

WHAT HAS THE PROGRAMME ACHIEVED SO FAR?

Five communities in the Lviv oblast (since June 2004) and five communities in the Donetsk oblast (since February 2005) have been implementing their micro-projects aiming at:

- strengthening community participation and engaging elderly and disabled people in the local decision making process for addressing social issues (Artemivsk);
- integrating children and youth living with disabilities into the environment of their healthy peers and strengthening the influence of the community on making a better social policy for disabled children and youth (Brody);
- assisting in addressing needs of vulnerable groups (Chervonohrad);
- strengthening the voice of community in implementation of social policy towards unemployed youth and orphans (Drohobych);
- assisting in addressing challenges faced by unemployed youth and other vulnerable groups (Sambir);
- addressing social challenges faced by lonely senior citizens and unemployed youth (Sokal);
- strengthening engagement of vulnerable youth and their participation in the decision making process at the local level (Telmanove);
- strengthening community participation in shaping the social policy towards to the vulnerable youth (Torez);
- promoting public activity of unemployed women and disabled people and their involvement in the local decision making process on social issues (Vuhledar);
- strengthening democratic voice of the vulnerable and disadvantaged youth and enhancing their participation in the decision making process in the social field (Yenakieve).

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Please see our web site at
www.dobrobut.org.ua

We also publish Our Community newsletter (in Ukrainian only), which contains updates on the Programme, articles on techniques and methodologies, and news from our communities. For a copy of our publication please contact our headquarters.



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DEMOCRATISING UKRAINE Small Project Scheme



Enabling people in communities
to be more involved in the
decisions which affect their lives



WHO IS IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAMME?

The Programme is being implemented by a consortium of Ukrainian NGOs: Committee of Voters of Ukraine and Ukrainian Centre for Independent Political Research, with partnership support from the British Council Ukraine.



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WHAT IS THE DEMOCRATISING UKRAINE SMALL PROJECT SCHEME?

The Democratising Ukraine Programme is about enabling people in communities — particularly poor and vulnerable people — to have more influence over policies and services delivery which affect their lives.

It works in 10 communities, five in each of Lviv and Donetsk oblasts. These communities are: Artemivsk, Brody, Chervonohrad, Drohobych, Sambir, Sokal, Telmanove, Torez, Vuhledar and Yenakieve.



The Programme provides funds to coalitions in these communities to develop projects of community benefit, which have been identified through community participation. These coalitions include local NGOs, businesses, local administrations and local mass media working in partnership. Community capacity to build the coalitions and deliver the projects is built through training and mentoring, to develop community learning. The users and beneficiaries of the projects are involved actively in the design and the evaluation of projects.

The Programme started in August 2003 and will run until February 2007

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THE PROGRAMME?

The Programme is based on a participative community development methodology. This methodology is an enabling and empowering method of working with people, which:

- assists communities in identifying shared issues, experiences and needs which extend beyond individual or sectoral interests to the wider community;
- assists communities to find relevant and accessible ways of organising together, including a wide range of stakeholders;
- assists communities to find local solutions to local problems and turn these into appropriate community action;
- assists in developing community capacity for local action and participation in democracy through learning, awareness raising and skill sharing;
- assists communities in asserting more control over their own lives, over the environments they live in and over the policies that affect them in a just, equitable and sustainable way.

