

Partners in Public Administration: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation project - Ukraine's Ministry of Environmental Protection, Manitoba Environment and Enviro-Test Laboratories.

of dependency on imports from Russia and will ensure fair returns to the Ukrainian economy. The commercial interests at stake in this project also give it good prospects for building long-term linkages between Canadian and Ukrainian partners. In fact, Lateral Vector Resources and Nautilus Resource Corp., both from Saskatchewan, have already taken steps in this direction. While the draft for the royalties payment system has been completed, there is still some question as to how these proceeds should best be used. "Another unexpected result from this project," comments a Ukrainian partner, "is that we now have a better understanding of the relationship between the public and private sectors".

In another project, IPAC introduced the concept of applying GIS technology to the development of Ukraine's property tax system. This concept was accepted and, in a successful follow-up, USAID has launched a major project to pursue the full development of the application. This is an excellent example of how a relatively small initial Canadian intervention can draw in big international players to follow-up on a good original concept.

Recognizing Lviv's historical significance, IPAC implemented a project to assist the city in applying to UNESCO to gain World Heritage City status. The complicated application process was completed with the help of Canadian expertise, and the proposal was submitted to UNESCO, where indications are that it is being well received. Should the application be accepted, it will mean that Lviv will be eligible for millions of dollars in restoration grants. Gaining such a designation by UNESCO would also strongly enhance Lviv's tourist appeal, resulting in economic benefits for Lviv and the entire region.

IPAC quickly identified Ukraine's need for assistance in the area of legal drafting. As a result of the IPAC project, the Ministry of Justice is strengthening its legal drafting

capability, including the development of normative laws, to be used as a model for the development of all future Ukrainian legislation. This project has resulted in linkages among different national institutions involved in justice reform, as well as other Canadian projects working on different aspects of this domain.

IPAC has helped establish local business development centres in Chernivtsi and Kramatorsk. The Institute's program has succeeded in developing capacity in the public sector to create a public policy environment to foster the development of the Ukrainian private sector. In addition, the program has brokered commercial linkages between Canada and Ukraine, with more to come in the future.

While the process of market reform in Ukraine is not yet as far along as that of other post-Communist states, PIPA has been one small part of the process required to ensure the success of this transition. These projects are the small but crucial sparks which start the reforms that will help the Ukrainian government through the process of institutional reform, economic restructuring, integration with the global economy, and financial and monetary stabilization.

"Public administration is of special importance to Ukraine at this particular time, precisely as Ukraine is in the process of creating a comprehensive system of public governance," states Marie Fortier-Balogh. "Not only must it design and implement these government structures, but it must do so while there is still no real consensus on the very nature of this governance."

Establishing a law-governed state, and responding to legitimate pressures from civil society are all part of the democratic transition. The efforts of Partners in Public Administration projects have been to improve Ukraine's capacity to steer through the overlapping maze of issues that lie on the road of its democratic transition.

■ PARTNERS IN HEALTH

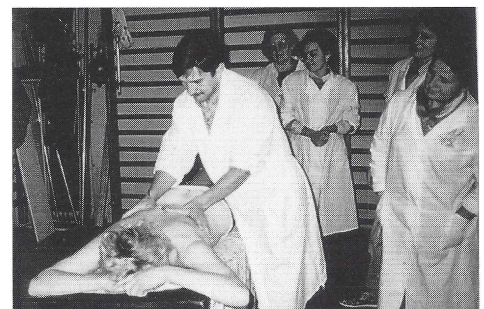
The goal of the Partners in Health (PIH) Program has been to contribute to Ukraine's initiative for sustainable improvement of the health status of the country's population. Building on each successive phase of the project for close to five years, the results of Partners in Health are evident wherever they have been active. Ukraine now has statutes on healthy living programs in schools, draft legislation for association development in nursing, and directives for a mental health act. There are also new health professional specialties – health administrators, physical rehabilitation workers, dental assistants and clinical pharmacists – to improve the health care system.

"The PIH experience has been successful largely because of the strategy of involving all partners in all aspects of the project," says Paulette Schatz, program manager with the Canadian Society for International Health. "This elicits greater commitment from the participants while giving them ownership of the results. These results are real."

The project has focused on reform in the areas of community and mental health, healthy schools, health administration, nursing, health systems information, rehabilitation, and pharmacy. Activities have focussed on institutional and capacity development. One example is that Ukraine now has a Master's in Health Administration program.

The formation of the Ukrainian Council for International Cooperation in Health (UCICH) last year is another example of progress in health reform. The council consists of 71 health professionals from across Ukraine, all of who have worked with PIH for at least two years. They represent 20 organizations and five departments at the national Ministry of Health (MOH) level. Through the UCICH executive, members work as a collective advisory body to the ministry, assisting in developing the national health strategy.

Although the Council grew out of PIH, it now aims to share and enhance the knowl-



Partners in Health: Nursing education in Ukraine includes non-traditional techniques. Here nursing students learn massage therapy.