

**Project under FARM Responsive Mechanism**

**Project: “Preparation of Scientific and Practical Commentary on the Law of  
Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”,  
Its Publishing and Dissemination”**

**Project Partners: Agrarian Markets Development Institute  
&  
FARM Program**

**Final Summary Report**

**February 2007 – May 2007**

## **Executive Summary**

The aim of this project was to provide a better understanding of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity” by bodies of executive power, local government, persons involved in agricultural extension activity via profound interpretation of the articles of this Law and preparation of practical recommendations on its basis. The project achieved this goal the preparation of a Scientific and Practical Commentary on the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”. The commentary is useful in that it achieves the following:

- Creates a uniform understanding of the provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”.
- Enhances the level of understanding of the provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity” by the parties, which are engaged at its application.
- Disseminates information to the parties which are engaged at the application of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”.

## **Background and Rationale for the Project**

In June, 2004 the Parliament of Ukraine (Verkhovna Rada) adopted the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”, which came into effect on January 1, 2005. But the implementation of the provisions of this law was realized rather slowly which had a negative effect on the activity of agricultural producers and the living standards of the rural population. The reason for the slow implementation of the law was due to a misunderstanding of many components of the law and an inconsistent interpretation of the provisions of the law by different institutions that are engaged in agriculture extension, including bodies of executive power and local government. Therefore the commentary will serve as a valuable tool in assisting all agricultural stakeholders better interpret the law.

## **Achieved Project Goal and Objectives**

- **Prepared and published the scientific and practical commentary on the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”.** Specialists of educational and scientific institutions, government authorities, extension services, lawyers and legal advisers were engaged during the preparation of the commentary. This allowed for profound analysis and uniform understanding of the articles of this Law.
- **Disseminated the commentary.** The dissemination of the commentary was conducted with the help of National Association of Agricultural Extension Services. The commentary promotes a positive the benefits of agricultural extension services among rural manufacturers, rural population, professional associations and also central and local government authorities.
- **Publication of the commentary.** The publication of the commentary has been useful for government authorities and local administrations, especially while adopting of the regional programs on extension and supporting agricultural extension activity in their respective communities.

## **Outcomes and Results**

### **Preparation of the commentary**

AMDI employed specialists for preparation of the text of the scientific and practical commentary for the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity”: specialist in extension activity field (Yu. Kukharuk), lawyer (Yu. Berezdetskyi) AMDI specialists R. Korinets and O. Protchenko took part in preparation of the commentary (as AMDI

contribution), as well as specialists of other organizations (O. Berezjuk, C. Boganova, E. Vorobej, A. Gojchuk, M. Gladij, I. Gorodetskij, S. Grigorev, M. Gritsenko, V. Dovga, V. Zhovtujk, T. Ischenko, T. Kalna-Dubinuk, V. Kluj, N. Kozak, R. Korinets, M. Kropivko, M. Lobanov, M. Lubjanyi, M. Maksimov, M. Martynenko, C. Melnik, M. Nedviga, M. Osipova, B. Panchuk, O. Plakhotnik, K. Pugachova, V. Semenovich, A. Tsvigun, N. Chubur, N. Schkvirja, R. Schmidt).

#### **Practical and scientific reviewing of the commentary and the recommendations from juridical and economic scientific councils and research institutions.**

1. The institute sent out a draft edition to potential “user groups” (Association of Farmers and Private Land Owners of Ukraine, extension services and state municipal administrations) for comments and recommendations on edition’s layout, content and format. All comments and recommendations were processed by AMDI’s specialists added to the text of the commentary.
2. The institute enlisted the services of two leading economic and juridical specialists to review the text and make recommendations and comments which were incorporated in the final version.
3. The institute recruited two juridical specialists on free-of-charge to review the edition V. Gapotij and V. Korcheva – rector of The Tavria State Agro technical Academy.
4. The institute organized a meeting with the Chair of Agrarian Consulting and Service of the National Agrarian University, in which the commentary was designated to be a resource manual for students studying at the university.

#### **Copying of the edition (literary editing, correction, design and print)**

The publishing house “Ukrainian technologies” prepared the edition for printing (editing, correcting, and designing). 7000 copies of scientific and practical commentary on the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity were printed and disseminated.

#### **Dissemination of the commentary**

1. The institute in conjunction with the National Association of Agricultural Extension Services of Ukraine conducted a national round table in Kyiv where the commentary was presented and disseminated.
2. Four roundtables in the FARM region offices (Rivne, Lutsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy) where held and the commentary was presented and disseminated.

### **Conclusion**

The project achieved its goal of publishing a practical commentary that would provide better understanding of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity” The process of creating the commentary brought together a number of agriculture stakeholders: agricultural extension agents, the National Agrarian University and other educational institutions, the Ukrainian Academy of Agrarian Sciences, the National Association of Agricultural Extension Services of Ukraine, lawyers, scientists, legal experts and the Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine. The process of working together to develop this commentary was as useful in bringing together a number of agriculture stakeholder and led to uniform understanding of the provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On Agricultural Extension Activity” and enhanced the level of understanding of the provisions of the Law of Ukraine of all that were involved. Furthermore, the 7000 copies of the commentary will serve as a valuable resource as Ukraine continues to improve agriculture extension services.