

DESPRO NEWS

APRIL 2011

SWISS-UKRAINIAN
DECENTRALISATION SUPPORT PROJECT

Administrative-territorial reform towards the people. Meeting of the Expert and Advisory Council of the DESPRO Project



In the information field of Ukraine, one can increasingly hear the message about the need for decentralisation and administrative-territorial reform. And it is no wonder: the archaic management system and the flawed spatial planning in Ukraine hamper its economic and, consequently, social development. That is why, during a regular meeting of the Expert and Advisory Council of the DESPRO Project, which was held on 5 April 2011, the experts discussed the possibility of conducting the administrative-territorial reform in Ukraine and the concept of promoting the reform among the general public.

In order to successfully promote the reforms in the country, it is also necessary to raise awareness among the society for how these reforms might affect the lives of people, the economic development of the regions and so on. A large-scale educational campaign would ensure the awareness for this issue among both rural and urban residents. The DESPRO Project is ready to participate in developing and implementing the information campaign, in raising awareness among the representatives of mass media, local authorities, general public, as well as in continuing the nationwide dialogue on reforms.


The meeting was attended by Anatoliy Chemerys (DESPRO), Anatoliy Tkachuk (Civil Society Institute), Yuriy Hanushchak (expert on administration of territories), Igor Koliushko (Center for Political and Legal Re-

forms), Yuliya Molchanova (National Academy of Public Administration), Yevhen Fishko (National Association of Regional Development Agencies, NARDA-Ukraine), Valentyna Poltavets (Ukrayinka City Council), Viktor Parkhomenko (Association of Cities of Ukraine), Tetyana Andrusenko (DESPRO consultant), Oleksandr Lototsky (DESPRO consultant), Ihor Katernyak (NGO Ukrainian Distance Learning System), Oleksandr Goncharuk (Institute of Sociology of NASU), Olena Lokshyna (DESPRO consultant), Oksana Garnets (DESPRO) and others.

Background Information:

In 2010, the Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralisation Support Project in Ukraine DESPRO created the Expert and Advisory Council of the Project and invited the leading experts in the field of local self-government, regional development, public administration, information technologies etc.

The goal of the Council is to ensure transparency in the project activities and to consider expert and public opinion in the process of the DESPRO Project implementation. The main objectives of the Council experts are to prepare analytical materials in the field of regional policy, local self-government and decentralisation, to represent the interests of civil society in the DESPRO Project, to prepare proposals and recommendations for improving the regulatory legal acts etc.

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Швейцарсько-український проект •
Підтримка децентралізації в Україні

DESPRO

DESPRO is a Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralization Support to Ukraine project, funded by the Swiss Confederation through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by the Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development (Skat).

The mission of the project is optimizing the governance system and supporting efficient local development in Ukraine, thus creating new impetus for further democratization processes as well as for improvement in services supply at the community and municipal levels.

The project stipulates three phases: preparatory phase (years 2007-2009), consolidation phase (years 2010-2012) and completion phase.

Goal of the project phase I consisted in implementing decentralized services models at rayon, village and municipal levels.

Goal of the current project phase (II) - developing and implementing feasible mechanisms of decentralized public service delivery in pilot regions that are documented and taken up in the national decentralization reform process.

The tasks for project phase II

- Enhancing quality and availability of the services in the target rayons based on participatory planning and decision-making.
- Introducing efficient models for best practices/knowledge management in decentralization processes and local self-governance to increase local capacities.
- Supporting nation-wide reform process in decentralization and local self-governance.

DESPRO project operates at the national level, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, in Vinnytsya and Sumy oblasts.

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The process of strategic planning of the municipal solid waste integrated management is going on in Tulchyn rayon, Vinnytsya oblast



During its second phase, the Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralization Support Project in Ukraine (DESPRO), in addition to water-supply sector, also supports local projects related to municipal solid waste management. In one of the target rayons of the project - Tulchyn rayon in Vinnytsya oblast, the process of strategic planning of the municipal solid waste (MSW) integrated management started in March this year.

As a part of this process, a meeting of the Local working group was held on 11 April 2011. Besides the organizational issues, the working group members discussed a plan for analyzing the morphological composition of waste. Findings of the research conducted in Tulchyn will form the basis for calculating the regional model of waste collection, processing and recycling. At the meeting they also analyzed and reviewed all stakeholders in the region who are related to waste treatment. The most influential 'players' included local authorities and inspection

agencies. Though, the level of business participation is still insignificant. At the same time, the population is classified as both the most important and the most influential party for the Project. This suggests that the development of the MSW treatment system will be implemented based on local communities.

Synchronizing donor efforts: a meeting of the international partners of the National Academy of Public Administration under the Office of the President of Ukraine



The coordination meeting of the international partners of the National Academy of Public Administration under the Office of the President of Ukraine (hereinafter - NAPA) was held April 19, 2011 in Kyiv.

The meeting aimed at discussing the prospects of further cooperation of the international organizations with NAPA in the area of improving civil servants' educational level, as well as at the synchronization and coordination of donor efforts in this field. The meeting participants presented the projects and the results of cooperation with the Academy.

Oksana Garnets, Senior Project Coordinator of the Decentralization Support to Ukraine Project (DESPRO) noted that an important task of the second phase of activities is the integration of positive experience of the Project in the activities of authorities at all levels. "On the basis of the National Academy

of Public Administration and together with the UNDP Project "Municipal Governance and Sustainable Development Programme", we are introducing training courses on decentralization and effective local government for local government officials, civil servants and deputies of local councils. Our goal is to develop, implement and institutionalize these programs,"- emphasized Oksana Garnets. She mentioned that as a result of the trainings, workshops and study tours organized by the DESPRO Project, more than 500 representatives of public authorities improved their knowledge level. Besides, in collaboration with NAPA, the DESPRO Project is developing an information portal for local government officials and civil servants. Currently, the electronic resource is 'under construction' at the stage of content fill-in. Oksana Garnets informed the international partners that the DESPRO Project was planning to organize Knowledge Management training courses for NAPA faculty members and to implement similar courses in the 'Public Administration' field of education among the regional institutes of the Academy.

Among the international partners of NAPA, there were representatives of GIZ Project "Improvement of quality of municipal services" Project, the EU Twinning project "Support to the development and improvement of the civil servants training system in Ukraine", Ukrainian-Canadian Capacity Building Project "Evidence based economic planning of municipal development of Ukraine", "Forum of young civil servants" Project, and the Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralization Support to Ukraine Project (DESPRO).