Problem setting. One of the most urgent tasks of modern Ukraine is to form self-sufficient communities which are the basis of effective development of the country. This is due to the possibility of democracy development in the society only under the developed system of local government and self-sufficient communities which is one of the main features of democracy.

The problem of creating self-sustaining local communities in Ukraine has been quite acute for a long time. The principle of their independence is proclaimed in the Constitution but, in practice, has not actually been performed. The vast majority of local communities in Ukraine, having the right to decide local issues, can not fulfill them.

The world experience shows that only a self-sufficient local community can effectively address local issues, taking part in the management of their own affairs directly or through their elected bodies, creating space for initiative and creativity. Thus, the relevant issue is to study the concept and features of local communities in terms of their self-sufficiency.

Recent research analysis. For a long time scientists’, managers’, representatives of NGOs’ closer look is focused on finding ways to improve local government, in particular on improving efficiency of management. A significant contribution to the study of issues concerning the sustainability of local communities has been done by the following authors: I.Drobot, Yu.Molodozhen, B.Zablotsky, Ya.Zhovnirchyk, I.Borshosh, Yu.Chernetskyy, Yu.Kutz, V.Mamonova, S.Ghazaryan, O.Reshevets, and others.
The contribution of scientists in solving urgent problems of the local communities is important, but we should pay attention to the objective need for further study of issues relating to ensuring their sustainability under modern development conditions.

The purpose of the article is to study the theoretical definition and basic principles of self-sufficient community formation.

The paper main body. It is stated that the problem of forming effective and self-sufficient local communities in Ukraine is a concern of scientists, state and local authorities and residents of local communities of villages, towns and cities. The origins and nature of the term "self-sufficiency" has been traced. The definition of the term "capable local community" is given. In local government reform regulations this term is often used but its definition is missing.

It is shown that the formation of self-sufficient communities suggests that they possess the material, financial and other resources in quantities sufficient for effective implementation of tasks and administrative functions of local government, provision of social services at the level prescribed by national standards. It will correspond to the European Charter of Local Self-Government, signed by Ukraine in 1997, which states that local government denotes the right and ability of local authorities within the law to share and manage particular public rights under their responsibility and in interests of the local population.

Scholars and practitioners’ opinions about self-sufficiency of local communities are given. One of the most fundamental researches of local community sufficiency in the context of sustainable development is done by well-known modern scientists I.Drobot and I.Shulyar. They formulated four criteria of local community sufficiency: the status of the primary subject of local government; economic system self-sufficiency; availability of territory and population for expanded reproduction; community population represents itself as part of civil society.

Having analyzed publications, it was traced that every author has his own idea of self-sufficiency, moreover scientific research achievements in the field of local communities self-sufficiency indicate the ambiguous views on the definition of self-
sufficiency. Analysis of national publications showed that the vast majority of scientists consider local communities self-sufficiency mainly from the standpoint of resource support, the most popular is the definition of sustainability as an economic or financial activities of local governments.

However, focusing efforts only on the need of self-sufficiency of local communities of villages, towns, cities, which should result in creating a self-sufficient community and those in need of proper care, the problem of proper relationship between the community, local governments and agencies, authorized to manage the property of their respective communities, the general system of managerial staff training and so on will remain.

Thus, under the self-sufficient territorial community should be understood the following: the territorial community that has the defined area, developed social infrastructure, necessary human resources, material and financial resources to solve local issues in the interest of the residents of the community, performing their own and delegated powers of local authorities. Based on the above, it can be stated that the problem of determining the sufficiency of local communities is urgent and requires comprehensive research.

Prospects for further research in this direction are to achieve the greatest possible self-sufficiency. The only way to accomplish this task and to ensure a harmonized problem solution of social development, the introduce modern, most common in the world of concepts, the classical definition of which is: this is development that allows current generations to meet their needs without endangering future generations to meet theirs.