

Decentralization in Ukraine

Monthly newsletter



This monthly newsletter is a brief overview of Ukrainian authorities' work on implementation of Reform #1 in Ukraine.

Local Budgets Continue to Grow

Over the period of January to May 2018, the revenues of the general fund of all local budgets in Ukraine (net of inter-budgetary transfers) totalled UAH 107.7 billion. In comparison with the same period of 2017, the revenues increased by UAH 20.7 billion or by 23.8%.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

755 Projects on Regional Development in the Amount of UAH 5.8 Billion are Approved

On 11 May 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the second list of investment programmes and projects on regional development that would be funded from the State Fund for Regional Development in 2018. Those are 288 projects in the amount of UAH 1.8 billion allocated in the State Fund for Regional Development.

Overall, 755 projects have been already approved, in the aggregate amount of UAH 5.8 billion.

The total amount of financing of the State Fund for Regional Development for 2018 is UAH 6 billion.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

The Ministry of Regional Development Published Updated Monitoring Data on the Decentralisation

On 10 July 2018, the Ministry of Regional Development published monthly monitoring data on the decentralisation of power and local self-government reforming process, which monitoring showed the indicators for June 2018.

As before, the most dynamic indicator of the monitoring is the number of communities that have taken the advantage of the inter-municipal cooperation mechanism. For the previous month, additional 51 communities, by having combined their resources, began to address matters that are important for the development of territories. Hence, at present, more than 860 communities have been jointly implementing 199 agreements in the areas of solid waste management, water supply and sanitation, security, social, administrative services, etc.

The monitoring also shows that 665 amalgamated territorial communities have, within a very limited time period of two months, prepared and approved projects almost for the entire amount of the government grant for infrastructure, which amount totals UAH 1.9 billion this year.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

The Terms of Submission of Projects to be Financed from the State Fund for Regional Development have Changed

On 18 July 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a resolution whereby it improved approaches to the preparation, assessment and selection of investment programs and projects on regional development that would be implemented for the account of funds of the State Fund for Regional Development.

The resolution determines the minimum estimated cost of a project in the amount of UAH 5 million for construction, and UAH 1 million for other projects.

It will allow implementing large-scale regional development projects aimed at addressing the issues of development of territories in a comprehensive manner, in particular, new construction.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

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Communities will Obtain Additional Land

On 10 July 2018, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding the Solution of Collective Ownership of Land Issue, Improvement of Land Use Rules for Blocks of Agricultural Lands, Prevention of Illegal Takeover and Facilitation of Irrigation in Ukraine" (No. 6049).

The Law provides, in particular, that the lands owned by agricultural enterprises which have terminated their operations shall be owned by communities in the territory of which such lands are located.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

Draft Law on New Principles of Administrative-Territorial System of Ukraine has been Prepared for Parliamentary Voting

On 11 July 2018, the Parliamentary Committee on State-Building, Regional Policy and Local Self-Government recommended that the Verkhovna Rada adopt draft law "On Principles of Administrative-Territorial System of Ukraine" in the first reading.

The draft law determines, within the framework of the applicable Constitution, principles on which the administrative-territorial system of Ukraine should be based but it does not change it.

In particular, the draft law defines the administrative-territorial system, administrative-territorial entities and levels thereof, population centres and categories thereof, determines the procedure for establishment, liquidation, setting and changing boundaries, of administrative-territorial entities and population centres, etc.

The draft law specifies, in particular, that the system of administrative-territorial entities shall remain to be a three-level one. In this connection, it is stipulated that the Rayon (District) level should be arranged in a better way so to be in line with the European standards.

In addition, the draft law determines more precisely the notion of the "community" as an administrative-territorial entity of the basic level comprising one or more population centres including lands outside the boundaries thereof.

As it is known, the matters pertaining to the administrative-territorial system in Ukraine are governed so far by the Procedure approved as far back as in 1981 by a Decree of the Presidium of the Verkhovna Rada of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. That document is not in line with the applicable Constitution of Ukraine.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

251 Amalgamated Territorial Communities have Already Received Agricultural Lands

251 out of the 665 amalgamated territorial communities have already obtained ownership of lands outside the boundaries of population centres. In total, 387 thousand hectares of agricultural land have been already transferred to communities.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

The U-LEAD with Europe Programme Continues to Assist Communities with the Establishment of ASCs

In July, they began to accept applications from communities for the participation in the Implementation Phase of the U-LEAD with Europe Programme. The participants of the Programme will obtain assistance in the establishment and modernisation of up to 600 administrative service centres by 2020.

The Implementation Phase comprises four rounds, with the involvement of up to 150 participants in each such round.

Communities may file their applications until 31 August.

Communities having 5,000 to 50,000 residents may participate in Round 2 of the Programme.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

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First 310 Projects on Construction of New Ambulance Stations in Rural Areas are Approved

On 31 July 2018, by its Order, the Ministry of Regional Development approved the first 310 projects of state-of-the-art ambulance stations to be constructed in rural areas in 15 regions of Ukraine. Those projects will be implemented for the account of the government grant for development of rural health care.

The ambulance stations will be constructed throughout the entire territory of Ukraine. The new system of primary care was formed in accordance with the methodology developed by the Ministry of Regional Development jointly with the Ministry of Health and it provides for the construction of 505 state-of-the-art ambulance stations.

The total amount of the government grant from the state budget to local budgets for the implementation of measures aimed at the development of the health care system in rural areas totals UAH 5.0 billion.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

DESPRO Project Helped to Create a Budget Calculator to Determine Capacity of a Would-Be ATC

In July, the bundled software "Calculating tool for the computation of financial capacity of a prospective amalgamated territorial community" started to operate, which software was developed with the assistance of the DESPRO Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralisation Support Project in Ukraine on the order of the Ministry of Regional Development.

The software allows simulating the budget of a would-be amalgamated territorial community based on forecast indicators for villages, towns, and cities that have adopted a decision to establish an amalgamated territorial community or accede to an existing one.

The calculator is already being used by Oblast State Administrations and experts of regional Centres of Local Self-Government Development established with the assistance of the U-LEAD with Europe Programme.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

The First Regional Best Practices of Local Self-Government Reform Competition in accordance with the Methodology of the Council of Europe has Started

On 19 July 2018, the Donetsk Oblast State Administration and the Oblast Military and Civil Administration initiated the first regional competition "Best Practices of Local Self-Government".

The competition is carried out in accordance with the methodology of the Council of Europe and with the assistance of the Council of Europe's "Decentralisation and Local Self-Government Reform in Ukraine" Programme.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

The DESPRO Project Shared its Plans for the Future

On 20 July 2018, there was held a meeting of the Supervisory Board of the DESPRO Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralisation Support Project in Ukraine. During the meeting, the Project performance results for the period of July 2017 through June 2018 were considered, as well as new kinds of activity during Phase IV - until 2020.

The Project plans to continue informational and educational activities, as well as work with the amalgamated communities in Vinnytsia, Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Luhansk, Poltava, and Sumy Oblasts.

The Project will provide assistance to communities to improve the provision of communal services thereby and the long range planning thereof.

SOURCE: [DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER WEB-SITE](#)

Press center of Government Initiative "["Decentralization of Power"](#)

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