

CREST Center of Energy Efficiency Technologies in Ukraine

Quarterly Activities Report

January 15, 2009

U.S. Civilian Research & Development Foundation (CRDF)

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Summary of Activities Performed

Pre-Award Site Visits

CRDF and the Ministry of Ukraine for Education and Science (MESU) conducted site visits at all four finalist higher education institutions (HEIs) from October 23-29. The site visit delegation included program staff from CRDF's Arlington and Kyiv offices, as well as Dr. Fred Wilson, a scientific expert under contract to CRDF. The MESU site visit team member was Georgiy Melnichuk. The delegation heard presentations by each proposed CREST Center for Energy Efficient Technologies staff, saw the facilities, met with students and had the opportunity to ask relevant questions. After the completion of all site visits the individuals of the delegation ranked each university based on their observations in order of funding preference. The site visit delegation submitted their recommendations to the CREST Governing Council (GC).

The CREST Center for Energy Efficiency Technologies has been made possible with the generous support of USAID from the American People, CRDF, and MESU.

Selection of Grant recipient

On November 3, 2008, the CREST GC met in Arlington, Virginia. The GC reviewed the recommendations of the site visit team to determine which institute should be awarded the grant. After much discussion, the GC unanimously decided to select Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University as the grant recipient for the CREST Center for Energy Efficient Technologies. The Center's project focus is "Nanomaterials in Energy Generation and Accumulation Devices."

Announcement of new center

The grant recipient was notified of their award on November 25, 2008, and the award was announced through a joint press release (attached) from CRDF and USAID. This press release was published in both English and Ukrainian and posted on CRDF and USAID's websites.

Accomplishments, Setbacks, Outputs, Lessons Learned, and Barriers to Successful Outcomes

Accomplishments

- Completed four site visits to the finalist institutions.
- Bilateral Governing Council selected the grant recipient.
- Announcement of new center for Energy Efficient Technologies.

Setbacks

- None

Outputs

- Site visits
- Notification of winner
- Press Release announcing the new center

Lessons Learned

- Site visits are integral to evaluating the merit of proposals in a grant competition; among the finalist candidates, the eventual winner did not have the strongest written reviews, but was the clear leader based on the strength of the management team's presentation and student reports.
- The methods of distributing the press release successfully reached a broad public; we have received positive feedback from several unexpected sources, including a U.S. company in California interested in the Center's work on thermoelectric materials.

Barriers to Successful Outcomes

- None at this time

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Leveraged Contributions Summary

Leveraged
contributions
(expressed in dollars)

	CRDF	MESU	other
Cash			
Labor	18,771.77		
Equipment			
Other direct costs (including Supplies/Meeting Costs, Peer Review Honorariums and Database)	3650.41		
Donated Facilities			
Travel/Transportation	10,537.28		
Allocated and indirect costs, including fringe	21,078.42		
Total	\$ 54,037.88		

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