

# Monthly Flash Report

## December 2019



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

### Fiscal Decentralisation

- Project experts presented the report: Subnational Governance Reform and Local Government Finance in Ukraine: 2014-2018, to the Rada Sub-committee for Local Self-governance.
- Project experts met with Deputy Finance Minister, Gennadiy Plis, to discuss possible support with review of the sub-national financial equalization system in Ukraine.
- Project experts met with Deputy Minister of Finance, Yuriy Dzygyr, to discuss the current status of reforms in the areas of education, health and social welfare.
- Expert of the National Office of Reforms, Igor Gerasymchuk, carried out the following activities in December:
  - Range of analyses of the local government financial data (both revenues and expenditures) comparing data for 10 months of 2018 and 2019 with key indicators. Analysis was usually 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 10 months of 2018 and 2019 including new diagrams and information.
- Participation in the OECD seminar on the Ten guidelines for effective decentralisation conducive to regional development.
- Following the task of the Prime-Minister of Ukraine and the request by MinRegion the Project supported a comprehensive exercise including:
  - Mapping of the existing network of public service institutions.
  - Design of the methodology and testing of optimization models based on the future administrative-territorial units (capable OTHs and new Rayons).
  - Collection of feedback from all regional state administrations on prospective public service delivery network and public service related infrastructure.

### Decentralisation of Education

#### Work on national level

- During December 2019, the work of the education team focused on:
  - Finalization 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.
  - Final verification of data to be used in the allocation process for the Education Subvention for 2020.
  - 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.
- Consulting MES, MinRegion and AATC on possible approaches to calculation of "social normatives" and standards.
- Senior expert on Education has elaborated and submitted to MES leadership the following analytical paper:
  - SN 116 - Changes in Networks of Secondary Schools in Ukraine.

## 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:
- 3-4 December – holding the IV Regional Forum on "Post-qualifying education. From Templates to Successful Changes" in Davydivska hromada of Lvivska oblast with the support of Solidarity Fund PL in Kyiv.
- On 11 December Project experts participated in donor coordination meeting on education.
- By the end of December, the online platform of best practices on education management contained 73 practices on effective management of education on local level. Five new practices were added to the database:
- Implementation of profile training: experience of Slavutska hromada, Khmelnytska oblast.
- Recognition and reward: practice of motivation of employees from Davydivska hromada, Lvivska oblast.
- Hub School is a pillar of educational changes! Establishment of hubschools: the practice of Horodotska hromada, Khmelnytska oblast.
- Elections of school directors: experience of Davydivska hromadas, Lvivska oblast.
- Methodological support in the conditions of decentralisation reform implementation – experience of Davydivska hromada, Lvivska oblast.

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 1 006 576 times. All best practices can be downloaded from [wiki.sklinternational.org.ua](http://wiki.sklinternational.org.ua).

## Support to the Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities (AATC)

- The representatives of the AATC took part in the consultations on perspective plans of the ATC's formation in Zakarpatska, Cherkasska, Kyivska, Sumska, Kharkivska, Lvivska, Rivnenska, Poltavska, Kirovogradska and Zhytomyrska oblasts. The consultations were organized by the Ministry of Regional Development, in cooperation with the Subcommittee on the Administrative and Territorial Structure of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on the Organization of State Power, Local Self-government, Regional Development and Urban Planning.
- On 5 December on the basis of Davydivska hromada, Lvivska oblast, AATC, with the support of the Project, held a meeting of the AATC Lviv regional branch. The focus of the meeting was the education reform. The Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Lyubomyra Mandziy participated in the discussion.
- During December, Project experts worked together with the AATC on launch of the Rural Development Platform. The main principles of the "rural development" concept were discussed, preliminary measures for the development of the future Platform were formed, candidates for the Platform members were proposed.
- Project experts, together with the AATC management and thematic platform moderators, worked on plans for 2020.
- On 18 and 24 December, AATC presented the position of its members on the amendments to the Constitution, the formation of perspective plans, community amalgamations and further development of the Association at the briefing in the Ukrainian crisis media center:
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3FB>
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3FH>
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3Gp>
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3Gu>
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3GC>
- <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3Gx>
- The draft Law on Associations of Local Self-governments that was prepared by AATC was registered in the Verkhovna Rada.
- The AATC experts took part in the following events and meetings:
- On 2 December, the Forum on state's social

policy.

- On 3 December, the conclusion of the journalism contest organized by the Ministry of Regional Development and the Council of Europe on the decentralization reform.
- On 3 December, the IT-solutions forum for communities.
- On 4 December, the awarding of the LSG's best practices contest organized by the Ministry of Regional Development and the Council of Europe on the decentralization reform.
- On 4 December, the presentation of the "Action Plan" of the Ministry of Community and Territory Development.
- On 5 December, the meeting with the Minister of Health on topical issues of medical reform, meeting with the specialists of the NSZU (Health Service).
- On 5 December, presentation of the LOGICA project.
- On 10 December, the seminar of the Aspen Institute on decentralization.
- On 10 December, Round table "Climate is us"
- On 16 December, meeting with the management of the DOBRE program on further cooperation.
- On 16 December, round table of the Parliamentary Committee on administrative procedure.

## 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/) <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.
  - Working on the banner and the new section of the Project's web site which now contains all materials from the Fiscal report presentation.
  - On 9 December, project representatives took part in the meeting of the donor coordination working group on gender equality.
  - On 13 December, project took part in the U-LEAD event on progress and perspectives of the local self-government reform in Ukraine. Inputs of fiscal experts' work was used in the discussions on LSG finances.
  - On 13 December, project took part in the Donor Board meeting.

### 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 continuing.