

GURT Resource Centre

Annual Report 2011



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WHO WE ARE

GURT Resource Centre is the leading national center for societal information and expertise. Since 1995 we have been committed to a better Ukraine through strengthening civil society.

VISION

GURT exists for the conscious and successful Ukraine where civil society ensures dignity, confidence, and trust among citizens at local and national levels. GURT is going to play the role of the communication, knowledge and resource platform for active citizens – agents of societal change from all regions of Ukraine.

MISSION

Contributing to democratic societal transformations by using and developing the potential of CSOs and CBOs, GURT becomes the recognized communication, knowledge and resource platform for CSO and community leaders in Ukraine.

More: <http://global.gurt.org.ua/>

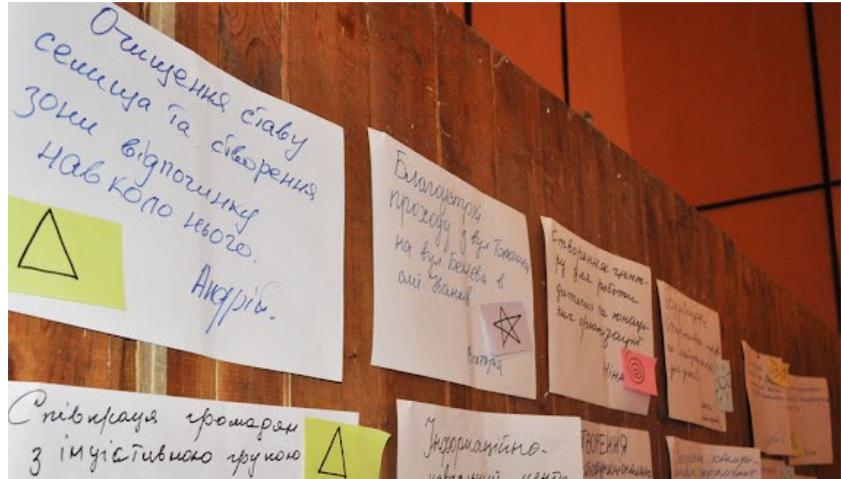


SOCIETAL INFORMATION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

to cultivate the practice of systematic proactive communication between CSO and community leaders stimulating inclusive civil society dialogue at national and local levels in Ukraine

Results and Achievements



In 2011 more than [2000 local initiatives and social projects](#) got information support from GURT. Via publishing news and various content at GURT web portal our users could find new partners, attract readers to their initiatives, involve volunteers or share successful experiences.

As a partner, GURT supported initiatives of such organizations as Peace Corps in Ukraine, British Embassy in Ukraine, UNDP Ukraine, IREX, and Microsoft.



British Embassy



Програма розвитку ООН
в Україні



[Mykhailo Izyumskiy](#), one of the top rate bloggers on GURT webportal, in his blog post "[Kharkiv has failed checkup for Euro`12](#)" described a story about physically challenged person who had arrived from Germany to Kharkiv and encountered hindrances to move free in the city. In several of days major TV-channels conducted an [interview](#) with that person and shared the story.

This case shows the capacity of GURT web-portal to raise community awareness of societal issues and shape public opinion on societally important issues.

Results and Achievements



In 2011 GURT Resource Centre launched a series of interviews with world-famous management experts, training providers, civil society development gurus on its portal with purpose of expanding horizons, sharing valuable ideas and striking practices.

More: <http://gurt.org.ua/interviews/>



Maurizio Carrara, President of UniCredit Foundation, shared his opinion about mechanisms of CSO financing.

Mr. Carrara suggests organizations to [“think different”](#) when looking for financial support and relying not only upon donors’ grants.



David Helmer, President and Co-owner of Helmer.Inc Company, [shared his position](#) on charity, corporate social responsibility and significant aspects of its effectiveness.

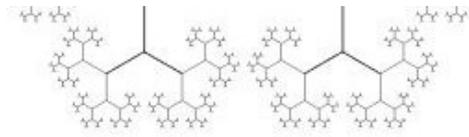


Harrison Owen, Organization Development Consultant from USA and godfather of Open Space technology, [talked of his experience](#) in organizational development and organizational transformation with GURT’s readers.



Bengt Olof Johansson, expert from Sweden, in [the interview “Bringing Swedish model of trainings for journalists to Ukraine”](#) told about his experience of organizing study circles for journalists.

Results and Achievements



Розбудовуючи інфраструктуру громадянського суспільства:
комунікаційний компонент

Результати дослідження

In order to understand current trends in communication sphere of Ukrainian civil society and reveal services-in-demand for CSOs, GURT Resource Centre has conducted a [research into civil society communication infrastructure](#). It included a web-survey, interviews with civil society experts, representatives of donor organizations and content-analysis of organizations' web-sites.

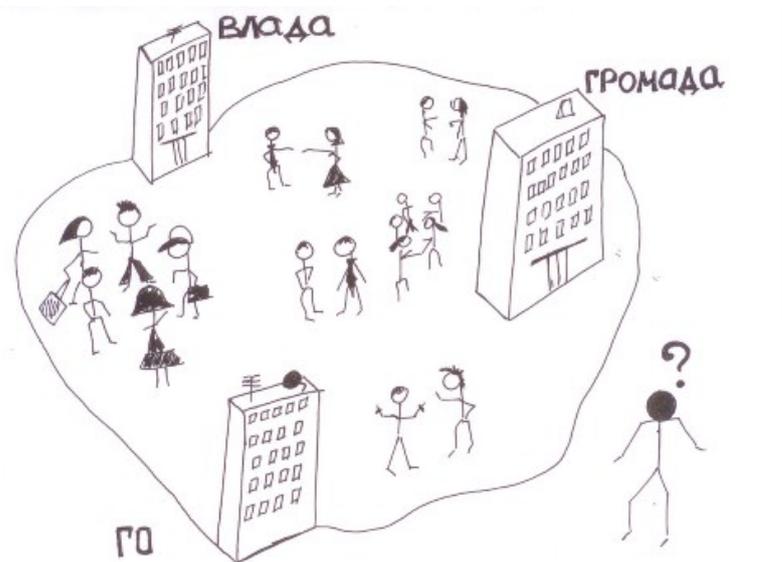
Key Research Findings:

- civil society web-sites are become more user-friendly and client-oriented, though the most promising perspective is open for specialized web-resources;
- development of information web-resources demands large investments which can't be covered solely by means of users' donations;
- In circumstances of information overload, emergence of multiple resources and social networks takeover, success of media web-resources will depend not only on organization`s strategic plan, but on possibility of meeting users needs;
- civil society web-resources should be ready to compete with commercial media resources and propose unique first-rate services for users.

Research findings were presented on April 28, 2011 in terms of a round-table discussion for experts in the conference-hall of the International Renaissance Foundation. Research results helped GURT team to update GURT web portal Editorial Policy and develop new quality vision of GURT web portal content distribution.

More: gurt.org.ua/gurt/projects/irf/

Results and Achievements



PRoGOn gests

New media-product [PRoGOn](#) was launched by GURT Resource Centre in September, 2011. PRoGOn is aimed at delivering information on impact of civil society and social initiatives to wide public. This product has been launched in response to GURT web-portal user's comment as for the complete lack of platform, where Ukrainian civil society adherents could share their experiences, successful practices and develop joint initiatives

All media content is produced by volunteers, who joined the venture. In terms of [PRoGOn](#) GURT volunteers visit CSOs' offices, make photos and film footage, conduct interviews covering successful social initiatives.

In July, 2011 GURT Resource Centre started a project aimed at creating a team of volunteer reporters in order to provide up-to-date attractive information products for CSOs, CBOs, local communities, and governmental authorities.

GURT used Swedish method of study circles to train the volunteers. This initiative started as a response to CSO complaints concerning the fact that their initiatives are poorly presented in traditional media.

All publications: <http://gurt.org.ua/progon/>

Results and Achievements



In 2009 GURT Resource Centre started an initiative which became one of the most prominent events in Ukrainian civil society sector — National Capacity Development Fair.

Over the last three years GURT team achieved impressive results - direct connections between civil society organizations and service providers were established, customer need started being shaped civil society service providers started to offer and develop new relevant services and products , etc.

In 2011 GURT organized three regional capacity development fairs which took place in **Western Ukraine** (Khmelnitskii, June 23, 2011), **Southern Ukraine** (Zaporizhia, July 14, 2011) and **Eastern Ukraine** (Kharkiv, October 10, 2011). The main objectives of these events were stimulating professional discussion among stakeholders regarding the need for organizational development of local organizations and searching the best ways to establish links between service providers and their customers.

On November 17, 2011 **IV National Capacity Building Fair** was conducted in Kyiv in the innovative business format and gathered unprecedented number of participants – **over 300 Ukrainian civil society leaders and representatives**, members of the Cabinet of Ministers Secretariat and other state officials who gained the opportunity to discover effective practices and innovative services in the field of organizational CSO capacity development from leading service providers.

More: <http://gurt.org.ua/capacity/4fair/>

Results and Achievements



In 2011 GURT implemented the project “**Cross-border Synergy for Community Development**”, supported by the **Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation (Bucharest)**. The venture was aimed at strengthening capacities of local communities in self-governance and mobilization through accumulating and sharing best practices of local Romanian and Ukrainian communities. T

he project was implemented in partnership with **FDSC (Bucharest)**. Open Space conference on development of joint initiatives of Ukrainian and Romanian communities was held on April 8, 2011. **During the event useful contacts between Ukrainian and Romanian community leaders were established and first steps towards effective cooperation were made. Furthermore, ideas for prospective joint projects were developed. As a result, First Practical Toolkit on Community Self-organization was created.** Other online tools, namely on citizen journalism, study circles, governance are to appear in 2012-2014.

Aiming at further support of Ukrainian communities, in the end of 2011 **GURT started project “New Opportunities for Marginalized Rural Communities in Chernobyl-Affected Areas of Ukraine” in order** to ensure inclusive governance in depressive rural communities of Chernobyl-affected areas by involving all community stakeholders into participation in the innovative community development activities and introducing civic education as a method that allows equal participation for marginalized groups.

The project is to be implemented in 2011-2013 and is financially supported by [the United Nations Democracy Fund](#).



Online toolkit
tools.gurt.org.ua

Results and Achievements



UNDEF  The United Nations
Democracy Fund

Landis MacKellar,
UNDEF observer:

What struck me in the project is the emphasis on cooperative, constructive, collaborative relationships and solutions for the relationships between civil society and public authorities on the local level. This project selected an effective approach to build trust and mutual understanding between these actors.

In 2009—2011 GURT has been implemented the project **“Strengthening civil society across borders to develop democracy”** in partnership with Euclid Network (London) and with support of United Nations Democracy Fund.

In February 2011 GURT organized a study visit to Brussels and London for 6 representatives of government, civil society and members of project steering groups from Poltava and Sumy. The aim of the study visit was to form clearer understanding of European institutions operation and collaboration of civil society and both local and national government in the UK. The study tour was an additional opportunity to deepen the participants’ knowledge in CSO – local authorities partnership building.

As a result, the project steering group in Poltava was successful in transforming the Poltava city civic council, which has a strong mandate, increasing membership and developing a new [website](#) in order to enhance transparency and accountability of the body.

The project steering group in Sumy created the first civic council in Sumy city, which is using flexible, more functional approach than most other civic councils. If this model is successful in the medium term, it could become a pattern for other civic councils to adopt. The other particularly striking achievement in Sumy was the stunning advocacy success of the coalition formed by the youth organization “Sumy Student Brotherhood”, which succeeded to revise the results and re-run the grants scheme implemented by local government.

On July 8-9, 2011 the international conference “Improving partnership of government and civil society: experience, methods, models” was held in Kyiv. The event gathered over 100 participants from Moldova, Ukraine, and the UK. The practical outcome of the conference were recommendations enabling more efficient cooperation between CSOs and state bodies. The recommendations are available at: <http://gurt.org.ua/news/recent/11086/>

More: <http://governance.org.ua/>

<http://www.euclidnetwork.eu/>

FINANCES

Non-Governmental Organization Gurt Resource Centre for NGO Development Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

<i>In thousands of US Dollars</i>	2011
Cash receipts collected	
The United Nations Democracy Fund	98
Pact Inc.	76
International Labour Organization	45
Intellectual Perspective Charitable Fund	35
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	30
European Commission	28
Other	21
Total cash receipts collected	333
Cash spent	
Conferences, workshops, meetings, events	(220)
Project management	(31)
Information activities	(22)
Other	(1)
Total project-specific disbursements	(274)
Administrative disbursements	(37)
Fundraising disbursements	(6)
Other	1
Total disbursements made	(316)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	17
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	22
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	39

Approved for issue and signed on behalf of the Centre's Management on 20 February 2012.



 Bohdan Maslych
 Executive Director

Financial Statement Notes

An audit of GURT Resource Centre is conducted annually by an independent accounting company. An audit of GURT Resource Centre for the 2011 year was performed by LLC AF «PricewaterhouseCoopers (Audit) <http://www.pwc.com/>.

The complete audit financial statement is available on GURT web site www.gurt.org.ua

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<http://www.facebook.com/gurt.org.ua>
<https://twitter.com/gurtua>
<http://www.youtube.com/gurtrc>

