

*for development of Eastern Poland*

Information brochure  
Operational Programme  
Development of  
Eastern Poland



Ministry of Regional Development



**DEVELOPMENT  
OF EASTERN POLAND**  
NATIONAL COHESION STRATEGY

## SETTING OF THE PROGRAMME'S PRIORITY AXES

### Priority axis I: Modern Economy

- I.1. Infrastructure of universities
- I.2. Supporting the establishment and co-financing of financial engineering instruments
- I.3. Supporting innovativeness
- I.4. Promotion and cooperation

### Priority axis II: Infrastructure of the information society

- II.1. Broadband network of Eastern Poland

### Priority axis III: Voivodship growth centres

- III.1. Systems of municipal public transport
- III.2. Infrastructure of congress and fair travel

### Priority axis IV: Transport infrastructure

- IV.1 Road infrastructure

### Priority axis V: Sustainable development of tourist potential based on natural conditions

- V.1. Promoting sustainable tourism development
- V.2. Bicycle routes

### Priority axis VI: Technical Assistance

- VI.1. Support for the process of implementation and promotion of the Programme

## BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAMME

Within the OP DEP, the projects will be implemented by:

- universities;
- territorial self-governments units and unions and association with their participation;
- scientific units, including basic organizational units of universities;
- research and development units, including units of Polish Academy of Sciences;
- entrepreneurs;
- non-government organizations; institutions and organizations important in the view of tourism development, environment protection etc.;
- General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways;
- institutions important for the regions in the view of regional development, including:
  - statistical offices, spatial planning offices;
  - tourism organizations;
  - business and innovation environment institutions (agencies and foundations of regional and local development, business clubs, investor service centres, chambers of economy, technology transfer centres, technological parks, industrial parks, entrepreneurship incubators);
- Programme Managing Authority and Intermediate Body and other institutions appointed for Programme implementation;
- government administration bodies.

## SOURCES OF FINANCING

The OP DEP will be implemented with European Union resources (European Regional Development Fund) and national public resources. The scope of resources earmarked for the Programme under the ERDF amounts to about 2.27 billion EUR, including about 992 million EUR of special resources dedicated by the decision of the European Council to the poorest regions of the European Union (UE-25). The remaining amount, that is about 1.3 billion EUR, was earmarked by the Government of the Republic of Poland from the general pool of resources destined to Poland under the ERDF.

The resources have been divided among the priority axes of the OP DEP in the following manner:

Estimated financial table of the OP DEP with division into priority axes			
Priority Axes	EU contribution in million EUR	National contribution in million EUR	Total in million EUR
Priority axis I	789.96	139.40	929.36
Priority axis II	255.12	45.02	300.14
Priority axis III	452.62	79.87	532.50
Priority axis IV	660.38	116.54	776.92
Priority axis V	47.50	8.38	55.88
Priority axis VI	68.21	12.04	80.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>2273.79</b>	<b>401.26</b>	<b>2675.05</b>

The Programme resources have been allocated to single voivodships of Eastern Poland. The breakdown was made on the basis of a special algorithm. This breakdown is as follows:

Algorithm of breakdown of resources within the OP DEP into voivodships					
Voivodship	Algorithm for the amount of 992.19 million EURO	Breakdown of the amount of 992.19 million EUR	Algorithm of the amount of 1213.39 million EUR	Breakdown of the amount of 1213.39 million EUR	Total amount under the ERDF in million EUR
Lubelskie	26.69%	264.85	20.09%	243.72	508.57
Podkarpackie	25.54%	253.41	19.29%	234.07	487.48
Podlaskie	14.68%	145.61	19.88%	241.25	386.86
Świętokrzyskie	15.74%	156.21	18.06%	219.09	375.30
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	17.35%	172.11	22.69%	275.26	447.37
<b>EASTERN POLAND</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>992.19</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1 213.39</b>	<b>2 205.58</b>

An amount of 68.21 million EUR earmarked for the realization of Priority Axis VI "Technical Assistance" was isolated from the total ERDF amount of 2.27 billion EUR allocated to the OP DEP.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF PRIORITY AXES

### Priority Axis I: Modern Economy

#### I.1. University infrastructure

The objective of the measure is to *prepare the universities to active participation in creation of competitive economy.*

The assistance will cover projects aimed at improving educational infrastructure, which is used for didactical activity at higher educational level in the field of technical, mathematical and natural sciences or other fields of great importance to the region's development.

#### Types of projects

- construction and other construction works and provision of didactic facilities, including laboratories, computer workrooms and libraries with scientific and research equipment;
- construction and other construction works related to the university infrastructure (e.g. student houses, administrative facilities) – as long as it is an element of projects which main part regards didactical facilities and is directly related to their realization.

Minimum value of projects – 20 million PLN.

#### Beneficiaries

- public and non public universities;
- territorial self-government units;
- unions and associations of territorial self-government units.

#### I.2. Supporting the establishment and co-financing of financial engineering instruments

The objective of the measure is to *improve entrepreneurs' access to external sources of financing at the early stage of the company's activity and to improve investment readiness of SMEs.*

It is assumed that support to financial engineering instruments will be implemented according to the scheme proposed within the JEREMIE initiative.

#### Types of projects

- establishment and increase of capital of high risk capital funds.

#### Beneficiaries

- legal persons or organizational units without legal personality who do not run any other activity apart from investing in micro, small and medium enterprises at the early stage of development.

#### I.3. Supporting innovativeness

The objective of the measure is to *improve conditions for running economic activity and develop and diffuse innovative undertakings.*

Under this measure, the assistance will be granted to projects related to creation and provision of access for entrepreneurs to infrastructure for conducting innovative economic activity, which will contribute, therefore, to enhancing competitiveness of enterprises.

### **Types of projects**

- ❑ construction and other construction works and provision of scientific units with equipment, as well as employment of qualified scientific personnel;
- ❑ construction and other construction works and activation of industrial parks, technological parks and among others technological incubators together with equipping laboratories situated on their premises as well as employment of qualified scientific personnel;
- ❑ construction and other construction works and activation of centres of excellence and technology transfer centres;
- ❑ creation of infrastructure of research and development base in enterprises together with employment of qualified scientific personnel;
- ❑ preparation of investment lots for the purpose of creating production areas and modern services' zones (that is logistic centres, machinery and technological parks, incubators etc.) – complex preparation of the area for investments including construction of internal roads and connecting them with the existing transport asset and provision of water, gas and electricity.

Minimum value of the project – 12 million PLN, for investment areas – 4 million PLN.

### **Beneficiaries**

- ❑ public and non-public universities;
- ❑ scientific units, including basic organizational units of universities, scientific institutes of Polish Academy of Sciences, research and development units;
- ❑ territorial self-government units;
- ❑ unions and associations of territorial self-government units;
- ❑ institutions supporting innovative development of the region (technology transfer centres, technological and industrial parks, entrepreneurship incubators);
- ❑ entrepreneurs;
- ❑ agencies and foundations of regional and local development;
- ❑ non-government organizations.

## **I.4. Promotion and cooperation**

### **Promotion component**

The objective of the measure is to *increase the interest in economic offer of Eastern Poland*.

Within the measure, a programme of promotion of economic potential of Eastern Poland will be elaborated and implemented. It will be aimed at creating – among potential investors – the image of Eastern Poland as an area attractive for investments. The assistance will be directed to creating a transregional network of investor service centres.

### **Type of projects**

*In the "promotion" field:*

- ❑ preparation and realization of the project of economic promotion of five voivodships of Eastern Poland.

The amount of 20 million EUR has been earmarked for the realization of the promotional project.

The realization of the project was entrusted to the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency.

In the field of "creation of cooperation network of investor service centres (ISC)":

- ❑ creation and operation of common data bases, portals, web sites regarding the offer of the ISC network;
- ❑ obtaining data and elaboration of common investment offers;
- ❑ elaboration, realization and distribution of common catalogues containing the investment offers of all network members;
- ❑ organization of meetings, in particular, of working groups responsible for creation of transregional network of investor service centres, seminars, conferences related to the presentation of the offer, increase in innovativeness of services rendered, exchange of experiences in the field of services for investors.

Minimum project value – 2 million PLN.

### Beneficiaries

- ❑ Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency;
- ❑ Regional institutions conducting activity aimed at attracting and servicing of investors: investor service centres, local and regional development agencies and foundations, business clubs, chamber of commerce, technology transfer centres, technological and industrial parks, entrepreneurship incubators, special economic zones.

### Cooperation component

The objective of the measure is to create a constant platform of cooperation between Eastern Poland regions.

Under this priority axis, it is envisaged to realize undertakings of transregional reach, based on exploiting best experiences practices, the so called "best practices", for creation of a constant cooperation platform, including establishment and development of clusters.

### Types of projects

In the field of "establishment and development of clusters" projects, in which the members of the cluster represent at least two voivodships of Eastern Poland:

- ❑ establishment and development of clusters, including inter alia;
  - ❑ elaboration of strategies and operational documents for the development of the cluster, including, for instance, cooperation strategy or cluster's marketing strategy;
  - ❑ promotion and attraction of cluster's new members, identification of new cluster initiatives;
  - ❑ organization of thematic meetings for the cluster members, seminars, conferences promoting cluster's potential, stimulating cluster's development, inter-cluster links, promoting clustering idea in Eastern Poland;
  - ❑ organization of foreign business missions;
  - ❑ enhancing innovativeness and competitiveness of the cluster;
  - ❑ organization of the cluster's office;
  - ❑ designing, creation and operation of data bases, portals, vertical portals, services and web sites for the purpose of cluster's development, promoting clustering development;
  - ❑ elaboration, preparation and dissemination of promotion and information materials regarding the cluster, and development of clustering idea in Eastern Poland;
- ❑ promotion of clustering idea;
- ❑ conduction of research and creation of policies of development of Eastern Poland voivodships based on clustering.

In the field of "creation of regional development policy", projects, in which the members of the cluster represent at least two voivodships of Eastern Poland:

- ❑ conduction of analytical research, preparation of analyses and expertises on social and economic development, including also tourist and cultural potential of Eastern Poland;
- ❑ organization of meetings, seminars and conferences on Eastern Poland development, identification and exploitation of main development opportunities and common investment potential of Eastern Poland voivodships;
- ❑ elaboration, preparation and dissemination of promotion and information materials regarding economic, tourist and cultural potential of Eastern Poland;
- ❑ designing, creation and operation of data bases, portals, vertical portals, services and web sites on implementation of cohesion policy in Eastern Poland.

#### **Minimum project value:**

Projects in the field of "creation and development of clusters" – 2 million PLN.

Projects in the field of "creation of regional development policy" – 200 thousand PLN.

#### **Beneficiaries**

In the field of "creation and development of clusters" – cluster coordinator operating as:

- ❑ foundations;
- ❑ registered associations;
- ❑ joint-stock companies;
- ❑ limited liability companies;
- ❑ scientific units;
- ❑ public and non public universities;
- ❑ organizations of entrepreneurs.

In the field of "creation of regional development policy":

- ❑ territorial self-government units;
- ❑ unions and associations of territorial self-government units;
- ❑ government administration bodies.

## **Priority axis II: Information society infrastructure**

### **II.1. Broadband network of Eastern Poland**

The objective of the measure is to *increase access to broadband Internet for public institutions, enterprises and inhabitants of peripheral areas at risk of "digital exclusion"*.

The measure will be implemented by means of preparation and subsequent implementation of a complex project. The project will be realized on the territory of 5 voivodships of Eastern Poland which face the risk of digital exclusion. The project envisages construction of ICT infrastructure completing the existing resources belonging to different operators. The project will result in creating regional backbone networks. The broadband network will be created in conformity with technological neutrality principle.

The responsibility for coordination of works related to the preparation of the project and technical documentation rests with the Minister in charge of Regional Development, while the realization of the project itself will be entrusted to other entities.

### Types of projects

- ❑ creation of a transregional backbone network for using broadband Internet with access points in each municipality;
- ❑ elaboration and organization of training sessions for people at risk of "digital exclusion" in Eastern Poland, who will use infrastructure realized in the framework of the Measure.

The amount of 300 million EUR has been earmarked for the implementation of the complex project.

### Beneficiaries

- ❑ territorial self-government units.

## Priority axis III: Voivodship growth centres

### III.1. Systems of municipal public transport

The objective of the measure is to *increase the mobility of inhabitants*.

Within the Measure, the assistance will be granted to complex projects of creation or extension of ecological public transport systems, included in current integrated plans of public transport development. Priority will be given to projects which will include infrastructural integration of all forms (means) of transportation functioning "on the territory of a potential metropolitan area" (for instance, buses, trolleybuses, trams, railway, airports, individual transport), also by creating the so called eco-mobility chains (that is connection systems between public transport and pedestrian and bicycle mobility).

### Types of projects

- ❑ construction and other construction works within the rail network (including fast trams), trolleybus and bus networks including:
  - ❑ construction and other construction works within rail asset on routes, termini, side tracks, depots and purchase of rail rolling stock,
  - ❑ adaptation of railway network to the needs of municipal public transport,
  - ❑ construction and other construction works within power network and tram and trolleybus traction substations and purchase of tram and trolleybus rolling stock,
  - ❑ reconstruction of road infrastructure within which the track-way is situated,
  - ❑ purchase of trolleybus rolling stock or exchange of bus rolling stock into ecological one (anyway – into rolling stock respects the highest standards in force in Poland) together with extension or modernization of contact system or a road for the needs of the municipal public transport,
  - ❑ equipment of roads and track-ways with engineering facilities and indispensable road devices serving for safety of traffic of public transport vehicles,
  - ❑ construction, adaptation, reconstruction, extension or restoration of bus, tram and trolleybus termini together with infrastructure and lot development for conducting basic activity (without conducting service-economic activity open to other entities),
  - ❑ construction, reconstruction and extension of stops, stations, changing nodes – integrated with different types of transport systems, including car parking systems "Park & Ride" and bike parking systems "Bike & Park" at terminal stops of public transportation together with accompanying infrastructure for passenger service,
  - ❑ equipping roads with infrastructure for servicing public transport (for instance, fly-bys, driveways, exits) and passengers (for instance, stops, traffic islands);

- ▣ purchase and assembly of ICT devices (only if the tasks listed in the above point are implemented) such as:
  - ▣ central traffic lights steering systems;
  - ▣ acoustic traffic lights system;
  - ▣ traffic lights system induced by buses, trams and trolleybuses (traffic-sensitive traffic lights);
  - ▣ traffic monitoring systems on key routes, in tunnels, city trouble spots together with informing about current traffic situation;
  - ▣ ticket distribution and identification systems;
  - ▣ satellite navigation systems for improving traffic and increasing safety of public transport;
  - ▣ System of information for passengers – electronic information boards, including on-line systems;
  - ▣ Safety monitoring systems mounted on stops, platforms, stations, changing nodes, parking lots and in vehicles.

Minimum project value: 80 million PLN.

#### **Beneficiaries**

- ▣ municipality, including municipalities discharging tasks of a province.

### **III.2. Infrastructure of congress and fair travel**

The objective of the measure is to *create conditions for a dynamic development of congress and fair travel.*

The measure is open for voivodship cities of Eastern Poland (Lublin, Rzeszów, Białystok, Olsztyn, Kielce) and municipalities belonging to a potential metropolitan area, understood as an area of a direct socio-economic impact of a voivodship city, designated by each region. Furthermore, in the case of projects related to congress and conference facilities, the measure is open also to province cities.

In the framework of the measure, the assistances will be directed to infrastructural investments related to the construction, extension and equipment of exposition, fair, congress and conference facilities (also in province cities), making it possible to organize events of transregional and international importance.

Assistances will be directed only to those facilities whose creation results from diagnosed market needs and whose existence will be justified in economic terms.

#### **Types of projects**

- ▣ construction and other construction works related to fair and exhibition facilities;
- ▣ construction and other construction works related to congress and conference facilities.

Minimum project value – 20 million PLN.

Under this measure, assistance will not be directed to hotel or gastronomic facilities.

#### **Beneficiaries**

- ▣ territorial self-government units;
- ▣ unions and associations of territorial self-government units;
- ▣ commercial companies, in which a territorial self-government unit or State Treasury has shares;
- ▣ non-government organizations.

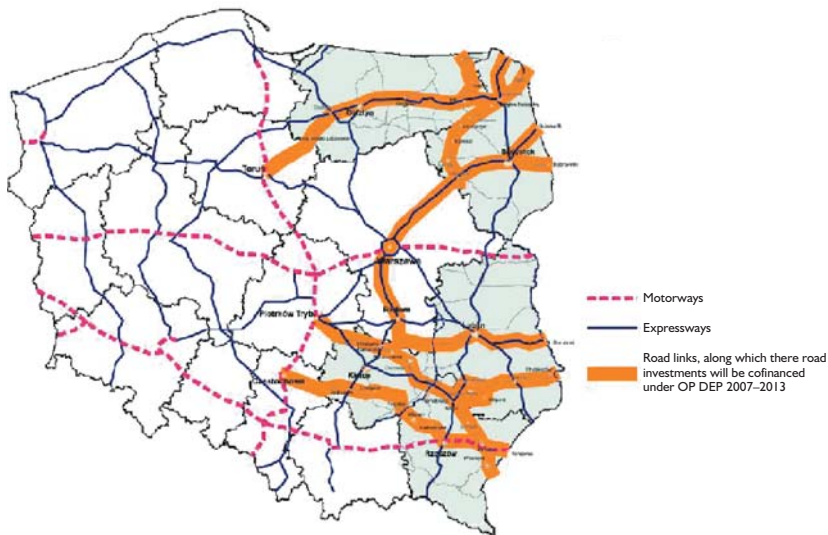
## Priority axis IV: Transport infrastructure

### IV.1 Road infrastructure

The objective of the measure is to *improve links with national and international transportation routes.*

Within the measure, it is envisaged to realize projects concentrated on improving transportation arteries important both for the area of Eastern Poland and Poland as a whole. The projects planned to be realized will cover creation of new, or modernization of existing, important tracts of voivodship roads of Eastern Poland, including bridges, ring roads, flyovers, overpasses and additionally construction of ring roads in courses of national roads together with indispensable accompanying infrastructure.

**Road courses indicated in the OP Development of Eastern Poland on the background of national road system**



### Types of projects

- Construction and other construction works within roads, ring roads, bridges, tunnels, flyovers, overpasses, nodes and crossroads in courses of these roads, including accompanying infrastructure for those facilities (inter alia exits, bus flybys and other road devices, traffic lights, protection barriers or fences, anti-glare shields, pavements, pedestrian crossings, cycle routes and paths, illumination) together with construction and other construction works and equipment in environment protection infrastructure (for instance, sound-proofing screens, water and sewage system devices, passages for animals, isolating green areas) resulting directly from the needs to prevent the increase of natural environment hazards caused by construction, reconstruction, modernization, restoration or extension of road infrastructure.

Minimum project value – 20 million PLN, and for ring roads – 8 million PLN.

### Beneficiaries

- territorial self-government units;
- unions and associations of territorial self-government units;
- General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways.

## Priority axis V: Sustainable development of tourist potential based on natural conditions

### V.1. Promoting sustainable tourism development

The objective of the measure is to increase the *interest in tourist offer of Eastern Poland*. The objective will be achieved by implementing a complex project consisting of two components:

- ▣ elaboration of a study on conditions of tourist attractiveness of Eastern Poland, which will be composed of 3 elements:
  - ▣ cataloguing of tourist attractions of Eastern Poland and analysis of Eastern Poland's image;
  - ▣ analysis of segments of tourism and types of tourists playing the key role in the regional economies of the macro-region;
  - ▣ promotion strategy;
- ▣ conduction of a campaign promoting Eastern Poland as a place for active rest.

The elaboration of the study on conditions of tourist attractiveness of Eastern Poland will permit to identify specific markets and target groups for the promotional campaign planned. Promotional and marketing activities will be addressed to domestic and foreign tourists (to domestic and foreign markets) as well as to the inhabitants of Eastern Poland – taking into account, anyway, recipient groups with special needs concerning transportation, for instance, foreign tourist, handicapped persons.

#### Types of projects

The complex project will be composed of two components:

- ▣ Elaboration of the study on conditions of tourist attractiveness (analysis of segments of tourism and types of tourists playing the key role in the regional economies of the macro-region);
- ▣ Promotion of Eastern Poland as a place for active relax.

The amount of about 5,8 million EUR has been earmarked for the promotion programme.

#### Beneficiaries

- ▣ Polish Tourist Organization.

### V.2. Cycle routes

The objective of the measure is to *develop bicycle tourism in Eastern Poland*.

Under this measure, a complex project will be elaborated and implemented. The project will be aimed at creating a transregional bicycle route in Eastern Poland.

The project consists of two components:

- ▣ demarcating and marking of cycle routes and construction and other construction works within roads (paths) for bicycles with hardened surface, which will enable bicycle tourists to move safely and will connect key spots from the bicycle traffic point of view (railway and bus stations, parking lots, tourist attractions);
- ▣ construction and mounting of basic accompanying infrastructure, that is bike stands, parking shelters, panoramic sheds, etc. and other devices indispensable for ensuring safe traffic on the cycle roads (paths) built under the Programme.

Demarcation of the cycle track course in Eastern Poland will be conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development, voivodship self-governments, tourist and ecological organizations. The responsibility for coordination of works related to the preparation of the project and technical documentation rests with the Minister of Regional Development, while the implementation of the project itself will be entrusted to other entities.

### Types of projects

- ❑ demarcating and marking of cycle routes and construction and other construction works within cycle roads (paths) with hardened surface, which will enable bicycle tourists to move safely and will connect key spots from the bicycle traffic point of view (railway and bus stations, parking lots, tourist attractions);
- ❑ construction and montage of basic accompanying infrastructure, that is bike stands, parking shelters, panoramic sheds, etc. and other devices indispensable for ensuring safe traffic on the cycle roads (paths) realized under the Programme.

The amount of 50 million EUR has been earmarked for the implementation of the complex project.

### Beneficiaries

- ❑ territorial self-government units;
- ❑ unions and associations of territorial self-government units;
- ❑ institutions and organizations important from the point of view of tourism development, environment protection etc.

## Priority axis VI: Technical Assistance

### VI.1. Support for the process of implementation and promotion of the Programme

The objective of the measure is to *optimize the system of management and implementation of Programme's measures, to enhance administrative capacity of institutions involved in the realization of the Programme and to disseminate knowledge on assistance granted to Eastern Poland voivodships with resources of the European Union, and to involve the communities in the work on the preparation of programming documents for the following programming period.*

Under this measure, it is envisaged to realize projects aimed at supporting activities and processes related to management, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and control of the Programme. Assistance will be granted also to projects related to dissemination of information on opportunities to benefit from the Programme's resources and on effects of the realization thereof.

### Types of projects

Technical Assistance will serve mainly for:

- ❑ running of duties related to promotion and information activities conducted by the Managing Authority and related to assistance granted under the Structural Funds in the framework of the OP DEP;
- ❑ ensuring technical and financial support to the process of management, implementation, monitoring and control of the OP DEP, aimed at efficient implementation of the programme and effective use of resources available within the Programme;
- ❑ ensuring an appropriate process of evaluation, monitoring and audit of projects co-financed under the Programme;
- ❑ ensuring human resources indispensable for the efficient and effective implementation of the OP DEP, having adequate competence for carrying out of designated tasks.

### Beneficiaries

- ❑ institutions involved in the implementation of the Programme.

## PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION SYSTEM

### List of individual projects

For the effective implementation of the programme, the Managing Authority has elaborated a list of individual projects, covering key investments which implementation will contribute best to the achievement of Programme's objectives.

Insertion of the project onto the list of individual projects is a preliminary declaration for its co-financing and entails making a reserve of resources for this purpose within the Programme's budget.

The projects that are on the list will not undergo competitive procedure. However, their implementation will depend on the approval of complete project documentation by the Managing Authority of the Programme and by the assessment of the project by the experts on the basis of the documentation produced.

The list, elaborated parallel to the Programme, is indicative and will be periodically reviewed!

### Institutional system

**The Managing Authority of the Programme in the Minister of Regional Development**, who is responsible for effectiveness, efficacy and correctness of management and implementation of the Programmes. The duties of the managing Authority are discharged by an organizational unit internal to the Ministry of Regional Development. At present, this function is performed by **Department of Supra-regional Programmes**.

The Managing Authority delegates the implementation of a part of tasks to the Intermediate Body. For this Programme, this function is performed by **Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PAED)**, which is responsible for: monitoring of the preparation of individual projects (from pre-agreement to agreement on co-financing), conduction of calls for applications for co-financing, signature of contracts on co-financing, verification of payment claims, control of project execution, information and promotion activities and monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of priority axes. The duties of the Intermediate Body within the PAED are discharged by: Infrastructure of Modern Economy Unit (Priority Axes: I, II) and Infrastructure Projects Unit (Priority Axes: III, IV i V).