

MONITORING OF INTERNATIONAL DONOR ASSISTANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMALGAMATED TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES

Elina Boichenko¹, Nataly Vasilchuk²

Institute of Economic and Legal Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine

Abstract. The research is conducted within the framework of the joint project of the F. Ebert Foundation (Germany) and the Institute of Economic and Legal Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Ukraine) "The Experience of the Association of Territorial Communities in Eastern Ukraine: Economic and Legal Aspects". *The subject of the study* is the theoretical, methodological, and practical aspects of monitoring international donor assistance in the context of the development of amalgamated territorial communities (ATC) based on the example of Bilokurakynе and Novopskov ATC. *Methodology.* The system approach (in substantiating the directions of monitoring and established procedures for monitoring each component of the life of amalgamated territorial communities), logical generalization (in determining the state of development of amalgamated territorial communities), method of absolute, relative, and mean values, analysis of the dynamics series and structural shifts (in determining the dominant trends in the formation and development of ATC), method of economic analysis and synthesis (in determining the content of the monitoring), method of comparison (when the violations in the process of ATC), graphical method (the construction algorithm combined operation and development of local communities) imaging method (for presenting the results of the total amount of international aid to ATC) are used in the work. *The purpose* of the research is to develop theoretical, methodological, and practical approaches to the monitoring of international donor assistance in the context of the development of amalgamated territorial communities. The article suggests using monitoring as the most effective tool for controlling economic and social phenomena and processes. The authorial scheme for constructing a procedure for the monitoring of functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities is developed. The monitoring of international donor support of the Bilokurakynе and Novopskov settlement amalgamated territorial communities (SATC) is conducted. As a result, it is *concluded* that the total amount of international donor assistance for Novopskov SATC amounted to 22.5 million UAH for 2015–2016, for 2015 – 13 million UAH, and for 2016 – 9.5 million UAH with a population of 12,316 thousand people in the community. The population in Bilokurakynе SATC was 13,226 thousand (for the present – 13,700 people), which is 910 more than in Novopskov. In 2016, the donor assistance for Bilokurakynе community amounted to 14.25 million UAH, which is 4.75 million UAH more than in the same period in the neighbouring community. The above dynamics indicates, on the one hand, the absolute logic nature in the distribution of financial assistance between the communities in terms of the conceptual nature of the decentralization reform in Ukraine; on the other hand, such tendencies require the establishment of the main reasons for the non-equality of the donor assistance. Moreover, it is found that the majority of donor funds had been distributed between Novopskov and Bilokurakynе SATC in order to develop infrastructure, that is, road repair, sidewalks, social facilities (clubs, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, etc.), lighting. The most active assistance was received from such donors as the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) – in Bilokurakynе SATC, and EU/UNDP in Novopskov SATC.

Key words: international donor assistance, amalgamated territorial communities, monitoring of functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities.

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Corresponding author:

¹ Department of Problems of Interregional Cooperation Issues, Institute of Economic and Legal Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

E-mail: economicaukraina2017@gmail.com

² Department of Problems of Interregional Cooperation Issues, Institute of Economic and Legal Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

E-mail: economicaukraina2017@gmail.com

1. Introduction

The urgency of the chosen field of research is based on the modern social and economic trends, namely:

Firstly, in 2014, the government's decentralization reform has gained momentum in Ukraine, which contributed to the intensification of so-called "donor relations". So, according to the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, as of July 1, 2016, 301 projects of procurement technical assistance had the state registration (re-registration) and are being carried out for the amount of 5.3 billion USD. According to the forecasts of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, in the near future, it is expected an increase in the volume of financing of projects through international assistance, as in 2014, some new large-scale programs of cooperation with the EU were launched, namely, the program of border cooperation for 2014–2020: "Ukraine – Romania", "Ukraine – Hungary – Slovakia – Romania", "Ukraine – Poland – Belarus", "the Black Sea Basin" within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Instrument with a total budget of more than 365 million euros. Taking this into account, there is an urgent need for strict control over the use of international revenues. One of such tools of control is monitoring. Based on the data obtained from the monitoring, the forecast of possible changes in the living conditions of the European territorial communities is being carried out and scientifically substantiated recommendations are being worked out, or already taken measures on social and economic development of the territory are being adjusted, which are the basis for substantiation of corresponding administrative decisions at the early stages of occurrence of problem processes or phenomena, with the purpose of their prevention, overcoming or neutralizing of influence.

Based on the above, the **purpose of the work** is to monitor the international donor support in the context of the development of the amalgamated territorial communities on the example of Bilokurakyne and Novopskov settlement amalgamated territorial communities.

In order to ensure the fulfilment of the stated purpose, the following **tasks** are set and solved:

- to reveal the theoretical provisions of monitoring the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities;
- to submit monitoring of a separate component of the functioning and development of the Bilokurakyne and Novopskov settlement amalgamated territorial communities, namely, the results of their support by international donors for the period of 2015–2017.

2. Review of previous research and publications

In modern science, there is a powerful tool of research methods that are used to solve various academic tasks, including methodological support for studies of the

development of the united territorial communities. The choice of methods depends on the object and subject of the study, their purposes and objectives, information provision, etc. The monitoring mechanism consists of interconnected stages, which determine its content, the sequence of implementation and functioning. Consequently, monitoring as an integral part of the diagnostics of the development of the united territorial communities is a necessary procedure, the purpose of which is to assess completeness and effectiveness of the proposed measures aimed at overcoming, eliminating negative trends, and identifying appropriate organizational measures aimed at ensuring their effective existence.

A significant contribution to the development of scientific and methodological principles for monitoring and evaluating regional development strategies and programs in Ukraine was made by domestic economists B. Vynnytskyi, M. Lendel, Yu. Rateichak, I. Sanzharovskyi and others (Lendel, 2007).

Moreover, the results of the presented study are based on the analysis of the main provisions of works of foreign authors S. Brown, P. Brunel, Z. Moravetskiy, S. Klepatskiy, S. Stoke, M. Robinson, J. Touscoz, H.-A. Schraepfer, W. Friedman, who considered the use of international assistance, as well as peculiarities of economic and legal regulation of international relations in this area.

Among the domestic scholars and researchers, we should highlight the works of Y. Hanushchak, I. Kaliushko, V. Kolosova, O. Saienko, N. Slynko, N. Starostenko, A. Tkachuk, and others (Hanushchak, 2013, Starostenko, 2014), which are aimed at studying issues of creation and development of amalgamated territorial communities (ATC) in Ukraine.

While paying tribute to the scientific works of these scholars, it should be noted that for the present, there are no monitoring results in the context of the united territorial communities, therefore, this issue will need further research and will be considered in the proposed article.

3. Theoretical provisions for monitoring the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities

It should be noted that the essence of the monitoring organization is reduced to the formation of a standard model of the system of observation, collection, processing, and presentation of scientifically substantiated information characterizing the state of development of the social and economic sphere of amalgamated territorial communities.

Generally, modern science considers monitoring (from the Latin "monitor" – someone who monitors) as a complex of observation, collection, processing, and provision of information on quantitative and qualitative

changes in the development of natural, technical and social processes or phenomena, which allows permanent control of the state of the object of the study, the result of which is to obtain an assessment of the state and identify negative trends in the development of the investigated process or phenomenon. In particular, this definition is the own development of the co-author of the article Boichenko E. the main provisions of which are presented in the memorandum "Monitoring the establishment and functioning of amalgamated territorial communities in the regions of Ukraine."

Monitoring makes it possible to obtain the necessary information, which is important for the adoption of appropriate management decisions to improve the living conditions of amalgamated territorial communities.

The organization of monitoring is appropriate to consider as the construction of a structurally functional, organized system, the main elements of which are communication and information-analytical structures. The communication structure is designed to ensure the regular collection, accumulation, and storage of information concerning the condition and development of amalgamated territorial communities. The construction of informational and analytical systems is conditioned by the collection and accumulation of statistical information and information obtained from reports, based on observational results, sociological studies, expert estimation, implicit sets, model predictions, and so on.

The organization of monitoring of the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities lies in the formation of a constantly updated information base, which is designed to provide the necessary information for the study and its conservation. The

information component of monitoring the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities is: social and economic indicators published by the State Statistics Service of Ukraine; information obtained on the basis of sampling surveys of the social and economic development of amalgamated territorial communities; information obtained on the results of sociological research; information obtained in the course of research by the staff of scientific institutions. Information provided in reports on the implementation of fundamental or applied scientific topics, scientific reports, analytical notes, articles, theses of conferences, dissertations, etc. Monitoring of the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities is carried out in accordance with some certain stages (Table 1).

The frequency of monitoring is once a year. However, a significant increase in the impact of social and economic risks leads to accelerating the changes in the conditions of functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities. Consequently, in such a case, the frequency of the monitoring may be once a month, a quarter or a half-year.

Monitoring of the functioning and development of the ATC consists of the following parts: organizational, executive, managerial (Figure 1).

The organizational part of the monitoring solves the problem of selecting the object of the monitoring, the formation of data sets for the monitoring and the choice of the monitoring methods.

Tasks of the executive part of the monitoring system are to obtain a general assessment of the status and assessment of changes, identify negative changes (deviations), and identify symptoms of changes and admissible deviations.

Table 1

Stages of monitoring of the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities

No.	Stage	Characteristics
1	Organizational	Involves defining of goals and objectives of the monitoring; coordination of the research period; periodicity of its implementation, formation of a surveillance system; needs, volume, collection, sources, systematization, and processing of primary information about the research objects taking into account quantitative and qualitative indicators; development of forms of documents for data collecting and accumulation; determination of costs associated with the introduction of monitoring and obtaining the necessary information; preparation of job descriptions, which include the characteristics of the work, tasks, and responsibilities of the employee, qualification requirements and their responsibilities; instruction, training, training of personnel in accordance with the monitoring tasks.
2	Executive	The research is carried out on the basis of the tool, with the help of which causal relationships and trends of the development of the components of the research object are established. Comparison of the obtained results with the previous or normative (reference) indicators is carried out, which allows determining the state of the research object. At this stage, the reasons for the changes that are occurring and establishing are proved, the problems that cause them.
3	Supervisory	Involves the control over processes and phenomena that occur in the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities. Comparison of results with the planned indicators is carried out. Possible options for measures that would help to overcome negative trends in development are developed.
4	Administrative	Involves making proved management decisions for executive authorities. Implementation of planned activities (programs, development strategies). An assessment of the effectiveness of management decisions is obtained, based on the monitoring of the implementation of the management decisions.

Source: made up by the authors on the basis of (Lendel, 2007)

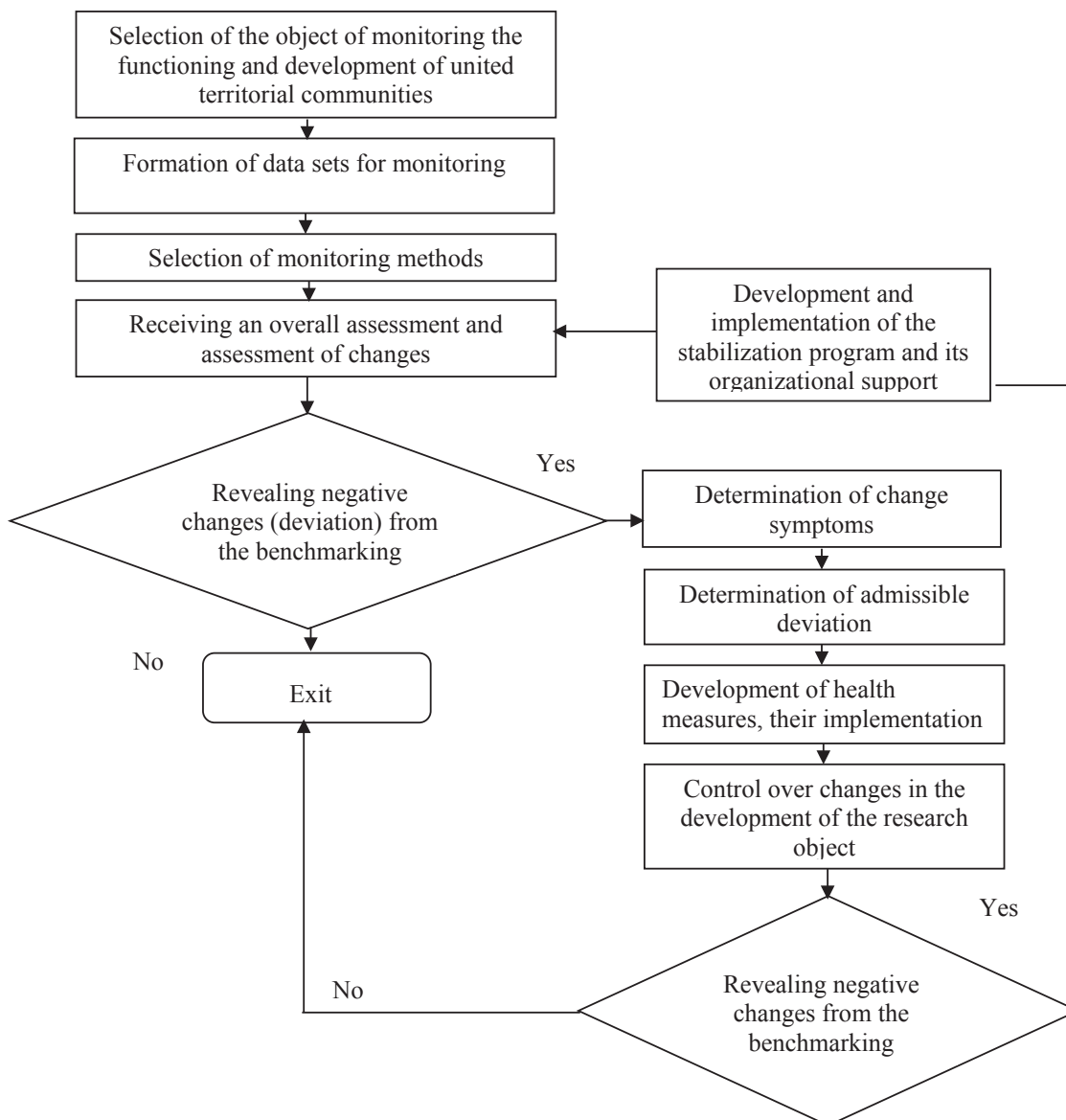


Fig. 1. An algorithm for constructing a procedure for monitoring of the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities

Source: compiled by the authors according to the research results

The managerial part performs some certain monitoring tasks: the development of recreational activities, their implementation, control over changes in the development of the research object, the development and implementation of the stabilization program and its organizational support. The sequence of monitoring the functioning and development of amalgamated territorial communities is given.

Taking into account the limited scope of results of the research in this scientific work, as an example, we will monitor the separate component of functioning and development of the Bilokurakynе and Novopskov ATC, namely, the results of their support by the international donors.

Based on the analysis of scientific points of view, which is detailed in the scientific research of the co-author of the article Vasilchuk N.O. “The results of the support of the combined territorial communities by international donors and also based on the legal framework on international assistance and the development of OTG in the article, as a result of the support of the joint territorial communities, by international donors means a certain sequence of actions of donors, recipients, special the authorized bodies in support of structural reforms and implementation of programs of socio-economic development of Ukraine in qualitative or quantitative terms.

In addition, it should be noted that, practically, the international support is provided in two ways: through

international technical assistance (ITA) and in the form of humanitarian assistance. In particular, the ITA is implemented by concluding an international financial agreement to support structural reforms in the country, which envisages the transfer of funds on a gratuitous and irrevocable basis to the state budget of the country after the implementation of mutually agreed terms for the allocation of funds, that is, there is no direct assistance to the communities from the international donors. Distribution of the ITA in view of the support of the ATC is not directly, but in the form of the state subventions, through the State Fund of Regional Development and the development budget.

4. Monitoring the results of the international donors’ support for the Bilokurakyne and Novopskov settlement united territorial communities for the period of 2015–2017

As it has been already outlined in the beginning of the article, the organizational support of the monitoring involves a clear sequence of actions. The organizational support for monitoring the results of international donors’ support of the Bilokurakyne and Novopskov SATCs is presented in (Figure 2).

Despite the fact that in Luhansk region as of November 18, 2017, there are 4 SATCs, only two communities – Bilokurakyne and Novopskov – were selected for the study. This choice is determined by the fact that the abovementioned communities began functioning in 2015, unlike in Chmyryvska

(December 2016) and Troitska (April 2017) (Profil Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady, 2016, Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady, 2016) the existence of which lasts on average a year, so, it is not appropriate to speak of the results in figures, since for a correct analysis and building on its basis of solid conclusions it is necessary at least 3 years (a series of dynamics).

It should be noted that the total area of Novopskov SATC as of 01.11.2017 is 226 sq. km, the population is 12,316 thousand people (as of 01.01.2015): urban population – 9,868 people, rural population – 2,448 people. This information is essential for the conclusions (Stratehiya rozvytku Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi OTH na period do 2025 roku).

According to the monitoring results, the volume of the capital investments on enterprises of the region in 2015 amounted to 13 million UAH. During this period, there is no information regarding the number of implemented projects. However, the report on the implemented projects, which is posted the official site of Novopskov SATC, shows that the volume of construction works at the expense of the ITA is 900 thousand UAH. During the year of 2015, 21 residential buildings with a total area of 2.2 thousand square meters were put into operation. Subvention in the amount of 999.3 thousand UAH was received for energy saving measures in the maternity home of Novopskov SATC from the regional budget. Within the framework of the EU/UNDP project “Community-Based Approach to Local Development”,

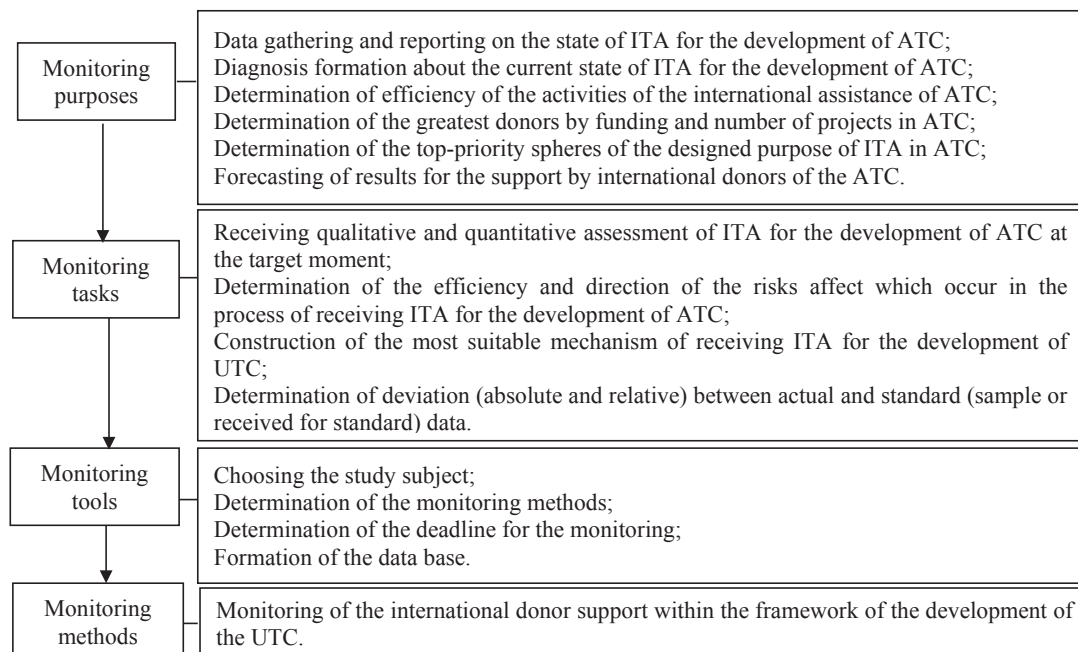


Fig. 2. Organizational support for the monitoring of the international donor support for the Bilokurakyne and Novopskov SUTCs

Source: made up by the authors on the basis of review of previous research and publications

4 public organizations are implementing micro-projects. The total amount for micro-projects is 1.2 million UAH, of which the project funds are 870 thousand UAH, 13 thousand UAH was allocated from the regional budget, community contributions – 61 thousand UAH, funds of rural and settlement budgets – 237 thousand UAH (Stratehiya rozvytku Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi OTH na period do 2025 roku).

In 2016, Novopskov SATC, with the support of the international donors, implemented 19 projects, totalling 9.5 million UAH. The budget of Novopskov SATC for 2016 was approved without a basic and reverse grant, in addition, in 2016, Novopskov ATC received 1,507 thousand UAH of the subvention funds for the maintenance of institutions of secondary education per 1 inhabitant, which testifies to its capability (Stratehiya rozvytku Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi OTH na period do 2025 roku).

The main volume of the ITA was aimed at the introduction of street lighting in the village of Osynove with innovative technologies. Within the project, supports and photomodels were installed on the main street of the village (Slobozhanska). The project was implemented with the participation of Osinivska NGO, Novopskov Village Council and the EU/UNDP Project “Local Development” (Stratehiya rozvytku Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi OTH na period do 2025 roku).

At the expense of the state subvention for the overhaul of the building of the PEI “Teremok” of Novopskov VC with the use of energy-saving technologies, 1.4 million UAH was spent. The street lighting was reconstructed using innovative technologies in the village of Makartetyne. Modern LED lamps were installed on the existing supports, the cost of which is 83,750 thousand UAH. The capital repair of the Preschool Educational Institution “Svitlyachok” of Novopskov VC for the amount of 826,580 thousand UAH was carried out. Thus, the total amount of the state subvention for 2016 amounted to 2,274,059 million UAH (Stratehiya rozvytku Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi OTH na period do 2025 roku).

From the development budget in 2016, there was received the sum of almost 2,974,231 million UAH, which was allocated for the reconstruction of the roof of the PI “Novopskov Settlement House of Culture of Novopskov Village”, the cost is 877,251 thousand UAH. Major repair of sidewalks in the village of Novopskov, Shkilna Str., the cost is 91,657 UAH. Pavement tracks in Novopskov village in Magistralna Str. were repaired, the main cost was 461,300 UAH, and the overhaul of the asphalt concrete pavement road was also carried out in Hazoprovodska Str. in the village of Novopskov, which cost 560,432 UAH, and in Vyshneva Str. in the village of Osynove, which cost 923,591 UAH (Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady, 2017).

Overhaul of the roof of the two-storey building of the Preschool Educational Institution “Svitlyachok” of the Novopskov Village Council was executed for 355,562 UAH. The cost of the energy-saving technologies that were used during the major overhaul of the Preschool Educational Institution “Svitlyachok” was 518,171 UAH. For the major overhaul of PEI “Dzvinochok” of Novopskov VC (insulation of the facade), it was spent 177,733 UAH. Overhaul and insulation of the roof of the Preschool Educational Institution “Dzvinochok” of Novopskov VC cost 372,695 UAH. In total, it was spent 1,424,161 million UAH (Profil Novopskovskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady 2016 rik).

The new construction of the street lighting with innovative technologies in the Osynove Village Council, the installation of photomodels on the support was implemented thanks to the attraction of the ITA, which came to the State Fund of Regional Development and was distributed to the territorial community in the amount of 1,358,523 million UAH.

At the expense of the settlement budget, in 2016, children’s and sports equipment was purchased, a playground in park “Aidar” of Novopskov village was arranged for a total of 129,077 thousand UAH. The arrangement of the site near Novopskov RCCL (Ukrainska Str.) cost 65,528 thousand UAH. Purchase of children’s and sports equipment, the arrangement of a playground in Osynove-1 village, Mahistralna Str. near the House of Culture of Gas Workers – 91,590 thousand UAH. The sum of 43,466 thousand UAH was spent for laying of paving slabs in Ukrainska Str. near Novopskov RTMA, thus, the total sum amounted to 329,661 thousand UAH.

At the expense of compatible subvention from the state budget to the local budgets for the formation of the infrastructure of the ATCs (1 million 200 thousand UAH) and the settlement council (198 thousand UAH) in 2016, a new garbage truck was purchased for the community utilities.

Since 2017 has not finished yet, there is still no final data on support for the ATCs by the international donors.

In the same way, we will present the monitoring of Bilokurakyn SATC. According to the information provided on the official site of the community, the area of Bilokurakyn SATC as of 01.11.2017 is 789.50 sq. km. The total number of settlements included in SATC is 24. The population as of 01.01.2017 was 13,700 people. The administrative centre of SATC – the village of Bilokurakyn (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady).

The information regarding the number of implemented projects in Bilokurakyn SATC is absent. However, in order to draw some conclusions, the dynamics of the procurement technical assistance can be reflected in the capital investments in actual prices (thousand UAH per person) for the period of 2010–2015, which is presented in (Figure 3).

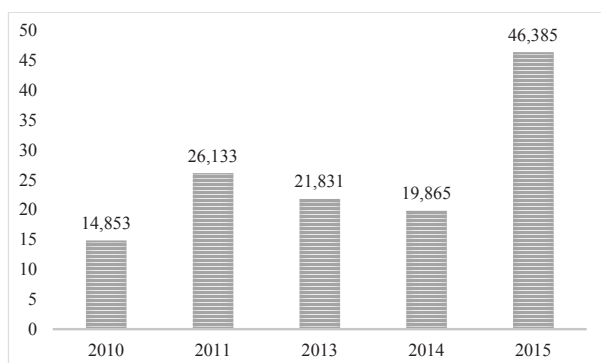
Capital investments of Bilokurakyne SATC for 2010–2015

Fig. 3. Dynamics of the capital investments (thousand UAH) for the period of 2010–2015

Source: made up by the authors on the basis of (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady)

Based on the figure, we can conclude that the dynamics of the capital investment for 2010–2015 has not stable tendencies. There are constant fluctuations, but in 2015, there is an increase in the investment, which may indicate an increase in donor assistance to communities.

During 2016, a total of 28 projects were implemented in the amount of 14.25 million UAH, of which 6 ones are being implemented now for a total of 903 thousand UAH. In 2016, Bilokurakyne SATC applied and became the winner in the competition for the investment programs and regional development projects, which are realized at the expense of the state fund of the regional development under the project for the total amount of 2.4 million UAH, “Major repair of the highway in Pidhirna Str., Bilokurakyne village”, on the project “Overhaul of the building of the Central ambulatory of general practice of family medicine, Bilokurakyne village” in the amount of 4.1 million UAH. In 2016, the implementation of the project “Major repair of the House of Children and Youth Creativity” was completed with the support of the IOM Mission in Ukraine. At the expense of international technical assistance for the project implementation, the sum of 1.0 million UAH was received, in addition, at the expense of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the repair works were carried out in the premises of the pre-school educational institutions “Sonechko” and “Berezka” in the village of Bilokurakyne, and kindergarten “Zirochka” in Neshcheretove village for the total amount of 1.0 million UAH (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady).

The total amount of subvention funds from the State Budget to the local budgets for the formation of the infrastructure of the UTC in 2016 amounted to 12,421,717 million UAH.

A vacuum machine for the cleaning of cesspits and transportation of waste to a disposal site for the

amount of 794,280 thousand UAH were purchased at the expense of the state budget subventions received from the international donors, an excavator for construction, loading, repair, and other work which cost 839,000 thousand UAH, garbage truck – 896,000 thousand UAH, a tractor with a trailer and a mower for the amount of 277,700 thousand UAH, a dumper – 737,000 thousand UAH, a motor grader for the construction of road infrastructure – 2,348,000 million UAH. A dump truck was purchased at a cost of 750,750 thousand UAH, an auto hydraulically operated lift – 1,517,700 UAH. Thus, the attracted sum amounted to 8,160,500 million UAH (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady).

The major repair of the water supply system in the village of Kuriachivka was made at the expense of the ITA in Bilokurakyne SATC, the cost of which was 592,093 thousand UAH, as well as the repair of the water supply systems in the village of Bunchukivka, the cost of which was 1,231,838 million UAH.

The administrative building was reconstructed for the rural club in the village of Oleksandropil, the cost of which was 370,804 thousand UAH. The administrative building with auxiliary buildings and facilities was reconstructed for the communal enterprise “Bilokurakyne-Komunservice”, the cost of which was 813,517 thousand UAH. The total amount of the assistance was 1,184,321 million UAH.

Major repair of sidewalks, the cost of which was 621,739 thousand UAH, was made. Some parts of the roads were repaired, the total cost of which was 482,749 thousand UAH. Major repair of the roads, the cost of which was 740,570 thousand UAH, was made.

At the expense of the State Fund for Regional Development, the water supply system was restored, Oleksandropil village, in the amount of 305,200 thousand UAH. In addition, the sum of 896,400 thousand UAH was allocated for the purchase of a vacuum machine for clearing potholes and transportation of waste to a recycling site, and for an excavator – 997,900 thousand UAH. The total sum is 2,199,500 million UAH (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady).

At the expense of the local budget, in 2016, the street lighting was reconstructed in the following villages: Neshcheretove, Pankivka; Tsiluikove; Shaparivka; Oleksandropil; Kuriachivka; Popivka, Khomenkove Pershe. The recreation area and the stadium in Mira Square, the village of Bilokurakyne; the recreation area in Kuriachivka; 10 children’s playgrounds were purchased and installed in the villages of the community. The cost was 448,083 thousand UAH.

For the year of 2017, the strategy provided the implementation of 64 regional development projects totalling 50.7 million UAH. For the first half of 2017, the total investment attracted in the economy of the Bilokurakyne region amounted to 36.6 million UAH,

which is 3.7 times as much as the investments compared to the same period last year (1 half of 2016 – 9.9 million UAH), or 1911.1 UAH per person.

The volume of capital investments in agriculture for the first half of 2017 is 13.3 million UAH, in the education sector – 4.8 million UAH, in the field of culture – 1.5 million UAH, in the field of medicine – 1.4 million UAH, infrastructure – 15.6 million.

According to funding sources, 1.0 million UAH or 2.7% – the funds of the UNDP Children's Fund (UNICEF), 1.0 million UAH or 2.7% – funds of IOM, 5.9 million UAH or 16.1% – funds of the state budget, 2.2 million UAH or 6.0% – funds of the regional budget, 13.2 million UAH or 36.1% – funds of local budgets, 13.3 million UAH or 36.4% – own funds of enterprises and organizations.

During 2017, at the expense of the local budget, major repair of the bridge-passage was carried out in the villages of Neshcheretove, Kuriachivka, Tsiluikove. The street lighting in the villages was reconstructed: Oleksiivka, Zaikivka, Lubianka, Lyzyne. The total cost was 182,244 thousand UAH. Also, major repair of roads in the village of Bilokurakynne was carried out, the cost of which was 2,302,820 million UAH. The total sum is 2,485,064 million UAH (Profil Bilokurakynskoyi selyshchnoyi obyednanoyi terytorialnoyi hromady).

5. Conclusions

Generalization of the scientific points of view in relation to the monitoring made it possible to establish that this is a complex of observations, collection, processing, and provision of information on quantitative and qualitative changes in the development of natural, technical, and social processes or phenomena, which allows for continuous monitoring of the state of the object of the study, the result of which is to obtain an assessment of the state and

identify the negative trends in the development of the investigated process or phenomenon. The main objective of the monitoring is to obtain the necessary important information for the adoption of appropriate management decisions to improve the living conditions of amalgamated territorial communities.

The organizational support of monitoring of the international donor support of Bilokurakynne and Novopskov settlement amalgamated territorial communities was proposed, which allowed establishing the dominant trends in the formation and development of the SATC.

As follows from the monitoring, it is concluded that the total amount of the international assistance for Novopskov SATC for 2015–2016 amounted to 22.5 million UAH, for 2015, 13 million UAH, and for 2016 – 9.5 million UAH with a population of 12,316 thousand people in the community. The population of Bilokurakynne SATC was 13,226 thousand people (now – 13,700 people), which is 910 more than in Novopskov. The donor assistance for Bilokurakynne community in 2016 amounted to 14.25 million UAH, which is 4.75 UAH million more than in the same period in the neighbouring community. Such a situation, on the one hand, points to the absolute logic in the allocation of financial assistance among the communities in terms of the conceptual nature of the decentralization reform in Ukraine; on the other hand, such trends require the establishment of the main causes of the non-equality of the donor assistance.

In addition, it is found that the majority of the donor funds were allocated for Novopskov and Bilokurakynne SATC to develop infrastructure, namely, repair of roads, sidewalks, social facilities (clubs, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, etc.), lighting. The most active assistance was received from such donors as the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) – in Bilokurakynne SATC, in Novopskov SATC – EU/UNDP.

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