

Protocol of Cooperation

Between “Verhnyanska village council of amalgamated territorial community” and USAID Decentralization Offering Better Results and Efficiency Program (DOBRE) implemented by Global Communities regarding the Program implementation in Ukraine.

«03» травня 2019 р.

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Ukraine Regarding Humanitarian and Technical Economic Cooperation of May 7, 1992, “Verhnyanska village council of amalgamated territorial community” (Recipient) and the USAID Decentralization Offering Better Results and Efficiency Program (DOBRE), implemented by Global Communities, hereby affirm, by entering into this Protocol, their agreement with objectives, tasks, activities under the Program in Ukraine.

1. Program goal and objectives

DOBRE will direct most of its technical and financial assistance at the local level enabling newly formed Consolidated Communities (CCs) to manage better resources, increase the quality of public services, stimulate the local economy, and improve citizen engagement.

DOBRE has two main objectives:

- Strengthening good local governance to effectively manage resources and services that respond to community priorities; and
- Assisting citizens and civil society to interact constructively with government and demand transparency and services.

2. Program implementation term

The DOBRE Program implementation term is from June 8, 2016 to June 7, 2021

3. Program tasks

DOBRE will reach its objectives by implementing the following tasks:

- Support strategic planning in targeted communities;
- Identify and support local economic development (LED) plans;
- Develop Service Delivery Improvement Plans (SDIP);
- Provide financial assistance for implementation of the strategic plan, LED and SDIP activities;
- Assist CC in improvement of the budgeting and financial management procedures;
- Improve citizen participation;
- Support youth engagement in local governance issues;
- Improve communications on decentralization.

4. Expected results of the program implementation

- Greater number of strategic plans developed using inclusive/participatory methods;
- Demonstrable improvement in the quality of public services;
- Increases in own source revenues;

- Improved participation of citizens in consolidated community decision-making and other activities;
- E-Governance tools adopted by consolidated communities that discourage corruption
- Increased support for decentralization reforms.

5. Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria of achieving the program effectiveness:

The Program effectiveness criteria include the following:

- **Strategic planning trainings** – CCs will be equipped to strategically plan for socio-economic development using inclusive participatory methods;
- **Local economic development trainings will be conducted and implemented** – LED plans and projects will lead to increased investment and own-source revenue;
- **Citizen engagement training will be conducted** –CCs and citizens will have improved capacities and mechanisms for citizen participation;
- **Youth local councils will be created** – council participants will receive a voice and exposure to good governance practices, providing the foundation for the next generation of leaders to succeed in serving their communities.

6. Lists of assets, works and services, intellectual property rights, other resources to be purchased and provided under the program:

- Different types of trainings including practical workshops, seminars, round tables for strategic planning, local economic development, citizen engagement, etc.;
- On-site consulting, mentoring, advisory support for developing Local Socio-Economic Strategic Plans, Service Delivery Improvement Plans and participatory budgets, etc;
- Study tours for local authorities;
- Grants for projects in the area of improvement of service delivery (including infrastructure, transportation, water and sanitation, and other), local economic development, inter-municipal cooperation and other.

7. Expected impact of the program on the development of a relevant industry or region

- Strengthened local governance, deepen democracy, build prosperity, and promote stability.
- Stronger communities through community-driven development, in which citizens work together with their local government to improve their lives.
- Partnerships across civil society, the private sector, and government provide tangible results through new economic opportunities and better managed local services, as well as a foundation for future cooperation and development.
- The achievements of this model of governance provide an example to other communities in Ukraine, and broaden the appeal and impact of decentralization.

8. Obligations of the implementer regarding assistance

DOBRE shall be responsible for the following:

- Provide technical assistance to support “**Verhnyanska village council of amalgamated territorial community**” in implementing decentralization reform, including but not limited to:

- Preparation of a strategic plan that brings all communities together to assess their current status, identify challenges and outline actions and assistance to succeed
- Identifying local economic development needs and create plans for solutions
- Improving public services based on local conditions and citizen needs
- Strengthen other local government operations identified by the strategic plan or other assessments as needed to improve CC performance
- Develop better budgeting and financial management systems and practices to build trust and confidence of citizens
- Integrate different mechanisms for citizens, civil society and business community to participate in decision making and other aspects of local governance, launch public oversight mechanisms to reduce corruption risks
- Provide better information to citizens, civil society and business community on local government activities, plans and results
- Conduct surveys and assessments to track progress of the local government
- Provide funds to help implement identified needs, particularly in local economic development, service delivery improvements and infrastructure;
- Work with the local government and community on different monitoring, transparency and anti-corruption mechanisms to strengthen trust between the local government and its community;
- Help establish a Youth Local Council or other mechanism for youth engagement to voice the concerns and needs of youth to the local government;
- Provide small grants to community groups and organizations to stimulate engagement, monitoring and communications between citizens, civil society and the business community and their local government;
- Other assistance and support as mutually agreed upon by both parties.

9. Obligations of the recipient

Recipient shall be responsible for the following depending on funds availability:

- Fully cooperate in all aspects of DOBRE programming and assistance;
- Designate an official point of contact for DOBRE;
- Provide space for DOBRE team members when they visit the community and provide support;
- Make relevant staff and officials available for capacity building and technical assistance activities, events, etc.
- Cooperate on implementation of surveys and assessments that measure and track their progress;
- Provide budgetary, financial, statistical and other information to DOBRE as needed for programming and reporting and in conformity with Ukrainian law;
- Collect information and report on program activities as requested by DOBRE;
- Share program results with the public and other CCs;
- Strengthen cooperation with its citizens, civil society and the business community;
- Participate in cost sharing as it relates to in-kind grant awards from DOBRE;
- Use any equipment and/or capital improvements provided by DOBRE (if any) to “

Verhnyanska village council of amalgamated territorial community” for the purposes intended and specified by the program.

This Protocol takes effect on the day of its signing by the parties and will be effective until June 7, 2021.

Verhnyanska village council of
amalgamated territorial community

Kalysh district
Ivano-Frankivsk region



Filipovych Mykola
village head

ULC of Village Verkhnia

Date: 24.06.19p.

DOBRE Program



Barry Reed: Chief of Party

Date: 24-6-19