



Ukrainian Intercultural Cities Network ICC-UA Action Plan 2017-2018

Outline

The Ukrainian network of Intercultural Cities (ICC-UA) includes a group of cities that recognize the importance of the diversity advantage for the development of their communities. These cities take strategic approach to the implementation of the ICC's urban model of intercultural integration within their jurisdictions and beyond to foster intercultural dialogue, promote good practice exchange, and give more visibility to the network.

The network has launched its new phase in 2015 following the Recommendation CM/Rec (2015)1 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and is aiming to review relevant policies and develop intercultural strategies for all cities-members.

The primary goals of the ICC-UA Network are:

1. To work on the implementation of the urban model of intercultural integration in the ICC-UA member-cities assuring that concrete policies and actions are reflected in the individual city plans
2. Sign the Memorandum of the updated network with the joining cities-members and assure transparency of the ICC-UA structure and functioning
3. Employ and adapt the existing ICC Programme tools and approaches to Ukrainian cities' context with the Programme experts support assuring clear and straightforward implementation of the Programme concepts and principles
4. Create the ICC-UA Guidebook to assist the new cities in the process of joining the Ukrainian Network of Intercultural Cities and to retain the lessons learned
5. Assure connectivity and uninterrupted information and best practice exchange between the members of ICC-UA and the cities-members of the ICC Programme
6. Promote common new activities, collaborate closely with the member-cities assuring full understanding of the complexity and multidimensionality of the 'interculturality' concept and reaching out to a variety of local actors beyond art and culture field

Priority Areas

1. ICC Index

Until 2015, only one city in Ukraine – Melitopol – which is also a member of the European ICC network, was ICC Index tested. Other cities have shown interest in filling out the Index, yet, they commented that in the legislative and regulatory environments in Ukraine and the nature of city governance do not fit

exactly the ICC Index questionnaire as it is. Hence, there is a need to work through ICC questionnaire with the individual cities in order to adjust it to Ukrainian context. All cities agreed to do this within the 12 months period following the new ICC-UA Memorandum signing. The cities of Melitopol, Sumy and Vinnitsa were ICC-Index tested in 2016. Odessa, Lutsk and Pavlograd testing is scheduled for 2017.

2. Intercultural City Strategy

The ICC-UA members are highly interested in the intercultural city strategy development. The municipalities regard the ICC Plan as a useful tool for strategic city management and point out that now, during the period of ongoing decentralization in Ukraine, the time is right for such strategies development in the cities. Melitopol was the first city in Ukraine to design and officially approve its Intercultural City Strategy 2015-2020 under the close consultation of the national ICC-UA coordinator. The ICC methodology was adapted to Ukrainian environment within this exercise which made it particularly meaningful for other network members. Following Index analysis, the ICC-UA members agreed to launch the intercultural city strategy with the national coordinator's and ICC experts' support.

3. Expert visits

Three ICC-UA cities were already visited by the local and international experts – Melitopol (southeastern Ukraine), Sumy (northeast) and Vinnitsa (center Ukraine). These visits were dedicated to clear and straightforward interpretation of the ICC Programme strategy, concepts and working principles in the meetings with the city administrators, mayors, civil society organization, and local stakeholders. These visits highlighted once again the necessity to conduct the ICC index analysis of every Memorandum signing city as a prerequisite for solid intercultural city strategy development. Moreover, Ukrainian cities are keen to discover and learn from the best practices of the European fellow-members of the Programme. Of particular interest are international partnership and entrepreneurial activity development, city partnerships, and of course, refugee (or IDPs) integration. Expert visits within this context are planned for Lutsk, Odessa and Pavlograd in 2017.

4. The ICC-UA expansion

The ICC-UA seeks to expand the pool of its dedicated members. For this, a transparent application form has been designed by the national coordinator in 2015. The applications are accepted once a year (mid-October) and are assessed by the Evaluation Committee (group of ICC experts) of the Council of Europe. Any interested city may file such an application and submit it to the network ICC-UA.

5. Raising awareness, cooperation

The ICC-UA members work to implement the Intercultural Model for diversity management in their respective urban territories as well as at the intra- and inter-regional levels. It was evident from the expert visits to the ICC-UA cities – especially those where representatives from different Ukrainian cities took part – that there is an interest and a potential for inter-city collaboration across many areas of intercultural policy incl. private and public sector and such fields as public service, urban planning, tourism, entrepreneurship, education, and culture.

Moreover, individual city-members are eager to spread the intercultural idea in their regions. Many of them suggest cities-candidates for ICC-UA network membership from their regions. Some cities take a more practical approach in terms of such regional cooperation. For example, the Center for Sociological Studies of Melitopol University came with an initiative and worked together with the ICC-UA manager on a project proposal “The design of strategic intercultural integration roadmaps for polytechnic cities in Azov region.” The project is aiming to popularize the urban model of intercultural integration in such strategic for Ukraine cities as Mariupol, Mangush, Priazovye, Primorsk, Genichesk, Novooleksiyivka and

to establish collaborative ties between the cities in Azov region. The ICC-UA network is currently looking for sponsors of the project.

6. Meetings

The ICC-UA network members agreed to meet annually (the 1st meeting was held on 14-15 April 2016 in Vinnitsa, the 2nd – on 18 April 2017 in Odessa). Among the goals of such meetings are: 1) to report on the network activity for the previous year (individual cities and network as a whole), review the success stories, lessons learned, recognize the best practices and improve the performance wherever necessary, and 2) to adopt the ICC-UA Network Action Plan for the next year. Other working meetings of the network members also include those organized around common events and projects (see the table below).

Activities

1. Launch of the ICC-UA Guidebook initiative

The participants of the 1st ICC-UA coordinators meeting in April 2016 agreed to work closely on the ICC-UA Guidebook development and approved its Tables of Content. The Guidebook will contain the information about the principles and concepts of the ICC Programme in general, their actuality for Ukraine, adjusted to Ukrainian environment ICC Programme tools, the benefits and responsibilities of the ICC-UA network members, their experiences, and the step-by-step guide on how to become an ICC-UA member and maintain this status.

The ICC-UA Guidebook Development Workshop was held on 19 April 2017 in Odessa to organize a transparent and well-structured work process. It involved national and local ICC-UA coordinators as well as previously selected on competitive basis co-authors.

2. Prospects for common projects within the ICC network

The Communication for Integration (C4i) project raised particular interest within the ICC-UA members. Borrowing some project ideas, the ICC-UA coordinator together with the city of Pavlograd prepared an application for a relevant Call for Proposals by the EC in January 2017. The results of the application are expected in May 2017.

Sharing experiences/Study visits

From one side, the members of Ukrainian ICC Network are interested in exchange visits to the European network member-cities as well as in hosting their colleagues from Europe in Ukraine. They are looking for closer ties and partnerships development at the city level. From the other, the ICC-UA members have already participated in exchange visits within the Ukrainian network. A study visit is planned by all ICC-UA network members to Odessa in September 2017 for Odessa's experience sharing (in the form of workshop) in the field of tourism and social enterprise development.

Advertising Material/Video Mobs

As of today, almost all ICC-UA network members have marketing material and videos with intercultural content. During the 2nd coordinators meeting in Odessa in 2017, the cities agreed to share their best practices and advertising materials to make them available to other cities in the European and Ukrainian network.

Action Plan

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Experts Involved</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Experience from Melitopol: How to involve the community in intercultural plan development	2 days bw 11-17 July, 2016	Vinnitsa	Local experts, Melitopol: L. Afanasieva, A. Orlov	Vinnitsa City Hall	Vinnitsa city administration is the most active in ICC strategy design, yet the community involvement is lacking
Two-language "Intercultural Plan of Melitopol" publication	May-July 2016	Melitopol	K. Rubicondo, L. Afanacieva, A. Orlov, other experts from Melitopol	Melitopol City Hall	Consultations on the ICC Plan devt, design, editing & English translation were provided on volunteer basis by K. Rubicondo
ICC Index analysis Sumy	2 days bw 18-24 July, 2016	Sumy	K. Rubicondo, an ICC expert on public space development	ICC expert support CoE	
City Intercultural Policy/ Strategy Development Workshop	1 day bw 18-24 July, 2016	Sumy	K. Rubicondo, an ICC expert	ICC expert support CoE	Upon K.Rubicondo's relevant lecture in Vinnitsa, Sumy requested similar specialized & focused workshop for city administrators in Ukrainian
National Conference "Shaping the intercultural communication skills in youth"	22-23 Sept 2016	Melitopol	Local experts from Melitopol, ICC Experts TBD	ICC expert support CoE	The cities of Vinnitsa and Sumy have confirmed their participation in the event (experience sharing purposes)
ICC Index analysis Melitopol	bw 23-30 Sept 2016	Melitopol			
Guidebook Launch (2day workshop)	late October 2016	Vinnitsa	Network coordinator, local coordinator, local integration policy experts, ICC experts TBD	CoE ICC expert/ guidebook support via Admin Agreement	This is where the Admin Agreement bw CoE & Vinnitsa is planned to cover all local Guidebook costs

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ICC-UA Coordinators' Meeting	18 April 2017	Odessa	Local coordinators, national network manager	CoE support	
Workshop I: ICC-UA Handbook Launching	19-Apr-17	Odessa	Local coordinators, selected contributors, national coordinator	CoE support	
Vinnitsa Intercultural Festival within Europe's Day celebration	19-21-May-17	Vinnitsa	Local coordinators, national coordinator, cities reps, stakeholders	Vinnitsa and other cities: local travel; ICC expert support CoE	
Workshop: ICC Strategy development for the city	22-23-May-17	Vinnitsa	Representatives of the ICC Programme member cities and the member-cities of the ICC-UA	Vinnitsa local travel; ICC expert support CoE	
Expert visit Odessa	29-30-Jun-17	Odessa	ICC Programme Manager, ICC experts, national coord	ICC expert support CoE	
Expert visit Lutsk	3-4-Jul-17	Lutsk	ICC Programme Manager, ICC experts, national coord	CoE expert support	
Expert visit Pavlograd	21-Sep-17	Pavlograd	ICC expert, national coordinator	ICC expert support CoE	
Workshop II: ICC-UA Handbook	22-Sep-17	Melitopol	National coordinator, ICC experts	ICC expert support CoE	
Workshop: Tourism 4 Social Enterprise	25-26? 28-29-Sep-17	Odessa	ICC-UA cities reps/ coordinators, national coordinator	local travel; ICC UA travel – cities; lodging Odessa	
ICC-UA Coordinators Meeting 2018	April-May 2018	Lutsk	National and local coordinators		