

INTERACTION  
PLATFORM

**Prostir**

PUBLIC REPORT

2016

ACTIVITY



**MARCH 1**

Launch of the Interactive platform "Prostir"

Launch of the project Partnership, "Brain Basket Rivne"

**MARCH 14**



Signing a memorandum of cooperation with Rivne City administration on implementation of the project "Rivne Smart City", intended to integrate new technologies with municipal services

**MARCH 15**



Partnered with Civil Society Organization school "The Initiative Center to Support Social Action" conducted by "Ednannia", Ukraine

**MARCH 16**



Began reconstruction of "Room 162" on main campus of the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering and turning it into a free creative co-working center



**MARCH 18**

Signed memorandum of cooperation between National University of Water and Environmental Engineering and NGO "Prostir"

Received official marketing partnership and launched the City "identity" with new Rivne city logo. Designers - "Prostir" representatives Andriy Tsios and Nastya Khmara

**MARCH 29**



"Cultural Initiatives Forum 2.0" with the participation of creative economy specialist Ragnar Siil

**APRIL 2**



**APRIL 28**



**MAY 22**

Hosted "Prostir" outreach and community listening event during the folk festival "Museum Feast"

The Interactive platform "Prostir" is named "Initiative of the Year", OGO publishing house

**JUNE 6**



**JUNE 23**

The beginning of cooperation with Peace Corps; received Community Economic Development Volunteer Kevin Blossfeld

**JUNE 11**



Competition "EGAP Challenge", presentation of "city portal" concept, Rivne Smart City



**JUNE 21**

Hosting of French Ambassador Isabelle Dumont in Rivne

Presentation to City of a draft reconstruction design for Green Stage local amphitheater

**JUNE 29**



**AUGUST 29**

Partner host of regional "Art Jazz" festival

Partner host of first "TEDx Rivne"

**OCTOBER 16**



**OCTOBER 21**

Hosted Business forum "Ukraine-Norway" (Oslo)

Signed Declaration of Cooperation with the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce Initiative of International Development

**OCTOBER 24**



**NOVEMBER 29**

Platform Partners attend Ukrainian Civil Society Forum in Kyiv

Launch of creative co-working center "Open Office" in the central building of National University of Water and Environmental Engineering

**DECEMBER 7**



# WHAT UNITES US?

The Interactive Platform "Prostir", is made up of people from a variety of generations and occupations who have the desire to continuously improve and change Rivne for better to achieve our common vision.

Our ultimate goal is to drive change through projects, ideas, and activities that transform Rivne into a progressive city striving for sustainable development that each of us is proud to call home.

We are united by common **values**  
that we convey through public action:

VALUES      OPENNESS  
                 RESPONSIBILITY  
                 PROACTIVITY  
                 GENERATION  
                 AND IMPLEMENTATION IDEAS      DIGNITY

We have a strategic **vision**:

"CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND FORWARD MOVEMENT  
TOWARD TO A DECENT AND MODERN LIFESTYLE  
FITTING OF A GLOBAL COMMUNITY"

Our highest **ambition** is to develop  
the future of Rivne so that it will be named:

"TOP 3 OF THE MOST LIVABLE CITIES IN UKRAINE"

# BOARD AND TEAM

NGO Interactive Platform "Prostir", is a team of recognizable people in Rivne, genuine professionals in various fields of business, marketing, media, traditional and informal education, design, IT, community work.

We are united by the desire to develop and change our city for the better. Our goal through all our activities is to contribute to the development of the city and each of its citizens.

Through projects, ideas, and activities, we aim to transform Rivne into a progressive city while fostering the sustainable developments citizens dream of and can take pride in.

The driver of the platform is the Board of Directors – initiators of the interactive platform who share a common vision.





**OLEKSANDR  
KOVALCHUK**

Alex spent nine years studying and working in the USA where he gained experience in modern approaches to business, education and community life. At Prostir, Alex promotes the development of local philanthropy and aids in the implementation of Prostir's portfolio of projects with the support of local businesses via partnership development. Alex promotes cooperation with government and educational institutions. Currently, he is championing the following projects: "Rivne City Logo", "Open Office Co-working Creative center", "Cooperation with the Peace Corps", "Community Foundation". Alex is a father of three.



**NADIYA  
HLADKEVYCH**

CEO of the Ukrainian nations conglomerate "Renome", Nadiya is known for her work in Rivne philanthropy. She initiated development for the «Rivne Smart City», with the aim to proliferate modern technology use in life-sustaining municipal systems and make life more comfortable for Rivne inhabitants. She is also the champion of the project "Reconstruction of Green Summer stage", an amphitheater in the Shevchenko park.



**EUGENE  
SHCHERBAKOV**

Eugene is director of the development company "Fine City Development" and Chairman of the Public Council of State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in Rivne oblast. He is a specialist in organizational management and corporate finance and a champion of the project "Community Foundation". Eugene administers the finances of Prostir.



**SERGIY  
HEMBERH**

After a successful career as a private banker and financier, he focuses his philanthropy efforts on music production. He actively promotes creative industries and is engaged in projects related to non-formal education and is the founder of the project "Teleportus." Recently, he was lead organizer for Rivne's first Tedx conference.

# OPEN OFFICE

The first ambitious project of interactive platform Prostir was to build a creative community working center, which doubles as the office for Prostir.

For this, a partnership was formed with the National University of Water and Environment Engineering. The university allocated two rooms with a total area of almost 200 sq.m. An old auditorium and former dance hall were transformed into a modern center for the community.

The reconstruction of the auditorium started in April 2016 with the help of Prostir members in cooperation with the National University of Water and Environment Engineering. A memorandum of cooperation was signed by the rector of the National University of Water and Environment Engineering Viktor Moshynskyy and Oleksandr Kovalchuk, who led the effort on behalf of Prostir's community.

For developing the new design of the auditorium, graduates of the National University of Water and Environment Engineering Roman Kovalchuk and Svetlana Martyniuk joined forces with Prostir. A wall-sized, stylized mural map of Rivne was painted by the graduates of the University and members of Prostir, Tsos Andrew and Anastasia Khmara.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

Materials and manpower were sourced from Prostir's active volunteer membership base of local businessmen, journalists, and students who together carried out repairs, ripping off the old whitewash and repainting the walls.

Presentation of the Co-Working Community Center, "Open Office", held on December 7, 2016. Right after the presentation Open Office started working actively. Any non-governmental organizations, social initiatives, artistic or sporting associations can use it free of charge. Trainings, workshops, conferences, seminars, even ordinary meetings of Rivne community representatives take place here.

"Open Office" in Rivne is available for community initiatives that lack their offices and require a spacious and modern place to work and develop.





One of the strategic directions of the Prostir was originally informal education and personal development. Our most notable event in this first year of operations toward this strategic pillar was the first conference under the global brand «TED» - «TEDxRivne», held on October 16, 2016.

Hundreds of Rivne citizens witnessed interesting and uniquely inspirational speeches from both successful Rivne residents and well-known Ukrainians whose actions promote positive thinking, innovation and progress toward a strong Ukraine. For this reason "TEDx" Rivne was held under the motto "talent and technology". Serhiy Hemberh, a board member of the interactive platform Prostir, was licensed as lead organizer from the brand "TED".

Among the speakers at the first TEDxRivne conference were: Media professional Sergei Shturhetskyy; IT-entrepreneur Taras Tarasov, musician and artist Yurko Zhuravel; Vasyl Taras, a university professor from the USA specially recorded a lecture that he gave at TEDx Greensboro in Ukrainian language. Special guest speakers were: Illia Kenihshteyn, founder and leader of the "Creative Quarter"; Anna Petrova, founder of the project StartUp Ukraine», «Kyiv Working»; representative of the NGO "The Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" Oksana Ruda and Valery Pekar - President of "Euroindex" and professor of Kyiv-Mohyla Business School and Lviv Business School of UCU.



**ILLIA  
KENIHSHTEYN**

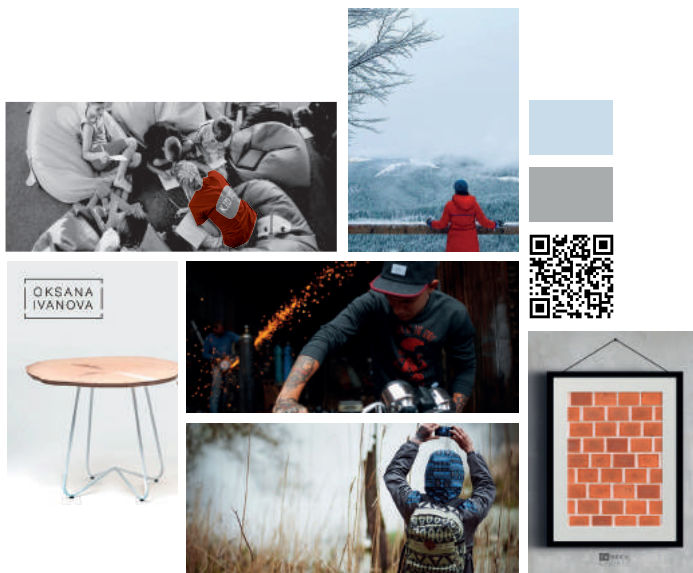


**VIDEO**



**OKSANA  
RUDA**





## ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT, SYNERGY OF BUSINESS AND CREATIVITY

The development of creative industries and establishment of startups is also the activity of interactive platform Prostir. In April 2016, a Forum of Cultural Initiatives 2.0 "Creative Economy" was held, and its leading guest was the coordinator of the expert group Cultural and Creative Industries of European Commission, Deputy Minister of Culture of Estonia Ragnar Siil. During the meeting with Rivne citizens, he discussed how culture combined with entrepreneurship can create jobs and provide income to a developing the city.

"People have a stereotype that culture and creative industries are only possible to find in museums and theaters, at concerts, in books, and these things are not important. Everything else is important – like, food, health, kids, future, education, but not culture.... This is not true ", - emphasizes the Estonian guest. He noted business based on intellectual production, is developing more rapidly in modern world.

Furthermore, to show that the creative industry in Rivne already exists, a presentation of ongoing projects designed and implemented locally in Rivne was given. Inspirational projects included: FREAK DAYS; Urban Planet Streetwear; KidIT; Oksana Ivanova; FaBrick; S-cape; JoyRocks.

# RIVNE SMART CITY

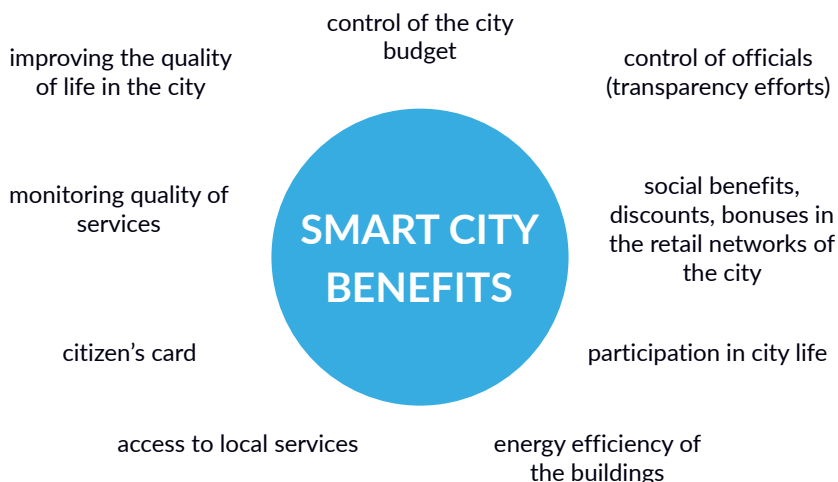
In March 2016, the project "Digital Transformation of the City", initiated by Prostir, was first presented to the city administration, city council members and IT specialists. Participants agreed that Rivne requires the adoption of new information technologies.

- March 15, 2016 Memorandum of Cooperation for «Rivne Smart City» was signed.
- July 11, 2016 the project «Rivne Smart City» was presented at the largest Ukrainian contest of IT projects for the development of the international competition on E-democracy "EGAP Challenge". The volunteers for the the project «Rivne Smart City» worked with leading mentors, who provided their feedback on it.
- August 2, 2016 a working group on implementing city portal was formed in Rivne City Council. They analyzed the technical support of the executive committee of the City Council, as well as the availability of professional solutions on the market. A working group on electronic document flow prepared and delivered their proposals to the city council.

Technical requirements for implementation of urban portal have been tested for several months already. Finally, documents for the procurement of urban portal platform have been prepared.



# RIVNE SMART CITY



# BRAIN BASKET

One of the suggestions that was given to activists of the project Rivne Smart City by foreign experts was "to promote not only the development of the 'smart city', but first of all 'smart citizens' in order to assist Rivne residents with developing in terms of modern information technology. The first project, launched in cooperation with the Interactive platform Prostir, was the international educational program Technology Nation from the fund Brain Basket.

The project started in March with the selection of participants, and the classes were held in the city library №9. The participants had access to lectures in English, completed the tasks set by their mentor, and they discussed the solutions of different problems sets in group sessions. In December, the Open Office Co-working Center hosted information session for the participants of the project.



# IDENTITY

The project "New Rivne City logo" began in 2016. When the Interactive platform Prostir was being created, the public competition for an alternative brand of the city was held in an open call for designs in Rivne. The winning concepts came from Prostir members Nastya Khmara and Andrew Tsios. The new logo was approved at a session of the City council and then designers transferred the right to use the logo in promotion of the City of Rivne to the local administration.

The authors developed souvenirs, such as T-shirts in three different designs, eco-bags, cups, cards, stickers, and released the first test batch of such products. In Alexander Harvat photo studio, an advertising agency and Rivne model agency "Artmodels" was organized in order to promote the new city logo.

Unique gifts that guests can buy during the citywide celebrations include "Museum Feast," "Independence Day," "Bread day" and others. At the "Museum feast" in May, we established a location for communication for the people. Guests had the opportunity to take selfies with the city logo, purchase brand products, visit the workshop of making the "seed bombs" and participate in quest "How do you know your city".

Prostir also created the website [city-brand.rv.ua](http://city-brand.rv.ua) where people can find the open source information on the creation of the logo, user guide and the working file of the logo.





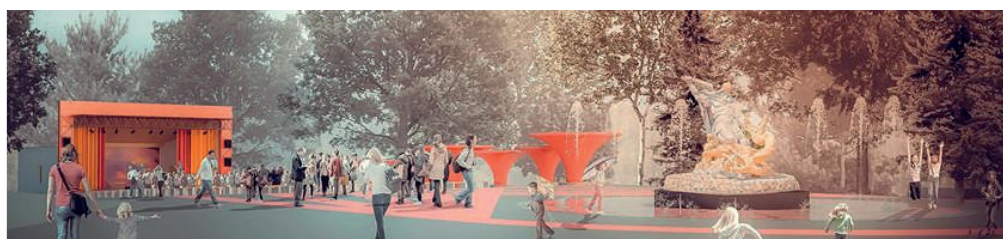
# ZELENKA «GREEN STAGE»

Cooperation of the community to achieve its goals and implement interesting ideas is one of the challenges that confronts interactive platform Prostir. A good example of such cooperation in 2016 was the idea of "Green (Summer) stage" reconstruction in Rivne Taras Shevchenko Park.

The idea was suggested by a group of young architects who announced an online competition for reconstruction projects of "Green stage". Again, Prostir support the call for open source design proposals to be sent and adopted by the City administration and Mayor.

After negotiating with the City Mayor Volodymyr Khomko, initiated by Prostir members Nadiya Hladkevych and Serhiy Hemberh, the project was able to garner official support from the Mayors office after they witnessed the level of citizen engagement and willingness to help renovate the "Green stage".

Foremost, during these joint meetings between citizens and admins, architects, members of Prostir and City Council officials, a decision was reached on the preliminary design of the "Green stage" that taking into account technological and financial capabilities. This process was supervised by one of the initiators of public reconstruction - architect Dmytro Kotlyarov, and Prostir member. In July 2016, the architect presented a sketch of the reconstruction approved by the local authorities to active citizens.





# PARTNERS

Strategic Partners of the Interactive Platform Prostir:

- National University of Water and Environmental Engineering (NUWEE)
- The Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia"
- Peace Corps, US

The administration of National University of Water and Environmental Engineering provided two rooms for building the creative community center "Open Office" and strongly promoted the platform.

In June 2016, Prostir signed a memorandum of cooperation with "Peace Corps in Ukraine" that placed American volunteer Kevin Blossfeld to work for development of the organization and Rivne.

For setting up internal management operations of Prostir, we contacted The Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia". Prostir members were invited to workshops, seminars, education tours throughout the year where they learnt about the features of such an association as "community foundations".

Our next step is becoming a full-fledged community "foundation" - an organizational leader of the local community that is able to accumulate funds to address socially important problems by joint efforts of residents, local businesses, government and international donors.



ICSSA «COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION SCHOOL»



«PEACE CORPS, US»



NUWEE

# MEDIA ABOUT US

Publication about the projects implemented by Prostir appeared in almost all local print and electronic media. Board members and activists of the organization repeatedly appeared on television and radio as experts in public activity and social processes in the life of the city.

During 2016 the media not only showed interest, but also recognized the creation of organization as quite important and urgent initiative. Prostir received two awards "Initiative of the Year" from the independent publishing house "OGO" and glossy magazine "Artmodels".

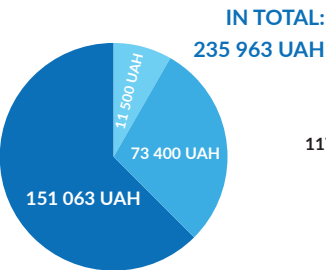


# FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial activity of the NGO Prostir in 2016 as presented by funding sources and expenses:

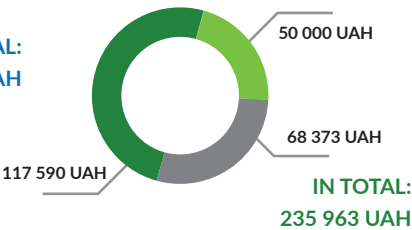
## FUNDING SOURCES:

- Membership Dues
- Charitable Contributions
- Grants



## FINANCING FORM:

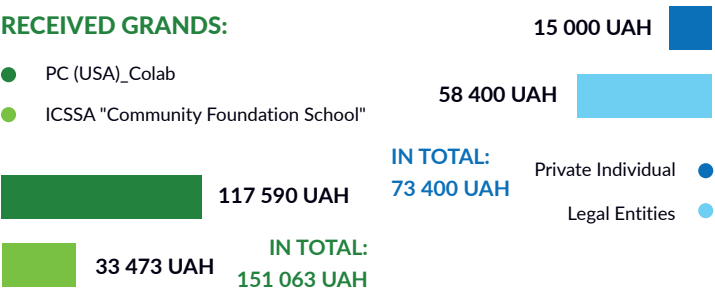
- Peace Corps Grant
- Tangible Donations
- Monetary Resources



## CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

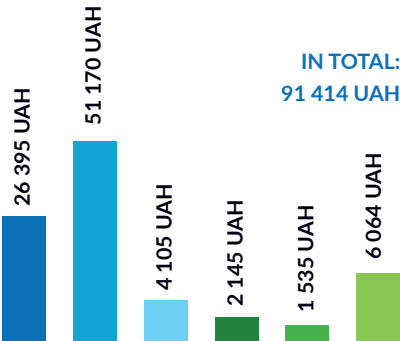
### RECEIVED GRANTS:

- PC (USA)\_Colab
- ICSSA "Community Foundation School"



## EXPENSES

- Education "CF School"
- "Open Office" project
- "Museum Feast"
- Survey
- TEDx Rivne
- Operation Cost





# THE INITIATIVE CENTER TO SUPPORT SOCIAL ACTION "EDNANNIA"

Our principle strategic partner is The Initiative Center to Support Social Action Ednannia

Kyiv – Provider of the Program Community Foundation School with financial support from Charles Stewart Mott Foundation (USA). In 2016 NGO Prostir received a grant from ICSSA Ednannia on the program "CF School" in the amount of 33,473 UAH.

Prostir's participation was funding in the follow events by this program:

- CF School - March 2016 - Kyiv; October 2016 - Kherson;
- Organizational Development Forum of Civil Society "Change. Affect. Unite" November 2016, Kyiv - a national event in social sector;
- Study tour around European countries to learn the experience of the Community Foundations - December 2016;
- Final meeting of CF leaders of Ukraine. Kyiv - December 2016;
- Printing of the NGO Prostir annual report of in 2016.

With the support of ICSSA Ednannia and Kyiv International Institute of Sociology together with 11 other cities Prostir conducted needs assessment of the local community through the anonymous survey, which lasted from June to September 2016.

## WHY DO WE DO IT?

- Representative data on the national scale on: local needs of the community, awareness of residents on public sector, readiness to be involved in solving city problems, social activities;
- Strengthening its own strategy as community foundation, based on solving the real problems of the city;
- Involvement of active community members, promotion of NGO Prostir;
- Number of local volunteers involved in NGO Prostir data collection - 50 people.



# OUR FRIENDS



# OUR CONTACTS



INTERACTION  
PLATFORM

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Published with the support of the program  
"Community Foundation School" implemented by  
ICSSA "Ednannia" with financial support of Charles  
Stewart Mott Foundation (USA)

Editor, photographer - Andriy Matviiv  
Designer - Alina Zabarina  
Print PE "Estro"



CREATE. IMPLEMENT. INTERACT