

*You are looking at the eleventh issue of the Newsletter published by our Project!*

## Latest News

### **April, 2006, Pustomyty Community Members Have Started Work on a Community Children's Playground, Lviv Oblast**

In April, 2006, Pustomyty community members (Lviv Oblast) started implementing a social project entitled Community Children's Playground, supported by the CED Project. Since there are virtually no playgrounds for children in Pustomyty, the community faced the issue of creating a new, modern children's playground.

The concept of the project was discussed during public meetings and was approved and supported by the town community. The project demonstrates how people can effectively use their knowledge of and experience in community economic development gained by the community members within the CED Project.

The project involves both building the playground itself and maintaining its efficient operation. Plans were made to establish a board of young parents to oversee how the playground is used. Currently awareness-raising and fund-raising campaigns are underway. The wider public is involved in implementing the project, with parents displaying a sense of responsibility for their children's future and for the organization of their leisure activities. In addition, this social project mobilizes Pustomyty's community and shows how local problems can be solved owing to the community's participation and active attitude.

The project's partners include Pustomyty community, the Community Economic Development Project, Pustomyty Town Council, Pustomyty Housing and Public Services Enterprise, Rayon Center of Social Services for Youth, and the collective enterprise Yasen (Ash-Tree), a charity named after Bishop Nykyta Budka, the first bishop of Ukrainian Catholics in Canada. Significant assistance in implementing the project has been provided by Craena Coyne, a Canadian CED Project volunteer who has been working in Pustomyty for over six months now. She has established a framework of cooperation between Pustomyty community and the Bishop Budka Charitable Society offering financial support towards project implementation.

Funds for purposes of project implementation are raised not only from the CED Project but also from local businesses, local authorities, the housing and public services enterprise, and the Regional Center of Social Services for Youth.



*Raising funds towards construction of a public children's playground in Pustomyty. April 2006.*

### **9 April, 2006, Charitable Event "Make it a Day for a Child", Kamjanka, Cherkasy Oblast**

On 9 April 2006, Kamjanka, Cherkasy Oblast, a charitable event entitled "Make It a Day for a Child" was held within the Community Economic Development Project. The aim of the event was to collect toys for kindergartens Smaragd (128 children), Sonechko (136 children), and Zirochka (84 children).

The event took place in the central square. It was attended by the town's residents, schoolchildren and students of the Lyceum of Environmental Protection and Economics, who had brought along a great number of brightly colored toys for Kamjanka's little inhabitants.

Those present had a chance to enjoy members of the sports dance studio Elite-Dance and children from the Rayon Center of Creative Work, who sang songs and recited poems. Representatives of the Youth Club Impulse appeared with their own songs and performed modern hits.

After the event was over, packaged toys were delivered to the directors of the three kindergartens.

The preparation of the event was actively facilitated by the following members of the CED Project core group: Elina Moroz, Stella Khodorovska, Valentyn Kriukovskiy, and Nataliya Klymenko. Businesswoman Nataliya Khrychova helped to stage the event, while the Rayon Centre of Creative Work offered equipment and facilities.

**March-April, 2006,  
Courses Hosted on  
Community Economic  
Development for  
Representatives of  
Local Communities,  
Stryj, Lviv Oblast**

The aim of the courses was to share the experience the Community Economic Development Project has had with regard to rural communities in Ukraine's different regions.

The courses were delivered by certified instructors of the Community Economic Development Project: Vasyl Shehekun, the CED Project coordinator in Stryj; Olena Melnychenko, Viktoriya Byelinska, and Dmytro Telezhynskyi, professors at Cherkasy State Technological University; and Bill Pardy, a Canadian volunteer based in Perechyn.

Course participants analyzed issues such as the unique features of community economic development, involvement and participation of people in CED, planning and organization of CED activities, and establishment and operation of community enterprises.

Course participants were primarily members of the rayon's rural communities, community-based organizations, and local authorities. The theoretical knowledge gained from the Community Economic Development courses was adapted to contemporary conditions local communities are faced with. In this regard, participants did practical exercises related to the opportunities for economic development of their own communities. The instructors represented some of Ukraine's other regions, which helped participants to compare specific features of economic development of communities in different regions.

**24 April, 2006,  
Presentation of  
the Micro-Project  
"Reconstruction of  
the Lighting System  
in Khudiaky",  
Khudiaky Village,  
Cherkasy Oblast**

The street light in the village of Khudiaky have not been working for over ten years. The core group of the village came forward with a proposal to reconstruct the lighting system. A similar project had recently been implemented within the CED Project by another project partner. Semenivka village, Lviv Oblast. Based on Semenivka's experience, the micro-project in Khudiaky was rather successful. Mariya Yevtushenko, the village head; and Anatoliy Rekun, Cherkasy ANGO executive director, put considerable effort into the implementation of this project.

When the project of village lighting system reconstruction was completed, a public ceremony was held at which M. Yevtushenko spoke of results yielded by Khudiaky community members participating in the Community Economic Development Project. Among other things, she mentioned study trips of CED Project participants and described successful stories of community development from other regions.

The lighting system project was funded by the Community Economic Development Project and also from money raised by community members. During the project presentation those core group members who had raised maximum amounts towards project implementation were awarded prizes.

To keep village inhabitants more involved in the development of their own community, contests were announced among village inhabitants. They were entitled My Village and What I Know About the Community Economic Development Project. Such events will create opportunities to bring the community together and get its members more involved in processes of economic development of their community.



*The ceremony of awarding prizes to most active core group members.  
Khudiaky, April, 2006.*

**April, 2006,  
Project Aimed at  
Establishing a Youth  
Club Was Launched  
in Kamjanka,  
Cherkasy Oblast**

While analyzing problems and prospects of their town in the context of community economic development, the Kamjanka core group concluded that organization of leisure activities and out-of-class studies for youth constituted an important need. As a result, the idea to set up a youth club emerged. In the club, young people will take part in special interest groups where they will be taught basics of design, ethics and aesthetics, embroidery, cutting, and sewing. Others will work with boxing and martial arts instructors. A professional psychologist for children and young people will be available to help young people deal with their problems.

There are also plans for children to stage thematic performances and organize disco dances in the youth club. Currently the Kamjanka core group is carrying out awareness-raising and fund-raising campaigns for project implementation.

**5 May, 2006,  
A Contest Was Held  
for the Best Essay  
and Photograph  
about "One's Home  
Town" in Perechyn,  
Zakarpattiya Oblast**

A contest was held among the town's schoolchildren was carried out in relation to the publication of a book about Perechyn and the mobilization of the community's activities. The CED Project has sponsored the book project. To complete the project, community members will write about Perechyn, their home town and identify active and remarkable people who could potentially come together as an organization with the aim of raising the standard of living in the town. Some time earlier, the Perechyn gymnasium-type school announced a contest for the best essay about the home town or photo materials to be included in the book. Materials were accepted up to 15 March 2006. After that, the adjudication committee, consisting of gymnasium teachers, and members of the Perechyn CED Project core group, selected winners. Children of different ages – from Grade 4 to Grade 10 – participated in the contest.

The interesting thing is that the schoolchildren not only collected photographs but also rivaled higher grade children in writing skills. One award went to a pupil of 4-B Grade, Daniela Dashko, who had written a poem about her home town.

*Here I was born,  
Here is my family,  
Here I said my first mother word.  
My sweet expanses,  
My sweet fields,  
Perechyn, my charming cradle!*

A ceremonial school meeting was convened on May 5. Among those attending were Fedir Fedorovych Gunka, Director of the Gymnasium; Bill Pardy, CED Project Consultant; Olena Kochetova, CED Regional Coordinator in Zakarpattiya Oblast; Nataliya Beliv, CED Project Coordinator in Perechyn; and core group members. Six contest winners were awarded with monetary prizes provided by the Perechyn community, while five schoolchildren received incentive prizes for materials they had collected. The contest encouraged children to become more involved in creative community activities.



*The ceremony of granting prizes to contest winners. Perechyn, May, 2006.*

**12 May, 2006,  
International  
Conference  
Social Enterprise:  
Opportunities and  
Prospects,  
Lviv**

On May 12, in Lviv, the Ukrainian Catholic University hosted an international conference, Social Enterprise: Opportunities and Prospects. Representatives of the CED Project participated in the conference. The conference was organized by the Institute of Management of Nonprofit Organizations within the Ukrainian Catholic University. The conference was held within the framework of the Eurasia Foundation's project financed by USAID and supported by UCAN's Network of Civic Action with participation of the US Peace Corps.

The conference was aimed at disseminating business practices of management of organizations which are supposed to keep NGOs viable and help solve social problems in Ukraine more effectively. During the conference, participants outlined answers to questions such as: What does the term "social enterprise" mean? How is social enterprise related to nonprofit organizations and businesses? What is the role of community leaders, business, authorities in developing social enterprise? What are the realities of existence of social enterprises in Ukraine? How valuable is social enterprise for our society?

Ukrainian and international opinion leaders, representatives of social enterprises, businesses, authorities shared their experience in this respect.

**This issue introduces  
another partner of the  
CED Project –  
the Institute of Public  
Administration and  
Regional Development  
within Uzhgorod  
National University**

The Institute of Public Administration and Regional Development within Uzhgorod National University is another partner of the CED Project in Zakarpattiya Oblast. This institute has been functioning as a non-governmental organization since June 1997, when it was established within the Program The Center of State and Local Governance (CSLG). It was implemented from 1995 to 1997 at Uzhgorod National University within the institutional partnership with the University of Georgia, USA. CSLG activities were financed by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered by the Council of International Research and Exchange (IREX).

The Institute is actively involved in academic activities. It has published two books, seven collections of materials of international academic and practi-

cal conferences, and over 60 methodological guidelines on topical issues of state governance.

The Institute is aimed at providing academic and consultancy services to authorities, local self-government, community and private organizations. The Institute's achievements were made possible by the active involvement of staff and support from international foundations such as Foundation for Development of the Carpathian Euroregion, IREX, and the Renaissance Foundation.

The main areas of the Institute's activities:

1. Analysis of theoretical issues of public administration and optimal ways for the solution of public administration problems;
2. Study of how state policies influence the region's development and design of alternative models of optimal decision-making in this area;
3. Development of curricula for continuous education and training of state officials of various ranks;
4. Consultancies, information and technical assistance to authorities, local self-government, community organizations, and business entities;
5. Publication of educational textbooks, reference books, and theoretical research;
6. Introduction of information technologies in the context of authorities and local self-government.

The Institute's staff are actively involved in the Community Economic Development Project. Among other things, they are creating academic courses in community economic development, hold training sessions for local communities, and share their own knowledge and experience with Zakarpattiya's communities.

## Forthcoming Events

- 19-20 June, 2006: Uzhgorod National University will host the second Lessons Learned Conference of the CED Project: Community Economic Development: Ukrainian and International Experience.
- From 12 to 23 June 2006 Helene Lalonde, the CED Project monitor, will visit project sites. This will be Ms. Lalonde's second visit. She will also participate in the second Lessons Learned Conference.
- From 14 July to 18 August 2006, a group of professors are to receive training in Community Economic Development at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. Five of these people are professors at Uzhgorod National University: Iryna Almashi, Myroslav Almashi, Valeriy Tovt, Liudmyla Boreyko, and Ruslan Zhylenko, while others are professors at Cherkasy State Technology University: Dmytro Tel-zhynskyi, Nataliya Ilchenko, Olena Melnychenko, Olga Vlasiuk, and Viktoriya Bielinska. Roman Kulehynskyi will interpret and translate for their group. This will be the group's second study trip to Canada.
- From 7 July to 20 August 2006 Tetiana Kudina, Khudiaky community member, is to visit Canada on a study trip. During her trip Tetiana will familiarize herself with successful stories of effective governance and management of organizations and attend in-depth CED courses. Following her return, based on acquired skills, Tetiana will hold relevant training sessions for members of Ukrainian partner communities.

*The newsletter is issued within the Community Economic Development Project (January 2004 – December 2007), a Ukrainian-Canadian initiative managed by the Canadian Bureau for International Education and funded by the Canadian International Development Agency.*

*You can find further information about activities, publications, and other materials of the project on our web-site at [www.ced.org.ua](http://www.ced.org.ua). This web-site contains links to other organizations working in the CED area, presents information about the project's partners, describes activities of partner communities within the project, provides materials for CED academic courses and seminars. There are a number of exciting photos – you are most welcome to visit our web-site!*

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*Certificate JIB No. 674  
Printed at "Az-Art" Ltd.,  
17 Kozlaniuka Str., Lviv  
Circulation – 1,000 copies*