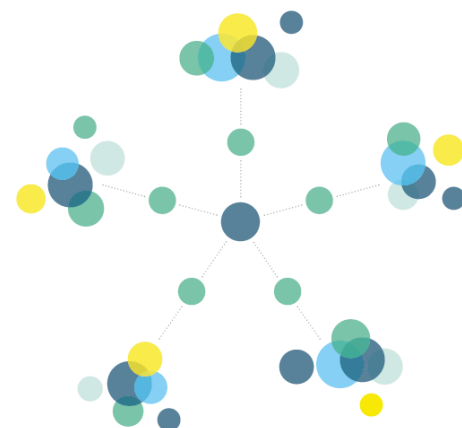


# Swedish-Ukrainian Project Support to Decentralisation in Ukraine 2020-2022



## Monthly Flash Report

July-August 2021

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### Fiscal Decentralisation

In July-August, the Fiscal Decentralisation team worked on the following tasks:

- [In July, the article “ How Should the Personal Income Tax be Shared with Ukrainian Local Governments?”, drafted by Project expert Tony Levitas, was published, and widely disseminated](#)
- Gender expert provided comments on the KSE study on PIT sharing

Project experts placed in the Reform Support Office worked on:

- Preparation of amendments to the Tax Code.
- Development of indicators for assessing the financial potential of territorial communities and methods of calculating the integrated indicator of financial capacity at the request of the Ministry of Regional Development
- [Participation in the development of an analytical dashboard with financial indicators of 1468 territorial communities](#)
- Preparation of information on LSG deposits as of 01.06.2021
- Preparation of materials for the VIII All-Ukrainian Forum of Local Self-Government at request of the Ministry of Regional Development
- Providing analysis of the draft law №5600 (amendments to the Tax Code) at request of the Ministry of Regional Development
- Preparation of materials for the OECD "Development of decentralization in Ukraine in 2021 – 2022" ) at request of the Ministry of Regional Development
- Preparation of additional documents on financial indicators of the territorial communities of the Voznesensky and Pervomaisky districts of the Mykolian region for the Ministry of Regional Development
- Preparation of materials and participation in meetings on the draft law "On local self-government in Ukraine"

### Decentralisation of Education (national level)

During July-August 2021, the work of the education decentralisation team focused on:

- Support to the work on finalization of the allocation of the education subvention for 2022
  - MS Excel based allocation toolkit (Simulator for allocation of the education grant)

- Capacity building activities for the MinEdu team
- Design of the new Activity on Education Budgeting in Municipalities
- Policy advice to MES and the Institute of Education Analytics regarding the development and implementation of statistical data collection
- [On July 6 meeting with the Minister Of Education and Science of Ukraine and discussed the results of cooperation and future plans](#)
- [On 08 July presentation of the book “Paying the Teachers: Three Case Studies of Reforming National Systems of Teacher Remuneration in Eastern Europe”](#)
- [On 09 July meeting of the working group in the Ministry of Finances of Ukraine on improvement of the Education subvention formula](#)
- Preparation for the new activity - education budgeting on local level. The objective is to make the budget process shorter and better

## Decentralisation of Education (local level)

### Local education component focused on:

- [On 08 July, Launch of the Project’s support to education management in hromadas and oblasts - Lviv](#)
- [On 17 August, Launch of the Project’s support to education management in hromadas and oblasts - Poltava](#)
- Updating of the country-wide database of contacts of local education managers
- [Working on the new best practices in hromadas. During the reporting period 2 new practices were uploaded on the web-page](#)
- Preparation for the next seminar - Launch of the Project’s support to education management in hromadas and oblasts - Zhytomyr (planned for 8 September)
- The experiences of gender audits in education are being investigated to see if and how they could be used in the work of the component. There is a plan to carry out gender audit in MES and develop guidelines for gender audits for wider application. Preparations are underway
- On 26 August project experts met with the Ukrainian Institute of Education Development (UIED) on further cooperation
- On 27 July Donor coordination meeting on education took place. Discussion was about the training products which different projects develop for hromadas
- Articles in media:
  - [New Law on Profile Education](#)
  - Why [Profile education is needed?](#)
  - [What should we do with the closed schools?](#)

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

- [The AATC organized and held the All-Ukrainian Congress of Territorial Communities of Ukraine \(July 7, 2021\), which included the Congress of the Board and Council of the AATC](#)
- [The AATC initiated an outreach event and launched a new Platform for the Development of Mountain Territories in the Zakarpattia region](#)
- [The AATC prepared proposals for the draft budget 2022 and took part in the Budget Consultations-2022](#)
- [On 6 July field visit of Project experts to Novo Borova Community in Zhytomyr oblast.. Meeting with Grigoriy Ruduk, head of municipality, deputy of Head of AATC and his team. Learning development of municipality services based on Decentralization reform](#)

- In July a meeting with the NDI took place to discuss partnership with AATC and support to women-mayors.
- On 13 July mtg with Oleksiy Ryabokon, deputy Head of Berezivska Community, Founder and deputy of AATC Head. Follow up discussion on AATC General Assembly, partnership on RB development, commitment of new Board members building AATC as democratic and member-driven organization
- Representatives of the AATC took part in a meeting of the Government's Interdepartmental Working Group on the preparation of a new version of the Law of Ukraine "On Service in Local Self-Government Bodies"
- On 10 August an online focus group met to discuss approaches and forms of partnership between AATC Regional Branches and Regional Administrations and regional Councils
- On 20 August Project experts took part in a hackaton of university students in Novohrad-Volynsky hromada (Zhytomyr oblast) on development ideas for the community
- In August project experts worked on preparation of the strategic seminar for AATC Board members
- During July-August Project experts held several expert meetings on strategic support for regional branches of the AATC

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

- **In the framework of the Association's Legal platform:**
  - ❖ Elaboration and Analysis of the Draft Law of Ukraine On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Cooperation of Territorial Communities
  - ❖ Elaboration and analysis of the Law "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on the Development of the Institute of Elders" №1638-IX
  - ❖ Analysis of decisions of the Vinnytsia District Administrative Court: dated September 3, 2020 №20 / 2801/20-a, September 21, 2020 № 120/2800/20-a, September 23, 2020 № 120/2798/20-a, September 28, 2020 № 120/2799/20-a, 02 October 2020 № 120/2165/20-a, 120/2859/20-a, 21 October 2020 № 120/2833 / 20-4
  - ❖ Development and analysis of the Draft Law of Ukraine "On Public Consultations" (register 4254)
  - ❖ Elaboration of the draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Article 368 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine and Article 216 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine and other documents in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers
  - ❖ matrix of joint results of cooperation of the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine with development partners in the field of decentralization
- Preparation of the association's position on the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine and the Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Organization of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning on the Draft Law on Resolution of Administrative and Territorial Organization of Ukraine (4664 of 28.01.2021)
- On 20 August [conducting a Webinar for local government officials on Law 1638 - development of the institute of elders \(implementation problems\) in the question-answer format on the following topics: features of formation and "re-formation" of eldership districts; public discussions of candidates for elders: requirements and precautions; Starostyn districts without elders: who to "replace". 600 participants](#)
- Providing advice to members of the Association on legal and organizational issues of the new local government.
- **Within the framework of the Association's platform "Local budgets and finances":**
  - Organisational support in preparation to the All-Ukrainian Congress of Territorial Communities of Ukraine
  - [Preparation of materials for participation in the Budget Consultations-2022 in the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine \(preparation of an official appeal to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine,](#)

[abstracts of the speech of the chairman of the 'Local Budgets and Finance' Platform of the ATC Association\)](#)

- Participation in Budget Consultations-2022 in the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine
- Organization and holding of the webinar "Working with open data (local budgets). Open Budget and Boost"
- Participation in the author's training "You are on the air", organized by the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center within the USAID DOBRE Program
- Preparation of presentation materials on the topic 'Budgets of territorial communities: achievements and challenges in the process of decentralization' for students of the certificate program of the Institute of Postgraduate Education of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv for leaders of territorial communities
- Conducting classes on budget issues for students of the certificate program of the Institute of Postgraduate Education of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv for leaders of territorial communities
- **In the framework of the Association's Gender platform:**
  - [On 13 July webinar "Gender-sensitive communication: why is it relevant for our communities and for us personally" held with the participation of about 50 communities' representatives, out of them 90% women and 10% men](#)
  - On 15 July working meeting was held with the National Democracy Institute to discuss opportunities for partnership, in particular, through the involvement of AATC communities-members in the activities of the "Academy for Women-mayors" from the NDI
  - In July the case on signing the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life on the example of Sumy Regional State Administration worked out, handouts for stakeholders developed, a description of the success story prepared
  - Gender monitoring of communication, provided through the Internet resources of the Committee on Organization of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine carried out, based on the results of which a report prepared
  - On 3 August Prepared and submitted an application for AATC participation in the UN Women's Call "Service Delivery: Supporting Local Governments in Integrating Gender Equality and a Human Rights-Based Approach to Their Local Planning and Budgeting Processes"
  - In August Negotiations with the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine to continue cooperation on trainings for communities "Gender mainstreaming in local policies, plans and budgets" in the second half of 2021 and 2022, held
  - Materials for the pilot initiative "Gender audit in schools" of the component "Local education" prepared, a questionnaire for pupils' survey developed
  - In August 2 consultations were provided to communities on their request - on the integration of GRB, on the use of femininities in official documents
  - [Information on gender audit, content for the platform "On gender equality" \(regulatory framework, consultations in the format of "Questions and Answers"\) prepared and posted on AATC website](#)

**Communication:**

- Preparation of the digest covering the activities of the Association in June, July, August
- [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.
- Information support of the All-Ukrainian Congress of Territorial Communities, preparation of media monitoring, preparation of materials, support of information flow after the event.
- [Creating and distributing a digest of relevant grants to communities](#)

## Support to the Parliament

- Designed 2 country cases on legal personality of Local Governments (Sweden and Latvia) structured according to the questionnaire designed by the Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Local Governance, Regional and Urban Development
- Analysis was done of the gender aspects of communication of Parliamentary Committee of LSGs. Report and recommendations have been shared with the Committee administration

## Communication

### Promoting decentralisation reform

Project's Communication expert worked on the following tasks:

- [Quarterly Newsletter for the 3rd quarter of 2021](#) preparation
- Administration of the Facebook groups for education practitioners, Viber groups of regional teams of education managers
- Support in preparation of the Launch of the Project's support to education management in hromadas and oblasts - Lviv and Poltava, Zhytomyr
- Project related data updates for the MinRegion's Capacity building database
- Support in dissemination and posting on decentralisation.gov.ua an article "[How Should the Personal Income Tax be Shared with Ukrainian Local Governments?](#)", drafted by Project expert Tony Levitas
- 'A figure of Thursday' posts have been launched on Facebook using the education statistics
- [On 8 July presentation of the book "Paying the Teachers: Three Case Studies of Reforming National Systems of Teacher Remuneration in Eastern Europe"](#)
- [Preparation of the infographics for the Financial Dashboard of Territorial Communities developed by Fiscal team and uploading on the Project web-page](#)

### Project communication

- Continuous updates to the [Project's website](#) and [Facebook page](#)