



agency for private
initiative development

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To: Mrs Zoryna O'Donnell
L&M Plus Consulting Ltd.

April 30, 2019

Dear Zoryna,

Re: Testimonial about your contribution to the project called 'Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Coalition to Support Rural Heritage Communities'

We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a testimonial about your engagement in the project of the Agency for Private Initiative Development called 'Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Coalition to Support Rural Heritage Communities', which was supported by the British Embassy in Ukraine. In particular, about your contribution to the preparation of the National Conference 'Decentralisation - Communities – Heritage' which took place in Kyiv on 5 February 2019.

This conference was attended by 55 participants from the SCOs Coalition members, other networks and partners; representatives of the local authorities, national authorities, various institutions and organisations working in the field of cultural and natural heritage; representatives of local communities; international donors and programmes supporting the development of the social and economic potential of heritage in Ukraine. It facilitated contacts between the key stakeholders and created a platform for intensive discussions about effective management and use of cultural and natural heritage in Ukraine between representatives of the communities and national authorities with the mandate to shape political environment and make decisions regarding the conservation and efficient use of heritage for the benefit of local development. The work of the conference culminated in the announcement of changes to legislation about cultural and natural heritage. More information about the conference is available on the website of our organisation: <https://arpi.org.ua>.

We consider the collection of case studies of the UK experience prepared by you to be extremely useful for the participants of the conference. These case studies highlighted the social and economic impact of the various heritage sites in the UK on local communities and demonstrated their role in community development. Furthermore, these case studies helped us to emphasise the role and the value of the changes in national legislation on cultural and natural heritage for the rural communities in Ukraine which were proposed by our Coalition.

We also would like to take this opportunity to inform you that we have submitted a new project proposal for consideration by the British Embassy. We would like to invite you an expert in local development to continue our cooperation in supporting the Amalgamated Territorial Communities in Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,

Lada Malaniy
Director of the Agency for Private Initiative Development