

“Slovakian-Ukrainian Culture Centre” - establishment and strengthening the cooperation  
of the Prešov self – governing region and Zakarpattia region.  
HUSKROUA/1001/083

Partnership without borders

## PRESS RELEASE

### The Successful Team – The Effective Communication

The joint Ukrainian-Slovakian training titled "Team Building" has been held from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2012 in Prešov within the framework of the project "Slovakian-Ukrainian Culture Centre" – establishment and strengthening the cooperation of the Prešov self-governing region and Zakarpattia region (HUSKROUA/1001/083). The training purpose was the formation of a joint Ukrainian-Slovakian management team and improvement of their skills required for managing the cultural projects.

**Matúš Goč** (the manager of the Department of International Cooperation of the Regional Development Agency of the Prešov self-governing region), **Vadym Pylypenko** (head of the board of the Ukrainian-Slovak Center "Carpathians") and **Natalie Nosa** (the president of the International Association "IARDI") addressed their welcoming speeches to participants and announced the project goals: improvement of cross-border cooperation between Slovakia and Ukraine and training for regional development experts at the NGO level who are able to communicate effectively with each other, in particular.



The training was conducted by **Kateryna Stankevych** (the program manager of the Regional Youth Environmental Organization "EKOSPHERA") who built the curriculum in the way for its maximum efficiency and a high interest.

Two managers from Slovakia (**Bečaverová Dominika** and **Tomáš Tilňák**) along with two managers from Ukraine (**Valerii Pugach** and **Iudita Gubal**) have been participating in the training activities. The participants were honored to be present together with **Juraj Bača** (the writer and professor of Ukrainian literature) who has been participating in the training as an interpreter.

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"Leadership in the international team" was the main topic of the first day of training. Participants were able to describe a leader's individual characteristics, get familiar with the types of leaders and distinguish the "manager" concept from the "leader" concept. The second day was all about theoretical and practical team building skills, which, as a matter of fact, are the key factor for the project viability. The third day (respectively titled "The Communication") was full of intercourse and productive work.



The participants had plenty of opportunities to use their communication skills, explore effective ways to communicate, learn how to prevent conflicts and settle them. The project management was the subject of the next (fourth) training day. This day was also marked by a visit of **Pavol Bogdan** (the deputy chairman of the Central Council of the Union of Ruthenians-Ukrainians of Slovak Republic), who described in detail some features of the Ukrainian-Slovakian cooperation and the problems which hinder the cross-border projects. Finally, the last training block of the fifth training day approached financial management itself. It worth mentioning that **Kateryna Stankevych** successfully combined theory and practice in her training along with the tests items for introspection. In addition, each day was full of a good mood, because of the intellectual and communication games that have been the part of the training activity.

Thanks to the efforts of the Slovakian organizers, the Ukrainian participants were able to work together effectively and admire the beauty of the ancient city of Prešov. Both Slovakian and Ukrainian partners hope for further cooperation within current and future cultural projects.

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