

# Information Technology

## Communication Access in Ukraine

### Building Social Competencies through E-communities and Knowledge-transfer Networks

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In July 2007, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding sparked a joint UNDP and Intel project to build youth social competencies by establishing e-communities and knowledge-transfer networks.

Many young people in Ukraine lack access to information and communication technologies, the essential modern-day mechanisms that enhance education, employment and overall societal contribution. These technology barriers prevent youth from fully embracing available opportunities and creating new ones.

The project's initial design sought support to young people in becoming active members of society by providing innovative IT-based tools and mechanisms:

**Setup:** Establish ten web-based e-communities

**Training:** Provide training for 45 students and university teachers to promote development of social activism and responsibility in the context of the e-community

**Projects:** Implement eight social and two network-development projects across the e-communities

What began as a one-year pilot project has evolved into a multi-faceted programme involving multiple international donors creating long-term impacts in Ukrainian communities:

- Four-year project began in 2008 with \$1.1 Million USD operating budget
- Participation from six public-sector and private-sector organizations
- Operations in 52 youth centres across 12 regions

- **Country:** Ukraine
- **Launched:** 2007
- **Partners:** Intel, UNDP
- **Program Highlights:** Operations in 52 youth centres across 12 regions, establish ten web-based e-communities, provide training to 45 students and teachers to help lead the communities and organize further operations, participation from six public sector and private sector organizations



Student-led e-communities have helped establish a new generation of web users. 52 youth centres in Ukraine are now part e-communities.

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UNDP and its partners expect significant enhancement of local economic and social development partnerships in the short term. In the long term, continued support to youth initiatives will lead to more active civic engagement of young people across Ukraine.