



Core Capabilities

- Decentralization and democratic local governance
- Legislative strengthening
- Municipal finance
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- Health and infectious disease
- Monitoring and evaluation

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For over a decade, RTI International has provided technical assistance and research design and support in Ukraine to help partners in government and civil society establish a robust democracy and solve critical social, economic, and health-related challenges. RTI's experience in Ukraine spans decentralization, ministerial and local government capacity building, municipal finance and management, association building, and participatory strategic planning. RTI experts in statistical analysis, health research, and clinical trials are helping the Ukrainian Ministry of Health identify and address critical health issues, including HIV in intravenous drug users and other high-risk groups; fetal alcohol syndrome, low birth weight, and other birth defects; and tuberculosis, including multi-drug resistant (MDR) and extremely drug resistant (XDR) strains.

To better respond to client needs and expand its services in Ukraine, RTI has established a regional office in Kyiv. RTI's Ukraine office employs local experts in health research, public finance, legislative reform, and information technology. The office also provides logistical and administrative support to ensure efficient project management and compliance with Ukrainian laws and regulations.

Projects at a Glance

Municipal Heating Reform, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)/ International Resources Group

This project focuses on strengthening the legal, regulatory, and institutional framework to improve heating services to customers; improve tariff regulation and methodology; enhance the capacity of municipalities to plan, manage, and fund the development of the heating systems; and improve energy efficiency in residential and municipal buildings. RTI is helping local governments use a systematic

approach to prioritize, implement, and monitor municipal energy management on their limited budgets.

International Consortium for Applied Radiation Research (ICARR), U.S. Department of Energy

ICARR, made up of experts from three U.S. research institutions (RTI, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina, Asheville), the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Ukrainian Research Center for Radiation Medicine, was established to advance the knowledge, diagnostics,

and treatment of exposure to ionizing radiation. ICARR collected medical data and biological samples from consenting construction workers at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant (ChNPP), enabling scientists to monitor the effects of radiation exposure on human health as it occurs.

- **Pre-employment screenings** identified medically fit workers to perform work at ChNPP and set a baseline of previous exposure
- **Medical examinations** conducted periodically provided reliable data on changes in workers' health
- **Genetic testing** of blood samples yielded expression data for analysis of changes in the genome of exposed workers

Municipal Budget Reform (MBR), USAID

RTI worked with national and local governments and citizens from 85 municipalities to make municipal budgets more effective, transparent, and accountable. RTI introduced new budgeting techniques to foster better planning, implementation, and monitoring; public participation in decision making; and budget autonomy.

- **Performance program budgeting (PPB)** methodology and MBR-developed software, Budget ProcessSM, helps the ministries of Finance and Economy and officials in 85 municipalities set clear goals for service delivery and tie spending to outcomes
- **Legislative advocacy** training helps government officials and local government associations campaign for increasing the share of revenues for local governments



- **Citizen-friendly publications and public hearings** make budgets more understandable and increase citizen participation in budget formulation

Dissemination of Regional Offices for the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC), USAID

RTI helped the Kyiv-based AUC achieve its mission to build local government capacities in budgeting, finance, and public service delivery. RTI coordinated the start-up and training of staff in 25 regional offices and procured new technologies to improve communications and information sharing with more than 300 smaller city AUC members.

- **Training trainers** to disseminate new models and materials on public finance and municipal management significantly increases local officials' use of PPB
- **Data collection and analysis** helps AUC measure local government progress on implementing reforms and advocate changes in national policy
- **Advisory committees and public hearings** increase public participation in decision making and citizen oversight of government spending and performance

- **AUC Dialog** (<http://www.auc.org.ua>), a state-of-the-art Web-based information system, enables AUC members to share experiences and best practices

Municipal Development Loan Fund, USAID

RTI worked with the national Budget Committee to restructure budget relations between the central and local governments to help prepare cities for infrastructure borrowing. RTI developed a methodology handbook and four business plans for water and heating utilities, and provided recommendations for developing the year 2000 national budget.

Urban Public Transport Improvements Project, USAID

RTI supported local officials' and trolleybus enterprise managers' efforts to transform municipal transportation management in eight cities by strengthening their capacities in public transportation planning, financial analysis, and operations management.

- **Public infrastructure investment** measurably improved service levels and increased number of operable trolleybuses from 835 to 912
- **User fees** reduced operational costs, increased own-source revenues, and decreased the need to subsidize trolleybus enterprises
- **Private sector participation** in service delivery increased sustainability and financial viability of government-regulated transportation networks

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