

Monthly Flash Report

November 2019



The Purpose of this report is to sum-up the activities, services and products delivered by the Project in November 2019

Fiscal Decentralisation

- Project experts provided comments to the Ministry of Regional Development on the criteria of sustainability for the amalgamated hromadas.
- Expert of the National Office of Reforms, Igor Gerasymchuk, carried out the following activities in November:
 - Range of analyses of the local government financial data (both revenues and expenditures) comparing data for 9 months of 2018 and 2019 with key indicators. Analysis was coupled with development of graphic materials to showcase the results.
 - Participation in the preparation of the monthly brochure "[Monitoring the process of decentralization of power and reform of local self-government](#)" with indicators for 9 months of 2018 and 2019 including new diagrams and information.
 - Participation in the preparation of the [analysis of local budgets for 9 months of 2019](#).
 - Preparation of [materials on certain indicators of implementation of local budgets of 806 AHs](#) for the 9 months of 2019 (preparation of text and graphic materials comparing hromadas based on their size of population).

Decentralisation of Education

Work on national level

- During November 2019, the work of the education team focused on:
 - Finalisation of an electronic (MS Excel based) "Simulator" tool for allocation of the Education Subvention from state to local budgets for the final reading of the state budget by the Parliament (state budget was adopted on 14 November):
 - Final verification of data to be used in the allocation process for the Education Subvention for 2020
 - Conducting analytical work on structure, composition and payments of teacher salaries.
 - On the job training for the team of the Ministry of Education and the Institute of Education Analytics responsible for the performance monitoring of the use of Education Subvention by local governments.
 - Consulting MES, MinRegion and AATC on possible approaches to calculation of "social normatives" and standards.
 - Senior education expert elaborated and submitted to the MES leadership the analytical paper on Strategic questions regarding teacher salaries in Ukraine.
 - The GIS expert team was working on mapping of networks of all education related infrastructure (kindergartens, schools, vocational schools etc.) across Ukraine (24 oblasts) and preparation of the database for further modeling of optimization scenarios in future OTHs. The modeling methodology is being developed by MES with project support.

Decentralisation of Education

Work on local and regional level

- [Implementation of the Project's strategy for supporting hromadas with the establishment of effective education management framework continued through the following activities:](#)
- 6 November - project expert Ayder Seytosmanov took part in joint MES and Parliament Committee working group on creation of profile education in Ukraine
- 13 November – project experts joined the training organised by the DOBRE project for the education managers of Novoukrainska Hromada (Kharkivska oblast) on education strategy elaboration.
- 21 November – project experts took part in the training on education management for the hromadas of Luhanska oblast. The event was organised by the U-LEAD project.
- 26 November - experts took part in the donor working group meeting on education decentralisation.
- During November experts worked on practical recommendations on methodological services in hromadas. The recommendations are based on the best practices collected from hromadas.
- By the end of November, the online platform of best practices on education management contained 68 practices on effective management of education on local level. One new practice was added to the database from Horodotska hromada (Khmelnyska oblast) on creation of the education management unit. Each good practice record contains a description of the practice, analysis of the problem it aims to resolve, approach taken and results achieved, as well as description of risks, relevant regulatory and legal acts developed by the hromadas. Since the launch of the platform it has been visited 1 003 426 times. All best practices can be downloaded from wiki.sklinternational.org.ua
- Experts continued to work on two new best practices on education management. One will sum up the experience of Horodotska hromada with establishing a supportive educational institution. The second one concerns the experience of Slavuta hromadas regarding profile education.
- Project experts also took part in the work of the Parliamentary Committee on Education and contributed to the work on the new law on secondary education.
- Project experts also took part in the selection of the good practices under the Council of Europe and MinRegion competition.

Support to the Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities (AATC)

- The extraordinary Congress of the Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities was held on 25 November, with the organisational and expert support of the SKL International. The heads of the communities, representatives of the central authorities, international organisations and partners came together to discuss the achievements of the first three years of work of the Association and to assess the challenges and current tasks facing the local government reforms and the decentralization process. During the Congress, the [results and the future strategy of the Association on the way to building a strong local government of new territorial communities was summarised.](#)
- During the congress, a new thematic platform of the AATC - on "Rural development" was established.
- During November the meetings of the Association's regional divisions took place in all 24 oblasts. The current issues affecting hromada development were discussed.
- On 5 November, the Association's Representatives held the working meeting with the Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine, Yulia Sokolivska. The participants agreed to establish a dedicated consultation working group on the draft legislative acts development.
- On 7-8 November, the planning session of the future cooperation between the SALAR and the Association was held in Stockholm.

- On 19 November, the Association, in cooperation with DESPRO project, organised the discussion on the new indicators for determining the hromadas' capacity and the completion of the hromadas' amalgamation process in the Lviv oblast.
- On 20 November, a meeting was held between the Prime Minister of Ukraine Olexiy Goncharuk and the members of the Council and the Board of the ATC's Association. [The following issues were discussed:](#) reform of the rayons, elections in 2020 on a new territorial basis, the resource base for communities, the formation of effective infrastructure in order to provide education, health care, social and other services.
- On 29 November, the meeting with the representatives of the LOGICA project was held. The development of the online course for hromada accountants was discussed.
- On 28 November, Chairman of the ATC Association, Oleksandr Korinnyi, took part in the Forum "Effective Local Self-Government as a guarantee of a Democratic and Legal State" in Kramatorsk.
- On 29 November, the Association was registered as an [All-Ukrainian Association of local self-government](#).

COMMUNICATION

Promoting decentralisation reform

- Promoting decentralisation reform
- Project's Communication expert worked on the following tasks:
 - Administration of the Facebook group for education practitioners
 - Communication support of the preparation of the IV Regional Forum on professional training of the education managers and teachers in hromadas in Davydivska hromada of Lvivska oblast.
 - Preparation of the article on the report: Sub-national Governance Reform and Local Government Finance in Ukraine: 2014-2018 for the <https://decentralization.gov.ua/>
- Working on the preparation of the ToT for the education managers on optimisation Game
- Videos on best practices and success stories from hromadas
- Update of the fiscal decentralisation section on project's website
- Communication support of the Congress of the Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities which was held on 25 November

Project communication

- Continuous updates to the [Project's website](#) and [Facebook page](#).
- Project's communication expert regularly took part in the meeting of the communication working group, and in the donor coordination task force responsible for communication of the decentralisation reform. The new Communication Strategy of the Decentralisation reform 2020-2022 was elaborated, and the work on action plan continues.