

# Swedish-Ukrainian Project

## Support to Decentralisation in Ukraine

### 2020-2022



# Monthly Flash Report

May 2021

## Fiscal Decentralisation

### In May, the Fiscal Decentralisation team worked on the following tasks:

- On 12 May, Finance team participated in the meeting of the MinFin's WG on Local Budgets
- Finance team held meetings with MinRegion and MinFin to discuss the Presidential Decree and the ways PIT place of collection can be addressed.
- On 17 May, Project expert Tony Levitas held a presentation on PIT place of collection to the Rada Committee on State Building, Local Governance, Regional and Urban Development
- On 19 May, project experts met with the Deputy Minister of Finance to discuss the PIT place of collection
- In May, Project expert Tony Levitas started work on an article on PIT place of collection issue
- The work on the study on PIT place of collection was continued by the experts of the Kyiv School of Economics, contracted by the project

### Project experts placed in the Reform Support Office worked on:

- Compilation and analysis of financial indicators of local revenues for the first three months of 2021 and comparison of this information with the situation in 2020
- Preparation of indicators for assessing the financial potential of hromadas and methods of calculating the integrated indicator of financial capacity at the request of the Ministry of Regional Development.
- [Preparing data on 6 indicators of financial capacity of 1468 hromadas for the first quarter of 2021 for the information-analytical portal upon request of the Ministry of Regional Development](#)
- Development of materials for the open dialogue meetings on formation of hromadas in Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Mykolaiv oblasts
- Preparation of information on the balances of rayon budgets, and on deposits on rayon accounts as of 1 May 2021
- Participation in the preparation of amendments to the Tax Code.
- Ongoing support to MinRegion with analyses, opinions, reports, participation in working groups and drafting materials for meetings of high level officials:
  - Preparation of responses to inquiries and appeals,
  - Providing expert opinion on draft law № 5386 ("On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine on the peculiarities of land tax collection and rent for land plots that are under operational management, economic management")
  - Drafting a letter to the Office of the President of Ukraine on the financing of rayon state administrations
  - Providing ad hoc reports on finances in different oblasts / hromadas / rayons

# Decentralisation of Education

## During May 2021, the work of the education decentralisation team focused on:

- Support to the work of the intergovernmental Working Group on elaboration of amendments to the allocation formula of the education subvention for 2022
  - analytical notes
    - SN 125 Large Cities in the Allocation Formula for Education Subvention: Policy Options
    - SN 126 Policy Options for Large Table of Normative Class sizes
- Presentation of the [“Individual subvention statements”](#) - an information toolkit for local self-governments containing the information on education subvention allocations and on the main parameters used for calculation of the allocations
- [Publication “Teacher salaries in Poland, Estonia and Lithuania” finalised and posted on project’s web-page”](#)
- Policy advice to MES and the Institute of Education Analytics regarding the development and implementation of statistical data collection
- [On 27 May, Project experts held the presentation of the online repository of the products and resources related to education management in local self-governments. The repository shall support the capacity building of the local self-government employees](#)
- On 18 May, project experts took part in the education sector donor coordination meeting

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

- With the support of the project, the AATC held the [Regional Week of Zakarpattia oblast on 18-21 May](#). Meetings of thematic platforms, heads of hromadas and executive managers were held. Professional networks were launched
- On 31 May [with the support of the project, the AATC launched the regional week in Poltava](#) oblast
- An informal meeting with hromada heads - A Coffee with the Mayors - was organised on 25 May to discuss strategic and foresight issues related to decentralisation of education
- On 25 May, Valentyna Poltavets, Executive Director of AATC, [presented the position of the Association at the All-Ukrainian Forum "Ukraine 30. Agro"](#)
- The project continues to support the regional activities of the Association. Meetings of Zakarpattia, Poltava, Mykolayiv regional branches of the AATC were held during May
- On 6, 17 and 24 May, representatives of the AATC took part in a joint meeting of the All-Ukrainian Associations of Local Self-Government Bodies and the Working Group on Legal Reform under the President of Ukraine (subgroup on amendments to the Constitution)
- On 11 May, representatives of the Association took part in a meeting of the Advisory Council on Local Self-Government under the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada
- On 13 May, representatives of the Association took part in the meeting of the Interdepartmental Working Group on the preparation of a new version of the Law of Ukraine "On Service in Local Self-Government Bodies"
- On 19 May, representatives of the AATC took part in a meeting of the Committee on the Organization of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning

## Project's support to the work of the thematic platforms of the Association

- **In the framework of the Association's Legal platform:**
  - [Meeting with the presentation of the Platform "Legislation for ATC" in the framework of the Transcarpathian Regional Week](#) on 19 May, the formation of a group of hromada lawyers
  - Preparation, organisation and holding of an online seminar - "[Starosta. Development of the institute of starostas - a new law](#)" (in format of questions and answers) on 13 May
  - Preparation, organisation and holding of an online seminar - "[Cooperation of ATC. Application practice](#)" (in format of questions and answers) on 26 May
  - Providing consultations to members of the Association on legal and organisational issues of the new local government
  
- **Within the framework of the Association's platform "Local budgets and finances":**
  - Meeting with finance managers of territorial communities of Zakarpattia region in the framework of the "Regional Week" [on 20 May](#)
  - Holding a meeting of the platform "Local budgets and finances" to discuss proposals for changes to the formula for the distribution of the educational subvention: discussion of proposals, determining the position of the Association on this issue, on 7 May
  - Conducting a working meeting to prepare a final position on improving the formula for the distribution of educational subventions
  - Participation in the meeting of the working group of the Ministry of Education and Science on improving the formula for the distribution of the educational subvention, presentation of the position of the Association
  - [Participation](#) in the meeting of the Commission for evaluation and selection of investment programs and regional development projects that can be implemented at the expense of the State Fund for Rural Development, on 19 May
  - Participation in the meeting of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Taxes on draft laws on personal income tax, [formation of the position of the Association](#), on 19 May
  
- **In the framework of the Association's Gender platform:**
  - [Two success cases of integrating gender approaches into hromada activities and on implementation of gender initiatives](#) recorded and presented on AATC website
  - [An article on "We honor mothers and achieve the goals of sustainable development of the United Nations" prepared for the AATC website on the occasion of Mother's Day in Ukraine](#)
  - Monitoring of websites and Facebook pages of hromadas - AATC members on gender sensitivity of its communication. Internet resources of 100 hromadas analyzed. Targeted consultations provided to two hromadas to eliminate gender stereotyped content from their web-sites
  - On 17 May an [article on "How to make our online resources better and more successful and gender sensitive" prepared for the AATC website, based on monitoring' results. Article with recommendations how to increase gender sensitivity of communication is under preparation](#)
  - [An information session "Gender Policy of the Association: how we can be useful to communities" was held at the regional week of AATC in Zakarpattia](#)
  - An algorithm of AATC work with hromadas to promote signing of the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local life been developed; a letter drafted to the Secretariat of the Observatory Council of European Municipalities and Regions with a proposal for cooperation from AATC; a corresponding article prepared for the AATC website
  - Preparatory work for the Council of Europe and the Ukrainian School of Government training sessions on gender equality for AATC members was carried out (online meetings, approval of the program, lists of participants, etc.). 137 applications received (from 12 men, 125 women) for participation in the training, which doubled expectations

- Conducting of trainings on gender equality for AATC members started in collaboration with the Council of Europe and the Ukrainian School of Government (3 sessions, 4 days each, 3 hours daily)

#### Communication:

- [The digest covering the activities of the Association in May was released](#)
- [Facebook page](#), [Association's official web-site](#), [the "The best practices" web-site](#) were continuously updated
- Ongoing support and maintenance of the AATC's [Telegram channel](#) and [Viber channel](#).
- Creation of the monthly calendar of events.
- Organisation, conducting and publishing, with the participation of heads from regions to the regional week: with [Vasyl Shchur](#) (Mizhhirska hromada of Zakarpattia oblast), [Ivan Pohorilyak](#) (Perechynska hromada of Zakarpattia oblast).
- Creating and distributing a [digest of relevant grants](#) available for hromadas

## Communication

#### Promoting decentralisation reform

Project's Communication expert worked on the following tasks:

- Preparation of the Quarterly Newsletter for the 2nd quarter of 2021
- Administration of the Facebook groups for education practitioners, Viber groups of regional teams of education managers
- Presentation of the [Education management repository](#), web-page updates, design
- [Making and editing interviews with the territorial hromadas representatives for the online presentation of the Education management repository](#)
- Project related data updates for the MinRegion's Capacity building database
- Preparation for the Teacher Salaries publication presentation
- Support to preparation and delivery of the 2nd informal 'Coffee with Mayors' meeting on education

#### Project communication

- [Publication "Local Government in the Nordic and Baltic Countries" finalised and posted on project's website](#)
- [Publication "Teacher salaries" finalised and posted on project's website](#)
- Continuous updates to the [Project's website](#) and [Facebook page](#)