

# **YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN COMMUNITIES “START IN THE COMMUNITY”**

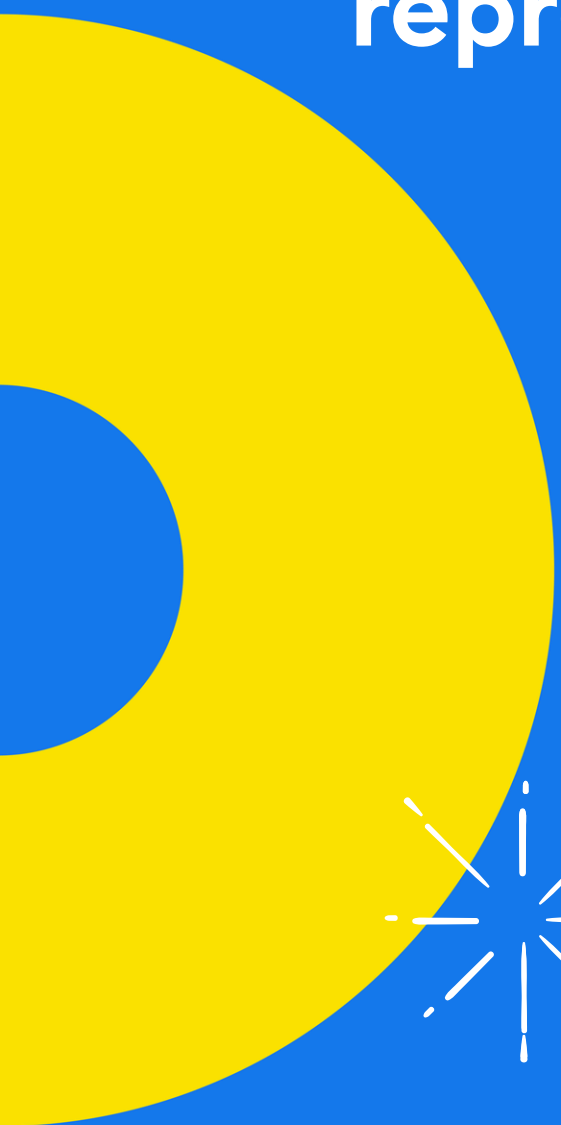
**SUMMARY AND KEY RESULTS**



**40 participants (20 youth  
representatives and 20 community  
representatives)**

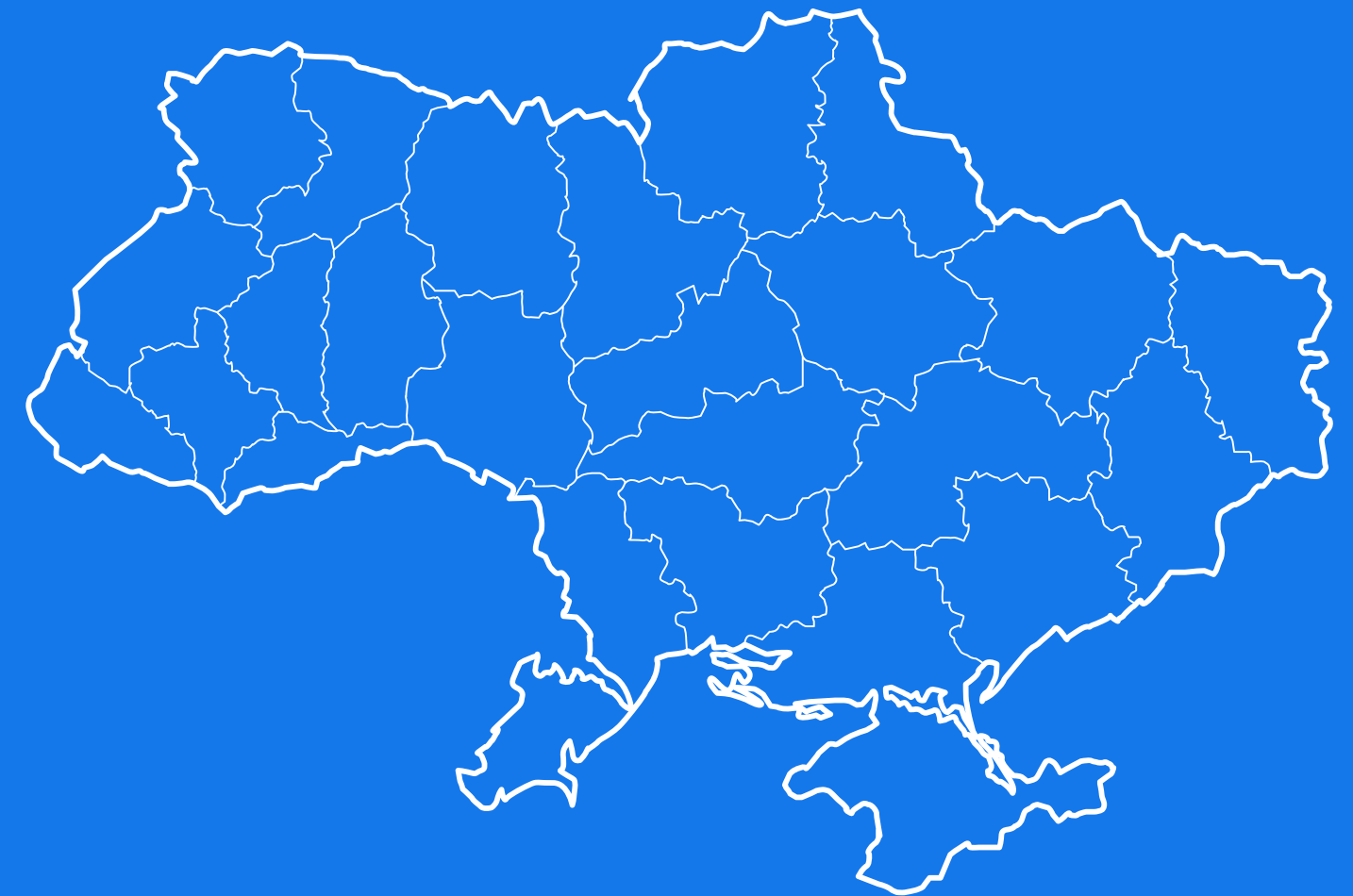
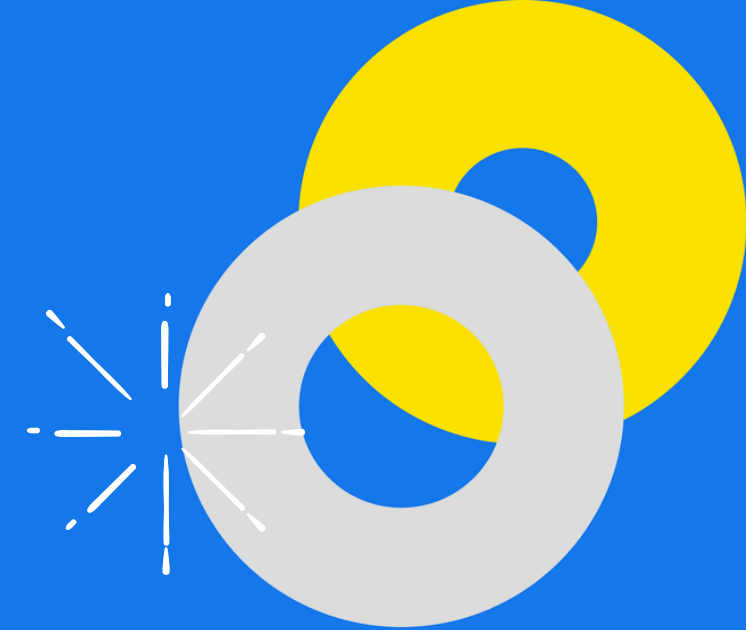
**13 regions of Ukraine covered**

**8 weeks of continuous  
community work**



# 20 COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERNSHIP

- Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi City Council (Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi City Territorial Community of Odessa Oblast)
- Strilkivka Village Council (Strilkivka Village Territorial Community)
- Zvyahelskyi City Council (Zvyahelskyi City Territorial Community)
- Bereznivka City Council (Bereznivka City Territorial Community of Rivne Raion of Rivne Oblast)
- Truskavets City Council (Truskavets City Territorial Community)
- Pryluky City Council (Pryluky City Territorial Community)
- Yarunskyi Village Council (Yarunskyi Village Territorial Community)
- Merefyansk City Council (Merefyansk City Territorial Community)
- Pustomytyvka City Council (Pustomytyvka City Territorial Community of Lviv Raion of Lviv Oblast)
- Kremenchuk City Council (Kremenchuk City Territorial Community of Kremenchuk Raion of Poltava Oblast) region)
- Trostyanets City Council (Trostyanets City Territorial Community)
- Mykolaiv City Council (Mykolaiv City Territorial Community)
- Zdolbuniv City Council (Zdolbuniv City Territorial Community)
- Berezhany City Council (Berezhany City Community of Ternopil Region)
- Voznesensk City Council (Voznesensk City Territorial Community)
- Boyar City Council (Boyary City Territorial Community)
- Chornobaiv Village Council (Chornobaiv Village Territorial Community of Kherson District of Kherson Region)
- Dobroslav Village Council (Dobroslav Village Territorial Community)
- Teofipol Village Council (Teofipol Village Territorial Community of Khmelnytsky District of Khmelnytsky Region)
- Sheptytsk City Council (Sheptytsk City Territorial Community)



# AREAS OF PARTICIPANTS' WORK

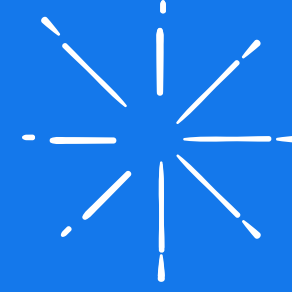
- Monitoring of grant programs of international donors (United Nations Development Programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), NEFCO)
- Searching for funding opportunities in the areas of energy efficiency, education security and critical infrastructure
- Preparation and support of projects within the framework of the #TOLOCAR program and "Maker Development Hubs"
- Search and analysis of potential international partners and twin cities in EU countries
- Preparation of English-language presentations and communication materials about communities
- Creation and maintenance of LinkedIn profiles of communities for international positioning



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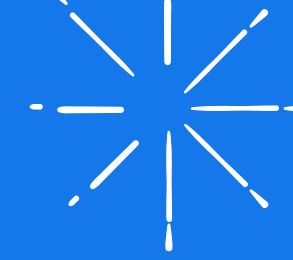




## KEY RESULTS OF THE INTERNS' WORK

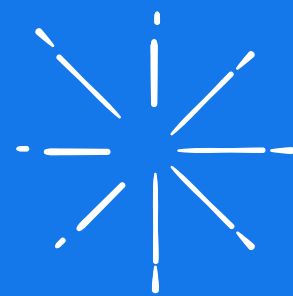
- Development of digital branding of the community and strengthening its visibility
- Establishment of primary international contacts (Canada, Italy, Moldova, Poland)
- Preparation and sending of 28 official letters of proposals to potential municipal partners
- Formation of a database of over 50 international contacts of municipalities with identification of areas of cooperation
- Obtaining the first positive feedback and confirmation of readiness for cooperation between the city of Bălți, Moldova and the Yaruna Rural Territorial Community
- Preparation of comprehensive presentations of the community within the framework of international projects (in particular U-LEAD, U-RESTORE)
- Adaptation and sounding of presentation materials for an international audience (Canada)
- Analytical support of project activities with the support of international partners

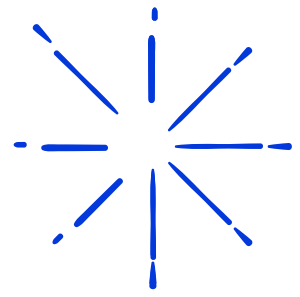
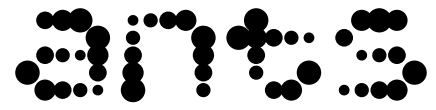




## KEY RESULTS OF THE INTERNS' WORK

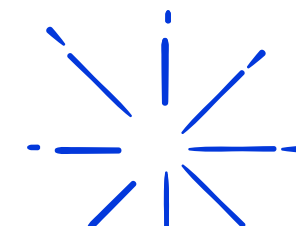
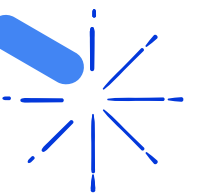
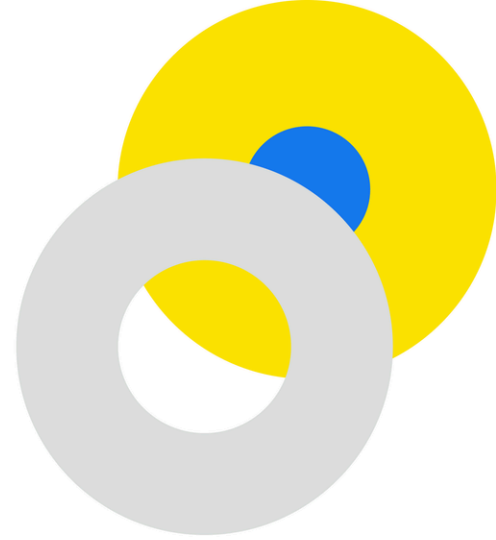
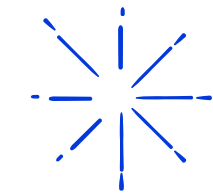
- Comprehensive analysis of grant programs of international donors (United Nations Development Programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), NEFCO, UNICEF)
- Selection of more than 15 relevant grant programs for the needs of the community (education, WASH, infrastructure)
- Development of 3 draft project applications for infrastructure initiatives
- Preparation of recommendations on the strategy for attracting international funding (early recovery, donor diversification)
- Support for the operational activities of the management in the field of international cooperation
- Systematization of international correspondence and preparation of materials for working meetings
- Creation and filling of the LinkedIn profile of the Zdolbunivska community as an international communication tool
- Search for European similar communities for the development of partnerships
- Analysis of European practices and formation of a table of ideas for community development in various areas



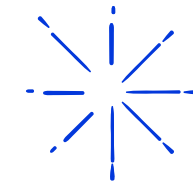
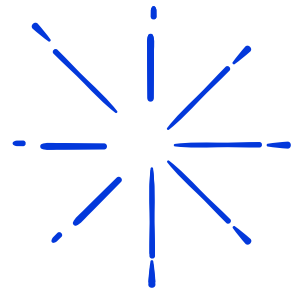
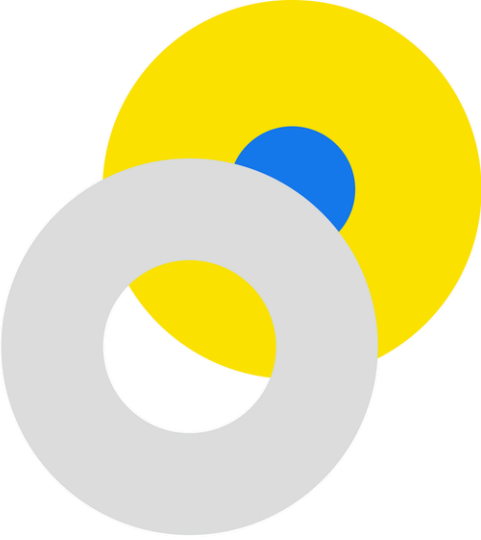


## IMPACT IN ACTION: KEY INITIATIVES & MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS

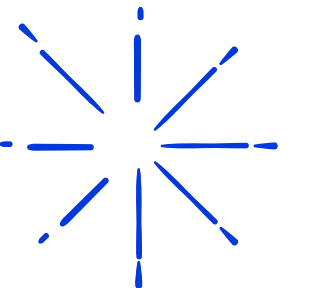
1. The intern successfully managed communication between **Yarunskyi Urban Territorial Community and the Bălți Municipality**, leading to a confirmed partnership and an upcoming Memorandum of Cooperation.
2. The intern mapped out over **15 prospective international partners** to expand the **Zdolbuniv City Territorial Community's** global presence and designed 3 professional presentations to facilitate future interregional partnership dialogues.
3. The intern conducted a comprehensive analysis of European municipalities to identify potential partners aligned with the **Boyary City Territorial Community's** needs. This resulted in a detailed **analytical report** of candidate cities and the development of official outreach frameworks, including tailored communication proposals for European mayors to initiate formal cooperation.



arts

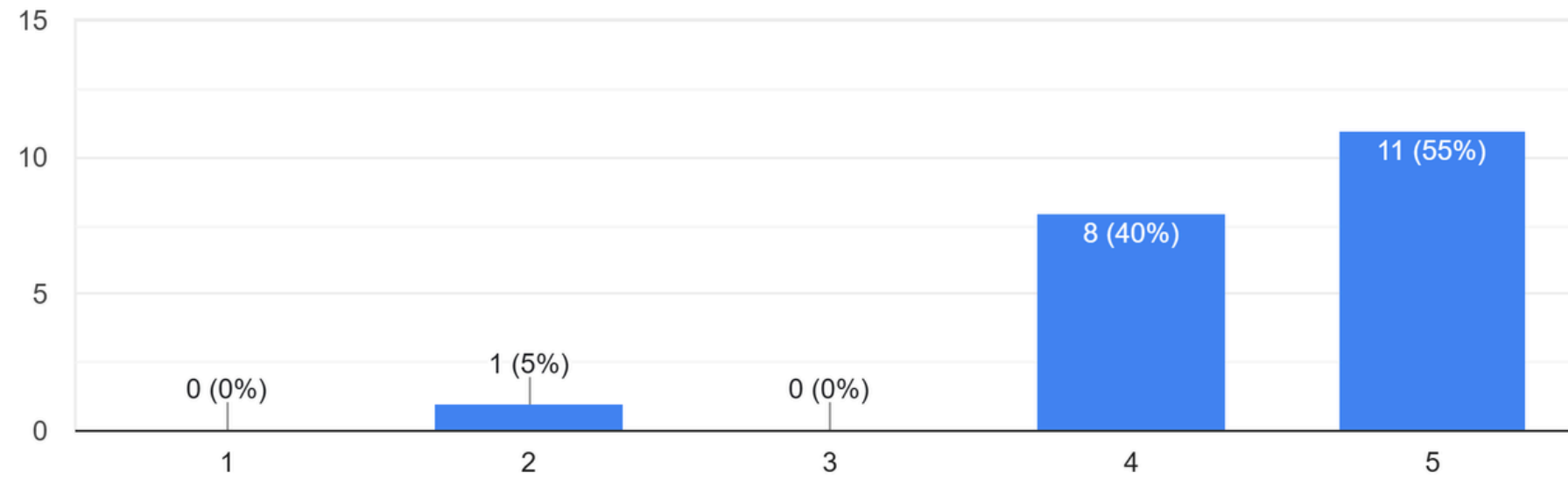


**FEEDBACK FROM INTERNS AND  
COMMUNITIES ABOUT THE  
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM  
“START IN THE COMMUNITY”**



How much did the internship program meet your expectations?

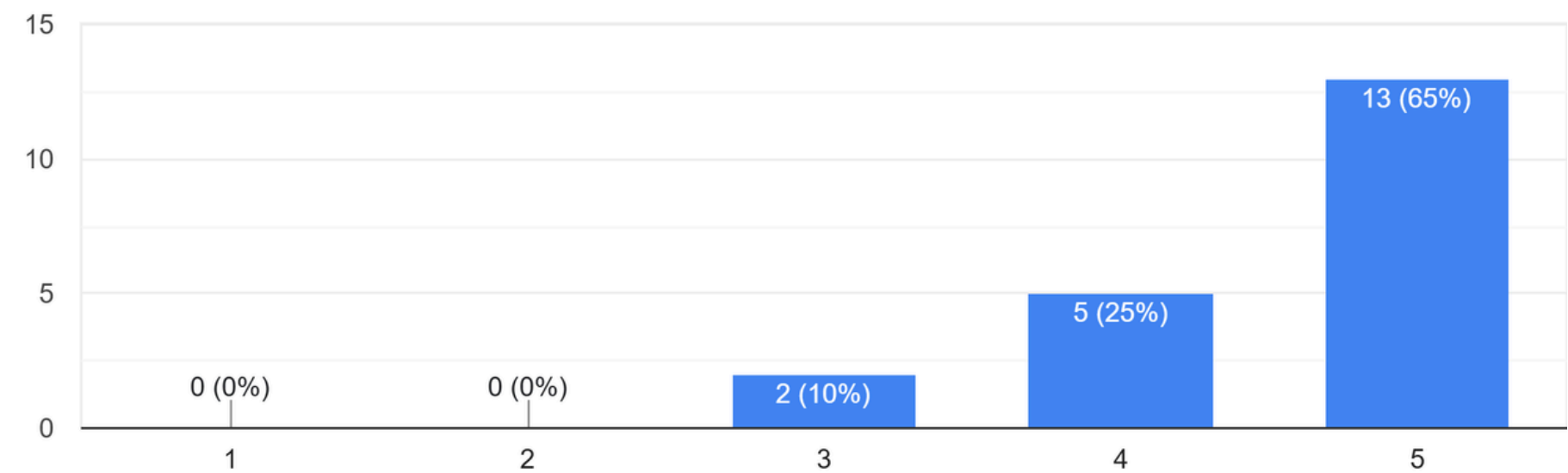
20 answers



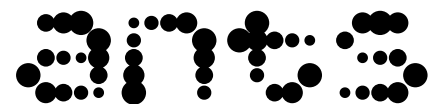
**INTERNS**

How well did the internship results meet your expectations?

20 answers

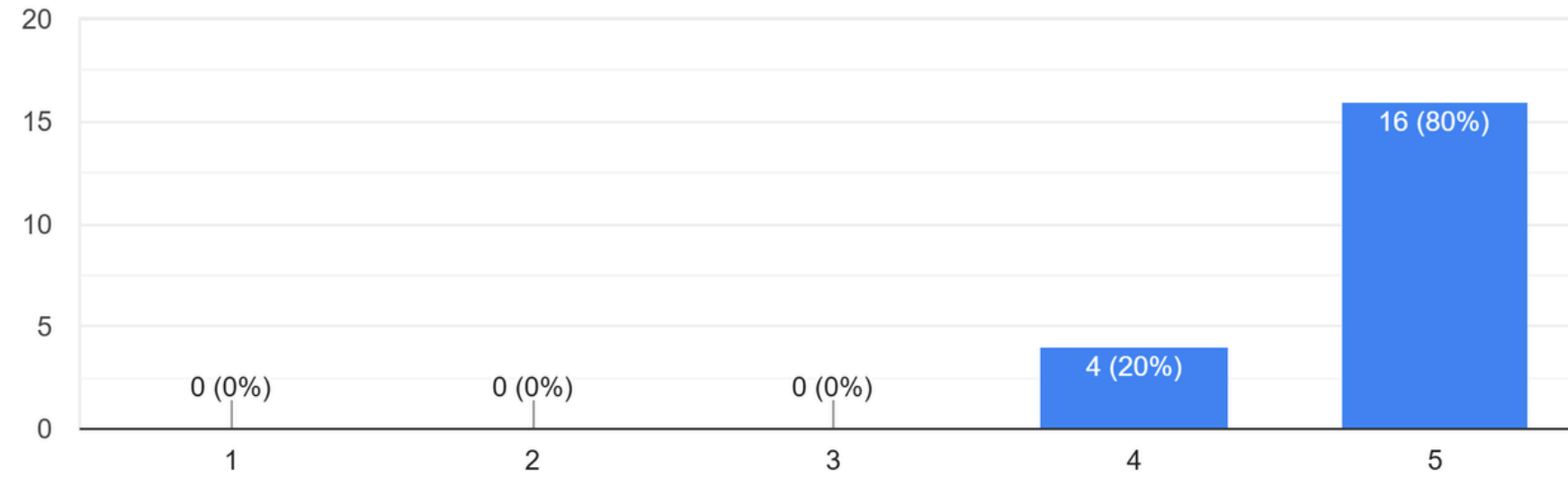


**COMMUNITIES**

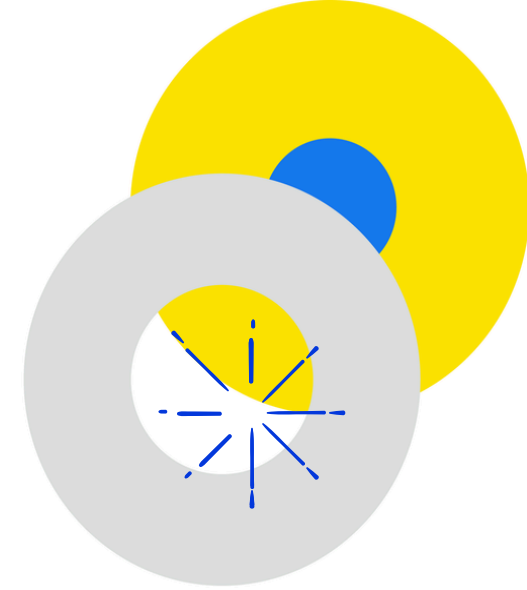


How useful was this experience for your development?

20 answers

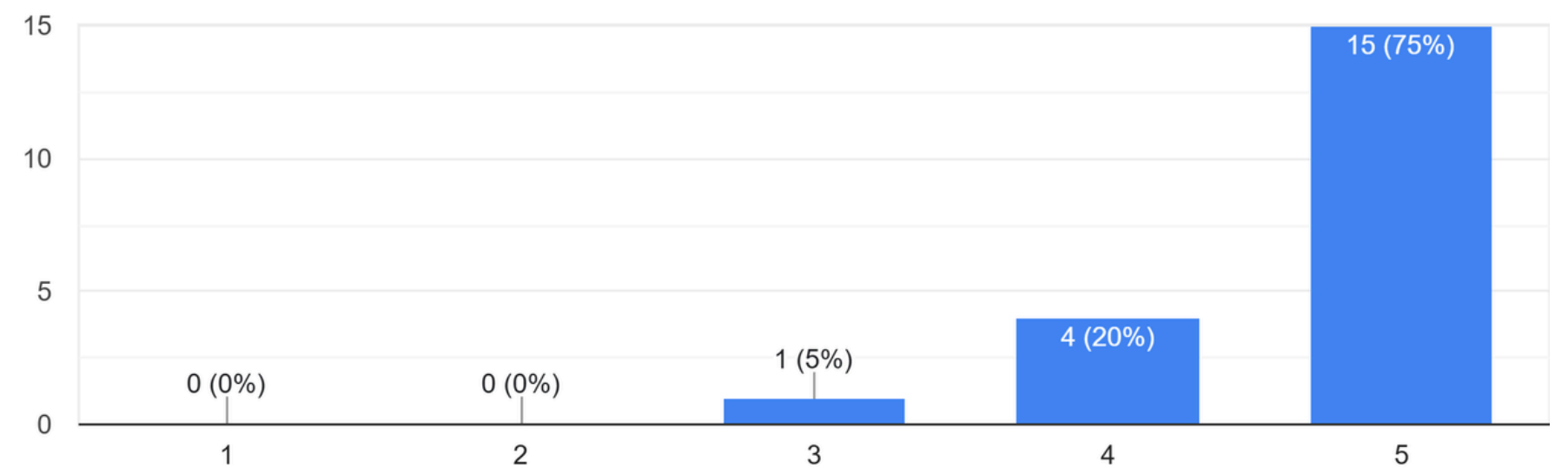


## INTERNS

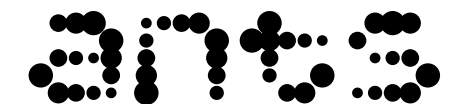
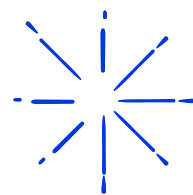


How satisfied are you with your participation in the internship

20 answers

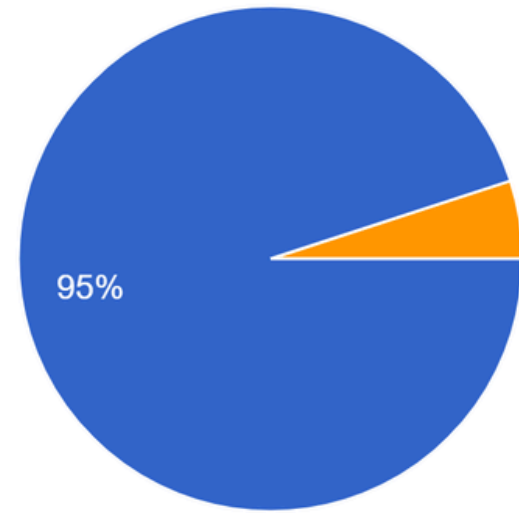


## COMMUNITIES



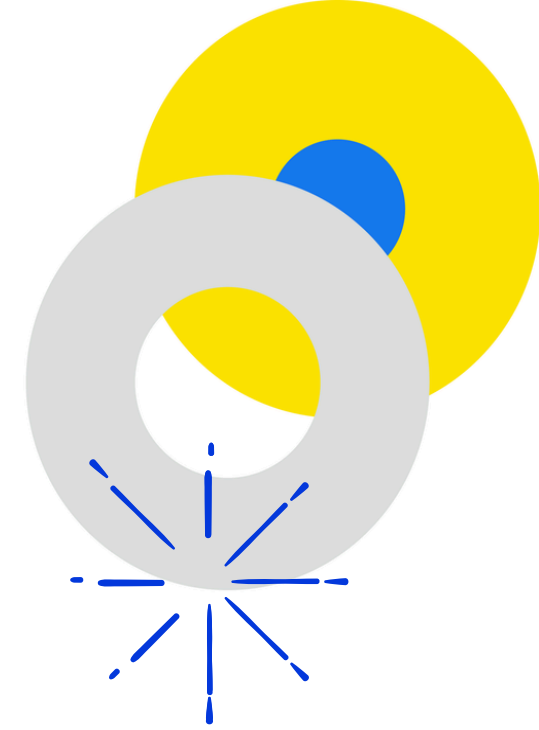
Would you recommend this internship program to others?

20 answers



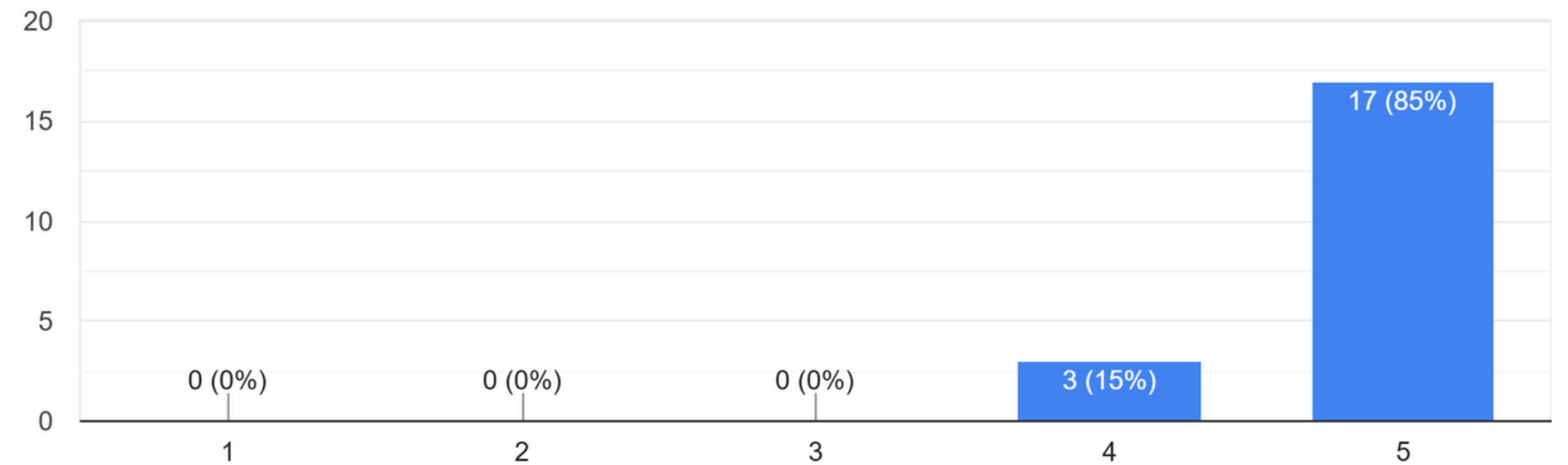
- YES
- NO
- Honestly, I wouldn't recommend it to people who want to learn something, but it's definitely useful for those who want to see how local government bodies work.

**INTERNS**

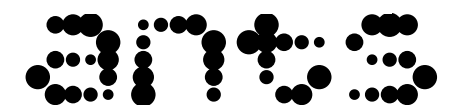
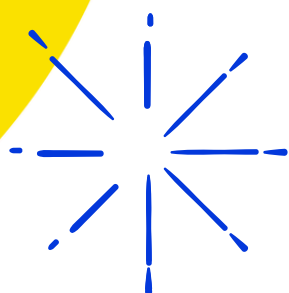


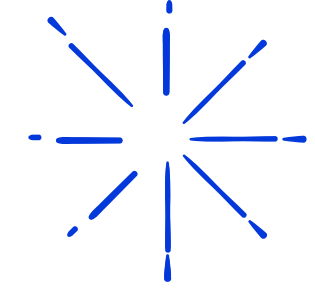
Would you recommend this internship program to other communities?

20 answers

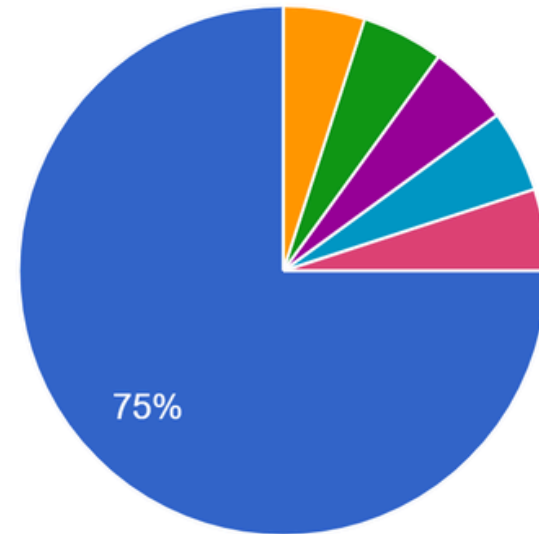


**COMMUNITIES**



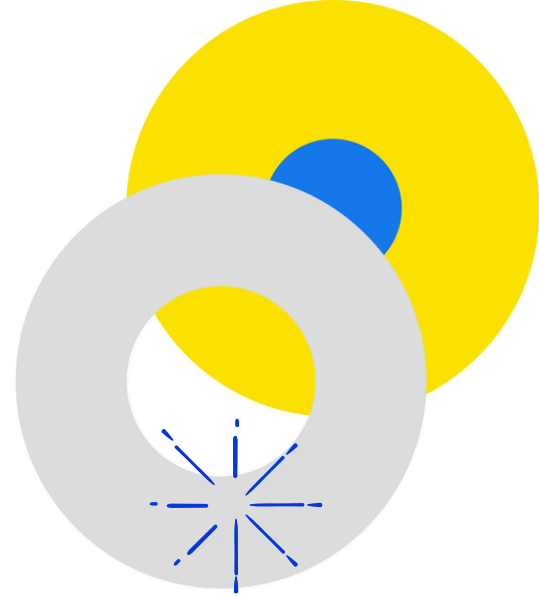


Do you plan to continue collaborating with the community in the  
20 answers



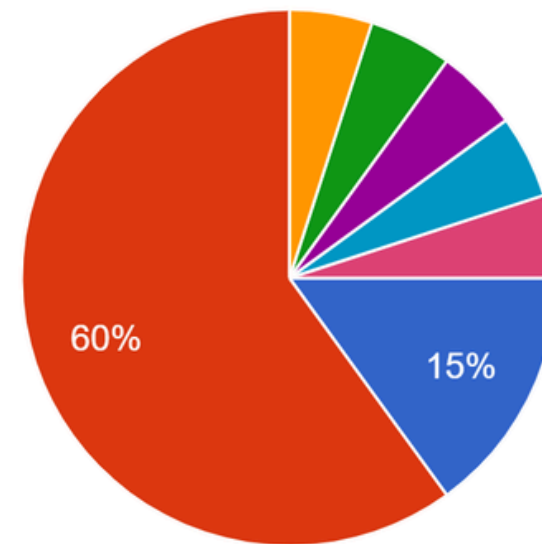
- YES
- NO
- We haven't talked about it yet
- I offered further cooperation but received no response
- Still in the decision-making process
- If needed in the community, ready to join in
- I don't know yet

# INTERNS

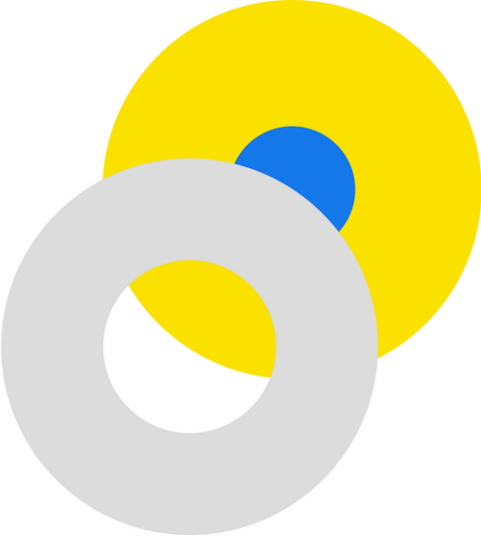


Have you received an offer of further employment from the community?

20 answers



- YES
- NO
- Received an offer for a further internship
- But I wasn't looking for a job
- Haven't discussed this with the community yet
- We are currently working on completing the internship until we receive an offer
- We are currently working on completing the internship until we receive an offer.



# WHAT THE PARTICIPANTS LIKED THE MOST

- Practical and “live” work experience
- Better understanding of the work of communities and local government
- Development of professional skills (project management; analytical work; communication; business correspondence; work with grants; preparation of documents and presentations)
- Feeling of real impact and involvement
- Support and openness of teams
- Rethinking the work of local government bodies
- Motivation for further development and public activity

A large graphic on the left side of the page, featuring a yellow semi-circle with a blue circle inside it, and a blue starburst shape above the yellow semi-circle.

“I was actively involved in processes that have a real impact on the well-being of the community.”

“The most important achievement was the feeling that I was doing something real and important.”

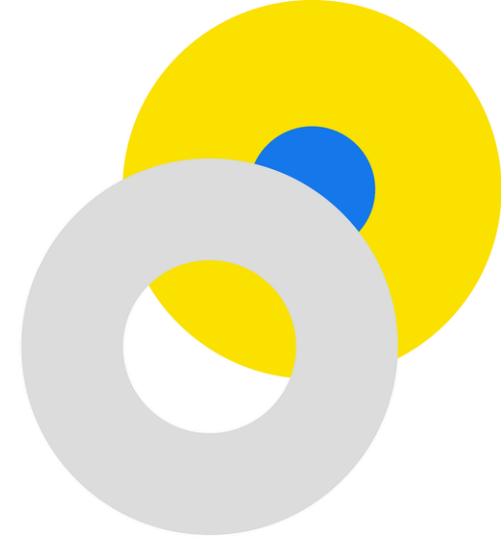
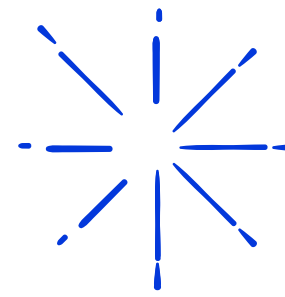
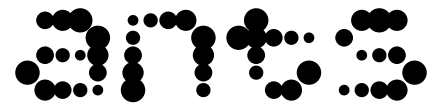
“Many things happened to me for the first time, and it significantly broadened my professional horizons.”

A blue starburst graphic located at the bottom center of the page, consisting of several lines radiating from a central point.



## WHAT PARTICIPANTS RECOMMEND TO IMPROVE:

- Clearer definition of intern roles and areas of work
- More structured onboarding and familiarization with the work of communities
- More systematic involvement of interns in tasks
- Regular points of communication and exchange of experience
- Improvement of organizational and administrative processes
- More practical and offline training component



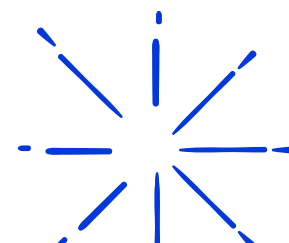
## WHAT COMMUNITIES RECOMMEND TO IMPROVE:

- Strengthen program structure
- Continue focus on practical work
- Improve intern selection process
- Support mentors in communities
- Develop communication and engagement
- Consider longer internships
- Expand program and reach more communities

“Two months passed very quickly – we just managed to establish an active pace of work.”

“This experience of working with active youth is very inspiring, so I want such programs to continue.”

“It would be important to provide a motivation system for employees who are involved in mentoring interns.”



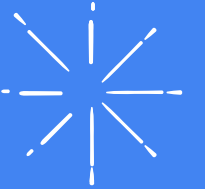


THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNSHIP AND COOPERATION.



I would like to thank your organization for the opportunity. I would also like to thank Daria for her prompt response and timely feedback.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!**



**Thank you for the opportunity to complete such an interesting internship!**

My sincere thanks to the ANTS team for the opportunities for both youth and communities! I really hope this project will scale.

Thank you for your work! Anyway, you are very cool and I hope that the experience of such training and internships will continue in the future)

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the internship and cooperation. This format is useful both for the community and for the professional development of young people, as it allows you to combine theoretical knowledge with practical work in a local government.

**WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM!!**

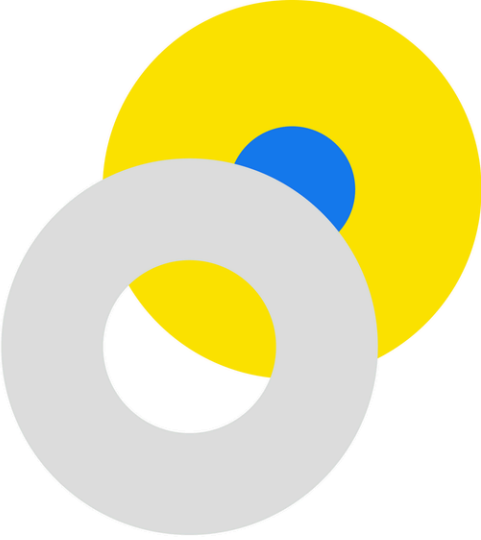
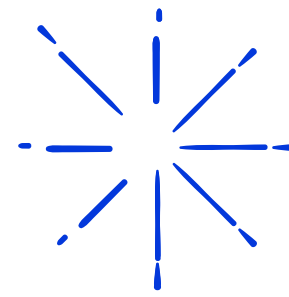
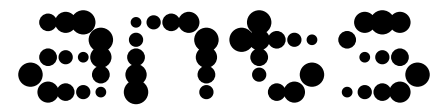
We thank the ANTS network for providing this opportunity specifically for the Berezhany community.

We will be happy to participate in further activities and establish cooperation.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO THE ORGANIZERS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, IT WAS A REALLY SIGNIFICANT HELP FOR THE COMMUNITY AND FOR ME PERSONALLY.**

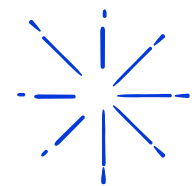
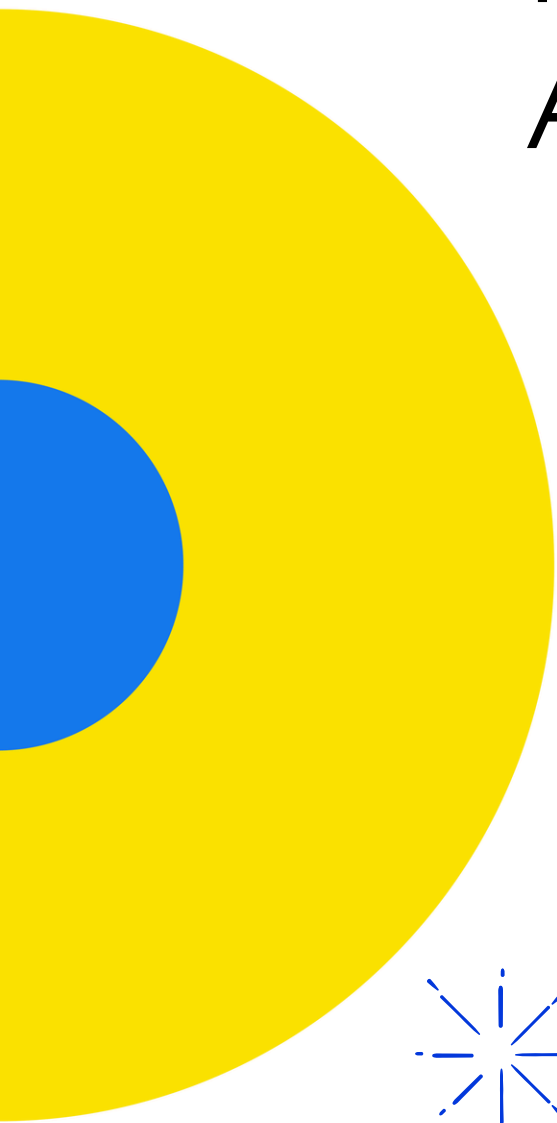
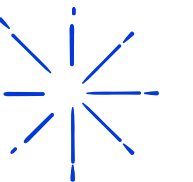
**WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE YOUTH IN THE MYKOLAIV URBAN TERRITORIAL COMMUNITY.**





## OUR CONTACTS

NGO “NATIONAL INTERESTS  
ADVOCACY NETWORK ANTS”



**ANTS.ORG.UA**



**FB.COM/ANTSNGO**



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