

Ukraine Study Tour

August 29 – September 7, 2011



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WELCOME

Dear Friends,

Welcome! It is our great pleasure to greet you and share this information packet in preparation for your journey to Ukraine.

Your trip to the Eastern European nation of Ukraine will be an intensive educational experience in the world of sustainable community development, focusing especially on Heifer's approach of providing livestock and training to developing communities. You will see, hear, and touch Heifer's work throughout the trip by constant interaction with our Heifer Ukraine staff and by visiting a number of communities with whom Heifer works. You will see Heifer's 12 Cornerstones for Just and Sustainable Development in action, and it is our hope that you will come away with a better understanding and appreciation of the uniqueness and effectiveness of the Heifer model of "Passing on the Gift."

You will not only learn about Heifer's work during this study tour, but will also learn about the rich and diverse culture of the people of Ukraine, and the fascinating history of this nation. This tour will include museums and cultural visits to see the famous churches and monasteries of Ukraine, tours of Kiev and Donetsk. Heifer has a long history in Ukraine and our staff there are excited about your visit.

Full participation is one of our cornerstones, and we will make sure that each of you has a unique and fulfilling connection with Heifer. We ask that you come prepared to completely invest your mind in this unique experience. You will discuss the topics that the study tour brings to light and will have regular debriefings on the experience.

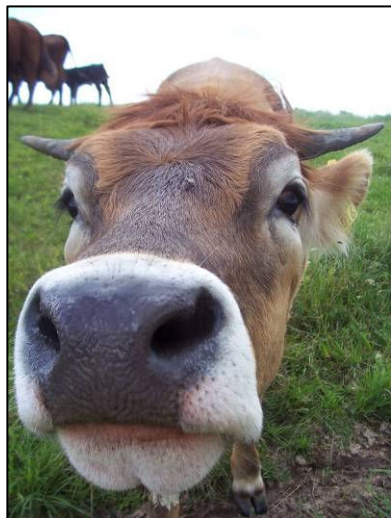
It is our expectation that you will return home with a greater understanding not only of Heifer's work, but also of the root causes of hunger, poverty and environmental degradation. We hope that you will come away from the study tour more committed to helping advance Heifer's work to find sustainable solutions to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth.

Thank you for joining this life changing journey to see Heifer's work first-hand in Ukraine!

Sincerely,

The Heifer International Study Tours Program

HEIFER CORNERSTONES



Heifer International has developed a set of guiding principles or values called the **Cornerstones for Just and Sustainable Development**. These are aspects of our program that we consider essential for effective, sustainable development. Heifer uses the Cornerstones in developing and implementing projects and partnerships. The Cornerstones are also used to monitor and evaluate progress within a group. Individual Cornerstones work together to contribute to sustainable outcomes—the aim of holistic development. While attention is given to all of Heifer’s Cornerstones in project work, it is the values of the community that take precedence. Together, these 12 Cornerstones form the acronym **PASSING on the GIFTS**.

Passing on the gift

Accountability

Sharing and caring

Sustainability and self-reliance

Improved animal management

Nutrition and income

Genuine need and justice

on the

Gender and family focus

Improving the environment

Full participation

Training and education

Spirituality

Passing on the Gift

“Passing on the gift” is the heart of Heifer International’s sustainable community development philosophy. Every family who receives an animal signs a contract to pass on one or more of their animal’s offspring to another family in need, along with the training and skills that they have acquired. This unique approach creates a ripple effect that transforms lives and communities.

Accountability

Heifer provides guidelines for planning projects, screening recipients, monitoring progress and conducting self-evaluations. The groups define their own needs, set goals and plan appropriate strategies to achieve them. They are also responsible for submitting semi-annual monitoring reports to Heifer International.

Sharing and Caring

Heifer believes that global problems can be solved if all people are committed to sharing what they have and caring about others. One of our most important Cornerstones, sharing and caring is an integral part of our vision for a just world.

Sustainability and Self Reliance

Because Heifer funds projects for a limited time, project groups must devise strategies for its continuity. In our experience, self-reliance is most easily achieved when a group has varied activities and generates support from several sources.

Improved Animal Management

Feed, water, shelter, reproductive efficiency and health are the essential ingredients in successful livestock management. The animal must be an appropriate breed for the area and should be a vital part of the farm activities without placing an extra burden on the family or resources.

Nutrition and Income

Livestock contribute directly to human nutrition by providing high-quality protein. Indirectly, they provide draft power for cultivation and transportation, as well as manure for soil fertility. Livestock provide income for education, healthcare and housing, and as living savings accounts, provide long-term economic stability.

Gender and Family Focus

Gender refers to the socially-defined roles of women and men in each culture. Heifer encourages women and men to share in decision-making, animal ownership, labor and benefits. Heifer has a gender initiative program.

Genuine Need and Justice

Heifer is a partner to people in need who can improve their quality of life with modest support. Priority is given to marginalized groups. The poorest in the community should be included and receive priority for assistance. Families are eligible regardless of creed or ethnic heritage.

Improving the Environment

The introduction of Heifer International projects should have a positive impact on one or more of the following: soil erosion, soil fertility, sanitation, forestation, biodiversity, pollution, wildlife and watershed conditions.

Full Participation

Members of the group "own" the project and have control over all key decisions. Heifer is committed to involving all members in decision-making, working with grassroots groups to develop strong leadership and organization.

Training and Education

Groups determine their own training needs, and local people are involved as trainers. Training includes formal sessions as well as informal farm visits and demonstrations. In addition to training in livestock husbandry and environmental conservation, groups have requested training in food processing, marketing and human nutrition.

Spirituality

Spirituality is common to all people, regardless of their religion or beliefs. It is expressed in their values, sense of connectedness to the earth and shared vision of the future. Often spirituality creates a strong bond among group members, giving them faith, hope and a sense of responsibility to work together for a better future.

HEIFER UKRAINE

BACKGROUND ON UKRAINE¹

The name Ukraine means "borderland." The country shares boundaries with a number of other countries in southeastern Europe. Ukraine is bordered by Belarus on the north and Russia on the north and east. The Black Sea forms a natural border in the south, with Moldova and Romania located to the southwest. Hungary, the Slovak Republic, and Poland share boundaries with Ukraine in the west.

Ukraine became independent from the Soviet Union in 1991. It boasts a unique culture and ethnic heritage, and has been called the "breadbasket" of the Eastern European region. Ukrainian athletes, including the award-winning figure skater Viktor Petrenko, have met with much success in the Olympic Games.



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Official Language: Ukrainian
- Population: 46,011,300 (2009 estimate)
- Currency: Hryvna
- Area: 603,628 square kilometers (233,090 square miles)
- National Anthem: "Shche ne vmerla Ukraina" ("Ukraine Still Lives")
- Capital: Kiev

PEOPLE & CULTURE

Population: While Ukrainians make up the majority of the population of Ukraine, there are a variety of other ethnic groups living there. Russians are the largest minority group. Other groups include Belarusians, Moldovans, Hungarians, Bulgarians, Jews, Poles, and Crimean Tartars. Native minority groups include the Boiky, the Hutsuly, and the Dolyniany, which are descended from ancient Slavic tribes.

In the context of Ukrainian culture, there are diverse folk traditions and customs. While Ukrainian, a Slavic language, is the official language of Ukraine, Russian is also frequently used. The majority of the population in Ukraine lives in towns and urban areas.

The region of Crimea has a special status in the constitution. Russians make up the majority of Crimea's population, and most did not wish to remain part of Ukraine.

¹ Background information taken from Christina Healey, "Our World: Ukraine," Great Neck Publishing, 2010, <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mih&AN=17623448&site=src-live> (accessed August 13, 2010).

In 1992, Crimea seceded from Ukraine and created its own constitution as an autonomous region within the country.

Ukraine is primarily a Christian country. Tradition asserts that the first Christians were baptized in Ukraine in 988. Religious groups faced persecution under Soviet rule, when many clerics were forced to flee the country or were imprisoned. Today, there are a number of Christian denominations in the country, including the

Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, and the Roman Catholic Church. Other religions practiced in Ukraine include Judaism and Islam.

Native People: Modern Ukrainians are a white eastern European people of Slavic heritage. Like Russians and Belarusians, Ukrainians are known as Eastern Slavs.

There has been some debate over the origins of the Ukrainian people. One theory states that Ukrainians, Russians, and Belarusians are descended from a single group of ancient Slavic people called the Rus. However, Ukrainians have worked toward distinguishing themselves as a separate ethnic group from Russians and Belarusians. The Ukrainian language is distinct from Russian, and Ukrainian literature and culture are unique.

Jews first settled in the region in the fourth century BCE, primarily in Crimea and along the coast near the Black Sea. Most of the country's Muslims also live in Crimea.

Education: The educational system in Ukraine consists of primary, secondary, and vocational education. Basic primary and secondary education takes approximately twelve years to complete. Ukraine's Ministry of Education emphasizes civic and cultural values in education. Citizens have the right to pursue learning to the level they choose.

There are over 27,000 schools in the country, which also has 149 universities, colleges, and post-graduate institutions. Ukraine's universities include Bila Cerkva State Agrarian University, Chernivci State University, East Ukrainian State University, and the Odessa State Maritime Academy. The literacy rate in Ukraine is nearly 100 percent.

Typically, Ukrainian public schools are co-educational; however, most elite private schools support single-sex education. The country is seeing an increasing number of private secondary schools. Private schools tend to emphasize Ukrainian culture, aesthetics, and folklore more than public schools do. Public schools are more likely than private to have inadequate textbooks and outdated curricula.

Health Care: Health care is a social service provided by the Ukrainian government. State and local budgets provide most of the funding for health services. However, the quality of the health care system in Ukraine is inconsistent, even though the country has many hospitals and medical clinics and a high doctor-patient ratio. The best medical care is found in urban areas.



The Ukrainian government is attempting to improve the health care system, and to guarantee fairness and equality in health care distribution. One strategy is to train more primary care and family practice physicians and health care providers. Ukraine ranked 85th out of 182 countries on the 2009 United Nations Human Development Index.

Food: Ukrainian food is similar to the food found in other Eastern European countries, such as Poland. Common ingredients are potatoes, cabbage, beef, beets, and chicken. One traditional dish is called varenyky (pierogies), which consist of various fillings (often sauerkraut, potato, or cheese) wrapped in a dough pocket.

Holubtsi consist of a rice and beef mixture cooked inside cabbage leaves. Borshch is a soup made from beets, and kovbasa is a type of smoked sausage. A traditional Christmas Eve dessert is kutya, which is made from wheat, poppyseed, and honey.

Arts & Entertainment: Ukraine has a long and rich literary tradition, including philosophy, poetry, and religious writings. While artistic freedom was compromised during Soviet rule, the country has produced a number of talented artists, writers, poets, and musicians.

One of the earliest Ukrainian epic poems is "Slovo o polku Ihorevi" ("A Tale of Ihor's Campaign"), which was written in the eleventh century. The region experienced a literary renaissance in the eighteenth century, when authors like Ivan Kotliarevsky (1769-1838), Petro Hulak-Artemovsky (1790-1865), and Hryhorii Kvitka-Osnovianenko (1778-1843) began writing in the Ukrainian language.

Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861) has been called the greatest Ukrainian poet. He mastered the nineteenth century romantic style of poetry. Some twentieth century literary figures include Andrii Holovko (1897-1972), Maksym Rlysky (1895-1964), Ivan Drach, and Lina Kostenko.

Ukrainian art has long been influenced by the Byzantine tradition, as well as by classicism and impressionism. The country is home to many famous art schools, including the Ukrainian Academy of Arts in Kiev, which was founded in 1917. Alexander Archipenko is an internationally-known Ukrainian artist.

Music has played an important role in Ukrainian folk and religious culture. Folk music traditionally involves stringed instruments, flutes, and woodwinds. Twentieth century Ukrainian musicians of note include Mykola Leontovych and Oleksander Koshyts.

Favorite sports in Ukraine include soccer, volleyball, basketball, and ping-pong. Ukrainians also enjoy chess. Hiking and mountaineering remain popular outdoor activities. Ukrainian athletes have been successful participants in the Olympic Games, particularly in events such as gymnastics and figure skating.

Holidays: Christian holidays are very important in Ukrainian culture, including Christmas Eve, Lent, and Holy Week. During the Easter season, special masses are celebrated and Easter eggs, or "pysanky," are painted with intricate designs. Ukrainian Independence Day is commemorated on August 24.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Topography: Ukraine consists primarily of four vegetative zones: forest, forest-steppe, steppe, and Mediterranean. There are vast plains and plateaus. Much of the land has an average elevation of around 300 meters above sea level. There are two major mountain ranges in the country: the Carpathian Mountains are located in the southwest, and the Crimean Mountains on the Crimean peninsula. The Crimean Riviera has a number of beaches and bays with tourist resorts.

The country's largest rivers are the Dnieper, Dniester, and the Boh. The Dnieper is the largest river in Ukraine, measuring 2,285 kilometers (1,419 miles) long. There are a few shallow lakes in the northwest and in south.

Ukraine is known for its many springs. There are healthful mineral springs throughout the country, as well as carbon dioxide springs in the Carpathians and Caucasus. Radioactive springs can be found on the shores of the Black Sea.

Natural Resources: One of Ukraine's most visible resources is its expanse of fertile agricultural land. Beneath the surface are deposits of coal, iron ore, natural gas, and petroleum.

Ukraine is also rich in minerals: rock salt, limestone, marl, and dolomite are all extracted from the land. The country is also the largest source of manganese in the world. Precious stones found in Ukraine include topaz, quartz, agate, opal, and garnet. Timber and peat are also harvested there.

Plants & Animals: Ukraine has over 16,000 species of plants in its various vegetation zones. The forests consist primarily of oak, beech, and hornbeam. Evergreen trees such as juniper, silver fir, and pine are common in the mountain regions. In addition to large expanses of pastureland, Ukraine also contains high mountain meadows. Plants like fig, olive, orange, and lemon trees grow in the country's Mediterranean zone.

There are over 28,000 animal species in Ukraine, although the country has few native species. Among the larger mammals are elk, lynx, brown bear, and white hare. Bird species such as the capercaillie, black grouse, and hazel hens are also common. Ukraine is home to several bat species, such as the lesser mouse-eared bat and the long-winged bat.

In 1986, the nuclear power plant in Chernobyl exploded. This disaster contaminated nearby soil and vegetation with radiation, and Ukraine is still working to repair the environmental damage. The government also plans to expand nature preserves such as the Askania Nova state park.



Climate: Ukraine experiences a moderate climate that varies according to region.

Typically, the south and west are warmer, while the north and east are cooler. The country has four seasons and an annual winter snowfall, although most precipitation occurs during summer. Ukraine receives over 48 centimeters (19 inches) of precipitation per year.

The country's mountain regions have a mountain climate, while areas in southern Crimea are Mediterranean. Summer temperatures average 18° to 20° Celsius (65° to 69° Fahrenheit); winter temperatures are regularly below freezing.

ECONOMY

Ukraine has been a member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank since 1992. While widespread poverty and economic decline occurred in the 1990s, the economy has been growing. However, obstacles to widespread successful economic growth, including bureaucracy and corruption, remain a problem.

The country has begun to trade more extensively with Western European countries, and remains a steady trading partnership with Russia. Some of the country's exports include ferrous and nonferrous metals, mineral products, chemicals, and machinery such as tractors. Ukraine also exports grain, transport equipment, and textiles.

In 2008, the gross domestic product (GDP) was an estimated \$337 billion USD. The per capita GDP was \$7,400 USD.

Industry: Roughly one-third of the Ukrainian economy is based on industry and construction. Major industries include the manufacture of ferrous metals and products, coke, oil and gas transport, and fertilizer. Machinery that is manufactured in the country includes airplanes, turbines, metallurgical equipment, diesel locomotives, and tractors.

While not a major sector of the national economy, fisheries and fish canning are important to local economies. Ukraine is known for fish such as sturgeon, herring, carp, pike, and anchovies, found in the country's rivers, the Black Sea, and the Sea of Azov. The lumber industry supports a number of paper manufacturers.

Agriculture: Agriculture accounts for 24 percent of the Ukraine's economy. During Josef Stalin's regime in the mid-twentieth century, farming was collectivized and

controlled by the state. Today the country is trying to update farming practices and to find environmentally friendly methods of farming.

The Ukraine has fertile soil, and has historically been an important source of food in the Eastern European region. Major crops include wheat, corn, sugar beets, and sunflower seeds. Farmers in the Ukraine also grow soybeans, tobacco, and flax. The country has been a major producer of beef in the region.

Tourism: Tourism in Ukraine is a growing economic sector, accounting for roughly 13 percent of the country's GDP. Visitors contribute nearly \$800 million USD to the economy per year. About 10 percent of the population is employed in the travel and tourism industries.

There are a number of beaches, spas, and resorts in the country, especially near the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. Increasing numbers of tourists are coming from Western Europe, often to go skiing in the Carpathian Mountains, or to cycle through the scenic countryside.

GOVERNMENT

In the seventeenth century, the region that is now Ukraine was partitioned between three countries: the tsarist Russian empire, Austria, and Hungary. The Russian Revolution of 1917 saw several groups emerge in the name of Ukrainian independence, although the Ukrainian people were not granted autonomy by the new Russian government.

In spite of a long history of partition and foreign occupation, Ukrainians have worked toward preserving their national and cultural identity. This depended in large part on establishing Ukrainians as a unique, distinct people. Religion, language, and culture were important tools in building a national identity, as was resistance to non-Ukrainian ethnic groups occupying what were considered Ukrainian lands.

During the years that the country was controlled by the Soviet Union (1922-1991), Ukraine was known as the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. It was considered the homeland of ethnic Ukrainians, and non-Ukrainians (particularly Poles) faced ethnic cleansing within its borders.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Soviet Union's control over Ukraine weakened, and its ability to govern began to deteriorate. One of the obstacles to independence was the number of Russian-speaking citizens in Ukraine; another problem was the dominance of the Communist Party.

On August 24, 1991, nearly all of the members of the Rada voted in favor of independence. In December 1992, a referendum was held in which the Ukrainian people voted overwhelmingly in support of national independence. While elections in Ukraine have been carried out successfully, there have been instances of illegal activity, such as coercion of voters and candidates and abuse of absentee ballots.

Ukraine is a parliamentary democracy. The president is the chief of state and has the power to nominate the prime minister, who heads the parliament. Ukraine's parliament is known as the Supreme Rada; it has 450 elected members who serve four-year terms. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the country. Suffrage in Ukraine is universal at age eighteen.

The country's constitution, which was created in 1996, guarantees freedom of speech, religion, and the press. However, the state has been known to try to control media outlets through intimidation. While the constitution does not deny rights to ethnic minorities, it prioritizes the social and political development of the Ukrainian culture.

FUN FACTS

- • Instead of exchanging gifts on Christmas, Ukrainian families give gifts on New Year's Day.
- • In 1240, Mongolian tribes led by Batu Khan, who was Genghis Khan's grandson, captured the city of Kiev and ruled there for a century.
- • The Golden Gates of Kiev are the country's oldest historical monument. The city of Kiev was founded 1,500 years ago.

HISTORY OF HEIFER IN UKRAINE



Heifer International began its work in Ukraine in 1994 with the first pilot project "Small Farm Development in Drohobych District" designed for western Ukraine by the Heifer International Representative Office in Poland. The first delivery of Simmental heifers to farmer families in Drohobych Region took place within the next year.

During the next several years the program developed rapidly with several projects implemented in the western part of the country, coordinated by the Polish country program. By 2000 it was clear that in order to better fulfill its mission Heifer International had to become accessible to people from all parts of Ukraine. In 2000 Heifer-Ukraine (official title: International Charitable Foundation "Heifer Project International") was registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, with its office located in Lviv.

In 2001 the first annual project holder meeting and the first Study Tour were held in Ukraine. That same year the Kuzmivka village project purchased DeLaval milk cooling equipment – thus taking the first steps towards economic growth and stability of their community. These initial equipment purchases helped shape the Heifer-Ukraine program and move it closer towards what it is today.

In 2003, to achieve maximum results and expand the program, the head office was transferred from Lviv to Kyiv, which has a more central location and is easily accessible from all parts of the country. This was a necessary step, since Ukraine is so large it would be next to impossible to oversee projects in eastern Ukraine from across the country. The Lviv office continues operations in the capacity of a field office and coordinates all the projects in western Ukraine.

Heifer Ukraine always had a strong focus on the Carpathian Mountain region. In 2003 The Eurasia Foundation awarded a grant with a goal to create a demonstration model of sustainable development in the Carpathians based on the results of two other Heifer International Ukraine projects. In 2005 the first Heifer-Ukraine - HQ funded regional project "Carpathian Project Phase 1" was approved and its implementation started in Ukraine. Two years later the Heifer-Ukraine – HQ "Carpathian Project Phase 2" was launched in Ukraine. In 2009 the flood rehabilitation project for western Ukraine was developed and approved by Heifer International HQ to help alleviate the damage caused by the 2008 summer flooding.

In 2004 Heifer – Ukraine held a conference "Ten years in Ukraine – experience exchange" to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Heifer activities in Ukraine. Heifer-Ukraine's first Strategic Plan for 2004-2008 was also approved that year.

Since 2004, in accordance with its strategic plan, Heifer-Ukraine started five new projects in Kyivska oblast where agricultural service cooperatives were the implementing organizations. Activities were also expanded to eastern, northern and southern Ukraine. This was one of the most important steps in the development of the Heifer - Ukraine program, which shifted its focus from supporting non-governmental organizations to helping agricultural service cooperatives reach sustainability. Today, Heifer-Ukraine's interaction with ASCs has evolved into a well-controlled and regulated system which includes strict selection criteria, regular rigorous monitoring, and tools and mechanisms to help the ASCs become self-supporting. At present this remains Heifer Ukraine's greatest know-how and also its greatest challenge as it is at times difficult to find qualified project holders.

Today Heifer Ukraine has over 40 current and 12 completed projects. In 2009 Heifer-Ukraine will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Heifer activities in Ukraine.

RESOURCES & FURTHER READING

US Department of State Travel Information:

Ukraine - http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1053.html

Ukraine Embassy - <http://www.mfa.gov.ua/usa/en/>

CDC Website:

Ukraine - <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/ukraine.aspx>

Heifer.org and World Ark Articles:

"Passing on the Gift in Ukraine" -

<http://www.heifer.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=slI3IdNVJuE&b=5070491&ct=6937555¬oc=1>

"Not Just Any Cow Will Do" -

<http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.201607/?msource=pog>

Turka Region Project -

<http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.3637995/>

Further Reading:

Lonely Planet: Southern Africa Travel Guide (March 2007)

Anything by Taras Shevchenko

The Turnip Farmer, The Converted Sinner and During Work by Ivan Franko
(www.franko.lviv.ua/ifranko/franko_eng.html)

Forest Song by Larysa Kosach

The White Guard by Mikhail Bulgakov

Borderland: A Journey through the History of Ukraine by Anna Reid

How Ukraine Became a Market Economy and Democracy by Anders Åslund

Execution by Hunger: The Hidden Holocaust by Miron Dolot

The Sky Unwashed by Irene Zabytko

The Importance of Peeling Potatoes in Ukraine (Poets, Penguin) by Mark Yakich

Sketches from a Secret War: A Polish Artist's Mission to Liberate Soviet Ukraine by Timothy Snyder

Income Inequality, Welfare and Poverty in Ukraine by N. Kakwani

Voices from Chernobyl: The Oral History of a Nuclear Disaster by Svetlana Alexievich

Movies

A Friend of the Deceased (1997)

A Driver for Vera (2004)

Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors (1964)

Battleship Potemkin (1925)

Everything Is Illuminated

Orange Revolution

Taras Bulba

Ukraine Brides

ITINERARY

Tentative Schedule: August 29 – September 7, 2011*

Date	Activity	Responsible Person	Remarks
Monday Aug. 29, 2011 Day One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning or afternoon arrival at Boryspil International Airport (KBP) outside Kiev • Heifer Ukraine staff will pick up participants and take them to the hotel for check-in • Welcome dinner with Ukraine staff (if accommodating flights are available) 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	<p>Approx. 50 min. drive from airport to hotel</p> <p>Overnight at the Hotel Mir in Kiev Website: www.hotelmir.kiev.ua</p>
Tuesday Aug. 30, 2011 Day Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel • Welcome and orientation at the Heifer Ukraine country office; presentation on Heifer's history, community development model and Heifer's work in Ukraine • Study Tour basics & Cornerstones Workshop • Lunch at a traditional restaurant • Walking tour of Kiev, St. Sophia Cathedral and the Caves Monastery Complex (http://city-tour.kiev.ua) • Dinner at the hotel 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	Overnight at the Hotel Mir
Wednesday Aug. 31, 2011 Day Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel and check-out • Visit to the Pyrohovo Museum of Folk Architecture • Lunch at a local restaurant • Free time to shop or explore Kiev • Dinner at a local restaurant • Overnight train to Donetsk 		<p>Approx. 10 hr. train travel</p> <p>Overnight on the train</p>
Thursday Sept. 1, 2011 Day Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival in Donetsk, check-in & breakfast at the hotel • Visit the "Helping in cattle and swine breeding development in Olexandrivka village, Pokrovske raion, Dnipropetrovsk oblast" Project (#27-0831-01) • Lunch with the community • Visit local milk collecting center • Debriefing/reflection session • Dinner at a local restaurant 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	<p>Approx. 2 hr. drive from hotel to project site</p> <p>Overnight at the Aurora Hotel in Donetsk Website: www.auroradonetsk.com</p>
Friday Sept. 2, 2011 Day Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel • Visit the "Development of livestock breeding in Dmytrivka village, Donetsk oblast" Project (#27-0848-01) • Cooking classes for the participants 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	<p>Approx. 2 hr. drive from hotel to project site</p> <p>Overnight at the Aurora Hotel</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch with the community • Animal care classes for the participants • Share results, debrief and reflect with the community • Dinner with the community • Return to hotel in Donetsk 		
Saturday Sept. 3, 2011 Day Six	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel • City tour of Donetsk (http://ukraine-donetsk.com) • Lunch at a local restaurant • Visit Mining Museum & free time to explore the city • Dinner at the hotel 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	Overnight at the Aurora Hotel
Sunday Sept. 4, 2011 Day Seven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel and check-out • Travel to Sloviansk and check-in to hotel • Lunch at hotel • Visit the "Improving the livelihoods of Rayhorodets residents through livestock restoration in Sloviansk raion, Donetsk oblast" Project (#27-0844-01) • Meet with community and individual farmers • Dinner at the hotel 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	Approx. 2 hr. drive from Donetsk to Sloviansk Approx. 15 min. drive from hotel to project Overnight at the Hotel Ukraina in Sloviansk Website: http://slavhotel.com.ua
Monday Sept. 5, 2011 Day Eight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel and check-out • Return to the Rayhorodets Project (#27-0844-01) - visit freezing, drying and packing workshop in the cooperative in Rayhorodets • Lunch with the community • Visit Svyatogorsk Lavra, surrounding monasteries • Debriefing/reflection session • Dinner at a local restaurant • Overnight train to Kiev 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	Approx. 2 hr. total drive time sightseeing Overnight on the train
Tuesday Sept. 6, 2011 Day Nine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival in Kiev, check-in and breakfast at the hotel • Final debriefing/reflection session at the Heifer Ukraine office • Lunch at a local restaurant • Free time for sightseeing and shopping • Closing celebration dinner with Ukraine staff 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	Approx. 10 hr. train travel Overnight at the Hotel Mir in Kiev
Wednesday Sept. 7, 2011 Day Ten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at the hotel and check-out • Departure flights from Boryspil International Airport (KBP) 	Heifer Ukraine staff and Study Tour Leader	

**Please Note: The trip itinerary is subject to change at any time, even once a trip commences.*

STAFF JOINING THIS STUDY TOUR



Anna Karnaukh

Communication and Public Relations Coordinator

Anna has joined Heifer-Ukraine as a Communication and Public Relations Coordinator in March 2010. In her position she provides PR support of the Projects funded by Heifer International HQ, other donors and State Programs; prepares information materials for meetings, trainings and other project events; promotes dissemination of program results and experiences; assists in fundraising, and provides support in communication on project implementation issues. Anna enjoys photography and taking active part in different youth project all over Europe.



Anna Pidgorna

Program manager

Anna has worked for Heifer Ukraine for the past three years, managing projects most of which are located in Eastern Ukraine. Receives and screens requests for proposals from potential project holders (grantees) and assists with the development of project proposals to be submitted for approval to Heifer HQ. Monitors ongoing projects and ensures that they are implemented according to project plans and within allocated budgets. Anna is a professional with a strong academic background in environmental science. She loves to read, enjoys the outdoors, and volunteers for a local

animal shelter.



Yuriy Bakun

Program coordinator

Yuriy joined Heifer Ukraine in February 2008. He manages and monitors current Heifer Ukraine projects located in Central Ukraine and developing new project proposals; developing relationships with communities, potential project holder organizations, NGOs, farmer cooperatives, associations and state bodies. Yuriy enjoys fishing and the outdoors.

MAPS



Map No. 3773 Rev. 5 UNITED NATIONS
September 2008

Department of Field Support
Cartographic Section

Helping in cattle and swine breeding development in Olexandrivka village, Pokrovske raion, Dnipropetrovsk oblast Project (#27-0831-01)

This project will target 80 rural families in Olexandrivka village. Participants will receive livestock: 40 families will receive a Red-Steppe breed heifer, and the other 40 families will receive a sow. The families will use the livestock for milk and meat production. Eighty additional families will receive pass-ons, after which the community will also pass on to the "Svitanok Oleksandrivky" agricultural service cooperative. The cooperative will receive a milk scanner, equipment for artificial insemination, veterinary supplies and agricultural materials for improving pastures.

The community of the Olexandrivka village registered the "Svitanok Oleksandrivky" agricultural service cooperative with the government in February 2006. The cooperative will provide services in land cultivation, milk collection and marketing. Yulia Vasylevska is the leader of the cooperative. The project will also be co-managed and supported by Oleksiy Zakharchuk, the village Rada leader.

The village of Oleksandrivka is situated 1 km from the raion center and 120 km from Dnipropetrovsk, the oblast center, in the southeastern part of the Dnipropetrovsk oblast. The area of the village Rada is 13,300 hectares, and it has 11 neighboring villages, with a total population of 3840. This area is famous for its rich black soil, but unfortunately, a lack of precipitation during the summer makes growing potatoes and vegetables difficult. At the same time, climatic conditions are good for growing grains, sunflower, corn, and barley. There is a high level of unemployment in the area, despite the fact that Oleksandrivka village is close to the raion center. Approximately 267 people (16 % of the working population) are registered at the local employment center. Many enterprises, including restructured Soviet-type collective farms, are no longer functioning due to the country's economic crisis. The local population engages in mainly agricultural activities, especially dairy farming and swine production. The productivity of local cattle is very low. People often sell all of the milk from their cows to satisfy financial needs (to buy coal, gas, and pay municipal services), leaving very little milk, if any, to satisfy the nutritional needs of family members. Unfortunately, rural people have no access to cheap credit sources to buy highly productive animals, and the state does not provide sufficient support to the agrarian sector of the economy, which is why individual households are struggling, and the quality of animals is becoming worse with every generation. Excessive plowing of the land, lack of natural hayfields, insufficient pasture land area and neglected animal breeding practices create additional obstacles for dairy cattle breeding and swine production.

Thanks to this project, participants will receive 40 highly productive heifers of improved Red-Steppe breed and 40 sows of Ukrainian Big White breed, as well as necessary inputs for improving veterinary services and artificial insemination, perennial seeds and mineral fertilizers for pastures. Through the span of the

project, the community of the Oleksandrivka village will improve the nutrition of its families, generate new employment, and improve the overall quality of life in the village. Additionally, the "Svitanok Oleksandrivky" agricultural service cooperative will receive a milk scanner (phase I). If the project is successful, it is planned to purchase a milk cooling tank during phase II, which will enable the community to improve the quality and volume of milk, resulting in improved incomes of rural families. Training in best farming practices, joint activities and mutual help, as well as equal opportunities for men and women in decision making and hope for the future will ensure the sustainable development of the community and gender equality.

Each recipient will pass on the first 20-month old heifer (inseminated at the age of not less than 16 months, and being 4 months pregnant), to another needy family. The sows for passing on the gift shall be inseminated at the age of 9 months and passed on as soon as their pregnancy is confirmed. The number and quality of passed-on animals shall be the same as original animals. The list of beneficiaries is approved at the general meeting of all members of the Oleksandrivka village community. A local veterinary doctor, the project holder, and HPI Ukraine office representative, will monitor the offspring's health to ensure the quality of passed on animals. After passing on 40 heifers and 40 sows, the community will fulfill the pass back to the "Svitanok Oleksandrivky" agricultural service cooperative.

Development of livestock breeding in Dmytrivka village, Donetsk oblast Project (#27-0848-01)

This project will assist small landholder families living in the Ukrainian village of Dmytrivka, through the provision of 29 pregnant heifers of Red Steppe cattle breed, 30 pregnant gilts and California earthworms to 29 needy families. Livestock breeding is the main income source for the people of Dmytrivka. However, as a result of Ukraine's recent economic crisis and a lack of funds in the village, the quality of livestock in the village has deteriorated. Therefore, there is an urgent need to enhance the productivity of animals, which will contribute to poverty alleviation in the area. An additional 29 families will benefit from "passing on the gift" of livestock.

The agricultural service cooperative "Tsentralny" was registered on August 27, 2002 at a Dmytrivka village community meeting. As of today, the cooperative has 95 members and hires staff on an "as needed" basis. The cooperative provides artificial insemination services, assists small landholders in the production and harvesting of hay and provides spraying and pruning services for local orchards. The cooperative members identify a lack of hay harvesting equipment as their greatest challenge.

The village of Dmytrivka is located 65 km from the raion center and 125 km from oblast center. Seven neighboring villages are administered by the Dmytrivka village council. The total population of the villages is 3,897, including 902 unemployed. There are 332 extremely poor families, including 25 families who have many children. As most families lack reliable income sources, livestock husbandry on small household plots is their only means of survival. Livestock breeding is traditional in the area, but the local cattle herd

is very small (520 heads) and not very productive. The steppe, which is good for hay production, surrounds all the villages. The cooperative rents 43 ha of hayfields, which needs to be improved. Hay production is a major challenge in the village, which is why the community is seeking assistance in the creation of an additional 55 ha of hayfields and for the purchase of hay harvesting equipment. In particular, the cooperative needs perennial seeds and fertilizers. Through the provision of highly productive dairy cattle and pigs, project participants will increase milk production, enhance veterinary services and pedigree breeding, purchase hay harvesting equipment and gain valuable knowledge and experience. The incomes of rural households will increase due to increased production volumes, better milk quality and enhanced marketing. All assistance for which the cooperative seeks will positively impact the incomes of the area's rural residents, as well as improve their well-being and contribute to the sustainable development of the community.

Each recipient will pass on the first 20-month old heifer (inseminated at the age of not less than 16 months, and being four months pregnant) to another needy family. The gilts for passing on the gift shall be inseminated at the age of nine months and passed on as soon as their pregnancy is confirmed. The earthworms' recipients will pass on the same quantity of earthworms as they have received. The number and quality of passed-on animals shall be the same as original animals. The list of beneficiaries is approved at the general meeting of all members of the village communities and general meeting of the cooperative. A local veterinary doctor, the project holder and a Heifer Ukraine office representative will monitor the offspring's health to ensure the quality of passed on animals. The project includes pass-on of the agricultural capital equipment (fixed assets over \$200) according to the scheme that would ensure current and capital repair or replacement of the provided equipment and increase in the number of benefiting participants at least twice.

Improving the livelihoods of Rayhorodets residents through livestock restoration in Slovjansk raion, Donetsk oblast Project (#27-0844-01)

This project will provide 50 members of the Rayhorodets' Agricultural Service Cooperative (ASC) with 24 highly productive pregnant heifers of the Red Steppe cattle breed, 25 pregnant gilts and two boars of the Ukrainian meat pig breed, eight pregnant does and one buck of the Zaanen goat breed, 300 turkeys of the Kharkiv-56 cross breed, and 63,000 strawberry plants. Additionally, the cooperative members will receive equipment and materials for an artificial insemination center, a digital milk scanner, pasture seeds, access to organized veterinary support, a plough, a mower and other small-scale agricultural equipment. By the project's end, it is expected that project participants' incomes will have increased by 25 percent and their nutrition will have substantially improved. Trainings on community development and livestock breeding will help people better organize milk, meat and egg sales to earn more profits. An additional 50 families will benefit from "passing on the gift."

The "Rayhorodets" ASC was officially established in June 2001, with the goal to increase the revenues of community members through services rendered in soil cultivation, animal husbandry, production and storage of hay and other fodder, as

well as through the provision of fertilizers, veterinary support, and poultry production. The head of the ASC is Serhiy Grysenko. Yuriy Yezdakov is the executive director. As the head of "Slovjanskagroconsult," Irina Krupka will be the informal project leader and will help guide Grysenko and other project participants through each step of the project.

The Rayhorodets town council is located in the northern part of Donetska oblast, located in Eastern Ukraine. Rayhorodets has 5,010 residents, of which 2,610 are able-bodied. Agriculture, specifically milk production and strawberry gardening, are the main types of activities practiced by the local residents. The extant cattle population has poor productivity and local residents are not skilled in effective cattle milking technologies. The state of the pastures is rapidly deteriorating and requires immediate attention.

Once famous for strawberry production, the region is no longer as fruitful as it was in the past, largely due to the freezing winter of 2006 and overly dry summer of 2007, which destroyed most of the local strawberry plants. Unfortunately, today local residents cannot afford to purchase the necessary amount of seedlings to restore the strawberry gardens they once had. Good and productive pastures are an important component of livestock production in this region, which is naturally very dry. Fields that are not managed or are mismanaged typically have lots of weeds. Such pastures cannot be used for cattle grazing and are in need of restoration. One part of the project will focus on the restoration of local pastures and the replanting of crops for livestock. In order to do so, the purchase of sufficient amounts of seeds, fertilizers, and various small-scale agricultural equipment, such as a cultivator, mower, and plough, is crucial to the success of this project, as it will help provide the necessary amount of feed to support livestock development and, therefore, help stabilize the region's agriculture. This project, with its various components (cattle, swine, goat breeding, poultry keeping and strawberry gardening), will insure the sustainable development of the community and, at the same time, promote multi-functional agriculture in the region.

Each recipient will pass on the first heifer at least 20-months-old (inseminated at the age of not less than 16 months, and being 4 months pregnant) to another needy family. Each recipient will pass on the first 10-months-old gilt and/or the first 10-months-old doe (inseminated at the age of nine months) to another needy family. Each recipient will pass on the number of turkeys and strawberry plants they receive to other needy families within a year of receiving them. The number and quality of passed-on animals and plants shall be the same as original animals. The list of beneficiaries is approved at the general meeting of all members of the Rayhorodets town community. A local veterinary doctor, the project holder, and Heifer Ukraine office representative, will monitor the offspring's health to ensure the quality of passed on animals. After passing on 24 pregnant heifers, 25 pregnant gilts, eight pregnant does, 300 turkeys and 63 000 strawberry plants, the community will fulfill the pass back to the "Rayhorodets" ASC. Additionally, the project includes the pass-on of the agricultural capital equipment (fixed assets over \$200) according to a scheme that would ensure current and capital repair or

replacement of the provided equipment and increase in the number of benefiting participants at least twice.