

Non-governmental organization “Strategies and Technologies for Effective Partnership”



Annual report 2021

Kateryna Maltseva,
chairwoman of the Board

“The best, warmest and most fruitful year we’ve ever had”

It is already the fourth year that we prepare a public report on the activity of our organization. We share the successes of our projects and sum up the results of one more year of work. It is an honorable task and we gladly devote a last week of February to do it.

The last week of February 2022 affected the lives of all Ukrainians. So this report could not appear when and how it was supposed to.

Moreover: every new attempt to work on this report was not so much about the yearly results of our work but about partners and friends we could not help worrying about.

Just see yourself: 16 of the 20 territorial communities participating in STEP's projects last year are now on the frontline of war or under russian occupation.



Behind every page of this report, every event mentioned, every photo taken, there are amazing people who love their communities and strive to make them better. These are the people who inspire us and who made our last year the best one, the warmest and most fruitful we’ve ever had.

We are so proud of the cooperation with each of our partners and believe in many more joint projects and events ahead. They will surely happen for us all in peaceful, happy, strong, democratic Ukrainian communities.

Thank you, our dear friends, colleagues, partners, and associates! Strength to all of us, courage, dignity and victory.

And there will definitely be a victory!





Key facts and figures 2021

new partners

20 territorial communities participated in our activities. And 13 of them cooperated with STEP for the first time.

networking

STEP joined the Legal Development Network and became a partner of Kyiv Dialogue in Zaporizhzhia region.

strengthening capacity

More than 800 community activists completed training on civic engagement, advocacy, improvement of public services.

raising awareness

10000+ citizens were informed about community development strategies and their implementation results.

good practices

7 territorial communities performed their first public monitoring of local development strategies.

legal assistance

2000+ people have learnt more about their rights, received primary legal aid, participated in legal training.

January – March 2021



Raising the level of legal culture among the youth of Shyrokye community

Grant funding from the International Renaissance Foundation.

The project is carried out together with the Legal Development Network.



Project purpose

to improve the basic legal knowledge that Ukrainian teenagers acquire at school

School law clubs encourage pupils to learn about their rights and responsibilities, to consider and discuss real-life scenarios that young people might encounter and legal issues they might face.

18

events for youth

public presentations, webinars, concluding law quiz

299

pupils

completed an online course from the Legal Development Network

465

participants

including secondary school pupils and law teachers

8

law clubs for youth

were established in schools of Shyrokye community



January – August 2021



**Capital repair
of the premises
of Zolotokolodiazka
ambulatory clinic of
general practice – family
medicine No 2**

Implemented in Zoloty Kolodiaz,
a village in Shakhove community,
Donetsk region.

Funding from the *Special Assistance
Programme for Eastern Ukraine
(government-controlled areas)* of
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

**Project purpose:
to create the necessary
conditions for quality and
accessible health care
for rural residents.**

Works performed

- Floor renovation, replacement of covering
- Renovation of walls
- Installation of drop ceiling
- Replacement of water supply and sewerage networks, heating radiators, ventilation systems, wiring
- Renovation of doors
- Installation of quartz lamps

Project partners

Shakhove village council, Communal non-profit enterprise “Centre for Primary Health Care of Shakhove Village Council”



1200+ rural residents, including IDPs, have an access to timely, high-quality primary health care services

February – November 2021



Introducing a free legal aid system and protecting social rights of women in rural communities of Eastern Ukraine

Funding from the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, acting through the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Donetsk, office Dnipro.



Project purpose:

to increase opportunities for the protection of social rights of women in rural areas through improving access to free primary legal aid directly at the community level.

Project partner and provider of the training program – Legal Development Network, Ukraine.



19

**public events
on legal subjects**

trainings, presentations,
open lectures, round table

96

**local specialists
and activists**

have learnt how to address the
legal concerns of communities

40+

**hours of the
training program**

on advocacy, access to public
services, legal culture

131

**field trips of a mobile
office of free legal aid**

424

**private consultations
of project lawyers**

1050

**event participants
in communities**

Following the project results, STEP developed a Roadmap to implement the primary free legal aid system in rural communities. It contains proven tools for facilitating access to justice at the community level. The Roadmap is available online.



Each community received guidance to strengthen its legal capacity and a specific set of tools (*Roadmap*). These solutions can be implemented with local funds or in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, through participation in projects and attraction of grant funding.



The project has fostered new inter-municipal ties between participating communities. In particular, the lawyers of *Shyroke village council* shared the experience of how their community addresses legal concerns of people, how the village council manages the hotline on legal issues and why it important.

February 2021 – September 2022*



Strengthening Local Democratic Governance: Strategies for people

Grant funding from the National Endowment for Democracy.



*The report covers project activities up to February 24, 2022.

Project objectives:
to explain local development
processes to people and
promote public oversight
of the implementation of
communities' strategies.

Overall project purpose:
to increase openness
and transparency of the
community development
processes in eastern Ukraine.



good practices



01

assessing the experience

of partner communities in
local development processes

02

work seminars in communities

learning the needs
of participants

03

training for local leaders/activists

on public monitoring
and reporting

04

informing citizens

about local strategies
and their performance

05

monitoring of strategies

involving active citizens
and local NGOs



May – November 2021



Development of social capital of civic initiatives in Ukrainian regions

Project of the Kyiv Dialogue platform, financially supported by the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

In 2021, STEP was an implementing partner of the project in Zaporizhzhia region.

Kyiv Dialogue was founded in 2005 as a platform to enhance the dialogue and collaboration between Germany and Ukraine. The program supports local organizations and civic initiatives, which contribute to democratic reforms in Ukraine. In 2021, five more regional NGOs became partners of the Kyiv Dialogue.

Project activities included training in Zaporizhzhia, networking seminars in Vasylivka and Melitopol and a small grants competition.



4 community initiatives in Zaporizhzhia region were supported under the small grants program of the Kyiv Dialogue.

1359

people in partner communities

took part in a survey on local development priorities



1170+

participants of the local activities

including workshops, participatory events, public consultations



23

activists completed the training course

known as the School of advocacy and participation (Zaporizhzhia)





Advocacy campaign “Safe Step”

In **Vasylivka**, activists painted murals in a highway underpass to encourage people to use a tunnel instead of crossing the road in a very dangerous place. As a result, the city not only got a new photo zone. But also public attention motivated the local council to allocate funds to repair the old underpass.

270+ girls and boys aged 5-17 participated in road safety meetings that were held in schools of Vasylivka.



“Sort your waste & help the environment”

Active youth from Plodorodne conducted a series of environmental education activities, including lectures for school students and meetings with environmental activists. The initiative group also prepared tips on waste sorting & recycling for village schools, cultural centres and clubs.

8 schools in the community received coloured waste-sorting containers, purchased with the small grant funds.



“Map and make your community of dreams”

In **Novooleksandrivska community**, active residents together with local government officials discussed strategic priorities of local development. They submitted their proposals for development projects and identified key concerns of the community to address them in the future strategy.

150 people from different villages were involved in interactive mapping of the development strategy.





Festival “My community is my prosperity”

In Yakymivska community, the family LEGO brick festival brought together local adults and children to share their vision of the community's future. In the course of the project, six LEGO festivals took place in five villages. They involved more than 150 residents aged from 3 to 77.

300 adults and kids helped to identify the brands of Yakymivska community and recreated them in LEGO



Providers and partners of local project activities

Municipal institutions:

Development Agency of Vasylivska community
Centre for development of Yakymivska village council
Melitopol Development Agency
Schools of Plodorodnenska, Vasylivska, Yakymivska communities

Local NGOs and civic initiatives:

Sports and Patriotic Centre “Tryzub”
Youth Council of Plodorodne community
“Silska Sadyba”
“USPIKH-2020”
“Yakymivska Svitlytsia”
“Novodanylivska Zlahoda”
“I See You”

July – October 2021



**Honey community –
educational project to
promote beekeeping
among rural youth**

Funding from Bayer through the
company's *Social investment program
for Ukraine*.





The project included a series of educational lectures and excursions to apiaries for school students of Shyrokivska community.

These events aimed to expand environmental awareness, foster a love of nature in children and youth, and increase their interest in beekeeping as a future career.

The project is implemented in collaboration with a cooperative organization, "BDZHOLAR", in Shyrokivska village territorial community of Zaporizhzhia region.

Income & expenses



4 279 934

funds received through open grant competitions, local subsidy contracts, non-repayable allocation for statutory activity, **UAH**



4 279 934

expenditures to carry out grant and other cooperation projects in accordance with approved budgets, **UAH**

Types of expenditure

Payment for services of experts/trainers

Space rental for public events

Travel expenses and transportation

Printed materials for information and advocacy campaigns

Printing of educational materials

Office supplies and small equipment

Other purchases approved by financial plans of specific projects, in particular, for use by project partners and / or beneficiaries

Administrative costs

Subgrants / small grants for partner NGOs

4.4 times
more funds were
attracted to perform
NGO's statutory
activities compared
to 2020





Ongoing projects

University of the 3rd Age – started in **November 2021** in Shakhivska village community of Donetsk region under the project “*EU4 Resilient Regions – Special Assistance Programme Ukraine*”, provided by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Increasing the institutional capacity of Development Agencies – started in **December 2021** for Chernihivska, Prymorska, Vasylivska and Yakymivska territorial communities of Zaporizhzhia region, within the project “*Fostering economic participation of vulnerable groups, including IDP in the Sea of Azov region*” provided by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

In March-April 2022, after consultations with donors and partners, the project activities were specified to address the new needs and concerns of communities.

All the figures mentioned in this report were summarized by STEP's managers following the results of the relevant projects or were provided by local coordinators from partner communities.

The photos used to illustrate the brochure were taken at public events of NGO STEP or events that partner organizations conducted as part of STEP's projects.

To learn more about our work, please visit website www.stepngo.in.ua



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