

ICPS newsletter

Ministry of Economy working on standards for public participation in design of governmental programs

The International Centre for Policy Studies continues to implement educational projects that aim to develop the institutional capacity of the Ukrainian government for strategic planning. This month, the Ministry of Economy and European Integration and ICPS launched a new project entitled "Institutional Capacity for Economic Program Development". The project will last for six months and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency

The goal of the project is to improve the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Economy as far as the Government's Economic and Social Development Program (ESDP) is concerned. The project provides training for twenty-four public servants on the principles of public policy, policy analysis, strategic planning, and communications management. Participants of the project have an opportunity to work on new policy analysis skills and get acquainted with world experience in government decision-making and policy planning and managing processes. The project emphasises the importance of organising horizontal communications within government as well as consultations with the public and the Verhovna Rada while compiling the Government's Economic and Social Development Program.

Training

The ESDP places a heavy demand on the professional skills of the public servants involved in its creation; these employees require the capacity to communicate both within the government and externally in order to see the document through to approval. Their work in this respect can be generally described as policy analysis; namely, they should:

- provide Cabinet with a clear and complete picture of pro and contra considerations when assessing different public policy alternatives;
- create substantive parameters for discussion of policy issues by all interested parties;
- assist the Cabinet of Ministers in dealing with various participants in the policy making process;

Training seminars topics

1. *Introduction: Policy-Definition, Capacity, Principles*
2. *Drafting Policy Papers*
3. *Providing Policy Advice*
4. *Working in Teams*
5. *The Legal Framework for Policy Development-Principles and Guidelines for Submissions of Documents to Cabinet*
6. *Project Management in Policy Development*
7. *Managing Policy Relationships*
8. *Managing Legislative Relationships*
9. *Public Consultations in Policy Development*
10. *Cost-Benefit Analysis*
11. *Analysing Program Effectiveness and Efficiency*

Dear readers!

Please note that during August 27–September 21 ICPS Newsletter was not issued. Starting from this issue we renew weekly publishing of the newsletter.

Last week's events

Regional workshops for public servants. Recently as a part of the project "Public sector capacity building to accelerate reforms in Ukraine", which is now in its second phase were held four regional workshops, co-organised with ICPS.

- on 13–14 September, "Openness and transparency of local governance", organised by Dnipropetrovsk branch of the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration (UAPA);
- on 17–18 September, "Project management in regional governance", hosted by the Lviv branch of the UAPA;
- on 18–19 September, "Urban economic development", held at the Kharkiv branch of the UAPA;
- on 20–21 September, "Public health reform" organised by the Odesa branch of the UAPA.

Among the participants of the workshops were public servants, representatives of local governments and NGOs, who earlier, thanks to the project, had taken part in fellowships at the Malopolska Institute of Local Government and Administration and in National School of Public Administration (Poland).

The goal of the project is to build government capacity in Ukraine to implement administrative, budgetary, regional, and educational reforms

according to European standards. The analysis of Polish experience, as well as discussing the prospects of Ukrainian integration into Europe, can improve the professional skills of Ukrainian public servants.

Further information on these workshops is available during this month online at: www.icps.kiev.ua.

Canadian interns at the International Center for Policy Studies. Two new Canadian interns—Paul Miazga and Agnieszka Natkaniec—started working at ICPS, thanks to a project of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), which is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The two will be working as members of the Public Voice Project.

Mr. Miazga's background is in journalism and political science. He will help with the publications unit and aid the local staff in disseminating information about the work done by ICPS.

The first major task for Ms. Natkaniec, whose background is in international relations and international business, is to organise and coordinate an international conference titled "Citizen participation in the Decision-Making Process at the Local Level in CEE Countries: Concepts and Practices". This conference will take place from 22 to 25 November in Yaremche.

Both interns will work at ICPS till next March.

Latest issue of *Transformatsiia*. ICPS has published a new issue of *Transformatsiia* (a Russian-language version of *Transition*, the World Bank and William Davidson Institute bulletin), according to its contract with the World Bank.

The new issue contains articles on the following topics:

- World Bank policy in the Balkans;
- problems of Latvian integration into Europe;
- why the Communists won the parliamentary elections in Moldova;
- virtual economy and growth in Russia;
- analysis of the new Ukrainian Bankruptcy Law.

*If you are interested in regularly receiving *Transformatsiia*, please send your information to the e-mail address: marketing@icps.kiev.ua, or visit our website: www.icps.kiev.ua/publications/rus/tr.*

- bring together and put into practice useful knowledge taken from a variety of sources researching an issue and other information existing both inside and outside the government;

- interact with interest groups inside and outside of government.

To develop all the new skills, required of proficient public servants, participants of the project are engaged in the following types of training activities:

- training seminars;
- writing policy papers assisted by international experts in policy analysis, who provide necessary comments and consultations;
- preparing a plan for launching and managing the new cycle of the Economic and Social Development Program, as well as compiling manuals on how to hold consultations with the Verhovna Rada, horizontal consultations within the government, and consultations with the public.

Project participants and facilitators

Ihor Shumylo, First Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy and European Integration of Ukraine, is the Project Director. Representatives from the following government agencies are project participants:

- Ministry of Economy and European Integration;
- Ministry of Finance;
- Ministry of Labour and Social Policy;

- Ministry of Agricultural Policy;
- National Bank;
- State Property Fund;
- State Committee on Regulatory Policy and Entrepreneurship.

Participants are divided into eight working teams, each dealing with a specific aspect of policy analysis.

Canadian and other international experts provide consultations for the project participants, while ICPS provides project facilitation and organisational support.

The Canadian side is represented by Paul Brown, a professor at the School of Public Administration, Dalhousie University, Canada, who heads the project training curriculum and is the project's chief consultant (Paul.Brown@dal.ca), and Dr. Kate Woodman, Canadian resident coordinator for the project at ICPS (kwoodman@icps.kiev.ua).

The Ukrainian team of project facilitators includes Andrii Vyshnevsky, ICPS Public Administration Reform Program director, as Project Manager (avyshnevsky@icps.kiev.ua), and Andrii Bega, as Project Coordinator, ICPS (abega@icps.kiev.ua). ■

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Further information on other ICPS training projects for policy process participants is available online at: <http://www.icps.com.ua/ukr/policymakers.html>

Project working teams

1. *Macroeconomic stability and effective budget policy as prerequisites for successful economic development*
2. *Development of economic preconditions for the effective operation of agribusiness*
3. *Increasing the impact of small and medium-sized enterprises on the economic growth*
4. *Improving the mechanism of interaction between the national and local authorities, and stimulating regional development*
5. *Financial basis for economic growth through improvement of the credit-and-savings system and the investment climate in the country*
6. *Improving competitiveness of the national economy through reform of ownership relations and introduction of an effective business management system*
7. *Bringing the level of social security and humanitarian development up to international standards*
8. *Increasing the level of openness of the national economy to foreign trade and investments*

ICPS Newsletter is a weekly publication of the International Centre for Policy Studies delivered by electronic mail. To be included in the distribution list mail to: marketing@icps.kiev.ua. *ICPS Newsletter* editor Maria Melnyk (mmelnyk@icps.kiev.ua) English text editor D. (Ksenia) Ovcharenko. Articles may be reprinted with ICPS consent. Address: 8/5 Voloska Street, Kyiv 04070, Ukraine. Phone/fax (380-44) 463-6337. Web-site: <http://www.icps.kiev.ua>