

# STUDENT'S HANDOUT



## Ukraine: poverty

Like several other countries of Eastern Europe, Ukraine acquired its independence from the Soviet Union in the early 90's. Since this time, the Ukrainian people have worked tirelessly to revitalize their country's infrastructures. However, it is not an easy task to fight against poverty. The causes of a lack of resources and extreme poverty are so diverse that it is almost impossible for a society and its population to solve this problem without determined efforts and battling on several fronts at the same time.

One of these « frontlines » for which Canada provides support is the Ukrainian health system. Facing so many difficulties, Ukrainian health professionals have given priority to issues such as: the increasing amount of poverty related diseases; medicine and vaccine shortages; the urgent need to improve technical and human resources management; and the need to improve infrastructures. Through a project called **Partners in Health**, administered by the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) and financed by CIDA, the Ukraine could benefit from Canada's knowledge and technical resources in health matters. People in good health are in a much better situation to insure their own well-being and to get out of poverty.

The **Youth for Health Ukraine-Canada** project is another initiative coordinated by the CSIH. This project aims at contributing to the health and well-being of Ukrainians by offering its support to individuals who work directly with the population such as teachers, health workers and youth leaders. The project mainly encourages the participation of female professionals and young women in the development of these commitments which aim to improve the quality of life of Ukrainians.

These two projects seek to fight poverty in a sustainable way. They create favourable conditions so that people affected by poverty may enjoy good health, hope and determination: essential tools to a better quality of life.



## Background Information

In the goal of reducing extreme poverty in the poorest areas around the globe, the Canadian Agency for International Development (CIDA) finances several projects in these regions. Throughout the world, poverty affects millions of people. In Ukraine, approximately 30% of the population lives below the poverty line. The aid provided to Ukraine by Canada mostly translates into what is called technical aid. This means that Canadian professionals travel to Ukraine to share their experience and knowledge with local professionals. *Source: ACDI*



## Instructions

Read the following text and carefully examine the images below before completing the activity.



Student's name : \_\_\_\_\_ Class : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Take a careful look at the images below. Which Ukrainian social groups are most affected by poverty? Draw from the projects which you just read about some ideas to suggest, to the class in writing, a project to fight poverty. Choose one of the social groups represented in the images, and apply your project to your own country.



Social groups represented in these images.

