

**Сприяння реформі соціальних послуг в Україні  
Facilitating Reform of Social Services in Ukraine**

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**Facilitating Reform of Social Services**

**In cooperation with**

**EU Project  
Development of Integrated Social Services for  
Exposed Families And  
Children**

**Report on Inter Oblast Inter Project Cooperation**

**Tuesday, April 17, 2007**

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**EU Project "Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children"  
Проект ЄС «Розвиток інтегрованих соціальних служб для вразливих сімей і дітей»**



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## **List of Acronyms**

DFID	Department for International Development
EU	European Union
EC	European Commission
MoFY&S	Ministry for Family Youth and Sports
MoLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
WGILSS	Working Group for the Implementation of the Law on Social Services
NGOs	Non Governmental Organisations
RAEG-plus	Extended Regional Adviser Expert Group
PPDG	Policy and Practice Development Group
WG	Working Group
CSSFCY	Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth

## Contents

<b>Background</b> .....	5
<b>DFID Engagement on EU/EC issues</b> .....	5
<b>Facilitating Reform of Social Services FRSSU</b> .....	5
<b>Project Objective</b> .....	5
<b>Project Activities</b> .....	5
<b>EveryChild Ukraine, EU Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children”</b> .....	6
<b>The Project Objective</b> .....	6
<b>Project Activities</b> .....	6
<b>Pilot Region</b> .....	7
<b>Reference of Project Work to Policy and National Ministries</b> .....	7
<b>Local level strategies</b> .....	8
<b>Current Status</b> .....	8
<b>Itinerary Undertaken</b> .....	9
<b>Participants from Kharkiv</b> .....	11
<b>Dates</b> .....	12
<b>Expected outcomes</b> .....	12
<b>Strengths and Limitations of the visit</b> .....	13
<b>Actual outcomes of the process</b> .....	13
<b>List of Kharkiv Oblast Participants</b> .....	15

# Facilitating Reform of Social Services

In cooperation with

## EU Project Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families And Children

### Report on Inter Oblast Inter Project Cooperation

#### Background

DFID has, as a priority, donor, cooperation, harmonization and EU engagement. DFID has developed an exit strategy from Ukraine that rests upon the principles of:

- The Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness;
- Facilitation of effectiveness of bilateral programmes;
- The EU Ukraine Action Plan;
- Ukrainian Government Priorities;
- DFID's contributions to the EU Commission's Development Programmes;
- The DFID graduation plan for Ukraine; and
- Visions and means of facilitating sustainability.

#### DFID Engagement on EU/EC issues

DFID engagement with EU/EC driven processes will form a key part of the work of DFID Ukraine for the period from now until the DFID Ukraine office closes.

DFID is:

- co-operating more actively with the EC Delegation in-country;
- feeding through evidence based information to DFID London team to help inform discussions at the Brussels level;
- liaising with other donors and project teams to ensure lessons learned from projects are widely disseminated and are made available for subsequent reform activities; and
- engaging with other donors on a more practical basis to promote close co-operation.

This proposal is a key example of inter project inter donor cooperation.

#### Facilitating Reform of Social Services FRSSU

##### Project Objective

The DFID project *purpose* is to build capacity at local, regional and national level to develop and pilot good quality, cost effective social care services.

The *goal* is improved social services in Ukraine.

##### Project Activities

The project focuses on:

- building capacity within national, regional and local government administrations to develop and implement a social services reform strategy:
  - at the ***national level***, a range of outputs have been developed in order to promote policy development and dialogue, such as Public Expenditure Management for Social Services; NGO Legislative Frameworks and Taxation Policy; “Europeanisation and European Choice - Social Services Policy and Legislative Frameworks” - Developing the Conceptual Frame for a National Document on Social Services Policy;
  - at the ***Regional*** (Oblast) and ***Local*** (City, Municipality and Rayon level) levels, the focus has been on the development of a series of: social services development strategies in four pilot areas – Dergachi Rayon and Kharkiv City, in Kharkiv Oblast, and Kamyanyets Podilsky Town and Krasyliv Rayon in Khmelnytsky Oblast; strategies to provide support to: vulnerable children and families: the Homeless; and vulnerable adults in Kharkiv Oblast; local needs assessments (community maps) designed to, in conjunction with administrative data, provide an evidence base for policy development – and, will be presented as a series of methodologies for practical application throughout Ukraine; a locally based programme of 40 mini-grant projects, now completing – key criteria supporting mini-grant project development and approval specified a focus on innovation and partnership.

Children and Families is a particular focus and target group of FRSSU activities.

### **EveryChild Ukraine, EU Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children”**

#### **The Project Objective**

The Project Objective is to:

- reduce the number of children placed in residential institutions in Kyiv oblast by supporting the development of local social services which can support families or provide alternative family care.

#### **Project Activities**

The project focuses on a number of different activities, to develop:

- and implement innovative models of integrated social services for vulnerable children and families in Kyiv oblast;
- and improve legislation which will support the new models of social services as well as improve existing family and child protection legislation in accordance with European standards; and
- adapt specialised training programmes to increase the capacity of the staff of the Ministry for Family Youth and Sports (MoFY&S) and State Social Services for

Family, Children and Youth so that they are able to provide and continue to develop the new services.

### **Pilot Region**

The EveryChild project uses Kyiv oblast as a pilot oblast, developing and implementing services in 34 rayons and demonstrating the Integrated Social Services model in Brovary city, Vyshgorod and Fastiv rayons.

Kyiv oblast was selected as the pilot region because many of the prerequisites for a successful reform of the childcare system already exist. The possibility of implementing a transition model from institutional, residential care, to family-type child centred forms of state childcare through development of integrated social services has already been confirmed by the following factors:

- key personnel at oblast level understand and support the need for change;
- support and collaboration in a number of successful social sector projects with a range of local and international NGOs (including EveryChild);
- willingness of institutions of local governing and rayon state administrations to disseminate new experience;
- an active interagency structure especially set up to support change in childcare structures – the Kyiv Oblast Coordination Council for Child Protection. The role of the Council is to develop policy and to coordinate state and NGO activity in developing and implementing a childcare reform Programme. As a result of working together closely for over two years the members of Coordination Council have a clear understanding of how to achieve these changes; and
- The Council has benefited from European experience and understands how to use technical assistance;

### **Reference of Project Work to Policy and National Ministries**

The FRSSU project works in particular conjunction with MoLSP; and the EveryChild project with MoFY&S, and – with its department of State Social Services for Family, Children and Youth.

For broad and consistent development of policy and strategic guidelines, both projects engage with:

- the MoLSP led Working Group for the Implementation of the Law on Social Services (WGILSS); and proposed financial issues sub-group which is now being developed;
- NGO and community development at local levels;
- the identification and promotion of innovative practices and lessons learnt derived from the implementation of the mini-grant project programme; and
- both projects secure a process of bottom up policy engagement.
  - In the case of EveryChild, the Kyiv oblast authorities are based in the capital which means they have access to Central Government more easily and can get support for change;
  - And FRSSU has a structure of governance bodies that pass policy development ideas and innovative experiences up and down from central government to Rayon and community levels.

## Local level strategies

In both projects, attention has been paid to regional and local strategy development and capacity building of local level stakeholders in order that they are:

- able to engage constructively in policy focused discussions;
- prepared to implement change in a managed way; and are
- well placed to continue innovations and new systems in a sustainable manner after project closures.

For example the EveryChild project has supported a

- Kyiv Oblast Coordination Council for Child Protection. The role of the Council is to develop policy and to coordinate state and NGO activity in developing and implementing a childcare reform

## Current Status

Recent cooperation between the projects focussed upon a seminar (on 21<sup>st</sup> November) in Kharkiv at which:

- members of the EveryChild team including the
- Head of Programmes Department, EveryChild Ukraine,
- the Director of Centre of Social Services for Family Children and Youth, Kyiv Oblast State Administration; and
- the Director, Centre of Social Services for Family Children and Youth, Brovary Municipal Administration.

discussed with members of the FRSSU project including representatives from:

- Dergachi Rayon PPDG;
- Kharkiv City PPDG; and
- Kharkiv Oblast RAEG-plus.

“Aspects of the Applicability to the Kharkiv region of a variant of Alternative Children’s Services, as have been developed in Kyiv oblast”.

The seminar was intended to share experiences and ideas between the EU Project with FRSSU stakeholders in Kharkiv Oblast in order to:

- help Kharkiv city and Dergachi rayon PPDGs, RAEG-plus Children and Families WG, Centres of Social Services for Families, Children and Youth, Minor’s departments develop and use in Kharkiv oblast, a variant of the model of integrated social services developed by the EU Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children;
- give the Kharkiv participants in the seminar an understanding of the ideas and approaches developed in the EU project. These are:
  - A Model of Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Families and Children in Kyiv oblast;



- Inter-agency cooperation in order to prevent institutionalization of children;
- Preventative work on early intervention with families in crisis. Support of families in difficult living conditions;
- Model of the Training Centre of Kyiv oblast CSSFCY.

A key resolution of the seminar was that a delegation from Kharkiv should visit Kyiv oblast to see first hand progress made there including:

- Model of Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Families and Children in Kyiv oblast, how it works.
- The family type forms of alternative care that already exist in Kyiv oblast such as family type homes and foster families;
- Smaller mixed type home institutions which provide residential care to groups of 30 to 50 children;
- Innovative alternative forms of preventive care for children and their families, including:
  - support for single mothers who may wish to abandon their newly born child at birth,
  - children sleeping rough on the streets,
  - children at risk through abuse and (if they are being developed),
  - alternative facilities for young offenders.

In particular the Kharkiv Group would hope to gain a greater understanding of:

- joint agreement and interdepartmental working, what this has thus far and continues to involve –with any elaboration of an agreed ‘model’, documentation, etc.;
- joint assessment/panel - again , with any elaboration of an agreed ‘model’, documentation, etc.;
- actions needed to increase the capacity of state employees and social workers to effectively provide Integrated Social Services;
- efforts needed to harness significant interest from local and international organisations in implementing child related projects in Kyiv oblast;
- next steps for applications and developments in Kharkiv and possible continuing links between both Oblasts.

### **Itinerary Undertaken**

*2 April 2007*

<b>10:00 – 11:45</b>	<b>General acquaintance with the EU Project «Development of Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Families and Children»</b>
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10:00 – 10:10	Welcome to the members of delegations <i>Elayn Sammon</i> – Team Leader EU Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children in Kyiv oblast”
10:10 – 10:30	Presentation of the EU project "Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children in Kyiv oblast" <i>Zinayida Petrivna Kyjanitsa</i> – Deputy Director , ”EveryChild” Ukraine
10:30 – 10:45	”Assessment as a Basis of Efficient Social Work” <i>Zhanna Vasylivna Petrochko</i> – expert in social work of the EU Project ”Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children”
10:45 – 11:00	”Social work with families in difficult circumstances” <i>Larysa Ivanivna Stryga</i> – Project Coordinator ”EveryChild” in Ukraine
11:00 – 11:15	“Training of staff as a key component of the EU project implementation. Organisation and activities of Kyiv oblast training centre” <i>Olga Victorivna Pavlyk</i> –Director, Training Centre Kyiv oblast Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth
11:15 – 11:45	Discussion
11:45 – 12:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Round table:</b>
	<b>Implementation in Kyiv oblast of the European Union Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children”</b>
	<i>Volodymyr Semenovych Vovk</i> – acting Director of the State Social Services for Family, Children and Youth
	<i>Nadiya Vasylivna Tatarчук</i> –Head of the Department for Family and Youth of Kyiv oblast State Administration
	<i>Ljudmyla Oleksandrivna Nikolayenko</i> –Director, Kyiv oblast Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
	The delegation split into two groups
14:00 – 15:00	Transfer to the Vyshgorod district Centre of SSFCY and to Brovary municipality centre of SSFCY to get familiarized with the activities of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children
15:00 – 18:00	<b>Visit to the Vyshgorod district centre of SSFCY and Brovary municipality centre of SSFCY</b>
18:00 – 19:30	<b>Visit to children’s orphanage “Lyubystok”, village Velyki Petrivtsi</b>
20:00	<i>Dinner</i>
22:00	<i>Departure to Kyiv</i>

*3 April 2007*

<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<p><b>Visit to the centre “Mother and Child Together” in Fastiv City</b></p> <p><i>Larysa Maksymivna Bruy</i> – Director, Kyiv Oblast Centre of Social and Psychological Assistance "Mother and Child Together"</p>
<i>11:00 – 11:15</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>11:15 – 13:30</b>	<p><b>Round table:</b></p> <p><b>“Early intervention technique and prevention of mothers’ abandoning newly-born babies as a tool for overcoming early social orphanhood”</b></p> <p>“System of social work to prevent early identification and prevention of mothers’ abandoning children”</p> <p><i>Larysa Ivanivna Stryga</i> – Project Coordinator of “EveryChild” Ukraine</p> <p><i>Oleksandr Petrovych Romanukha</i> – Assistant, EU Project “Development of Integrated Social Services for Exposed Families and Children”</p> <p>Activities of early intervention social services on preventing of early social orphanhood</p> <p><i>Lyudmyla Oleksandrivna Nikolayenko</i> – Director, Kyiv oblast Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth</p> <p>Specific features of activities of the centre «Mother and child together» aimed at preventing mothers’ abandoning newly-born babies</p> <p><i>Larysa Maksymivna Bruy</i> – Director, Kyiv oblast Centre of Social and Psychological Assistance “Mother and Child Together”</p> <p>Discussion and summing up</p>
13:30	Departure to Kyiv
<i>14:00 – 15:00</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
17:30	Departure to Kharkiv

### **Participants from Kharkiv**

Taking part in the visit were 10 of the FRSSU Kharkiv stakeholders and 2 local FRSSU team members.

The Kharkiv team consisted of:

- 2 persons from the Kharkiv Oblast Administration;
- 3 persons from Kharkiv City;
- 5 persons from Dergachi rayon;
- 2 persons from the regional FRSSU team.

The Kharkiv delegation consisted of:

- 1 representative of local authority (Dergachi Rayon State Administration).
- 3 Directors of CSSCFYs from City, Oblast and Dergachi Rayon;
- 3 Heads of Services on Minor's Issues from City, Oblast and Dergachi Rayon;
- 1 specialist from Department of Education;
- 1 specialist from Dergachi Territorial Centre; and
- 1 representative of NGO.

This issue of choosing which project stakeholders has as usual been democratically resolved in the governance groups (Kharkiv Oblast Regional Advisers Expert Group plus, Kharkiv city and Dergachi Rayon Policy and Practice Development Group).

### **Dates**

2-3 April, 2007

Arrivals and departures as above.

### **Expected outcomes**

The study visit was anticipated to have the following outcomes for Kharkiv and Kyiv Oblasts:

- The major target outcome for Kyiv and Kharkiv oblast would be to draft a formal agreement for future cooperation which details specific areas of cooperation.
- At the final meeting the groups will seek a resolution that they will – having gained approval from superiors after the study visit - sign an agreement of cooperation to do a series of specific tasks.

And for Kharkiv Oblast:

- Awareness of steps to a Model of Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Families and Children to reduce admissions to institutional care.
- Understanding of inter-agency cooperation in order to reduce institutionalization of children with models of integrated social services for vulnerable families and children.
- Enhance accessibility of social services, with assessments of and early intervention with families in crisis.
- The family type forms of alternative care that already exist in Kyiv oblast such as family type homes and foster families
- Potential for applications of local foster services and development of adoption services
- Use of joint assessment/placement panels with any elaboration of an agreed 'model', documentation, etc.;
- Beginnings of local actions to Increasing the capacity of state employees and social workers to effectively provide Integrated Social Services

and for Kyiv Oblast:

- Increased confidence in the innovative way forward for these services;
- A championship role in social services reform in this area, with enhanced prestige that this brings, and the support of Kharkiv oblast in national forums.

## **Strengths and Limitations of the visit**

### **Strengths**

- The programme of the visit combined presentation of theoretical models developed within the EU project, and an opportunity to see in practice how these models are implemented.
- It was possible to get familiarised with the documentation that supported the process of creating innovative services in Kyiv Oblast.
- The participants had an opportunity to get acquainted with the operation of the centres of social services for family, children and youth of a municipality and a rural district, i.e. visit places similar to the ones they work at in Kharkiv, so as to facilitate the use of experience in their own work.
- The participants saw innovative models of social services created in the Kyiv Oblast and were convinced that it is possible to develop new services within the current Ukrainian legislative framework.
- During their visit to Brovary Town and the Vyshgorod district, the participants were able to split into small groups and communicate and share experience with their “twin”-colleagues from Kyiv Oblast.
- The participants met with representatives of local governments who shared their experience of allocating funds from local budgets for financing the innovative models that had been initiated by the EU project, and demonstrated awareness of social problems and understanding of the priority need to address them.
- Taking part in the visit was a local government representative from Dergachi Rayon, which allows to hope that the models the representatives of the rayon saw will be implemented.

### **Limitations**

- Representatives of local government from Kharkiv City did not take part in the study visit; rather limited and constrained effective support from the authorities in Kharkiv City, for some parts of the FRSSU project’s activities, is a hindrance on the way of developing innovative social services for the city and the whole of Kharkiv oblast .
- Due to time constraints, there wasn’t possible to organize more than a brief discussion to exchange of thoughts and impressions among the participants after the visit. This deprived the participants of the opportunity to have a joint reflection on the outcomes of the visit and the possibility of using the experience in their work.

### **Actual outcomes of the process**

- Participants of the visit received a clear vision of the way:
  - integrated social services created by the EU Project operate;
  - relations between the social services and the local authorities are built;
  - children are prevented from getting into residential institutions;
  - efficient activities in creation of foster families are organised;
  - client needs assessment is made.
- Participants from Kharkiv received incentives to improve their activities.
- The Kharkiv delegation received information materials concerning the creation of foster families, early intervention, etc.
- Professional contacts among experts from the two oblasts were developed. Upon return from Kyiv oblast, Kharkiv participants contacted with their colleagues on many opportunities concerning the ways to address professional issues.
- Plans are in place concerning the conclusion of an agreement between the Dergachi and the Vyshgorod rayon state administrations for the purpose of further sharing of experience.

**List of Kharkiv Oblast Participants**

Tetyana Petrivna Pecherskykh	Head of Service on Minors' Issues of Kharkiv Oblast Administration
Tetyana Viktorivna Zotova	Director of Kharkiv Oblast Centre for Social Services for Families, Children and Youth
Olexandr Petrovych Malko	Head of Service on Minors' Issues of Kharkiv City Council
Sergiy Victorovych Odarchenko	Director of Kharkiv City Centre for Social Services for Families, Children and Youth
Sergiy Vitaliyovych Pomazan	Head of “Stopping Orphanhood in Kharkiv oblast”
Mykhaylo Ivanovych Bushev	Deputy Head of Dergachi Rayon State Administration
Larysa Vasylivna Kalyta	Head of Service on Minors' Issues of Dergachi Rayon Administration
Nataliya Oleksiyivna Cherkashyna	Director of Dergachi Rayon Centre for Social Services for Families, Children and Youth
Oksana Sergiyivna Brovalska	Head of Department of Dergachi Territorial Centre
Margaryta Mykolayivna Ivanenko	Specialist of Dergachi Rayon Department of Education
Anastasia Shklovets	Social Services Children and Family Capacity Building Specialist, FRSSU Project
Tetyana Chernetska	Kharkiv Project Officer, FRSSU Project