

# Monthly Flash Report

## January 2020



The Purpose of this report is to sum-up the activities, services and products delivered by the Project in January 2020

### Fiscal Decentralisation

- On 24 January, project expert Tony Levitas presented the international experience of municipal fiscal equalisation and possible approaches to changes in Ukraine to the colleagues from MinFin and state oblast administrations at an event organized by the Ukrainian Ministry of Finance.
- On 24 January, project expert Tony Levitas met with the Swedish Ambassador and representatives of Sida in Kyiv to discuss the latest developments in the field of fiscal decentralisation in Ukraine.
- Project experts continued cooperation with the Ministry of Finance on municipal financial equalisation, with two meetings held in January.
- Expert of the National Office of Reforms, Igor Gerasymchuk, carried out the following activities in January:
  - Range of analyses of the local government financial data (both revenues and expenditures) comparing data for 11 months of 2018 and 2019 with key indicators. Analysis was usually coupled with development of graphic materials to showcase the results.
  - Analysis of the distribution of additional subsidies for education and medicine by regional state administrations in local budgets in 2020.
  - Participation in the preparation of the monthly brochure "Monitoring the process of decentralization of power and reform of local self-government" with indicators for 11 months of 2018 and 2019 including new diagrams and information.
  - Support to development and application of software "Calculation of financial capacity of perspective AHs".
  - Preparation of analysis of the legislation of Ukraine regarding the single tax, individual taxpayer numbers and the approach to collection of personal income tax.
  - Preparation of analytical materials on excise duty on fuel in 806 AHs for the 11 months of 2019.

### Decentralisation of Education Work on national level

- During January 2020, the work of the education decentralisation team focused on:
  - Guidance and support to the MES with introduction of the most recent student data in the education subvention allocation mechanism.
  - Update of an electronic (MS Excel based) "Simulator" tool for allocation of the Education Subvention from State to local budgets to accommodate the transition of data use.
  - Finalisation of analysis of the aggregated education subvention transfers across treasury accounts of all sub-national actors.
  - Finalisation of the analytical paper describing Changes in Networks of Secondary Schools in Ukraine over 2017-2019.
  - Establishment of the new direction of work on analytical support to MES in design of the structure, composition and approaches to the salary reform of pedagogical staff.
- 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.
- On 24 January meeting of Ambassador of Sweden to Ukraine with Minister of Education Anna Novosad on Swedish cooperation with Ukraine developing education in hromadas.
- Senior expert on Education prepared and submitted to MES leadership the following analytical papers:
  - [SN 116 - Changes in Networks of Secondary Schools in Ukraine.](#)

## Decentralisation of Education

### Work on local and regional level

- Due to closure of the 2014-2019 project and work with education support on local and regional level, project experts were:
- Working on transferring the online platform of best practices on education management to the AATC.
- Finalising the work on methodological recommendations on school autonomy from the II Regional Forum on School Autonomy. Regional Forums have been a joint initiative of the Project and the Solidarity Fund PL in Kyiv. You can find the publications from all Regional forums on our web-page, in the section "Library" - <http://sklin-international.org.ua/ua/library/>.
- Communication campaign on the results of the work on local and regional levels continues on the Project's Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/SKLInternational.org.ua/>.
- On 24-25 January - Project expert participated in training for online course "SDG in PA and LSG management" UN&GIZ event.

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

- Representatives of the AATC took part in the consultations on perspective plans of the ATC formation in Zaporizhia, Donetsk, Lugansk, Vinnytsia, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Chernihiv, Volyn, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Odesa, Kirovograd, Volyn, Zhytomyr, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Poltava oblasts organised by the MinRegion, in cooperation with the Sub-committee on the Administrative and Territorial Division of the Committee on State Building, Local Governance, Regional and Urban Development.
- AATC prepared and presented its position on amendments to the Constitution, the formation of perspective plans, community amalgamation and further development of the Association:
  - <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3K7>.
  - <https://wp.me/p9LVVV-3Li>.
- On 15 January, the joint meeting of the Association's Board and Council took place. Members of the Board presented reports on the work of thematic and sectoral platforms in 2019. During the meeting it was agreed to conduct annual external financial audit of the AATC. 15 new amalgamated territorial communities joined the AATC. Experts of the Swedish-Ukrainian Project presented recommendations on expert platforms work improvement.
- On 16 January, first meeting of the Rural Development platform was held. Project experts presented the concept of "Sustainable rural development and experience of the European countries".
- On 29 January, AATC signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Department of Labor and Environmental Protection of the Kiev National University of Construction and Architecture.
- Project experts assisted the AATC in developing thematic platform activity plans for 2020.
- Project experts worked on framework for cooperation between the Project, the AATC leadership, executive office and regional branches of the Association.
- **Communication:**
  - The digests covering the activities of the Association can be found at - <https://wp.me/P9LVVV-1Gk>.
  - The Facebook page, Association's official web-site, the "The best practices" web-site are continuously updated <https://wiki.hromady.org/>.
  - General report on the activities of the AATC in 2019 for the General Assembly was prepared.
- **The AATC experts took part in the following events and meetings:**
  - On 21 January, meeting with the Coordinator of Swiss Development Cooperation on the partnership in a new project in the sphere of educational services in ATC.
  - On 22 January, Oleksandr Korinny, Chairperson of the AATC, took part in the meeting of the partners of the UNICEF initiative «Community friendly to children and youth».
  - On 24 January, presentation of the LOGICA project's results.

## COMMUNICATION

### Promoting decentralisation reform

- Promoting decentralisation reform.
- Project's Communication expert worked on the following tasks:
  - Administration of the [Facebook group](#) for education practitioners, Viber groups of regional teams of education managers.
  - [Communication campaign on finalisation of the education work in regions.](#)

### 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.
- 4th [Quarterly newsletter of 2019.](#)
- In January 2020 Project entered a new 3-year phase with the focused on:
  - Fiscal decentralisation.
  - Decentralisation in the field of education.
  - Support of the Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities, and
  - Support to the Parliamentary Committees.