooperation were initiated. He represents interests of the small and medium enterprises of the city of Modena, Italy.

**Activities Completed**

The following specific activities took place in October 2009:

**On October 5 – 6 in Zaporizhzhia and on October 8 in Zakarpattia,** the workshop on “Building-up Regional Development Strategies Monitoring System and Evaluation Schedule” was held by Myroslava Lendel (RGD Expert, Ukraine) and Bohdan Wynnycky (RGD Expert, Canada). Myroslava Lendel introduced the main stages of evaluation, management structure, as well as evaluation plan development. The forms of establishing an independent and accountable institution responsible for monitoring, evaluation and results reporting was also presented. Bohdan Wynnycky introduced the Canadian experience of monitoring results application to the needs of regional development, and reporting to the public.

**On October 14,** the III International Investment Forum was held in Zaporizhzhia. Representatives of the Embassies of Finland, Korea, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, Belorussia and Uzbekistan as well as of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, other international financial institutions and donor organizations participated in the Forum. Among the Forum objectives were attraction of investments to the region in line with the innovation-investment priorities, providing representatives of the local businesses,

state and public enterprises with the most recent information regarding available lending resources, investment attraction opportunities and international technical assistance programs.

Among the priority areas of the Forum were:

- investment project implementation through the project management system and in accordance with international standards and requirements;
- establishment of the industrial parks/zones;
- establishment of industrial clusters;
- development of the project management system;
- improvement of the regulatory processes for investment operations and attracting investments to small and medium businesses.

Iryna Lekh, RGD Regional Project Manager for Zaporizhzhia oblast, presented the following projects developed within the RGD Project Management and Strategy Implementation (PMT) Training to potential investors: *“Establishment of Innovative Technological Cluster “Agroboom” in Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia oblast”, “Establishment of Beekeepers’ Cluster “Bees without boundaries” in Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia oblast”, Strategy of the Local Producer Support “Buy Zaporizhzhia Products – Choose ours!”*, *“Creation of the Investment Map of Zaporizhzhia oblast”*, *“Cleaning up the River Bed of the Molochna River”* and others.

**On October 20**, the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting of RGD project was held in Zaporizhzhia. The meeting was chaired by Oleksandr Sin, Deputy Governor of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration. Iryna Lekh, RGD Regional Project Manager for Zaporizhzhia oblast, presented RGD project activities in April 2009 to September 2009 as well as the activities planned for the period from October 2009 to March 2010. Among the most prominent RGD project achievements in this half of the fiscal year was the establishment of the Regional Development Agency and completion of the Project Management and Strategy Implementation (PMT) Training Program. Speaking about the project plans and taking into account that this is the final year of the project, Iryna Lekh underlined that the project activities will be concentrated on dissemination of the project results and supporting the small projects developed during the PMT training. It was also decided to send CIDA a request for RGD project extension in order to ensure greater sustainability of project achievements.

**On October 22**, Temporary Monitoring Committee (TMC) meeting, chaired by Viktor Pogorelov, Head of the Main Economic Department, Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration was held in Uzhgorod. Meeting participants reviewed and approved the procedure of information collection by the approved indicators and monitoring of the Regional Strategy implementation as well as the draft regulation "Approval of monitoring schemes for the Regional Development Strategy in Zakarpattia oblast until 2015".

**On October 22**, the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting of RGD project was held in Zakarpattia. Maria Popadynets, RGD Regional Project Manager for Zakarpattia, presented RGD project activities in April 2009 to September 2009 as well as the activities planned for the period from October 2009 to March 2010. She stressed that the RGD project is in its final stage and the activities carried out in cooperation with the Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration were aimed at supporting institutional capacity building at all levels, ensuring the role of working groups and public participation in the Regional Strategy implementation as well as sustainability of the project results. Speaking about the project results, she paid special attention to the PMT training program results. A number of small-scale projects developed during the PMT submitted their applications for financing to the EU Program "Regional Capacity Building Initiative" and to other donors for the total amount of 900 thousand EURO. *“Establishing a hospice-type institution for providing palliative care in Vynohradiv rayon”* project has already received 20 thousand EURO from the Netherlands Network of Charitable Foundations in Central and Eastern Europe (CNF-CEE).

**On October 22**, the roundtable discussion of the Tokmak City and Tokmak Rayon Joint Development Strategy was held. The discussion was focused on three projects developed within the PMT training program according to the regional strategic priorities. Two of these projects were developed in line with the environmental priority and are being implemented in close connection with each other. They are *“Development of the Tokmak Rayon Agricultural Sector through Improving the Irrigation System for Vegetable Production and Its Further Processing by the “Gora – Ukraine” Enterprise”* and *“Cleaning up the River Bed of the Molochna River”*. The discussion resulted in a joint decision to calculate economic value of the project implementation involving project staff, representatives of local businesses and academia. Oleksandr Sin, Deputy Governor of the Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration, committed to allocate some funds for implementation of these two important projects in the oblast budget.

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

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