RADA PROGRAM
Responsible, Accountable, Democratic Assembly in Ukraine

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Year 3
(October 01, 2015 – September 30, 2016)

Submitted: November 18, 2016

Cooperative Agreement AID-121-A-14-00001
Program Background

East Europe Foundation is pleased to submit Third Annual Report of its Responsible Accountable Democratic Assembly (RADA) Program in Ukraine for period of October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

The Program was awarded by USAID the East Europe Foundation and launched in Ukraine on November 26, 2013 under Cooperative Agreement Number # AID-121-A-14-00001. The Program is implemented in cooperation with Ukrainian Parliament, Ukrainian Government, local governments, regional associations and highly qualified civil society organizations.

The RADA program is designed to promote a representative, accountable and independent Parliament through (1) support to MPs to build constituent relations and improve their representation function; (2) expand citizen education and monitoring of Parliament and MPs in order to increase their accountability, and improve civic engagement in the legislative process; and (3) promote parliamentary independence to counterbalance the government by enforcing the rules and procedures that govern the body.

The RADA Program is administered to the following three program objectives:

(1) Improved public presentation in the legislative process;

(2) Expanded role of citizens in monitoring Parliament’s work;

(3) Strengthened role of legislature in providing independent oversight of Executive branch of power.

USAID RADA Program change of managements continued in 2016, when Deputy Chief of Party Eduard Rakhimkulov left the project in April. New DCOP, Tetyana Bibik, came on board in late June.

Two major events marked 2016 program year: 1) Roadmap for Ukrainian Parliament was designed; 2) Parliamentary crisis in February-March caused the reformatting of Parliamentary coalition that resulted in new Parliament’s leadership.

Later, USAID Rada program was forced to build new relationship with both VR leadership and VR Secretariat.

In this annual report the East Europe Foundation presents its key achievement toward meeting expected results.
**Approach to Implementation**

The RADA program works in conjunction with partners to form an alliance of Ukrainian CSOs that offers the RADA program as USAID’s primary vehicle for achieving one of the three USAID/Ukraine Mission Development Objectives “More Participatory, Transparent and Accountable Governance Processes.”

The RADA alliance partners implement innovative programmatic tools based on their vast experience of previous work in the Ukrainian context with government agencies both at national and the local levels, plus a variety of emerging local CSOs. Alliance partners include Internews-Ukraine, OPORA and Agency for Legislative Initiative (ALI). Their projects are supported via sub-grant mechanism.

RADA’s approach to institutionalize successful programs, such as parliamentary internship program, citizen monitoring of the legislative process and MP and MP aids training programs with Ukrainian CSOs and VR’s constituent units. RADA builds strong double-sided relationships with VR Secretariat, the VR Rules Committee, VR Committee on Prevention Crime and Corruption, VR Committee on Legal Policy, VR Committee on State Building, Regional Policy and Local Self-Governance, VR Press Services and other structures of the Parliament to strengthen VR’s legislative capacity through effective cooperation with civil society.

RADA’s alliance partners share their experience in effective participation and monitoring of the legislative and other government processes with emerging NGOs and regional civil society groups. The focus on raising awareness and skills of regional constituents aims reduction of political abyss between citizens and their elected representatives. Civic education efforts ensure more active civic engagement in the process of policy development and implementation at both national and regional levels.

RADA regards the USAID imperative factors (Anti-corruption, Gender equality and Local capacity building) in planning and coordination of all its activities.
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALI</td>
<td>Agency of legislative Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANDU</td>
<td>Association of National Deputies of Ukraine</td>
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<td>AUC</td>
<td>Association of Ukrainian Cities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CM</td>
<td>Cabinet of Ministers</td>
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<td>EP</td>
<td>European Parliament</td>
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<td>CoE</td>
<td>Council of Europe</td>
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<td>COP</td>
<td>Chief of Party</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil society organization</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>IPU</td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
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<td>IT</td>
<td>Informational Technologies</td>
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<td>LSG</td>
<td>local self-government</td>
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<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of the Parliament</td>
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<td>MP aid</td>
<td>Assistants to Members of the Parliament</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-government organizations</td>
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<td>OGP</td>
<td>Open Government Partnership</td>
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<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security in Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>PWD</td>
<td>Persons with disabilities</td>
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<td>SMD</td>
<td>Single mandate district</td>
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<tr>
<td>ToT</td>
<td>Training of trainers</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United State Agency for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>VR</td>
<td>Verkhovna Rada (Parliament of Ukraine)</td>
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<td>VRC</td>
<td>Committee of Verkhovna Rada</td>
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<td>VRS</td>
<td>Secretariat of Verkhovna Rada</td>
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<td>WG</td>
<td>Working group</td>
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<td>NDI</td>
<td>National Democratic Institute</td>
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<td>ODIHR/OSCE</td>
<td>OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMS</td>
<td>Short Message Service via mobile telephones</td>
</tr>
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<td>EEF</td>
<td>East Europe Foundation</td>
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND SUCCESS STORIES

Enhancing dialog between Parliament and local communities

In Year 3, the USAID RADA Program made a significant progress toward its one of the most important tasks - establishing constructive dialog between local authorities and MPs. That direction empowered over 60 lawmakers with better understanding of problems that are imperative at local level, and turned them to better advocate interests of local communities in Parliament. This achievement is especially important today, when the topic of implementation of decentralization reform remains on the agenda.

RADA program helped to renew communication between MP, local councils, amalgamated territorial communities and civil society organizations of Polissya (northwest areas of Ukraine) through the regular public meetings of MP Ihor Huz in his Model District. The most effect was observed after the regional conference titled “How the Ukrainian Parliament can contribute to development of Polissya Territories” that discussed issues of economical development of the Volyn region in conditions of decentralization. The conference touched several urgent issues – the forming local budgets, proper planning of economical and particular international investment programs for development of the tourism, infrastructure improvement, reform of the public communal service. During the Conference MP Ihor Huz delivered the public report about his parliamentary activities. His report received the feedback from local governors and activists with the requests to pay more attention to the legislator work for benefit of his region.

Local Development Forum in the resort town of Truskavets, Lviv Oblast brought together MPs, local authorities and representatives of local communities on June 25-26. Lviv Oblast Council and USAID RADA brought together over 150 participants, including parliamentarians and representatives of the diplomatic corps, local authorities, NGOs from Ukraine and Poland as well as international foundations and technical assistance programs. The Forum discussed gaps in cooperation between local authorities and Parliament, put forward issues of cross-border cooperation and decentralization. The Polish delegation at the Forum consisting of representatives of Polish Sejm Speaker Marek Kuchciński and local authorities shared case studies and lessons learnt from the decentralization reform in Poland.

Ukrainian Parliament Speaker Andriy Parubiy appreciated the opportunity to meet Polish counterparts to learn from their experience related to cooperation between the Parliament and local communities and trans-border cooperation. Thus, the Ukrainian Speaker made a plan to use similar legislative mechanisms in decentralization, self-government reform; and expressed readiness to consolidate cooperation between Poland and Ukraine in trans-border areas in Ukrainian Parliament.

The Forum adopted a Declaration on Cooperation underlining the importance of improving cooperation between the Ukrainian Parliament and local authorities. The Declaration encouraged the cooperation between the Parliaments of Poland and Ukraine to develop regional self-governance and economics in trans-border regions of Ukraine and Poland as part of the European Neighborhood Policy at the level of Euro-regions. The Declaration was sent to a range of local governments throughout the country – to encourage their participation in dialog between the Parliament and local communities.

RADA Program supports regional forums to institutionalize effective communication between local governments and the Parliament. In order MPs keep their finger on the pulse and better understand of what is happening in their communities.

Ihor Kohut, RADA Program COP
Implementation of the Open Parliament Initiative

RADA Program contributed to the crucial adoption by the Ukrainian legislators - the Implementation Plan of the Roadmap on Reform and Institutional Capacity Building of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on April 15, 2016. The Roadmap was developed by the European Parliament Needs Assessment Mission to Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in a form resolution with expert support from implementing RADA program.

Being a key organizer of the Ukrainian Week in Brussels, the RADA initiated a high-level discussion among European and Ukrainian parliamentarians to emphasize the necessity to define key stones towards the reform of the Ukrainian Parliament. Among other objectives, the RADA Program promoted the adoption of the Parliamentary Ethics Code that was recognized a keystone for development of good governance in Ukraine. To promote the Ethic Code, the RADA managed conduction of two high-level events with participation of international parliamentary experts and Ukrainian MPs.

1) RADA held an International Conference on Parliamentary Ethics in cooperation with NDI, Democracy House Partnership and ODIHR/OSCE on February 15 in Kyiv. The VR Chairman, European Parliament Member Kaja Kallas, representatives of the US Congress’s Ethics Committee, four Ukrainian MPs and VR Secretariat supported the initiative of RADA Program and ODIHR/OSCE to develop the Ethics Code of Parliamentary based on the policy paper Ethical and Legal Regulation of MPs Behavior. The paper was based on the analytical paper made by RADA partner Agency for Legislation Initiatives covering international practices of Ethics Codes application. The RADA’s conference enabled debate meeting on parliamentary ethics during Ukraine Week in the European Parliament on February 29 - March 2. The RADA jointly with OSCE-ODIHR initiated discussion “Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians to Raise Public Trust and Accountability” in European Parliament that involved the ODIHR/OSCE and European Parliament Member Kaya Kallas, Norwegian Storting President Olemic Tommessen, Deputy Head of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Oksana Syroyid and Ukrainian MPs Ostap Semerak, Yehor Sobolyev, Olena Sotnyk, Svitana Zalischuk, Mariya Ionova, Pavlo Pynzenyk, Viktoriya Syumar, Viktoriya Ptashnyk, Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze. As a result, Ukrainian MPs acknowledged the necessity to adopt the Parliamentary Ethics Code and emphasized importance of inclusive and transparent process on elaborating the document. In their opinion the Code developed by workgroup might look artificial to Ukrainian parliamentarians, thus every MP should participate in defining rules of conduct for Ukrainian MPs. The RADA Program and OSCE/ODIHR were asked to assist in conducting VR discussions and developing Ethics Code Draft with involvement of all interested counterparts in the Verkhovna Rada.

Increasing Transparency of the Parliament through Internet Technology

RADA enabled Wi-Fi connection installment of 5 Wi-Fi spots for three VR buildings. This modernization raised the transparency of the VR committee's work because of immediate reporting parliamentary journalists about the decision made. Besides, the RADA Program initiated online

http://www.ua.undp.org/content/ukraine/uk/home/presscenter/articles/2016/04/15/-_.html
streaming of committee meetings in respond to VR Chairman Volodymyr Groisman's call for greater transparency in Parliament. The VR Secretariat launched online-streaming of all parliamentary committees meetings obligatory in 2016.

RADA Program partner Agency for Legislative Initiative (ALI) developed the CSO Registry (http://ngo.radaprogram.org/) to provide the VR committees and MPs with updated info on fields of expertise of national and regional CSOs. The purpose is to create opportunity to involve the civil society into active debates in developing Ukrainian legislation. Considering the parliamentary committees’ needs in inviting CSO and expert groups to the committees work, ALI updated and verified information about CSOs in the Registry. Next steps will be disaggregation of CSOs by committee jurisdictions to allow users to find and invite CSOs with respective expertise for committee meetings, parliamentary hearings, lawmaker, policy development events and other oversight. Database-based interactive software will allow the registered user to evaluate CSO’s contribution to specific events and draft legislation process. Even The database also provides opportunity to newly-created or never invited expert CSOs to be entered in the database for future cooperation with the Parliament. ALI negotiated with VRU and the VR committees about adding the hyperlink to the CSO Registry on the official website of the Committees and/or web-site of VRU. By the end of September 2016, six committees agreed to place the CSO Registry to their web-sites. The ALI finalizes the testing of the CSO registry and negotiations with VRU on connecting the CSO Registry to the VR web-site.

Direct access to the public report of VRU Speaker and factions for 49 regional journalists

The RADA Program undertook one of it’s the most successful media expansion of the VRU to regional media on July 18-19, 2016. The Program’s partner Internews Ukraine (IUA) brought a group of 49 regional reporters to participate to the Parliament Conference that incorporated the press briefing of VR Speaker Andriy Parubiy on VRU activities during 4th Parliamentary Session, press conferences of parliament factions, meetings with parliamentary experts and staff from the Informational Department of the VR Executive Staff (Apparat). Among other, the journalists learnt about the RADA program activities and went through 2-hour workshop “School of the Parliamentary Journalism” held by Internews Ukraine. That was first time, when the Parliament public reporting attracted not only national media, but involved a big group of regional reporters that could ask specific questions about results and prospective of the VRU work to meet interests of their regions. The event resulted with 45 publications that covered main Parliament achievements such as opportunities to vote for internally displaced people, changes to the VRU procedure to establish labor discipline for MPs, de-communization, and possible ways to communicate with members of the parliament for regional audiences.
Peer-to-peer program in Parliaments of Poland and Estonia brings European practices to Ukraine

RADA program successfully accomplished its Peer-to-Peer Program for three employees of VR committees in parliaments of Estonia and Poland. Selected out of 14 applicants, three employees from VR Committees on Corruption Prevention and Counteraction (Kateryna Vyshnevskva, Chief Consultant of Secretariat) and on Family Matters, Youth Policy, Sports and Tourism (Vira Skalozub, Head of Secretariat) as well as VR Ad Hoc Supervisory Panel on Privatization (Pavlo Frolov, Chief Consultant) studied the procedures and work of executive bodies the in foreign parliaments. Visits lasted from 7 to 10 days each.

June 23, 2016 – program’s participants presented their recommendations to the VR Committees staff. In particular, Pavlo Frolov focused on fundamental role of executive government in legislative process through annual reports of ministries at the Secretariat of Parliamentary Committees. Mr. Frolov recommended borrowing the mechanism of VR vote on distrust ministers individually but not a whole Cabinet of Ministries as it is practiced in Ukraine. Besides, he proposed to reduce quorum for speeding-up adoption of VR Committees’ decisions. Kateryna Vyshnevska emphasized on introduction legal liability of state officials for their absence at VR Committee meetings. Interns passed their research papers to the Head of the Organizational Department of the VR Secretariat Volodymyr Bondarenko.

Further RADA peer-to-peer program for the parliament employees will focus preferably on studies of the best international practices of MPs work in constituencies and bringing them to the Model District component agenda.

Institutionalization of the Parliamentary Internship Program

99 young Ukrainian professionals and students worked side-by-side with employees of VR Secretariat’s departments and parliamentary committees, with 3 of them placed in the VR’s Ombudsperson for Human Rights and 7 - in the Presidential Administration’s Reforms Office. RADA managed to bring almost a hundred young people to participate in the Parliamentary Internship Program 2015-2016. Motivated students practiced their skills in public administration and decision making during eight months. With this Internship program, RADA Program contributed to active and responsive citizenship of the interns, and enabled them to target skills and knowledge necessary for good governance in Ukraine.

The RADA’s negotiations with the VR Secretariat to continue the Parliamentary Internship Program resulted with signing Memorandum of Cooperation between the VR Secretariat and RADA partner League of Interns on November 20. Later December 31, 2015 - the Regulation on the Parliamentary Internship Program was approved by the Order #10138 of the Acting Head of the VR Secretariat NAME. The Memorandum and the Order signed enabled institutionalization of the Internship Program within VRU and acknowledged the program Photo 2. Memorandum on RADA Internship Program is signed.
Gender equity as a pillar of democratic parliamentary

RADA Program in cooperation with the VR Committee on Human Rights, Ethnic Minorities, and Interethnic Relations, NGO Women’s Information Consultative Center and International Women's Rights Center "La Strada Ukraine" hosted a round table on "Women, Peace, Security: 15 Years after Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution #1325" on November 3, 2015. 60 MPs, VR staff, representatives of central executive bodies, the Armed Forces of Ukraine, academic institutions and NGOs discussed provisions of the National Action Plan to be adopted by Ukrainian government. Experts recommended observing equal and full participation of women in maintaining and promoting peace and security and the need to strengthen the protection of women and girls at a time of the Russian military aggression in the Plan. Later, on February 24, the Cabinet of Ministries adopted the National Action Plan 2016-2020 on implementation of UN Security Council Resolution #1325 “Women.Peace.Security” with recommendations made during the round table. The Plan defined actions toward peace building, peace keeping, and increased role of women in these processes. Many NAP’s activities address legislative and oversight functions of VR; it is available in Ukrainian on http://bit.ly/2eXoFnz.
ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Improved public representation in the legislative process

Expected Result 1.1. Effective communication, outreach and constituency services developed

i. **Model District MP Offices**

RADA program supported seven members of the parliament to launch their pilot Model Districts MP Offices. Active participation of RADA experts in education of MP teams and delivery public events improved communication and interaction between lawmakers and their voters in six regions - Volyn, Chernihiv, Zakarpattia, Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk and Kyiv and oblast.

*Table 1.1. List of MPs that participate in Pilot Model District Program*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>MP Status/Faction</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oleksandr Chernenko</td>
<td>PR/Petro Poroshenko Bloc</td>
<td>Chernihiv oblast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ihor Huz’</td>
<td>SMD/People’s Front</td>
<td>Volyn oblast, #19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivan Krulko</td>
<td>PR/Batkivshchyna</td>
<td>Zakarpattia oblast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavlo Rizanenko</td>
<td>SMD/Petro Poroshenko Bloc</td>
<td>Kyiv oblast, #97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yehor Sobolyev</td>
<td>PR/Samopomich</td>
<td>Kyiv city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olena Sotnyk</td>
<td>PR/Samopomich</td>
<td>Dnipropetrovsk oblast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Svitlana Zalishchuk</td>
<td>PR/Petro Poroshenko Bloc</td>
<td>Luhansk oblast</td>
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Process of the concept development involved MPs and local authorities, and finally was discussed at the meeting with all selected MPs on October 23 in the premises of the Committee for Prevention of and Counteraction to Corruption.

In November 2015, the RADA Program launched an active phase of the "model district" project - Members of the Parliament started personal communication with their Model District’s by conducting meetings with local governors, associations and NGOs, media and citizens. RADA Program contributed to organization and program part of every meeting of MPs. RADA also distributed reference book on international donor projects and investment resources in every Model District to provide local governors and opinion leaders with wider vision about possible international assistance to their region.

**MP Svitlana Zalishchuk** undertook site visits to Luhansk and Donetsk regions to meet heads of Luhansk and Donetsk regional military and civil administrations, local MPs, activists, law-enforcers, the military and students during February 8-9. Ten other Ukrainian MPs also joined to the regional events - Dmytro Dobrodomov (unaffiliated), Vladyslav Holub (Petro Poroshenko Bloc) Oksana Yurynets (Petro Poroshenko Bloc), Ivan Krulko (Batkivshchyna), Serhiy Yevtushko (Batkivshchyna), Oleksiy Ryabchyn (Batkivshchyna), Alona Shkrum (Batkivshchyna), Oleksandr Chernenko (Petro Poroshenko Bloc), Serhiy Leshchenko (Petro Poroshenko Bloc). The MPs visited Syevyerodonetsk, Lysychansk, Rubizhne, Kramatorsk, Slovyansk,
Druzhkivka. As a result of MP’s work in the model district the local administrations went faster with resolving long-planned improvements in the region – TV-tower on Mount Karachun was installed and launched, aid to state higher education institutions in Luhansk and Donetsk regions, evaluated work of the Prosecutor’s Office and Police Department in Syevyerodonetsk. Working meetings with the leaders of regional military and civil administrations, local councils, activists and volunteers defined legislative priorities to support the territories of Luhansk and Donetsk regions that are under control of Ukrainian government.

**MP Ihor Huz** had meetings with up 80 mayors and civic activists from villages and towns of Volyn oblast to discuss the urgent issues of decentralization, regional policies, and economical development of the region. In particular, the tourism, culture and communal service were identified among priorities to be resolved by legislative initiatives at the national level. That became possibly due to RADA’s contribution in organizing the *Community Development Forum of Pribuzhzhya* in Volyn oblast.

On May 30, 2016 - Mr. Huz held his press-briefing for regional media in Ustylug-Zosyn, Volyn region customs point to report about his parliamentary activities and receive the feedback from the citizens on their urgent needs to be met. Internews Ukraine assisted in inviting and bringing journalists to the press point to take interviews and record the MPs’ report about his Parliament activities.

In November 2015, **MP Oleksandr Chernenko** held a public report at the press briefing in Chernihiv to report about his activities in the parliament over last year. RADA DCoP Edward Rakhimkulov presented information about RADA and introduced the Model District in Chernihiv.

**MP Ivan Krulko** managed to hold the VR Budget Committee Meeting outside of the Verkhovna Rada - in Khust and Uzhhorod towns of Zakarpattya oblast. Oblast Governor Hennadiy Moskal and other representatives of local authorities attended the meeting to express their visions of the "Western Gate to Ukraine" faces and how Parliament can solve them - the poor state of roads, anti-flood measures, and budget decentralization. Mr. Krulko promised to consider those issues at meetings of his Committee and during the Parliament sessions. RADA Program live-streamed the meeting and the following press conference to inform the public about the PM promises.

**MP Pavlo Rizanenko** started with the MP public report to community members of Brovary town, Kyiv oblast in February 2016. Later he managed to hold a guest meeting of VR Privatization Commission in Brovary town of Kyiv Oblast, April 20, 2016. The field sitting among others issues help in resolving local governors’ dispute about mechanisms of returning of controversial local communal facilities to state ownership.

**MP Olena Sotnyk** delivered press conference on visa-free regime between EU and Ukraine in Kharkiv city in March 2016. Other speakers - Honorary Consuls of France and Austria in Kharkiv region, political scientist Taras Danko and the RADA Program Director Elina Shyshkina spoke to 20 participants to provided own vision of the path to visa-free travels of Ukrainians to Schengen zone.

**Ms. Sotnyk** with support of RADA program organized a Hackathon for above 60 young leaders in Kharkiv on May 29-30. The Hackaton became a part of the Youth Forum *Impulse of Change* that discussed political processes in Ukraine within the network of up to 200 of young people from Kharkiv and other regions. The Hackaton built youth teams to develop own projects on education, culture and urban development. Three out of eight teams won a half year support from local media to promote their projects.
ii. Regional issue-related press-tours

In February-March 2016, RADA implementing partner Internews-Ukraine managed press tours for regional journalists to visit both - Model Districts of MPs to record the discussions about vital issues in the regions; and press tours to the Parliament of Ukraine to learn about the VRU work from meetings with their MPs. Press tours to the Parliament are described in ER 2.1.vii.

Site visits of journalists’ groups to Model Districts in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast (Svitlana Zalishchuk) on February 7-8, Brovary City in Kyiv Oblast (Pavlo Rizanenko) on February 24-25, Lytovezh Village in Volyn Oblast (Ihor Huz) on February 26, and Kharkiv Oblast (Olena Sotnyk) on March 25. Allowed 122 regional and Kyiv based reporters (64 men and 58 women) to learn about specifics of each region and speak to MPs that were elected in those regions. Press-tours resulted with 65 media publications that reported the ways of communication between MPs and local communities, issues of each regions, the Parliament actions to resolve (or ignore) the issues of their voters.

iii. Open Government Partnership Implementation

Transparency International Ukraine and USAID RADA held a Forum “Does Ukraine Meet Its Commitments on Open Government Initiative” on June 22, 2016 in Kyiv. The Forum brought 40 parliamentary experts, NGOs and staff of the VRU to discuss the progress of Ukrainian government toward implementation of the trilateral agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers, VR and civil society. Participants highlighted successes – public procurement e-system ProZorro, more information about MPs and their contacts became available at the web-site, monitoring and publication in media of the MPs’ activities that should raise their accountability. The deficiency of actions from both sides – the Government of Ukraine and the Parliament was also discussed. The Forum encouraged fastening cooperation for the purpose of implementation of Ukraine’s obligations within the Open Government Partnership Initiative. The presentation of the Cabinet’s Action Plan is scheduled for October 2016. Short overview on the event is available at RADA website http://bit.ly/2g3hKbE.

iv. Training for MPs, MP aids and faction staff

After selecting seven Members of the Parliament to participate in the Model District MP Office program in October 2015, the RADA Program assisted the MPs and their aids in mastering mechanisms to work with voters in their districts, review of complaints and appeals by voters; solve problems in districts with participation of local government bodies; build strategies on cooperation with local media; and cooperate with local NGOs. RADA experts
provided instructions on building model of effective communication with voters, conducted training, and assisted in organizing first meetings with public, Town Hall Meetings and field sittings of VR Committees for all seven MPs.

Thus, in February-March 2016 RADA delivered several seminars and master classes to present the idea of Model District to 7 MPs and up to 50 their aids and volunteers in total. For those training, RADA program invited experts of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in Ukraine to be trainers. All the teams learnt about the best international practices in planning and organizing interactive work with voters at the districts, processing petitions and deputy requests, effective communication with public. Trainees could practice their knowledge on proceeding with individual citizens’ appeals right during the training. For the team of MP Pavlo Rizanenko consisting of 30 aids and Regional Policy Ministry’s financial experts, the RADA delivered individual training on fiscal decentralization.

In May, the RADA’s experts jointly with Mr. Rizanenko conducted seminar on communication with voters for 45 local deputies of Brovary and Baryshivka districts in Kyiv Oblast. The seminar covered mechanisms to public meetings with voters, processing appeals and public requests.

RADA program conducted a two-day team-building seminar for MP Ihor Huz’s aides in Svityaz, Volyn Region on June 30-July 1, 2016. 30 aids learnt on techniques in working public appeals, logistics for public events, and cyber security.

In Quarter 2, RADA partner Agency of Legislative Initiative conducted training for facilitators and note takers selected from participants of Internship Program 2015-2016. Further, these interns were engaged in conducting Town Hall Meetings with MPs in model districts during 2016.

RADA partner Internews-Ukraine delivered six training sessions on Cyber Security for 90 MPs aides, press secretaries and employees of VR Secretariat (April, May, June). Two-day training covered basic principles of digital security for parliamentarians— protection e-gadgets, email and social media accounts, measures against spyware and viruses. Feedback questionnaires showed: more than 90% of participants found the session useful and responding their needs, they plan to use the received knowledge in their parliamentary work.

During June-September 2016, Internews-Ukraine delivered four workshops on conducting informational and communication campaigns with citizens for 56 employees of VR, CM and other government bodies’ press services in total. After the training, the Internews-Ukraine developed a brochure on effective communication and information campaigns for press services of government bodies titled «Informing about Reforms: Practical Recommendations and Ukrainian Practices.” The brochure incorporated advice on efficient communication strategy building for reforms implementation and role of information technologies in communication. 1,000 print copies of the brochure will be distributed to press offices in the Parliament, Ministries, regional governments and self-governance bodies starting November 2016. PDF version will be available through RADA and partners’ web-sites.
Internews Ukraine published a booklet titled “Ten Precepts for Member of the Parliament” that was distributed among Members of the Parliament on September 20, 2016. Numerous national and regional media made news about the booklet due to its comic-ecclesiastical style and simple design. In particular, the rules said that MP cannot vote instead of his colleagues, should attend all the plenary sessions, love his voter and conduct individuals meetings with citizens as prescribed by his scope of work. The leaflet urged discussion about the Parliamentary Ethics among MPs and VR executives.

Expected Result 1.2. Inclusive legislative practices established

i. New Civic Platform CSO Registry

RADA Program partner Agency for Legislative Initiative (ALI) initiated development of the CSO Registry to provide the VR committees and MPs with updated info on fields of expertise of national and regional CSOs. The purpose is to create opportunity to involve the civil society into active debates in developing Ukrainian legislation.

In beginning of 2016, the ALI conducted needs assessment among parliamentary committee staff to identify which committees require and are ready to use the CSO Registry. Later updated and verified information about CSOs was included into the CSO Registry that has been designed in 2015. Draft Registry disaggregates different CSOs by committee jurisdictions to allow users to find and invite CSOs with respective expertise for committee meetings, parliamentary hearings, lawmaking, policy development events and other oversight. Database-based interactive software allows evaluate CSO’s contribution to specific events and draft legislation process. Even The database also provides opportunity to newly-created or never invited expert CSOs to be entered in the database for future cooperation with the Parliament.

ALI negotiated with VRU and the VR committees about adding the hyperlink to the CSO Registry on the official website of the Committees and/or web-site of VRU. By the end of September 2016, six committees agreed to place the CSO Registry to their web-sites. The ALI finalizes the testing of the CSO registry and will launch it in late autumn 2016.
ii. **Practices of crowdsourcing and requests for information using CSO Registry**

These activities are planned in Year 4 and 5 after the CSO Registry official launch. Since E-Plenary, E-Committees and public platform on commenting of draft laws will work in these years, CSO Registry needs to be integrated with the platform.

iii. **Roundtable Expert Discussions in cooperation with the Constitutional Assembly on constitutional changes**

On October 29, Agency of Legislative Initiative organized the third Parliamentary seminar on "Constitutional Amendments: Decentralization Reform" jointly with in VR Committee on State Building, Regional Policy, and Local Self Governance. The proposed changes aimed strengthening cooperation between MPs and local self-government bodies via new formats -citizen discussion groups and town-hall meetings. The short report in Ukrainian is available at ALI web-site http://parlament.org.ua/2015/10/30/constitution-seminar-2015-3. RADA will continue discussion of constitutional amendments in Year 4.

iv. **Training on Policy Analysis for lawmakers**

In order to develop the analytical skills of the experts of the Center and Quality Center products, ALI initiated and organized two-day training called “Public Data Analysis“. During other training, staff from EIRC, ALI and the Committee on State Construction, Regional Policy and Local Self-Government learned from the Head of the Research Department of the Administration of the President of Ukraine Mykhailo Koltsov about relevance of use analytical data in legislative process, sources to find necessary data, importance of conscious decision making process that is based on analyses and statistics. Publication about the event can be found at http://parlament.org.ua/index.php?action=news&id=12&ar_id=2985&ch_id=2&as=0; http://iportal.rada.gov.ua/news/Novyny/130443.html.

The curricular and methodology on lawmaking standards and development of policy analysis was designed for VR staff, MP aides and faction staff. RADA will focus its efforts on providing training in policy analysis for lawmaker in next Year 4.

v. **E-Platform to monitor and respond citizens’ legislative petitions and complaints**

RADA made progress in the area of e-Parliament initiatives.

USAID RADA Program assisted Verkhovna Rada to create a website on petitions as part of VR website - https://ltd.rada.gov.ua/services/Petitions/. The public and CSO got a easy-to-use online mechanism to place their appeals to the Verkhovna Rada to keep the Parliament accountable and responsible and more transparent. RADA program temporarily covers costs of SMS verification. The law on changes to the Law on Public Appeal as to electronic appeals and electronic petitions was approved in VRU on July2, 2016 (http://zakon0.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/577-19). RADA Program developed infographic to explain the process of electronic petitions submission through the VR website. This E-Petitions instrument of direct democracy became a mechanism of citizens’ urgent address of hot issues to the Parliament. If the petition counts 25 000 votes, it should be included into the VRU agenda and be resolved through the proper legislative actions. This instrument was actively promoted via events at the Model Districts where MPs met with voters.
In 2017 the Verkhovna Rada will cover it from its budget. At the same time, the e-Petitions platform needs some promotion among NGOs, citizens and other possible categories of potential users, and the RADA Program will propose issue-related trainings and presentations on how to use this tool.

Consequently, the RADA experts in cooperation with the National Agency for E-Governance and the VR Secretariat’s Computer Systems Department began developing software for VR to be used while implementing new provisions of the legislation.

This has temporarily stalled work on final implementation of the platform for public comments on proposed legislation, as one of the recommended options is to combine the two initiatives under one software solution for simplification of their usage by the public. We expect this issue to be resolved soon in view of the fact that the testing regime for the new e-petitions software will fall under the time of the next reporting quarter.

RADA partner Internews Ukraine developed a concept for eRADA application for use by Model District MPs using all the components and mechanisms of the RADA program and library. The concept was discussed with group of RADA experts, MPs and partnering NGO involved into E-Parliament initiatives. In Year 4 the RADA will develop the software based on the concept and will launch for use.

vi. Support activities of the European Informational Research Center (EIRC)

Supported by RADA Program and operated by the Agency for Legislative Initiative (ALI) the European Information and Research Center (EIRC) prepared 36 policy papers that included analysis of European practices and recommendations for Ukrainian Parliament reforms in different areas. The topics’ diversity and deepness of the analysis provided might be concluded from some examples listed below:

- Budget Resolution: Foreign Experience and Recommendations for Ukraine;
- Key recommendations of the Roadmap on Reform and Institutional Capacity Building of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine: research service by the parliaments, government accountability and committee oversight, individual legislative initiatives of the MPs;
- On restoration of rights of victims of political persecution;
- On the issue of supporting the crediting of small and medium businesses in Ukraine.
- Proposals to Development of State Policy on e-Services;

The EIRC added one more type of analytical product - Policy Brief – in response to request of the EP Needs Assessment Mission. Policy Briefs provide summary of the white paper on different issues. First two Policy Briefs were made for the Pet Cox’s Mission when it drafted its Roadmap of Parliamentary Reform. Later, EIRC prepared and distributed Policy Briefs as special products for MPs to take quick decisions in limited time conditions, i.e. two briefs “The White Paper as a Document of Public Policy” and “Report of the Government in Parliament” were used during high-level discussions on cooperation between the Parliament and the Cabinet of Ministries in June 2016. Publications can be read on EIRC web-site http://euinfocenter.rada.gov.ua/news.

EIRC obtained a good reputation and became a well-recognized analytical center among Members of the Parliament, employees of VR committees and the ministries of Ukraine due to high-level quality and ground expertise provided. For instance, the Minister on Health and his deputies cited information on state procurement in health from EIRC’s Policy Brief in their speeches in the Parliament in early
October 2015.

To promote the EIRC expertise among Parliament members and RV committees, RADA held two presentations of EIRC: 1) for the MPs’ assistants about the EIRC activity and databases EBSCO, access to which is supported by the Program on February 25; and 2) for the MPs in cooperation with Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR) within monthly meeting of “Council of Reforms” in Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

As a result, the EIRC received 49 requests for expert information from MPs, and responded with 49 analytical notes to serve their legislative work. Those responses covered different areas – from public health reform to the anti-corruption practices in EU and other developed countries. The full list of analytical responses and recommendation can be found at RADA website via link http://radaprogram.org/infocenter-materials.

The Center celebrated its anniversary with the seminar on role of analytics in legislative process and presentation of its research “Expert and analytical support to the legislative process in the European Union” in the Parliament on May 19, 2016. Speaker Andriy Parubiy and the most active cooperator MP Olena Sotnyk participated along with up to 50 MPs, MPs aids and employees of the VR Secretary.

vii. Conduct Policy Dialog Meetings with committees engaging a broader CSO audience and Ukrainian/international experts, in cooperation with the Association of National Deputies of Ukraine

Round table “The role of Verkhovna Rada in declaring independence and statehood” was organized in partnership with Association of Ukrainian MPs getting together 48 participants. The First Ukraine’s President and the first Chair of the Verkhovna Rada Leonid Kravchuk emphasized the role of Parliament by saying that the work of Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada, especially, in the first convocation was crucial in having Ukraine as independent state. The event was especially important when Ukraine is conducting military actions in eastern Ukraine and its independence needs to be protected. The event was broadcast by Parliamentary Rada TV Channel. Special publication (500 copies) was prepared with key speaking points and major Ukrainian documents related to independence and distributed among round table participants and former MPs.

Expected Result 1.3. Cooperation between MPs and local governments strengthened.

i. Support regional local government associations and the Association of the Ukrainian Cities (AUC) – biannual MP district report sessions

During Year 3, RADA cooperated with Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) to strengthen cooperation between MPs and local self-government. One of the instruments inspiring this cooperation is a new format of citizen discussion groups. RADA partner Agency of Legislative Initiative (ALI) in conjunction with ACU initiated six public events with local governments to discuss current issues in Volyn, Donetsk, Luhansk, Chernihiv, Zakarpattya and Odesa oblasts. Regional discussions with participation of Management of the Parliament and MPs proved to be effective platform for communication and cooperation between parliamentarians and local government.

RADA Program organized a round table within 12th Ukrainian Municipal Forum in Odesa on June 21-23. A group of MPs from the "For Development of Local Self-Government” caucus and about 40 mayors of Ukrainian cities together with representatives from the Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Regional Policy and Local Government and experts attended discussed legislative
framework that would encourage formation of capable territorial communities, hasten decentralization and local government reform in Ukraine. RADA Program experts provided participants with e-book “Decentralization in European countries” produced by the project. That gives an opportunity to national and regional governors learn and further use the best foreign experience in Ukrainian realities.

RADA Program and the Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Regional Policy and Local Government held a meeting within the framework of the Municipal Forum in Lviv on April 7, 2016. Head of the Lviv Regional Administration Oleh Synyiutka and VR Vice-Speaker Oksana Syroyid attended the meeting. The Committee discussed with the regional authorities a number of draft laws on decentralization and ways of transferring power to local authorities. Discussion concerned the level of the power for local, village and town heads and councils. The results of the meeting will speed up decentralization reform by creating an effective and workable legislative base for it. The Committee approved and recommended to the VR to approve in the first reading two draft laws: #4091 on elections of village heads and #4110 on the order of gaining authorities of village, towns and local heads. The draft law #4165 on the liquidation of district councils, where a district and combined community share the territory, was postponed for further consultations. The meeting of the Committee was streamed live.

RADA supported Development Forum held for the communities of Prybuzhzhya region with the participation of Ukrainian MPs Ihor Huz, Oksana Yurynets and Mykhaylo Bondar, representatives of local authorities and civil society of Western Volyn, local government officials of the Eastern Provinces of the Republic of Poland on February 26-27. As a result of the forum, communication of local authorities with Parliament was qualitatively improved, strategic directions of trans-border cooperation within the territory of the model district were worked out, additional information and skills on institutional development were provided to community representatives.

RADA will use the regional discussions approach in next year.

**ii. Regional policy dialog meetings in different regions in coordination with VR LSG and in cooperation with CoE**

RADA established effective partnership with the Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Regional Policy, and Local Self-Government (LSG) that improved the communication between MPs and local authorities within the Project.

All the regional meetings listed in above section were conducted in cooperation with VR LSG Committee

To promote the leading role of Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) in decentralization and self-governance reform, the RADA program proposed to include the ACU in a list of key implementers of the Law of Ukraine “On associations of the bodies of local self-government” at the VR LSG Committee meeting on October 5, 2016.

**iii. Town-Hall Meetings to discuss emerging issues and voice the concerns and preferences**

RADA Program facilitated cooperation between MPs and local self-government via public citizen discussions in format of Town-Hall Meetings. The task of “town hall” tool is to motivate the local community to take part in forming the decisions “from the bottom”, i.e. “town-hall” is a tool of direct democracy. Any event within this format launches the process of discussion and search for the resolution of specific issues, involving the local community. The aim of the format of Town Hall Meetings (THM) is to conduct an organized discussion of a large number of participants (up to 500
people) in small groups. Each group discusses problems directed at solving concrete issues of public life and identifying the most effective steps for doing so. Several scenarios are on the table for discussion but only one, the winner, is taken to become a document with a step-by-step implementation plan (avoiding legal technique).

The methodology of THM is widely used by RADA Program partner Agency for Legislative Initiatives and helps to organize voters around an MP in the Model District component and/or draw attention to a problem that a large number of people need to participate in the discussion.

- The Town Hall Meeting called “The problem of domestic waste recycling” was held in Chernihiv on April 27, 2016 as part of a “model district” in cooperation with the League of Interns NGO and was initiated by MP Oleksandr Chernenko. The main goal here was to choose a strategy on domestic waste treatment in Chernihiv Oblast. The session’s participants were asked to solve two key problems of waste treatment: 1) to find the optimal method of waste recycling and 2) to choose an efficient waste storage. Solving this issues participants choose between the following strategies: sorting of waste, dump degassing, burning of waste and dry pyrolisys. The majority of participants voted in favor of sorting of waste (33 out of 60). The press release on the event is published on ALI’s site: http://bit.ly/2fPGh45. Chernihiv hosted the format of Town Hall Meetings for the first time.

- The Town Hall Meeting called “How to conveniently organize urban space in Kyiv” was initiated by MP Yehor Sobolyev and held in cooperation with the League of Interns NGO on May 25 in Kyiv. The event was designed to hold public consultations on the choice of development strategy for Kyiv. Thus, two issues were discussed: overcoming the crisis in city planning documentation and finding ways to decentralize city planning. The majority of citizens supported amending the General Plan 2025 and the development of clear regulations on zoning, regarding the problem of the crisis in city planning documentation. Also, the majority supported the introduction of new unified state building codes for the whole country. Current MP Yehor Sobolyev and the Deputy of Kyiv City Council Serhiy Gusovskyi, who will be responsible for lobbying and implementing the chosen strategy, participated in the discussions. The topic attracted 150 active citizens and local governors. The press release for the event was published on the site: http://bit.ly/2f66gzh.

- The Town Hall Meeting “Finding ways to continue using the dump in the village of Korzhii” was initiated by MP Pavlo Rizanenko and held in cooperation with the League of Interns NGO as part of a “model district” on June 30. The town hall meeting was devoted to the further use of the dump and on the territory of the village council of Korzhii, Kyiv oblast. Policy Option №1, to keep the status quo, was unacceptable as an alternative for the community representatives and local authorities. So the majority collectively decided not to vote for this alternative. As a result of the discussion, the majority of votes were given in favor of policy option №3, to find investments and to build a mini-recycling plant. The press release of the event was published on the website http://bit.ly/2eQHeX6.

- MP Olena Sotnyk led the Town Hall Meeting in Kharkiv to discuss the situation in secondary schools of the Kharkiv region. In particular, the attention was paid to the schools’ practice to collect parents’ donations to the school’s account in situation when the secondary education is free in Ukraine. A burning social problem of charging the informal fees to the parents at schools was the topic of Kharkiv town hall. Due to the event, the issue was made public on the local level. Town hall participants have chosen one of the five suggested options, namely regulatory ban on charging parents for different school needs. Now Olena Sotnyk started implementation of the Town Hall Meeting via negotiations with local and national governors.
iv. **Initiate, in cooperation with CoE, regular reports by local government associations in the VR LSG Committee with the participation of representatives of other committees.**

The RADA Program jointly with the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) organized hearings for the Committee on State Construction, Self-governance and Regional Development on October 05, 2016. The Association spoke about urgent needs in training and consulting support for self-governors, and emphasized a necessity of proper communication between VRU as a main legislative body and governors at the local level. AUC The already Association started training for mayors on self-governance and development of investment projects, and prepared reference manuals for regional specialists with extracts on legislation and project management in self-governance. It plans to establish an analytical center to study issues of self-governance reform in Ukraine to assist VRU in decision making process on regional development. Other associations will visit the Committee to report in 2017. The VRU web-site published news about the events due its importance - [http://iportal.rada.gov.ua/news/Novyny/135825.html](http://iportal.rada.gov.ua/news/Novyny/135825.html). Video is available at [http://radaprogram.org/announcements/translyaciya-zasidannya-komitetu-vgz-pytan-derzhavnogo-budivnyctva-regionalnoyi#overlay-context=](http://radaprogram.org/announcements/translyaciya-zasidannya-komitetu-vgz-pytan-derzhavnogo-budivnyctva-regionalnoyi#overlay-context=).

**OBJECTIVE 2: Expanded role of citizens in monitoring the work of Parliament.**

**Expected Result 2.1. Civic education initiatives promoted to foster greater citizen engagement in the legislative process**

1. **Interactive map-based web portal with information about MPs**

RADA Program worked closely with its Ukrainian implementing partners to promote greater citizen engagement in the legislative process.

The interactive map-based web portal RADA [http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/](http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/) provides citizens with information about MP activities, parliamentary committee activities has been in operation since 2014 is being constantly updated by RADA’s implementing partner NGO OPORA. The web portal counts 200-250 daily unique host-visit and over 500 reviewed pages.

OPORA added three new pages to the site: 1) “RADA Speaks” proposed transcripts of the VRU plenary meetings ([http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/statistika/holosy-z-rady](http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/statistika/holosy-z-rady)); 2) “Map of Districts” that reflects the findings of OPORA public consultants in 36 electoral districts ([http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/mapa-okruhu](http://rada.oporaua.org/ua/mapa-okruhu)); and 3) interactive graphics that tracks voting of each MP sorted by Parliament Factions ([http://bit.ly/2fPKNO3](http://bit.ly/2fPKNO3)) that provided opportunity to analyze vote-habits of MPs. The graphics provide opportunity to compare each MP’s votes in VR with his faction voting and to count number of votes when the MP was absent or did not vote (please refer to the image below).
Over the year OPORA made 346 publications on its site http://rada.oporaua.org consisting of 180 monitoring reports in 36 electoral districts; 144 monitoring reports on single-mandate districts; 72 videos; 27 analytical overviews on international parliamentary practices; 32 analytical reports on parliament committees work and 35 others (thematic stories, methodologies, reports on VRU developments). As a result, OPORA site reached 200-250 unique viewers a day with the average viewing 2.3 pages.

ii. Civic Education Campaign in regions on both national and regional specific policy issues

Year 3 was fruitful in making progress in citizen education about the legislative process. Public activities under ER 1.2 and ER 1.3 related to public discussion of the constitutional amendments and regional issues provided a venue to engage more civil society organizations and citizens to talk about citizen’s control over the authorities. RADA in cooperation with its Ukrainian civil society partners and government counterparts provided the audience with timely expert support and qualified expertise.

To promote greater citizen involvement in monitoring of the legislative process, OPORA organized a public discussion "Parliament, MPs and Committees: Results of One Year of Work" with media participation on November 27 in Kyiv. The event became a good opportunity to discuss preliminary results of VR work in the 2nd and 3rd plenary sessions with the public.

These events provided citizens with the better understanding of the Parliamentary processes. The discussions were widely popularized via local media including social media.

iii. Workshops for youth on culture of effective engagement in the legislative process

The RADA implementing partner Agency of Legislative Initiatives (ALI) focused on youth civic education and delivered two trainings for youth - "Effective Involvement in the Legislative Process"
and "The Role of Citizens in Government Accountability Requirements". The training agenda and content will become a part of the materials for civic education that is currently in the process of development with the Ministry of Education.

ALI and IUA held two webinars for youth - "How to control the governments: access to government information" and "Effective citizen participation in legislative process" for 85 youth activists from different regions in total. Both webinars served to raise awareness about the parliament work and to encourage active citizenship that would allow speed up the reforms. Webinars are available via links: http://etutorium.ru/webinaryService/info/15009, http://etutorium.ru/webinaryService/info/15061.

iv. Public discussions on proposed legislation in public libraries (Bibliomist)

v. Methodological recommendations for teachers in high schools on Legislature for Youth

Agency for Legislative Initiative (ALI) experts had a series of meetings with management of the Institute for Modernization of Educational Content by the Ministry of Education and Science. The Institute is responsible for elaboration, evaluation and approval of new education programs for high schools of Ukraine. As a result, the RADA Program and the Institute for modernization of educational content signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on January 26, 2016. It was agreed to collaborate on improvement and implementation of recommendations for teachers of law in high schools, namely for lessons covering legislative branch, role of youth in government programs, political system in Ukraine, and electoral process of Ukraine. The Memorandum prescribes including mentioned topics into the high-school curricula. RADA started developing recommendations for teachers and presented its methodological materials to teachers that visited events under the Model District project of Ihor Guz in Volyn oblast, on July 26.

ALI will conduct three colloquiums for teachers of legal and social sciences in high schools in October and November 2016. The conferences will equip teachers with additional educational blocks concerning the role of citizens in good governance. In particular, the courses “Legislative Government for Youth”, “Place of Youth in State Programs”, “Political System of Ukraine” and “Electoral Process” were presented to get teachers’ feedback. All the curricula included theoretical blocks, interactive games and role playing, such as “Presidential Elections in Ukraine” and “Agora: Democratic Procedure to adopt laws in Verkhovna Rada”. The discussed and updated methodology is to be sent to the Ministry for the final approval in Year 4.

vi. Civic educational campaigns on citizen rights, roles and responsibilities

OPORA continued updating the site “They vote for you!” (https://rada4you.org/) with the politics for public analysis, and widely promoted the tool among the citizens via regional public events and training, its regional monitors, partnering NGO and social networks. The site provided voter with an opportunity to check which laws did his/her MP vote and how does it correlate with the electoral promises.
vii. **Press tours for regional media to VR**

To aware local reporters about the Parliament work, RADA Program assisted in conducting two press-tours for regional journalists to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. Hence, reporters from Chernihiv (March), Kharkiv and Luhansk (April) regions attended the Parliament, learnt about works of VR committees, participated in the School of the Parliamentary Journalism and could observe the regular VR plenary sessions work. Press-tours provided reporters with deeper understanding of the parliament processes as well as enabled peer-to-peer knowledge exchange between regional journalists. Additionally to observations and taking interviews, reporters went through 2-hour workshop “School of the Parliamentary Journalism” that provided basic knowledge about functions of VRU and MPs, its structure and procedures of work, the terminology. Second part of the workshop explained mechanisms to cooperate with press services of VRU, possibility to obtain official commentary and/or get access to the VRU premises. As a result, 33 publications covering press tours were published in local media over the period.

The biggest Press Tour to the Parliament was the visit of 50 regional reporters to the Parliament Conference on July 18-19. More about the press tour can be read in the section *Achievements and Success Stories* of this report.

viii. **Youth Parliament Initiative to discuss the pressing issues for young people**

Youth Parliament Initiative. April 14-16, 2016 second meeting of the Youth Parliament took place, when 54 young people, representing all Ukrainian regions were selected to model the Verkhovna Rada in recreating law making and legislative process. Participants were drafting the law on electronic local governance. During the work of the Youth Parliament, participants met with Head of EP Mission Pat Cox. Mr. Cox emphasized that there is a great hope for you in Ukraine, although it is not an easy time for them now. Participants also met with Yaroslav Markevych, MP of Samopomich faction. Participants emphasized that such events educate with the role and functions of the Verkhovna Rada in details, involve young people into political life and bring best practices and international experience.

ix. **TV program “Dear MPs” (Re:Forma)**

TV program “Dear MPs” was rebranded and received new title “Re:Forma”. RADA and OPORA held discussions with Hromadske TV on updated content of the program to reflect the most outstanding events in Verskhovna Rada. The new program received new audience The RADA program partner OPORA produced 38 televised programs "Re:Forma" that covered role of Ukrainian Parliament in key reforming issues. The FIRST:UA National Channel, Hromadske.TV, sometimes Channel 24 and regional channels broadcasted the program in primetime at 7:30 PM. Total viewership of 38 programs “Dear MPs” reached 7,560,488 and over 132,000 on YouTube channels.

x. **Series of program “Parliament through Young People’s Eyes” at RADA TV Channel**

Internews Ukraine (IUA) held a tender to find out production studio that would produce the educational video for youth titled “How the Parliament Works”. The winner made a script, which was updated with involvement of experts from RADA Program and East Europe Foundation (EEF). The sub-contractor will finalize the production by the end of November to allow IUA to distribute the film in social networks, web-sites and educational institutions starting December 2016.
xi. **Annual Parliament Hearings to bring together youth from the Eastern and Central Ukraine**

RADA did focus its efforts on bringing youth from the Eastern and Central Ukraine to the Parliament in the reporting period.

**Expected Result 2.2. Civil society monitoring of the VR fostered, including strengthening of lobbying groups.**

1. **With Institute of Legislation develop and institutionalize the platform for public commentaries on proposed legislation**

Law making initiatives discussion platform was developed with VR Secretariat and VR Main Department of Computerized Systems. The platform provides citizens with opportunity to make their experts’ contributions (even legislative initiatives in the future) within the framework of discussion of certain piece of legislation. Committees and responsible in secretariat of committees will review and moderate all public initiatives, involving governmental and experts’ circles at the major stages of drafting. The major goal here is to take the public point of view into consideration. **CSO Registry** will function as an integral part of the platform.

2. **Training module on CSO monitoring of constituency development funds and other district-specific allocations**

RADA Program partner Open Society Foundation (OSF) developed and launched a training module for CSO on monitoring of MPs and local councils activities to prevent abuse in public funds use.

Eight OSF training took place in eight regional locations, seven from which were the Model Districts of the RADA Program. OSF training titled “How to cooperate with MPs to solve regional problems and to estimate MP contribution problem resolution?” took place in Khust, Zakarpattia region on June 21-22; Chortkiv, Ternopil region on June 23-24; Chernihiv on June 30-July 1; in Brovary, Kyiv region on July 4-5; in Kyiv on July 7-8; Kharkiv on July 11-12; Severodonets’k on July 13-14; and in Volodymyr-Volynskyi, Volyn oblast on July 25-26.

OSF built its training as practical recommendations on possible ways of citizens’ control over deputies and on effective cooperation with their MPs for solve their district’s issues. The training taught to estimate the citizen and the MP’s contribution in resolving these problems; provided with understanding of political corruption schemes in budget distribution. Final session was focused on identification and prevention of abuse in budget expenditures.

The series of training increased public awareness of 120 participants from eight regional locations of Ukraine about principles of transparency and accountability to be required from Members of the Parliament, and armed voters with tools to monitor allocation of public funds to prevent corruption at national and local levels.

During the training the OSF discussed with participants – CSOs and journalists – list of current issues for their locations. Thus, the agenda for each location was built for further discussions with the MPs that represent their electoral districts in the Parliament.

Majority of trainees confirmed their readiness to carry out monitoring of state budget allocation for their districts with the knowledge received from OSF.

The Open Society Foundation (OSF) held a press conference to its project results in Informational Agency UKRINFORM, Kyiv on October 15. More information on:


OSF conducted survey of MPs to learn level of awareness of best practices of accountability. The MPs that cooperated with the RADA program demonstrated more willingness to have training on public funds monitoring for aids, local public activists and journalists in their electoral districts, as well as include the list of urgent issues of their districts into the legislative agenda.

iii. Monitoring of the Parliament Legislative Initiatives

The Agency for Legislative Initiatives supported citizen groups engaged in lobbying and advocacy campaigns for democratic legislation amendments. In particular, a Reanimation Package of Reforms' (RPR) advocacy group on tax reform initiated a legislative initiative aimed at creating favorable conditions for effective communication between taxpayers and tax bodies.

An RPR advocacy group on health is in the process of developing several legislative initiatives with ALI support. ALI also supports the Institute of National Memory in its legislative advocacy and lobbying efforts. In particular, ALI assisted in applying for research and then preparing a policy paper on "Restoring the Rights of Victims of Political Persecution".
RADA implementing partner NGO OPORA’s network of 12 regional consultants with a **wide-scale regional monitoring** in 36 electoral districts. To present the results of its monitoring and collect information about issues that the communities face in regions, OPORA’s consultants conducted 24 press conferences and 72 public educational events with 1084 representatives of local CSOs, experts, active citizens and media. With purpose to provide citizens with the knowledge how the MPs’ activities might be tracked, OPORA issues 5,000 copies of 2-pager titles “You and MP: Ways to Interact” ([http://bit.ly/2fDuW69](http://bit.ly/2fDuW69)) and 5,000 leaflets “Your MP Contacts: What MP can do for its Electoral District?” Both prints had high demand among citizens, CSOs, MPs’ aids in the regions and self-governance bodies.

OPORA with USAID RADA support held a **monitoring of activities of 105 MPs** elected in single-member electoral districts. Performance indicators included the number of visits to local council meetings and frequency of meetings with voters. The conclusion was drawn that almost half of all MPs elected in single-mandate electoral districts do not visit their district at all. She also gave data by oblast on the reception offices of political parties where voters can go to raise issues or concerns with their MP.

**OPORA** noted some progress that has been made under the previous VR Chairman Volodymyr Groisman - committees began to post information about their scheduled meetings and report about results. However, some committees work better than others. OPORA monitoring fixed that MPs often submit draft bills to committees of which they are not a member. This is testimony of the political component of how committees are structured.

Besides the monitoring, the OPORA network provided consultations and trainings to local citizen activist and lobbying groups on the ways of communication with their MPs. 38 civic education/informational meetings with 537 representatives of local CSOs and media took place. Thus, the OPORA regional network built a strong group of public activists that able to advocate interest of their locations with the Parliament of Ukraine.

**Expected Result 2.3. Reform legislation passed by partnering with other USAID programs.**

1. **Beginning-of-plenary-sessions presentations of USAID projects in VR committees**

USAID RADA Program organized Information Fair on May 17-18, 2016 assisting 42 international organizations, USAID projects and Ukrainian CSOs focusing on key reforms in Ukraine, presenting their work and publications to MPs, VR Secretariat and staff. With USAID RADA Program the European and Information Research Center (EIRC) was re-launched, and its activities were actively promoted at the Information Fair.

The Program updated and published a Reference Book of International Donors and Technical Assistance’s Organizations for this Information Fair to be distributed among MPs, VR Secretariat staff and factions’ staff.
In Y4, RADA will focus on biannual beginning-of-plenary-session presentations of USAID projects in VR committees that have relevant project jurisdictions and encouraging the active participation of representatives of USAID programs in WGs, discussion groups, committee meetings on topics of their interest and their ability to provide feedback and comparative analysis to VR committees and individual MPs.

ii. Encourage USAID programs’ representation in WGs, discussions, committee meetings

RADA consultants worked in numerous working groups with representatives of other donor and technical assistance organizations in the spheres of: anti-corruption (i.e. conflict of interest, transparency of budgets, system of judiciary, legislative process). These groups also included representatives of Ukrainian NGO organizations, with the most prominent one called Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR) composed of several NGOs. RPR received support from several USAID programs for drafting and advocating urgent democratic reforms in Ukraine.

USAID RADA and the Commercial Law Center held a training session on April 7 for MPs Aides on how they can analyze the comparative cost of proposals in draft bills. The main goal of the proposed tool titled SME Test\(^2\) is to reduce the costs of state regulation for small businesses through effective provisions. The regulation governing the SME Test is a component of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

RADA Program jointly with the VRU Secretariat and World Bank organized a round table “Government transparency through access to public information” to discuss implementation of Laws 2939-VI on Access to Public Information and 577-VIII on e-Petitions on October 20. Over 40 experts and leading the VRU executives discussed the positive social effect from the Law on Access to Public Information that has been adopted in May 2011, and planned further steps in updating the legislation to provide even more transparency and to satisfy the growing public demand on information. In particular, there are some legal irregularities to be fixed - the status and the power of officials that respond to public requests, the e-appeals and e-petitions are not defined properly. The informative important discussion actualized urgency of resolving those issues for the Chief Department on Public Appeals, Department of Information and Public Communications, Department on Computing Systems and VR Secretariat Management. More information is available on http://rada.gov.ua/news/Novyny/117431.html.

On December 1-2, RADA along with UNDP supported the field hearing of the Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Regional Development, and Local Self-Government conducted in Vinnytsya. Over 70 MPs, VR executives, experts and local officials discussed the lessons learned from the implementation of the Law on Administrative Services, and made plans in revision the Law provisions. More information is available http://www.vmr.gov.ua/Lists/CityNews/ShowNews.aspx?ID=2647.

In order to coordinate donors’ activities on strengthening the Ukrainian Parliament and build its capacity in effective communication with voters and general public, the RADA Program regularly organized International Parliamentary Technical Assistance and Coordination Meetings (IPTAC) on different topics:

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\(^2\) The SME Test analyses the possible effects of EU legislative proposals on Small and Medium Enterprises (SME). By assessing the costs and benefits of policy options, it helps implement the ‘Think Small Principle’ and improve the business environment.
September 28 – meeting on introduction of a system of electronic declaration gathered over 30 representatives of donor community, Verkhovna Rada Deputy Chairwoman Oksana Syroid, MPs Yehor Sobolev (Samopomich) and Anton Herashchenko (People's Front), Chairman of the Civic Lustration Committee Sasha Drik, Chief Anti-corruption Expert of the Rehabilitation Package of Reforms Oleksandr Lyemyenov and World Bank IT Consultant Dmytro Chaplynskyi. Participants discussed an issue over ineffectively working software and lack of transparency of its operation.

August 31 – meeting on “The Plans and Prospects for the 5th Plenary Session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” gathered international donor organizations, civil society and MPs: Svitlana Zalishchuk (Petro Poroshenko Bloc), Yehor Sobolev (Samopomich), Pavlo Rizanenko (Petro Poroshenko Bloc) and Olena Sotnyk (Samopomich). All four legislators are members of the RADA Program’s “Model District” project and spoke about different topics on the political scene which are very likely to be topical in the fifth session of the Verkhovna Rada scheduled to start its work on September 6. They suggested that the new season would likely see a continuation of old themes like utility tariffs and the appearance of new ones like reform of Education.

On June 29 - meeting on “Reform Processes in Ukraine: Information and Communication” presented results of RADA funded poll on public perceptions of government and parliamentary reforms held by Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation. The poll showed “dominance of society’s distrust in the course of reforms: 37% did not believe in success of reforms, while 28% categorically did not believe in success of the reform process in Ukraine. In the meantime, 5% of Ukrainians are confident optimists who believe in the possibility of the reforms being successful, and another 24% believe in general, but have certain doubts.” The survey showed priorities in reforms by citizens’ eyes - law-enforcement (courts, prosecutors, police); tax reform; anti-corruption reform; educational reform; deregulation and incentives for business development and investment; army reform, strengthening the country’s defense.

RADA presented two new projects at the meeting: EU/UNDP project “Rada for Europe;” and project "Promoting Democratic Political Culture in Verkhovna Rada through Political Dialog and Ethical Standards" of the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy and the OSCE/ODIHR.

May 25, 2016 – meeting "Monitoring of transparency and efficiency. Results of 1.5 year work of the VRU." Up to 50 participants updated their understanding of the public initiatives and Parliament actions toward the Parliament openness through presented monitoring of VR lawmaking activity done by OPORA. The meeting discussed particular laws that have to be adopted to increase openness and transparency of VR and presented new platform https://rada4you.org/ to enable voters to track activities of their MPs, launched in spring 2016. MP Svitlana Zalishchuk reported on the Open Parliament Initiative that aims to assist people to participate in the legislative process, to learn about MPs and committees work and to analyze budget spending on MPs and the VR itself.

May 16-17, 2016 - USAID RADA held Information Fair-2016 at Verkhovna Rada that displayed international donor assistance to Ukraine.42 organizations presented their results, products and materials in front of MPs, their Aides, NGOs, and international donors and media. The annual Info Fair 2016 kept the Ukrainian governors informed about multi-vector support of Ukrainian reforms in different areas. Besides, the Register of International Donor Programs in Ukraine 2016 was distributed to all MPs and VR employees who attended the Fair (http://www.radaprogram.org/sites/default/files/publications/handbook_ukr_2016.pdf).

April 27, 2016 - meeting "Post-crisis Verkhovna Rada: Tasks for the Leadership" gathered 40 representatives of international donor organizations/projects, embassies, CSOs, media and other
organizations to discuss two conceptual approaches to VR reform to come to visible and measurable results. VR Chairman Andriy Parubiy proposed to increase a number of plenary weeks, with Tuesdays and Thursdays being decision-making days, and an increase in the amount of time VR committees actually spend working first of all. Other innovation suggested replacing the Government Hour with three hours reports on Mondays, and introduction of a conference of VR committee chairs. Coordination of events between the Parliament and the Cabinet of Ministers is critical.

March 30 – Meeting “Parliamentary Reform: Political Will and Strategy for Implementation” discussed preparation of visit by Ukrainian MPs to the European Parliament in Brussels on February 29-March 2 to take part in Ukraine Week conference. In front of the Ukrainian Week, the VR duly adopted a Resolution #4219 recognizing all 52 recommendations for Openness Reform proposed by the European Parliament’s Needs Assessment Mission in February 2016. Local Coordinator for the European Parliament’s Capacity Building program for the Verkhovna Rada Tymur Tashtanov and Deputy Head of the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat Volodymyr Bondarenko provided overview of the current tasks and political will to proceed with the reform of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. Participants shared their vision of the MPs approach during the meetings with EU Parliament Members. The meeting was a significant help to Ukrainian MPs – the Ukrainian Week resulted with successful presentations of VRU reforms and of the political will to continue improvements toward democratic governance.

February 24 - meeting "The Coalition Crisis: What’s Next?" attracted over 50 MPs, international donor organizations/projects, embassies, CSOs. MPs from various parliamentary factions: Oleksandr Chernenko (Petro Poroshenko’s Bloc), Viktoria Syumar (People’s Front), Viktoria Voytsytska (Samopomich), Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze (Petro Poroshenko’s Bloc), Yuriy Miroshnychenko (Opposition Bloc), Oleh Medunytsya (People’s Front) and Ostap Yednak (non-affiliated) provided their reasons for the crises and negotiated possible solutions to reconciliation. Both speakers and other participants appreciated the practical approach of the meeting and found it helpful for reconciliation of parties’ positions.

January 27 - Meeting to present ninth survey of Ukrainian MPs. About 30 meeting participants, representing international donor organizations/projects, embassies, CSOs and other organizations, gathered to learn about findings of the latest survey of 140 MPs on matters related to VRU institutional capacity, its oversight function, communication with constituencies and other issues. Held in September-December 2015 by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) at USAID RADA’s request, survey provided donors with information that will help them better identify priority areas of intervention. The survey showed that almost a quarter (24%) of Ukrainian MPs considers the judiciary sphere among the most urgent reforms; 15.1% mentioned economical reform and 10.6% prioritized law enforcement reform. Over 90% of the lawmakers consider working in plenary sessions and in committees as their top priority, while 84.8% prioritized helping resolve constituency problems. Almost half (48%) of respondents actively utilize IT communications when communicate with constituencies. The survey confirmed perspectives of RADA program in implementation of activities to increase VR transparency and to strengthen political parties (factions) in the parliamentary development in Ukraine. RADA program distributed the survey findings among MPs, VR committees and employees of the VR Secretariat.
iii. **Develop recommendations of draft legislation tracking to be used by CSOs**

These activities are directly related to the OPORA web-site for monitoring of legislation adoption and MPs’ voting [https://rada.oporaua.org](https://rada.oporaua.org) and launched in spring 2016 web-platform for tracking MPs activities [https://rada4you.org](https://rada4you.org). OPORA regional training for NGOs enabled Ukrainian NGOs to use open tracking tools of the legislative activities of the Parliament, mostly on voting.

RADA will continue supporting OPORA training for NGOs on use of online tools for public monitoring of VR activities.
OBJECTIVE 3. Role of legislature in providing independent oversight of the executive branch strengthened

Expected Result 3.1. Anti-Corruption efforts strengthened including Parliamentary budgetary oversight

i. Video-based training manual on analyzing the state budget and the participation of MPs in the budget preparation and oversight

The video training on the budgetary process and how to analyze it was designed. Its presentation is scheduled for Y4. USAID RADA Program will distribute this video among Parliamentary factions and Committees and conduct training session on how to use it to make this instrument effective.

ii. Encourage use of the web-site resource corruptua.org on corruption activities by region

No cooperation with corruptua.org in Year 3. The web-site resource had not been operating for a while; therefore, it was agreed with its owner to move this activity into Y4.

iii. Expert discussion on changes to the Law on the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure In cooperation with VR Rules Committee

ALI developed a booklet on the oversight function of parliamentary committees to be distributed to all MPs and MP aides as well as staff of the committees. ALI developed recommendations as to the prospective changes in the Law on the Parliamentary Procedure that is pending for consideration within the VR Rules Committee. The 600-page document provided rigorous analysis of the procedures of the plenary meetings, forming the units of VR, legislative procedure; consideration of the Special Issues i.e. changes to Constitution of Ukraine, State Budget, Annual Address of the President of Ukraine etc., and monitoring and control in VR. The 600-page document is available at RADA web-site (http://www.radaprogram.org/sites/default/files/publications/komentar_do_reglamentu-berez-2015.pdf). The new Head of the Committee should be appointed by VR. Temporarily absence of the management in the Committee greatly hampers its operations and movement towards introducing changes to the current ineffective provisions of the Law on the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure. RADA expects creation of a Working Group on the changes to the Rules under the auspices of the VR Chairman. That will enable RADA experts to participate in its work by contributing their expertise and knowledge to make necessary changes to the Law Parliament Procedure.

October 29, 2015, the RADA supported third seminar “Legal Provision of Decentralization in Ukraine” that discussed changes to constitution. Moderator Ihor Parasyuk engaged RADA experts, scientists, Members of the Parliament and members of the Constitutional Commission, representatives of CSOs and international into vivid discussion about necessary legal changes to ensure smooth decentralization reform. The discussion displayed important issues that need to be addresses and drew up the agenda for the legislative work. ALI experts started preparation of the legal changes to be promoted in Year 4. Online report is available on http://parlament.org.ua/index.php?action=news&id=12&ar_id=2948&ch_id=2&as=0.
RADA implementing partner the Agency for Legislative Initiatives held a round table on institutionalization of opposition with the VR Rules of Procedure Committee to discuss draft bills on status of opposition in Parliament, on June 1. RADA consultants Volodymyr Kryzhanivskyi and Borys Bespaljyi presented the pros and cons of institutionalization of opposition in the Parliament that was included into the already registered draft law. The Rules of Procedure Committee will continue adjusting the draft considering the RADA analytical report.

iv. Methodological Recommendations for VR committees for reviewing the Chamber’s reports

In Y4, RADA will work with Ukrainian experts on developing manuals and methodological materials on the new Law on the Accounting Chamber and budget process.

v. Participate in activities of VR Committee on Fighting Organized Crime and Corruption

RADA Program continued work with the Parliamentary Committee on Issues of Prevention and Countering to Corruption (Anti-Corruption Committee) to implement decisions adopted at the field hearings in September 2015 in Severodonetsk. RADA Consultant Borys Bespaljyi analyzed about 20 legislative initiatives in the anti-corruption area and provided analysis to the committee. The committee will include the recommendations for consideration during next Committee’s meetings.

June 23, 2016 – RADA organized the field meeting of the VR Committee on Fighting Organized Crime and Corruption in Kyiv’s suburb town Kotsyubynske to investigate illegal logging and land-grabbing. The open meeting of the Committee invited MPs, journalists, local state officials, politicians, experts and civil society activists to talk about legal way to prevent further abuse. RADA Program made possible the live stream of the event to spread the information about the event to a wide public. The discussion enabled the request to the Prosecutor General Office to investigate the abuse with the natural resources.

vi. Series of round table discussions on political and campaign finance and changes to current legislation with IFES

USAID RADA Program played a role of moderator in dialog between IFES program in Ukraine and parliamentary political parties. Three days after the Local Election Day, USAID RADA and IFES Ukraine organized the International Parliamentary Technical Assistance Coordination (IPTAC) meeting “Local Elections 2015: Preliminary Results and Lessons Learned” on October 28, 2015. 40 experts from international donor organizations, embassies and civil society shared their monitoring and survey findings, and made conclusions about the legislative background for such elections. OPORA Electoral and Parliamentary Programs Coordinator, Member of the Working Group on Drafting Local Election Law Ms. Olha Ayvazovska, presented findings of OPORA’s four polls conducted for these local elections. Comparatively low voter turnout, irregularities in operations of local electoral commissions, process of vote counting, and violations on Voting Day could make an impression of imperfect elections. Participants acknowledged the need of advanced legal and procedure training for members of local election commissions. Electronic voting and observance of gender equity in the Election Code should be also priorities for IFES, RADA and other donor supported programs that contribute to development of democratic electoral mechanisms in Ukraine.

vii. **Guidelines and methodological recommendations on the implementation of new anti-corruption provisions in the Ukrainian legislation, with Government Representative for Anti-Corruption Policy and NAUCS**

RADA expert on anti-corruption issues designed and drafted a handbook on novelties in Ukrainian legislation. They included description of new anti-corruption agencies, their functionalities and mandate. Regulation as to the system of electronic declarations and other key stories.

**Expected Result 3.2. Parliamentary oversight strengthened through improved structural effectiveness**

i. **Series of public hearings on pre-paid shadow reports**

In order to strengthen VR oversight over the Cabinet of Ministries (CM), RADA Program introduced the Shadow Reporting as effective monitoring tool over CB activities by the respective VR Committees. RADA implementing partner ALI presented the Shadow Reporting monitoring toolkit to the Cabinet and Parliament.

As the proposed Shadow Reporting methodology should involve civil society organizations capable to monitor and report actions of the government, ALI delivered training on use of shadow reporting for 20 representatives of Ukrainian CSOs and VR Committee on Preventing Corruption, on March 25, 2016, [http://bit.ly/2f5Qw1E](http://bit.ly/2f5Qw1E).

ii. **Support using MP inquires challenges to Government decisions and other oversight means during committee-conducted hearings – in cooperation with VR committees**

With the RADA support, the Parliamentary committees started implementing oversight plans, including field committee hearings.

In cooperation with the State Agency of Ukraine for E-Governance and the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat, RADA Program started implementation of a number of E-Parliament initiatives that improve structural effectiveness of the legislature. The initiative aimed at greater transparency and openness of the legislative process.

RADA Program installed the Wi-Fi network in five buildings of VR committees to ensure the technical feasibility of Internet access in meetings rooms of the committees. RADA’s negotiations with parliamentary committees on establishing online streaming of committee meetings was supported by the Head of the Parliamentary Committee on Prevention of and Counteraction to Corruption. In March RADA established seven VR committees with the equipment, and enabled the immediate access of the media and citizens to the decisions making processes at the committees meetings. Finally, the VR institutionalize that practice by allocation funds to online streaming of committee meetings for all committees.

**First VR Committees that streamed their meetings online:**
1. On Prevention of and Counteraction to Corruption
2. On State Building, Regional Policy, and Local Self-Governance
3. On Legal Policy and Justice
4. On European Integration
5. On the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure and Organization of Parliamentary Work
6. On IT and Communications
7. On Human Rights, National Minorities, and Inter-Ethnic Relations

**RADA Program Supports the Open Government Initiative**

Contribution of the RADA Program into Open Government Initiative played a significant role in raising the government responsibility and transparency due to involving civil society in monitoring the Government’s work and introduction of reforms into the Parliament work.
RADA took active part in work European Parliament’s Needs Assessment Mission, as led by Pat Cox. RADA used its expertise and effective communications with the VR Secretariat to plan necessary interviews and group meetings, collect print and electronic data on the Parliament functioning, as well as supplied the Mission with RADA’s analytical and monitoring reports to assist the Mission to complete the assessment. Finally, the paper was presented at the USAID/RADA Conference “Creating an Effective, Accountable and Responsible Parliament” on April 15, 2016.

Pursuing increase in transparency of Parliament processes, the RADA Program CoP Ihor Kohut contributed to workgroup on the reform of the VR Rules of Procedure as chaired by VR Speaker Andriy Parubiy. In cooperation with VR Main Legal Department, VR Secretariat, VR Main Organization Department and representative of the EP Assessment Mission the RADA designed a draft law that introduced mixed committee-plenary weeks and changed format of the Government Hour session. The proposed draft law proposed to devote the whole day on Mondays for Parliamentary-governmental debate; and to take Parliamentary Conciliation Council on Fridays, a day prior to the beginning of new Parliamentary week. RADA CoP Ihor Kohut and VR Speaker Andriy Parubiy presented proposed changes at a public discussion that took place in the Parliament on May 6, 2016 and was reported by TV channels Hromadske, 112 and TRC Rada. The draft law was registered in the Ukrainian Parliament; public debates with experts, CSOs, representatives of all Parliamentary factions are scheduled for 2016 to finalize the Rules of Procedure draft law. However, two major changes: 1) on introduction of new schedule of Plenary and Committee sittings; 2) on mandatory conclusions of 4 Parliamentary Committees, including Budgetary, Legal Policy, Anti-Corruption and European Integration to introduce their expertise before registering draft laws; were not supported by Parliament.

To promote cooperation between legislative and executive governments of Ukraine within Open Government Initiative, the RADA program co-organized and moderated a high-ranking discussion "Cooperation between the Legislature and the Executive: European Lessons Learnt and the Model for Ukraine" hosted by the VR on June 16, 2016.Besides Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministries and MPs, the Head of the European Parliament’s Needs Assessment Mission, EP ex-President Pat Cox, Chair of the EP Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee Andrej Plenković, and EU Ambassador to Ukraine Jan Tombiński participated to the discussion. This high-yielding event made possible drafting the Memorandum of Understanding between the VR and the Cabinet of Ministers on fostering mutual cooperation, discussed best mechanism of reporting of the Cabinet in Parliament to raise awareness of Ukrainian decision-makers about crucial issues and to set up effective law making process between VR and the Cabinet. Special emphasis of executors was made on the document called: “Proposals on the Structure of a White Paper” – a template for the drafting of white papers at any ministry ahead of draft legislation. This is the biggest practical contribution made towards reform of Parliament.

iii. Updated training courses currently provided on Drafting Legislation, Norm Making, Lawmaking Techniques, Legal Language, Citizens and Lawmaking – with Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, IRF, VR HR Department, VR Secretariat, and Institute of Legislation
In cooperation with VR Committee on Legal Policy and VR Secretariat Organizational department USAID RADA Program drafted an eight-month curricula of the training center to increase professional knowledge of VR Committees staff and Secretariat, bring international experience to build strong capacity of VR staff.

The program will start in Y4 after official approval of VR Secretariat’s Organizational Department.

Expected result 3.3. Internship program institutionalized

i. **Support Parliamentary Internship Program (PIP)**

In December 2015, RADA Program with the East Europe Foundation contributed to the strengthening organizational capacity of the League of Interns by conducting a series of Leadership Meetings for participants of the Parliamentary Internship Program. Interns met Radio Liberty’s political observer and popular blogger Vitaliy Portnikov, and attorney and writer Larysa Denysenko. Meetings provided interns with wide view of the issues in the country and discussed necessary political, judicial and political reforms that urgent to save the Ukraine’s statehood and independence.

USAID RADA coordinator Ihor Prasyuk delivered workshop for a group of PIP interns on education of adults through the course of their lives. Second part of the workshop covered informative campaigns, mass events, successful presentations and public speaking. The workshop took place in the building of Committees of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on September 29, 2016. Eight young people that run internship with the Presidential Administration can apply received knowledge in their future professional work and in particular with adult audience – MPs, voters and civil activists. [http://www.interns.org.ua/content/usaid-rada-coordinator-ihor-parasyuk-discussed-education-adults-presentation-skills-interns](http://www.interns.org.ua/content/usaid-rada-coordinator-ihor-parasyuk-discussed-education-adults-presentation-skills-interns).

ALI conducted two training for 30 participants of the Internship Program with trainer EIRC’s Director Roman Kobets. At first training young political professionals learned about citizens’ role in the government accountability and particular legislation processes that lead to government’s transparency and openness. Second training practices their skills in effective legislation drafting by providing examples of use of analytics in justification of proposed changes and forecasting consequences.

ii. **Assist the Interns’ League in conducting recruitment campaign for Parliament Internship Program 2015-2016 and build institutional capacity for the Interns’ league**

iii. **Develop a Sustainability Plan and Exit Plan for the Interns’ League**

RADA management assisted in developing LI’s Strategic Plan for 2015-2017 supplemented by Action Plan and indicators of completing each strategic objective. The Strategic Plan has two underdeveloped parts - on funds of the Internship Program and on breakdown of administrative functions within the VR Secretariat’s units. These problems will be dealt with through negotiations with VR Secretariat and finding stable organizational solutions such as possible subordination of the Program to one of parliamentary committees.

iv. **Negotiate the transfer of the Parliamentary Internship Program’s to the VR Secretariat and provide limited programmatic training support**

RADA succeeded in negotiations with the VR Secretariat about making the Parliamentary Internship Program component for the Parliament’s administrative development. On November 20, 2015, the VR Secretariat and the Ukrainian NGO «Interns’ League» signed a Memorandum of cooperation on the implementation of the Parliamentary Internship Program. On December 31,
2015 the Acting Head of the Secretariat approved the Regulation on the Parliamentary Internship Program by Order # 10138. By the Regulation, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine covers scholarships for interns, as well as organizational and administrative costs.

RADA can observe remaining problems with state financing of the Program from VR Budget, and unclear division of administrative and managerial functions in the implementation of the Internship Program between the VR Secretariat and the League of Interns. The RADA Program will coordinate with VR staff to resolve these issues. RADA envisions a positive solution to this issue during 2016-2017 years because of started implementation of the Roadmap on Reform and Institutional Capacity Building of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. The program produced by Assessment Mission of the European Parliament indicates the need for short-term parliamentary internships.
Cross-Program USAID Components

Anti-Corruption

The USAID cross-cutting component on prevention and fighting corruption is described in section Objective 3 / Expected Result 3.1. Activities and achievements in resisting the corruption in Ukrainian Parliament is an integrated component assigned to the RADA program under Grant Agreement AID-121-A-14-00001.

Gender Equity

Elaboration of Gender Equality Policies and Programs for Ukraine

RADA Program joined the Equal Opportunities Caucus Public Council that created 6 WG (Political participation, Security and peace-building, Economic empowerment, Ratification and implementation of Istanbul Convention, Gender-Sensitive Parliament and Gender education). RADA gender consultant Olena Suslova became a co-chair of the Working Group Gender-Sensitive Parliament, which will cover gender expertise of legislation and institutional strengthening of the gender component in Parliament. MPs who are members of the Equal Opportunities Caucus decided to develop the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan for Parliament based at such plan developed by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) the plan will incorporate gender indicators to be collected by the RADA Program. This is a real success story because the VR could use tools already piloted inside Parliament.

On August 11, the Gender Caucus Secretariat members together with RADA Program gender expert identified ways to support Equal Opportunities Public Caucus Public Council activity. Because the secretariat of the Caucus is not permanent yet, the meeting searched the opportunity for sustainable Caucus’s activity via keeping institutional memory with the RADA support. RADA proposed use the Interns’ League to be part of the Caucus work to increase the involvement civil society in the process and ensure inheritance of Caucus activities and decisions in the Verkhovna Rada.

RADA held meeting of Gender Focal Points representing the Secretariat of Verkhovna Rada Committees as well as other parts of the VR on June 16, Kyiv. Participants evaluated the VR’s gender sensitivity. RADA gender expert Olena Suslova led the meeting. She noted growth in the Gender Sensitivity Index of the Ukrainian Parliament in 2016 by 7% to 30 scores out of 100 due to the active operation of the ‘Equal Opportunities’ inter-faction group of MPs. RADA emphasized raise in the lawmakers’ awareness about gender issues in general. Certificates were presented to participants of the Parliamentary Internship Program who had completed the gender policy analysis course and written a research paper on the topic. Earlier Gender Focal Points meeting in February 2016 predetermined gender issues implementation in the Ukrainian parliament in 2016 through a legislation gender analysis and raising awareness of MPs in gender policies.

RADA Program in partnership with La Strada Ukraine and the VR Committee on EU Integration held a round table “Istanbul Convention after Ratification: Prospects and Problems” to discuss specific steps on ratifying the Istanbul Convention in Ukrainian Parliament on June 16. RADA will publish 1,000 leaflets with explanation of the Convention provisions. The leaflets are to be distributed to MPs prior to voting on ratification.
RADA Program in cooperation with the VR Committee on Human Rights, Ethnic Minorities, and Interethnic Relations, NGO Women's Information Consultative Center and International Women's Rights Center "La Strada Ukraine" hosted a round table on "Women, Peace, Security: 15 Years after Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution #1325" on November 3, 2015. 60 MPs, VR staff, representatives of central executive bodies, the Armed Forces of Ukraine, academic institutions and NGOs discussed provisions of the National Action Plan to be adopted by Ukrainian government. Experts recommended observing equal and full participation of women in maintaining and promoting peace and security and the need to strengthen the protection of women and girls at a time of the Russian military aggression in the Plan. Later, on February 24, the Cabinet of Ministries adopted the National Action Plan 2016-2020 on implementation of UN Security Council Resolution #1325 “Women.Peace.Security” with recommendations made during the round table. The Plan defined actions toward peace building, peace keeping, and increased role of women in these processes. Many NAP’s activities address legislative and oversight functions of VR; it is available in Ukrainian on http://bit.ly/2eXoFnz.

RADA Program’s Olena Suslova contributed to development of new National Program on Gender Equality by participation in working group (WG) of the Social Policy Ministry in May 2016. To elaborate effective Program the Ministry of Social Policy lunched regular multi-sector meetings of the Working Group, which discovered gaps in implementation of the gender policies in legislative and executive government bodies. The new Program is closely related to parliamentary activity – both in legislative and oversight areas. Short report about the meeting is available at http://bit.ly/2g9SrHx.

RADA took place in three meetings of Working Group (WG) on amendments to the Law "On Ensuring Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men" in the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, Ethnic Minorities, and Interethnic Relations. The WGs discussed mechanisms for gender expertise of legislation, scope of work and the status of gender advisors in government structures and their functional duties, and Constitutional changes in the area of human rights.

**Training and Workshops on Gender Issues**

RADA Program managed to conduct a series of gender training for different audiences including MPs and their aids, staff of VR committee, employees of the Ukrainian ministries, NGOs and journalists.

USAID RADA in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Policy delivered two workshops "Equal rights and opportunities for women and men at local level" to 60 local authorities, civil society activists and MP’s aids on September 26 in Lutsk and on September 27 in Ternopil. RADA gender expert Olena Suslova highlighted the current gender policy trends and local executive authorities' role in implementation Gender Equality Policy (GE) from the perspective of decentralization. Workshops discussed the application of the National Action Plan at local level to execute of UN Security Council Resolution #1325 On Women, Peace, and Security. Local authorities, self-governors and civil society organizations raised their awareness on policy elaboration with regards to gender equality. That enabled local decision makers to observe equal opportunities for women and men starting from local level.

Similar workshops on "Realization of the Principle of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men at Local Level in the Context of Decentralization Processes" were held in Kherson and Odesa for 58 local officials and CSOs in October 2015. Joint with the Ministry of Social Policy and the VR Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities, and Inter-Ethnic Relations workshops.
RADA interwove session on gender equality to OPORA monitors’ seminar held on 28 September. RADA gender expert proposed considering gender related indicators in process of legislative work monitoring. Two dimensions might be used – gender of MPs (his or her actions and behavior) and events that happen in the electoral districts of MPs considering the gender factors. OPORA will think on implementation the gender factors in its monitoring in Year 4.

RADA Program delivered two-day training to almost 50 aides of MPs who belong to the Equal Opportunities inter-faction association in the Verkhovna Rada, with the aim of increasing their level of knowledge of gender policy in light of legislation on Equal Opportunities, especially in staffing policy. Participants also developed proposals for the action plan of the Equal Opportunities inter-faction association.

RADA partner Internews-Ukraine held training on gender sensitivity (GS) for regional journalists participated in press tour to the Parliament, on July 19, 2016. Such training was held first time and was proposed in response to partners’ needs identified by content analysis of local media content. Trainees demonstrated high level of interest to gender issues and appreciated the basic knowledge provided. The GS training assured regional journalists to be more attentive toward gender issues when produce the content on different topics including state policy and legislature.

**Articulating Gender issues in media**


**Gender expertise of draft legislation**

RADA Program made propositions to the Draft Law of Ukraine "On ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men" to conduct gender expertise of drafts bills developed by the Cabinet of Ministers and proposed changes to the Law of Rules of the Parliament Process, in particular the obligatory gender expertise for all legislation elaborated in VR.

The Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers # 604 from May 2006 imposes a duty of gender and legal expertise to the Ministry of Justice. This procedure is no longer satisfactory because the number of regulations for expertise exceeds the capacity of responsible unit in the Ministry of Justice. Besides, experts observed marginalization of gender integration process by several Ministries due to internal character of gender expertise by the MoJ. Gender analysis of is not obligatory for draft laws in the Parliament because VR does not have responsible officials for the expertise.

RADA’s proposed two-stage procedure: first, the test for compliance with the principle of equal rights and opportunities for women and men to be conducted, and, in case of discrepancies defined, the depth expertise and elaboration of recommendations at the second stage.

To test the procedure, RADA experts launched a pilot expertise of sample of 500 draft laws composed from 1) draft laws pending in three VR committees- on Rules and Organization; on State Construction, Regional Policy and Local Government; on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations, which are among priorities of the Program Council; 2) laws registered for one week of plenary session in September 2016; 3) Bills passed during the current VR session. The Gender Caucus discussed and agreed on the monitoring form to be completed by the experts. RADA will involve alumni of League of Interns among other experts on the analysis of state policies in 2015 for RADA Program. Based on the procedure testing, RADA will conduct a roundtable with participation of MPs, representatives on committee, independent experts and NGOs.
**MPs’ requests to EIRC on gender issues**

European Information and Research Center satisfied two MPs’ requests related to gender issues: 1) about EU legislation that regulates gender expertise of draft laws in EU countries, 2) and about legislation on gender equality in Parliaments of EU countries.

**Gender related publications**

RADA Program issued third edition of 48-page brochure “Top 10 of Gender Policy” that comprised of materials that describe importance of gender policy in user-friendly visualized form, i.e. 10 reasons why Ukraine needs a gender policy, 10 Ukrainian laws and 10 international instruments in gender policy, 10 gender policy myths and others. PDF copy is available via RADA website [http://www.radaprogram.org/sites/default/files/publications/top-10_web.pdf](http://www.radaprogram.org/sites/default/files/publications/top-10_web.pdf). The brochure became possible due to cooperation with the International Women’s Rights Center "La Strada Ukraine," Gender Strategic Platform, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, and Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, Ethnic Minorities and Interethnic Relations.

**People with Disabilities**

RADA applied non-discrimination policy in all its activities that assumed equal treatment of staff, partners, training participants and interns, applicants to press tours and other constituents with regard to their gender, age, race and physical disabilities.

RADA program did not have any specific activities to increase voices of people with disabilities.

**Local Capacity Building**

RADA Program made a valuable contribution to institutional capacity building of Ukraine Parliament via program and technical support in legislative analytical expertise, Model Districts, dialog with the regional governments and communities, introduction of the E-Parliament, anticorruption mechanisms, oversight functions of VR, reforming the rules and procedures, and gender equality principles. In fact, the most of RADA program activities aimed improving the ability of VRU to run transparent and effective legislative work.

RADA developed capacity of five national and up to 50 regional Ukrainian NGO and citizens in monitoring of legislative processes of Ukraine at national and regional levels, efficiency of regional policies and budget expenditures. The advocacy and lobbying capacities of local civic groups were improved to ensure their seat at the table in resolving their regional issues.

RADA paid a special attention to building organizational capacity of its implementing partners (LI), the European Information and Research Center (EIRC), OPORA, Agency of Legislative Initiative and Internews Ukraine.

RADA management assisted to develop Strategic for the League of Interns Plan for 2015-2017 and an Action Plan having details activities and indicators of completing each strategic objective. The Internship Program of the League of Interns was institutionalized through two documents: 1) signed Memorandum of Cooperation between the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the NGO "League Internship" to implement the program training in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Nov.20, 2015); and 2) Decree #10138 of the First Deputy Head of the Verkhovna Rada (Dec.31, 2015) that approved the provisions of the Internship program in the VRU.

RADA contributed to capacity of EIRC with trainings on analysis of open data for the Center’s experts to increase their skills in analyzing data, drafting policy recommendations and developing format
for their final products. As a result, the Center’s product – the policy briefs format was improved. The Center produced over 90 analytical recommendations on legislative process and received recognition from MPs and their aids and VR Committees.

RADA held a strategic planning session for EIRC staff taking into account the Roadmap on Reform and Institutional Capacity Building of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine at the end of 2015. On the strategic session results, the Center will focus its activities on five directions: 1) legislative capacity and law making process in the Parliament; 2) political supervision over the executive branch of power; 3) Openness, Transparency and Accountability; 4) Administrative Capacity; and 5) Ethical Standards of the Parliament.

Agency for Legislative Initiatives succeeded in using the methodology of Town Hall Meetings by introducing this format in model districts. The Agency also started to combine their efforts with other partners. For example, for the benefit of the RADA Program, joint activities in model districts are introduced during events when Internews-Ukraine combines their efforts with the Agency and RADA Program experts.

OPORA enhanced analytical skills and knowledge of the Parliament reforms among regional experts in 24 regions and Kyiv. Regular RADA supported training and consultancy sessions, MPs regional events and media support pulled out OPORA to the list of top-experts that influence political processes in Ukraine. OPORA expanded its connections with the Parliament through monitoring activities related to RADA program.

OPORA examined and introduced new interactive web-platform https://rada4you.org/ to collect, process, and publish data on the Parliament activities based on OPORA monitoring. The platform brought recognition to OPORA as a national-scale watchdog introducing instruments of civic observation of Parliament based on the best practices of world’s leading democracies.

OPORA’s activities and press conferences appeared 551 media publications. Active participation of OPORA in RADA Program’s parliamentary monitoring increased OPORA’s recognition among parliamentary journalists and national media.

Internnews-Ukraine (IUA) strengthened its networking connections in the agencies of the Verkhovna Rada that responsible for public relations and communication. For example, a good relationship with VR press center management enabled MPs to know more about IUA work, in particular organization of press tours and other information services. IUA made strong linkages with seven MPs that run Model Districts due to communication support of every visit to the regions of Ukraine. IUA staff improved their knowledge of parliamentary processes in Ukraine that might be used for further projects with USAID and other donor programs.
Lessons Learnt

RADA made analysis of barriers and problems appeared in the Program implementation during Year 3 to increase the efficiency of its further activities.

Model Districts

- **RADA** originally selected 8 MPs for Model District project including MP Oleh Barna from Ternopil region. However, Mr. Barna was excluded from his faction for unethical behavior: the MP demonstrated disrespect toward the Prime Minister of Ukraine in the VRU plenary hall that ensued brawl between MPs. RADA team decided to eliminate Oleh Barna from the list of selected MPs to avoid reputation risks.

- RADA fixed certain MPs` **lack of comprehension of their status** (legislative, representative and oversight functions) and their following responsibilities, in particular, systematical meetings with voters, examination of citizens` applies, cooperation with local authorities, NGOs, medias etc. in supporting them to solve district` problems. As a result, participants misunderstand goals and objectives of model district` project, mechanisms and tools proposed by RADA program to be implemented. RADA applied additional efforts to educate those MPs who required more awareness about their role in Ukrainian Parliamentary.

- During the first eight months of project implementation, **the accents were removed** from setting up an efficient communication between MPs and voters towards support of any MPs` initiatives, namely, advertising of their activities. Apart from this, because of the incorrect terminology ("model MPs” instead of “model districts”) the project is associated not with its ideas but with personalities of participants. Consequently, both model district` project and RADA program team were perceived as service office for certain MPs and a “scissor bill” for their political needs. Such approach is dangerous and full of risks for RADA Program’s reputation as impartial and politically neutral USAID project. RADA will conduct additional meetings with the MPs who run Model Districts to explain the RADA’s role in promoting open communication and accountability among Members of the Parliament.

- The majority of participants (in particular, those elected by party lists) don`t have any strategy to act and cooperate with voters in their constituencies. Lack of in-depth knowledge on political, social, economic, demographic etc. problems in districts (constituency passport), as well as lack of cooperation with local influence groups make one of the most important problems. RADA will focus its activities on education of MPs elected by party lists about their role in public communication and necessity of accountability before Ukrainian voters and society in general.

- Four out of seven MPs demonstrated more interest in cooperation with RADA Program: Ihor Huz, PavloRizanenko, Oleksandr Chernenko and Olena Sotnyk. Unlike others, they cooperate tightly with RADA Program team on making different activities in constituencies. However, with regard to Cooperative Agreement RADA Program has to set up five model districts. Thus, RADA will decide on the fifth MP candidate based on his/her performance and ability to attend RADA’s proposed activities.

Parliament Internship Program

Despite the VRU Secretariat readiness to administer the Parliament Internship Program in future, this year interns experienced troubles to promote their work and advice to be accepted in VR committees. The committees demonstrated conservative approach and avoided including interns
in active work of the committees. That limited improvements in the VR committees toward the best European practices.

**Dialog between MPs and self-government**

The most visible problem in cooperating with local self-government partners was the upcoming local elections. After Voting Day on October 25, 2015 RADA renewed effective cooperation with local authorities as well as civil society organizations working on local self-governance issues.

**Gender**

Gender component is not accepted by trainees and RADA partners as integral part of the Program. Thus, it is considered to turn the gender component in both “vertical and horizontal” activities — for all partners, in all activity, in all program documents. That should ensure the use of gender “lens” among all partners and constituents of the program.

**Approach to Program Implementation**

RADA experts provide an innumerable volume of technical support to Members of the Parliament, their aids and Secretariat via individual consultancy, expert training, sharing expertise and analytical papers, investment in organization of events and logistics. Sometimes, RADA program acts as a moderator between different political interests within the Parliament. However, changes in MPs’ perception of their parliamentarian work happen very slowly. Some MPs who cooperate with RADA for a long time start considering the Program as a service center or assistant in achieving their political goals. RADA experts will rethink the approach of communication with MPs and will limit assistance to particular MPs and MPs aids, which do not plan to institutionalize the received knowledge and experience.

The RADA applies vast effort into the raising citizens’ awareness about their rights, monitoring tools and ways to influence the Parliament. However the citizen’s perception of the legislature processes and effectiveness changes slowly. The most effect is observed among regional activists’ groups and self-governance bodies. However an average Ukrainian returned to the level of distrust toward the Parliament, and does not attempt to influence the process. Thus, RADA should think on approaches able to change attitudes and perceptions among regular citizens who are not in direct influence of the program.

The RADA is limited by the number of MPs, VR units and civic groups that can be reached and influenced by the Program activities. Thus the Program’s success should be evaluated as change in particular regions and areas where the program had the biggest interventions. RADA will do a plan to replicate the experience form the most successful regions to other territory of Ukraine.
# List of Sub-Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization name</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
<th>Project Manager</th>
<th>Project Period</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Grant amount in Y3, USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency for Legislative Initiatives NGO</td>
<td>15 Nyzhniy Val, office 303, Kyiv, 04070 Tel: (044) 531 3768; fax: (044) 425 2533 <a href="mailto:info@laboratory.kiev.ua">info@laboratory.kiev.ua</a>; <a href="http://www.parliament.org.ua">www.parliament.org.ua</a></td>
<td>Oleksandr Zaslavskyi</td>
<td>12/07/2015 – 11/24/2016 (11,5 months)</td>
<td>Support of European Information and Research Center in VRU, monitoring of legislative initiatives, regular updates on legislative developments in parliament reforms, issue of analytical policy papers for and policy briefs MPs and CSOs. CSO Registry (WP 1.2.1) European Information and Research Center (WP 1.2.6) Town Hall Meetings (WP 1.3.3) Trainings for youth(WP 2.1.3) Methodological recommendations for teachers in high schools(WP 2.1.5) Support of Civic Advocacy Campaigns (WP 2.2.3) Support of Parliamentary Reform (changes to the Law on the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure)(WP 3.1.3) Public hearings on pre-prepared shadow reports(WP 3.2.1)</td>
<td>$222,271.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internews-Ukraine NGO</td>
<td>15 Ryz’ka Str., Kyiv, 04112 Tel: +38 (044) 458 4440; fax: +38 (044) 501 9203 <a href="mailto:info@internews.ua">info@internews.ua</a>; <a href="http://internews.ua/">http://internews.ua/</a></td>
<td>Kostiantyn Kvurt</td>
<td>12/22/2015 – 11/24/2016 (11 months)</td>
<td>Develop and support of web-oriented software for different mobile devices (WP 1.1.1) Regional issue-related press tours and press briefings(WP 1.1.2) Recommendations on communication and information campaigns (WP 1.1.2)</td>
<td>$231,495.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interns’ League NGO</td>
<td>11 Velyka Zhytomyrska str., office 511, Kyiv, 01021 Tel/fax (044) 255-92-44 <a href="mailto:info@interns.org.ua">info@interns.org.ua</a>; <a href="http://www.interns.org.ua">www.interns.org.ua</a></td>
<td>Maria Savina Tel: (066) 764-68-08 <a href="mailto:maria.savina5@gmail.com">maria.savina5@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>01/25/2016 – 09/25/2016 (8 months)</td>
<td>Trainings on &quot;Digital Security&quot; (WP 1.1.4) Methodological materials on conducting civic education campaigns on reforms (WP 2.1.2) Video-package for youth &quot;How Does the Parliament Work&quot;(WP 2.1.3) Organize press tours for regional media to Verkhovna Rada (WP 2.1.7) Practical training the &quot;School of parliamentary journalism&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Society Foundation NGO</td>
<td>6, Bratska St., Office 402, Kyiv, 04070, Ukraine Tel/fax: (044) 425-7709 <a href="mailto:info@osf.org.ua">info@osf.org.ua</a>; <a href="http://www.osf.org.ua">www.osf.org.ua</a></td>
<td>Ivan Sikora Mob. Tel. +38 (050)382-4661; +38 (097) 7281188; <a href="mailto:osf.org.ua@gmail.com">osf.org.ua@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>12/10/2015 – 07/19/2016 (7.5 months)</td>
<td>Involve civil society into monitoring of state policies and budget funds allocation at national and regional levels. Training on public funds and oversight over the government decisions for regional CSOs. Monitoring of public funds distribution at the regional and national levels.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Exhibit 2. PMP Data Table: Responsible Accountable Democratic Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Indicator</th>
<th>Indicator Definition</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Data Collection Method</th>
<th>Baseline Data</th>
<th>Targets and Actuals</th>
<th>Target justificati on</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>FY2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1: Public representation in the legislative process improved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Indicator Name</td>
<td>Level of public representation in the legislative process</td>
<td>Measures of the level of public representation by the expert panel composed of MPs, legislative staff, Ukrainian and foreign experts, CSO representatives</td>
<td>semi-annual surveys of assembled expert panel conducted by Implementing partner (Olena Illyasevych)</td>
<td>survey of expert panel who assess the public representation on a 10-point scale: from the lowest (1) to the highest (10)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Result 1.1: Effective communication, outreach and constituent services developed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1.1 Indicator Name</td>
<td>New tools introduced by MPs for citizen communication, outreach and constituent services in their districts</td>
<td>Number of new constituency outreach tools introduced by MPs</td>
<td>Ukrainian partner reports from model constituency districts (Olena Illyasevych)</td>
<td>Observation and reports on new introduced practices and tools</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Result 1.2: Inclusive legislative drafting practices established</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Indicator Name</td>
<td>Measuring the level of effectiveness of VR in policymaking processes as assessed by relevant outside experts</td>
<td>Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych)</td>
<td>MP Surveys (will be conducted in 2015 and 2018)</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>58.4%</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of public forums resulting from USG assistance in which national legislators and public interact (PAF and PMP Indicator)</td>
<td>Measures the number of public events where the public has the opportunity to interact with MPs</td>
<td>Program monitoring reports, program monitoring surveys</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In recent years VR has reached its capacity of the quantity of public forums it supports; now it needs to improve their quality and sustain the quantity at the current level.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator Name</th>
<th>Measures the number of MPs and VR staff that attend USG sponsored events (disaggregated by sex) (FAF indicator)</th>
<th>Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych)</th>
<th>Trainers/consultants' reports; program evaluation report; staff and consultants' time sheets and payroll</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>808</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>320</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>421</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>196 men 76 women</th>
<th>120</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>800</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expected Result 1.3: Cooperation between MPs and local governments strengthened</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.5 Indicator Name</strong></td>
<td>Number of educational and capacity-building tools for MPs created</td>
<td>Implementing Partner (Ihor Parasyuk)</td>
<td>Program evaluation report; staff and consultants' time sheets and payroll</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2: Role of citizens in monitoring the work of Parliament expanded</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In recent years VR has reached its capacity of the number of MPs and staff attending USG sponsored events; now it needs to improve their quality of their participation while sustaining the current level of attendance.

These tools will be developed in the course of improving model MP districts and communication between constituencies and their elected representatives.
| 2.1 Indicator Name: Effectiveness of citizens in monitoring the work of the Parliament | Effectiveness of citizen monitoring of parliamentary activities as measured by % of new tools and practices learned by CSOs in specialized trainings that have been adopted by CSOs | Post-training surveys of trainings CSO representative s (Olena Illyasevych) | Trainers/consultants’ reports, Ukrainian CSO partners reports | 2013 | 0 | 50% | 45% | 60% | 57% | 65% | 60% | 70% | 75% | This indicator will be measured by the survey of participating organizations on the use of the new tools and practices they will have adopted |

| Expected Result 2.1: Civic education initiatives promoted to foster greater citizen engagement in the legislative process |

| 2.1.1 Indicator Name: Number of CSOs attending USG sponsored training or educational events | Measures the number of Ukrainian CSOs attending USG sponsored events | Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych) | Trainers/consultants’ reports; program evaluation report; staff and consultants’ time sheets and payroll | 2013 | 75 | 75 | 121 | 75 | 201 | 75 | 140 | 75 | 75 | RADA will focus on greater efficiency of CSO involvement in USG sponsored trainings and other educational events while keeping their number at a steady level. |

| 2.1.2 Indicator Name: Number of educational and capacity-building tools for CSOs created | Measures the number of educational instruments for CSOs developed within the project’s framework | Implementing Partner (Ihor Parasyuk) | Trainers/consultants’ reports; program evaluation report; staff and consultants’ time sheets and payroll | 2013 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | Education tools will be developed by RADA Ukrainian implementing partners in the course of their
### Expected Result 2.2: Civil society monitoring of the VR fostered, including strengthening lobbying groups

#### 2.2.1 Indicator Name
Level of public’s efficiency in monitoring the Ukrainian legislature’s work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures of the level of public representation by the expert panel composed of MPs, legislative staff, Ukrainian and foreign experts, CSO representatives</th>
<th>survey of expert panel conducted by implementing partner (Olena Illyasevych)</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>35%</th>
<th>35%</th>
<th>63.7%</th>
<th>52%</th>
<th>66.7%</th>
<th>58%</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>62%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>With greater public awareness of tools and instruments of control over elected officials, the RADA expects a steady growth in this control's efficiency.</th>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 2.2.2 Indicator Name
Number of public policies introduced, repealed, changed or implemented consistent with citizen input (FAF and PMP indicator)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures the number of public policies introduced, adopted, repealed, changed or implemented consistent with citizen input supported by USAID programs</th>
<th>Disaggregation by: Implementing Partner (RADA CoP Edward Rakhimkulov)</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>RADA will provide assistance to VR in drafting legislative amendments based on citizen input</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Introduced (submitted for consideration of the Parliament)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) adopted (approved by the Parliament)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>c) repealed policies</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) changed policies</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>e) implemented policies</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator Name</td>
<td>Percent of positive responses to survey on effectiveness of CSO testimony and reports provided to VR committees. Only entry-exit surveys will be conducted.</td>
<td>MP Survey (KIIS, RADA CoP Edward Rakhimkulov)</td>
<td>MP survey</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.4 Indicator Name: Number of civil society organizations (CSOs) receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions (FAF Indicator)</td>
<td>Measures the number of Ukrainian CSOs engaged in advocacy interventions with MPs/VR</td>
<td>Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych) Program monitoring reports</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.5 Indicator Name: Number of USG-funded organizations representing marginalized constituencies trying to affect government policy or conducting government oversight</td>
<td>Measures the number of CSOs that represent marginalized constituencies and are involved in policy making</td>
<td>Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych) Program monitoring reports</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expected Result 2.3: Reform legislation passed by partnering with other USAID programs
### Objective 3: Role of legislature in providing independent oversight of the Executive branch strengthened

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator Name</th>
<th>Level of effectiveness of various independent parliamentary oversight tools</th>
<th>MP survey (Olena Illyasevych)</th>
<th>KIIS survey results of MPs</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>67%</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>70%</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>n/a</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>75%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Expected Result 3.1: Anti-corruption efforts strengthened, including Parliamentary budgetary oversight**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator Name</th>
<th>Level of independence of parliamentary oversight over executive branch</th>
<th>Measures the level of public representation by the expert panel composed of MPs, legislative staff, Ukrainian and foreign experts, CSO representatives</th>
<th>semi-annual surveys of assembled expert panel conducted by Implementing partner (Olena Illyasevych)</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>61%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>57%</th>
<th>67%</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>70%</th>
<th>75%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Since early 2000s, the level of effective parliamentary oversight has increased; the RADA expects this trend to continue in the future.
### 3.1.2 Indicator Name: Public perception of government efforts to combat corruption

- **Index that measures the level of public perception of corruption**
- **Transparency International data** (Olena Illyasevych)
- **Annual Survey by Transparency International**
  - Question: To what extent do you perceive the Parliament/Legislature in Ukraine to be corrupt?

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>USG assistance and new GOU commitment to fighting corruption should be reflected in overcoming the negative tendency of declining trust to the Government efforts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.1.3 Indicator Name: Number of anti-corruption mechanisms developed (PMP indicator)

- **Measures mechanisms to include, but not limited to: e-governance mechanisms, legislative and normative measures**
- **Implementing Partner** (VR Committee on Fighting Organized Crime and Corruption, Volodymyr Kryzhanivskyi)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Anti-corruption mechanisms include tools and instruments prescribed by legislation as well as elaborated in by-legislation.

### Expected Result 3.2: Parliamentary oversight function strengthened through improved structural effectiveness

#### 3.2.1 Indicator Name: Number of national executive oversight actions taken by legislature receiving USG assistance

- **Measures the number of national executive oversight actions taken by VR**
- **Implementing Partner** (Olena Illyasevych)
- **Program monitoring reports**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The capacity of VR to conduct oversight actions has not been fully used but there is also a need to shift the
### 3.2.2 Indicator Name

Number of shadow reports submitted to VR and discussed in VR committees

| Implementing Partner (Ihor Parasyuk) | Program monitoring reports | 2013 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 |

RADA partner ALI will work with other Ukrainian CSOs to submit shadow reports to committees 2-3 times during a plenary session.

### Expected Result 3.3: Internship program institutionalized

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.3.1 Indicator Name</th>
<th>Level of institutionalization of the parliamentary internship program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measures the level of the internship program’s institutionalization by milestone stages: 1. League of Interns’ has vision of development for mid-term (3-5 years) 2. League of Interns’ Strategic Plan developed 3. League of Interns’ Sustainability Plan developed and approved by the Board 4. Long-term agreement between the League of Interns and VR Secretariat on implementation of the internship program endorsed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interns League and RADA Program documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program monitoring reports, results of OCA of the Interns League? IL’s institutional development and sustainability plan, agreement with VR Secretariat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Stage 1 achieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RADA partner ALI will work with other Ukrainian CSOs to submit shadow reports to committees 2-3 times during a plenary session.
| 3.2 Indicator Name | Index of the Quality of the Legislative Process (PMP indicator) | Measures different aspects of the quality of the legislative process in VR | Implementing Partner (Olena Illyasevych) | Semi-annual index from surveys of MPs, VR staff, Ukrainian and international experts | 2013 | 2.77 | 2.80 | 2.70 | 2.90 | TBF | 3.00 | 2.71 | 3.10 | 3.20 | This index is a comprehensive mechanism to measure the quality of the legislative processes in VR. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

This index is a comprehensive mechanism to measure the quality of the legislative processes in VR.