

FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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The article draws attention to the problem of sustainable social and economic development of local communities. Local community development is closely connected with the financing of different programs which encourages the promotion of self development and implementation of small scale community initiatives in all regions of Ukraine.

Key words: local communities, self development, small-scale community, micro-financing, micro-project, UN Program of Local Development.

The basis of our experimental hypothesis is proving the fact that this way of funding is the most effective speaking about changes in the values and norms of conduct of the members of community, towards forming the culture of sustainable development.

We decided to test this hypothesis based on the results of the program UNDP Local Development CBA (CBA / UNDP - web page: www.cba.org.ua), which started in Ukraine in September 2007. The program is financed by the European Commission and co-financed and implemented by UNDP in Ukraine with support of Ukrainian government.

The purpose of this program is to create an enabling environment for sustainable social and economic development for local communities through the promotion of self development and implementing small-scale community initiatives in all regions of Ukraine.

Locally, the project works with participating communities (self-governing community organizations, activists and residents of the immediate communities) and local authorities (village, town, city mayors and councils, district councils, district administrations).

The project has provided small grants for implementation of micro communities based on the principle of self-help and cooperation within the private and public sector, where each partner has to contribute to this development. The Financial Mechanism of the Program project predicted that the share of value of micro-financing made by community members (not less than 5%) and other costs are financed by central and local budgets (45%). The IWG UNDP part was approximately half of all contributions (50%).

As a result these micro-projects have helped to solve not only the immediate problems of the real community development, but also they made mechanisms for self-organized communities and the interaction between communities and authorities. These mechanisms correspond the international standards.

Taking part in the project a community has the obligation, to support the sustainability of the process and receive positive results with the assistance of local authorities. The analysis of community development in Sumy region has already shown that after the implementation of these micro projects, communities continued their project activities focusing more on the donors reliability than in their help.

The community of Buymerovka village Trostyanetskij district Sumy region, raised money themselves and successfully implemented energy conservation projects and street lighting in their village. They did it after the realization of a micro-project and take a new water supply with the help o the international program IWG UNDP.

Participation in an international action program actually changed the mechanisms of self-organization and management of all communities participating in the UN Development Program of Local Development CBA. It is primarily about institutional changes in society by implementation of international standards of sustainable development.

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