**Summary of EBRD funded projects via the non-governmental union "Foundation for support of reforms in Ukraine"**

In 2014, the Ukrainian authorities requested help from the EBRD with the conceptualization and implementation of the reforms process in Ukraine, in the context of implementation of the “Strategy 2020”, announced by President Poroshenko on 25 September 2014. In response, the EBRD helped set up the National Reforms Council in late 2014, and it has been providing technical cooperation funding to the Project Management Office of the National Reforms Council (NRC PMO) since early 2015. End of 2016 the **National Reform Council** (NRC) Project Management Office has been transformed into a Support Team and a Reforms Delivery Office to refocus the effort from reforms conceptualization and coordination towards reform implementation:

* The **Support Team** (NRC ST) is a group of experts subordinated to the Secretary of the NRC, who serve as the Secretariat of the NRC. The NRC ST provides organizational and technical support to the NRC, preparation for regular NRC sittings, including coordination of stakeholders, ensuring execution of NRC decisions and recommendations, and monitoring and communications of reforms progress. The functions of the NRC ST include coordination, analytical, technical and communication support to the NRC and the REC. Specifically, the NRC ST:
  + Develops the NRC agenda and ensures implementation of decisions
  + Coordinates the preparation of NRC sittings and reports
  + Develops and support a system of monitoring of reforms progress
  + Promotes dialogue among reform stakeholders
  + Provides communication support, ensuring a unified reforms narrative
* The **Reforms Delivery Office (RDO)** is an advisory body to the Cabinet of Ministers, coordinated by the Prime Minister and headed by the Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers. The RDO plays an essential role in the development, coordination and monitoring of the implementation of reforms plans (in particular the yearly Government Reform Plan) across the administration and other reform priorities which involve a number of government/administration stakeholders. It provides coordination, analytical, communication and strategic planning support, ensuring a timely implementation. Furthermore, the RDO ensures effective communication and partnership with national and international counterparts, donors and civil society.

The RDO:

* + Advises on strategic policy formulation of government reform priorities
  + Provides assistance and support to reforms’ sponsors (e.g. Ministers, heads of agencies) in reforms implementation
  + Helps in the coordination of reforms’ stakeholders and donors
  + Ensures structuring and systematisation of reforms infrastructure and content
  + Uses strategic communication to promote a better public understanding of the essence of reforms and buy-in of citizens in order to ensure an adequate level of public scrutiny, control and participation on progress-to-date, key findings and recommendations
* Another important element of the more coherent and efficient Reforms Architecture, of which the NRC ST and RDO are part of, are the Reform Support Teams (RSTs). They are formed of professionals from outside the Ukrainian civil service and work in ministries on a temporary basis to implement priority reforms and transform the ministries themselves. The programme has first been rolled out at a small number of pilot Ministries. Teams may be expanded to other ministries and state agencies, subject to progress of reforms and availability of donor funding.

The aim of the RSTs is to support the implementation of reforms through increased capacity, improved coordination and close oversight, combining strong commitment of Ukraine’s leadership with national and international experts’ advice. The cornerstone of this effort is the Ukrainian authorities’ commitment to public administration reform, aimed at upgrading the competences and working conditions in the civil service as well as enhancing the efficiency and transparency of the public administration. The goal is to lay the foundations for a new generation of reform-oriented Ukrainians working in the civil service. The RSTs provide:

* + Technical expert support to help fill the gaps in current staff skills at the relevant Ministries/institutions;
  + Experience and overall institutional capacity considered essential to support the implementation of priority reforms;
  + Better coordination and consolidation of ad hoc advisory support to the ministry; and
  + Strengthening of links and partnerships between the Ministry priorities and relevant donor support.

The RSTs, NRC ST and RDO are funded through the **EBRD-managed Ukraine Multi-Donor Account (MDA)**, established in July 2014 to support Ukraine’s efforts to reform its economy, improve its business climate and return to a path of sustainable growth. Contributors to the fund are Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.