



# PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN POLAND

 *Operations and effects*



# Programme development of eastern Poland

Regions of Eastern Poland, i.e. Lubelskie, Podkarpackie, Podlaskie, Świętokrzyskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeships, grow faster and faster largely due to the resources from the European Union. The Operational Programme Development of Eastern Poland 2007-2013 (OP DEP) has given them a chance to foster economic growth and reduce the distance separating them from the rest of the country.

The amount of **EUR 2.7 billion** was earmarked for projects implemented under the OP DEP from the resources of the European Union - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and national public funds.

Implementation of the Programme produces tangible and visible benefits. Eastern Poland has growing academic centres, comprehensive offer for investors, as well as projects that improve quality of life. All this makes this macro-region a better place to make investments, work, study and live in.

The main objective of the Development of Eastern Poland Programme constitutes in hastening the pace of social and economic development of Eastern Poland pursuant to the sustainable development principle.

## Who can apply for funds from the programme?

Most projects in the DEP programme are mainly large investments of universities, cities and self-governments of Eastern Poland registered on the list of individual projects, i.e. the list of projects for which the resources were earmarked already at the stage of creating the programme. These projects are very important for the development of the region and the entire country, but at the same time they are also difficult to implement at the local level. About 90% of the resources from the programme were earmarked for individual projects. The rest was allocated to open competitions for projects co-financing.

## What are the funds from the programme used for?

- » **Science and innovation** – the programme supports the development of universities, equipping them with modern research and computer facilities, resulting in the creation of skilled staff of the highest level. It contributes to business development and creates conditions for better use of modern, innovative technologies through the newly established science and technology parks.
- » **Internet** – the programme funds are allocated for the creation of a broadband Internet network in each voivodeship, to stimulate growth of access to the Internet in Eastern Poland, including areas difficult to reach.
- » **Urban development** – the programme finances modern, green buses, trolley buses and trams, the modernization involves main streets and inter-sections, construction of parking lots, bus bays, sidewalks, improvement of traffic management and passenger information systems. Moreover facilities used as market places or for conventions and seminars are also being constructed.
- » **Construction of roads and bypasses** – important both for Eastern Poland and the entire country.
- » **Tourism** – the programme finances activities promoting Eastern Poland as a place of leisure. a bicycle route through five voivodeships of Eastern Poland is being constructed.

# Modern Economy (Priority axis I)\*:

\* Specific programme objectives are implemented under „priority axes”, which define areas of particular importance for the development of Eastern Poland, such as transport infrastructure or modern economy. Priority axes are divided into „measures” that set specific ranges of projects under EU funding.

## Infrastructure of universities (Measure I.1)

The goal is to upgrade teaching and research facilities of universities in the technical fields and mathematics and natural sciences.

### Projects implemented under the measure consist in:

- » construction of teaching facilities (laboratories, libraries, etc.) and equipping them with research and teaching equipment;
- » construction of other infrastructure of universities (student houses, administrative buildings, etc.), provided that they are part of the project, which covers mainly educational facilities and are directly related to their implementation.




*„The launch of research and learning complex Zalesie – Regional centres of innovation and transfer of technology of production, processing and marketing in agri-food sector”*



Beneficiary:  
*University of Rzeszów*

The project includes the creation of a modern research and teaching complex for new courses at the Faculty of Biology and Agriculture: landscape architecture, biology, environmental protection, agriculture, food technology and human nutrition, as well as modernization of laboratories and equipping them with specialist scientific equipment. The way of using the building will change, as well as management of the park and areas surrounding the campus.

Modern laboratories with specialized, high-class equipment for work and analyses will allow for research related to the implementation of new technologies and implementation of research and training programmes on a global level. Interesting architectural and urban solutions increase the value of newly constructed buildings and increase their functionality ■

 New buildings of the research and teaching complex Zalesie co-financed by the OP DEP

Project value: **PLN 125,032,637** of which **PLN 98,476,290** from the OP DEP

### **Financial engineering instruments** (Measure I.2)

The goal is to facilitate access, *inter alia*, to loans for micro, small and medium-sized companies from Eastern Poland, in particular for those at an early stage of business and interested in investing.

The Measure is entirely carried out by **Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego** under the project:

## *„Resureties as an opportunity to increase external financing for SMEs. Support instrument of surety funds in Eastern Poland”*

BGK will allocate **PLN 98,294,117.63** for support in the form of resurety to surety funds to be selected in a competition and that will give surety for the obligations of small and medium-sized enterprises from Eastern Poland.

Support in the form of resurety will create an opportunity to mobilize additional sources of financing commitments of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), by taking over by BGK part of the risks that financial institutions and surety funds would not be willing to bear without the support within the project. This instrument is attractive because it provides financing without the need to raise the capital of an entrepreneur.

The renewable nature of resurety lies in the fact that the released funds from resureties for paid commitments will be made available again in the form of resurety for securing commitments of more SMEs.

After the competition, BGK will sign contracts with selected funds, under which it will be possible to implement support for SMEs in the form of sureties for their commitments ■

### **Supporting innovativeness** (Measure I.3)

The goal is to improve conditions for business activity. The implemented projects consist in:

- » construction and equipment of school facilities and research units;
- » construction of industrial parks, technological parks and incubators, including technological incubators, along with equipping their laboratories;
- » construction of excellence centre and technology transfer centres;
- » the creation of R&D facilities in enterprises;
- » preparation of investment sites so that production areas and areas of modern services could be created (logistics centres, engineering and technological parks, incubators, etc.).

## *„Equipment of the Central Agri-Environment Laboratory of University of Life Sciences in Lublin”*

Beneficiary:  
*University of Life Sciences  
in Lublin*

The project covers the creation and sharing of professional infrastructure for conducting certified research and measurement works with businesses and scientific research institutions.

Placement of the Central Agri-Environment Laboratory in Lublin Science and Technology Park allows close cooperation between science and business entities. All the scientific research units of the Lubelskie Voivodeship and from the whole country can benefit from equipment purchased under the project ■



Equipment purchased under the project:  
Fluorescence XRF X-ray



Equipment purchased under the project:  
transmission electron microscope

Project value: **PLN 20,624,643** of which **PLN 17,693,641** from the OP DEP

## Promotion and cooperation (Measure I.4)

The goal is to attract investors to Eastern Poland (promotion) and support cooperation between regions (cooperation).

### Promotion

Implementation of tasks under the promotion part of the measure is done through projects in two areas: **1) economic promotion** – the project **Eastern Poland Economic Promotion Programme (project of the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency)** and **2) creating a network of Investor Service Centre (ISC)** – project **Creation and development of investor service centres (project of the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency)** and **project of the Association „Local Action Group - Around the Bald Peak” – Local Investor Service Centres – Eastern European Gateway.**



## „Eastern Poland Economic Promotion Programme”

### Beneficiary:

*Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency S.A.*

The scope of the project covers all voivodships of Eastern Poland. The main goal of the economic promotion programme is growth of interest in the economic offer of the macro-region.

The main objectives of the project include: increased in the FDI inflows to the macro-region, greater interest of Polish companies in investments in Eastern Poland, stimulated exports of products and services from Eastern Poland and development of business tourism in the macro-region.

To attract new investments to the region, the beneficiary will conduct a promotional campaign in the national and foreign media, organize seminars and conferences, develop promotional publications, organize trips of entrepreneurs and representatives of LGUs for the fair and exhibition events.

One of the elements of the project is the marketing website (<http://polskawschodnia.eu>), which allows potential domestic and foreign entrepreneurs to gain rapid access to current knowledge on economic potential of the macro-region ■



Eastern Polish stand on the international aircraft fair „Paris Air Show”

Sample project for the creation of networks of investor service centres::

## „Local Investor Service Centres – Eastern European Gateway“



Professional website – the element of the project

Beneficiary:

*The Association*

*„Local Action Group – Around the Bold Peak“*

The project aims to increase interest in the economic offer of Eastern Poland through the creation of networking and collaboration between existing local investor service centres (ISC) in all five voivodeships of Eastern Poland, and the centres of investment promotion, export and tourism, territorial entities and other entities that may have an impact on the economic promotion of Eastern Poland.

The project will result in the establishment of, inter alia, the following: professional website (<http://lcoi.pl/en>), Polish Economic Atlas and GPS navigation system with data contained in the atlas and a system of on-line communication ■

Project value: PLN 9,794,600 of which PLN 8,815,140 from the OP DEP

### Cooperation

The aim of projects under collaboration part is to establish permanent cooperation between regions and actors in Eastern Poland. The projects involve creating clusters and popularization of this form of interaction, as well as creating regional development policy.

The projects have supra-regional range and develop a network of cooperation among regional scientific and economic entities and self-governments to engage in innovation-oriented business.

Sample cluster project:

## „Cluster of Business Environment Institutions”

Beneficiary:  
*Polish Advisory and Consulting Association*

The project aims at establishing a permanent platform for cooperation between regions of Eastern Poland. a cluster is created by specialized companies, providing all kinds of consulting, marketing, legal and financial services, and regional research institutions. Cooperation has already been established by 18 entities, including: 2 universities, 2 associations and 14 companies.

The cluster promotes good practices and entrepreneurship and also is a business partner for other companies, public institutions and self-government administration. Planned projects concern advising and consulting, training, educational initiatives, as well as R&D initiatives. The cluster has a website ([www.biznesklaster.pl](http://www.biznesklaster.pl)), which is a source of knowledge about clustering and a discussion forum for economic problems.

It is assumed that the established structure of the links will operate even after termination of the project financing agreement ■



Photo from the meeting of the „Cluster of Business Environment Institutions” with the Polish Ambassador in Paris

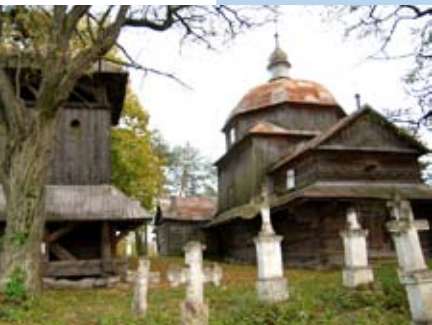
**Clusters** are concentrations of interrelated companies that operate in similar sectors and related institutions. Companies and institutions that make up the cluster compete with one another, but also exchange experience and cooperate.



Cluster website – a source of knowledge about clustering

Sample project in the area of „creation of regional development policy”

## „Zwierzyniec and Narol as leaders for the development of culture and tourism in Roztocze”



Beneficiary:  
*Narol commune*

It is a joint cooperation and promotion project of Zwierzyniec and Narol communes, aiming at the development of tourism, new cultural initiatives and the promotion of the Roztocze area.

The project includes: promotional video featuring special tourist attractions of Roztocze with a distinct role of the cooperating communes of Narol and Zwierzyniec; a joint album presenting the most important attributes of both communes against the background of tourist potential of the entire area, a common travel guide of Roztocze in which tourism is promoted (including bicycle tourism) with a description of trails, educational paths, bicycle routes and tourist attractions; an extensive website for tourists and investors (<http://bramyroztocza.pl>) ■

Project value: **PLN 511,790** of which **PLN 460,611** from the OP DEP

Photos from the joint album: Orthodox Church in Wola Wielka in the Narol commune and procession on the water in Zwierzyniec.

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

### Broadband network of Eastern Poland (Measure II.1)

The measure aims at increasing the access to broadband Internet in Eastern Poland, including the next-generation network. This goal is achieved through preparation and implementation of related projects in five voivodeships of Eastern Poland.

The network will improve access of residents, public institutions and enterprises of Eastern Poland to information and services provided electronically. The new infrastructure will complement the existing resources of different operators, and enable telecommunications entrepreneurs to build their own networks in areas previously unattractive for investments.

## „Broadband network of Eastern Poland”

Beneficiaries:  
*5 voivodeships  
of Eastern Poland*

The goal of the project is to build a comprehensive ICT infrastructure supporting the existing resources and to organize training courses for people at risk of digital exclusion.

The network will be technologically neutral, i.e. it will apply solutions that enable operators providing services to end users to use various technologies (wired and wireless), and thus provide services of various types (e.g. voice services, data transmission, TV). The network will also be open to all interested telecommunications companies, which means that access to it will be possible for all operators under the same conditions.

An important element of the project is training in Eastern Poland for those who will benefit from the infrastructure and those endangered by digital exclusion. Trainings will be attended by more than 7.6 thousand people ■



Project value: about **EUR 300 million** of which **EUR 255 million** from the European Regional Development Fund

## **Voivodeship growth centres** *(Priority axis III):*

**Municipal public transport system** *(Measure III.1)*

EU funding is granted to projects which improve public transport and passenger comfort. Higher quality of travel and connections is favourable to the attractiveness of public transport and increases the number of residents of Eastern Poland and tourists who use this method of movement. As a result, the traffic of passenger cars also reduces, which translates into safety and reduction of fumes. In particular, projects combining communication with various means of public transport and creating an urban bus-tram-train network are considered, as well as those that take into account public transport links with the movement on foot and by bicycle.

## „Improving public transport system of the city of Bialystok – Phase II”



### Beneficiary: City of Bialystok

The project aims to improve the public transport system of the city of Bialystok. Redevelopment of roads, intersections and ring road will shorten the travel time through Bialystok. The project also sets up the modernization of tram fleet.

Bialystok City Card and the dynamic system of city information are already operating. 48 new buses have been bought within the framework of the operation until now.

The next phase of the project has already begun. It consists of rebuilding another roads, purchase of 74 green buses and building a passenger centre ■



The official handing over of 48 new buses for residents on 28 February 2010

Project value: PLN 156,649,353 of which PLN 117,123,272 from the OP DEP

### Infrastructure of congress and fair tourism (Działanie III.2)

The Programme will implement projects involving construction, expansion and equipment of facilities for exhibitions, congress and conference buildings, in which it will be possible to organize events of supra-regional and international levels. Such projects are implemented in the capitals of voivodeships of Eastern Poland - for example, in Lublin and Kielce – and in the communes located in the functional environment of the capitals of voivodeships. Implementation of projects with such scope is also possible in capitals of poviats that want to build, expand and equip their congress and conference facilities. It is important that the project was **economically justified**.

Support is not targeted at hotel or catering facilities.

## „Modernisation and development of infrastructure of Kielce Trade Fairs as the International Exhibition and Congress Centre”

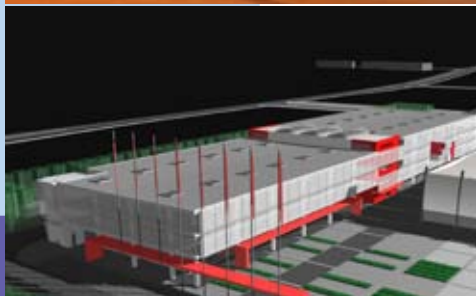
Beneficiary:

*Targi Kielce S.A.*

The project involves the construction of two pavilions and a four-storey Congress Centre with a viewing tower and a banquet hall. In addition, there are plans for comprehensive land development, including, inter alia, construction of internal roads, squares and parks, construction of water and sewerage network with connections.

Implementation of the project will enable the organization of several thematically linked exhibitions and, at the same time, it will contribute to the increase in attractiveness of the area of Kielce Trade Fairs in the eyes of exhibitors and visitors and it will improve the quality of services provided there ■

Project value: **PLN 204,721,501**  
of which **PLN 71,021,260** from the OP DEP



## Transport infrastructure (Priority axis IV):

### Road infrastructure (Measure IV.1)

The aim is to improve road links of Eastern Poland with national and international transport system. Completed projects will improve connections important for both the macro-region of Eastern Poland and the entire country. Support is given to projects in the field of construction and modernization of important sections of voivodeship roads and bypasses along national roads in the Eastern Poland, which will improve access to transport corridors of the TEN-T\* network.

The subject of individual projects is the construction or modernisation of existing voivodeship road sections as well as construction and reconstruction of bypasses, bridges, tunnels, viaducts, flyovers and junctions and intersections on these roads.

📍 State-of-the-art Hall G at the opening on 12 August 2010, and visualization of Hall M.

\*TEN-T – Trans-European Transport Networks – network of major European transport links (road, rail, water, air) of international significance.

## „Western Bypass of Mrągowo on the national road No. 59”



Construction of the bypass in Mrągowo

### Beneficiary:

General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways, Division in Olsztyn

The project is designed to solve communication problems in Mrągowo and throughout the region, resulting from the absence of the city bypass.

The bypass clears obstructions on national routes No. 16 (western boundary – Iława – Os-tróda – Olsztyn – Elk – eastern border) and No. 59 (Giżycko – Mrągowo), connected outside Mrągowo city centre. The most interesting and most beautifully situated area for investment is the 6-span trestle bridge E-4 over the river Dajna, Młynowa street and access road to Mrągowille. In addition to the roadway, also new crossroads, roundabouts, pedestrian overpasses, flyovers and underpass were put into service. Negative impact of the route is mitigated by acoustic screens and animal crossings under the road ■

Project value: PLN 153,623,524 of which PLN 114,059,656 from the OP DEP

## Balanced development of tourist potential based on natural conditions (Priority axis V):

Promoting sustainable tourism development (Measure V.1)

The aim is to increase interest in the tourist offer of Eastern Poland.

The entire measure is carried out by the project of the Polish Tourist Organisation:



## „Promoting sustainable tourism development”

A comprehensive project consists of several stages. First, an inventory was made of tourist attractions in Eastern Poland and evaluation of the image of the macro-region was carried out. Then the tourism segments and types of tourists were analysed in terms of preparation of promotion strategy. The final task covers promotional campaign aimed at domestic and foreign tourists, which takes account of different groups of customers (e.g. people with disabilities).

Promotional campaign under the slogan "Beautiful East" encourages active tourism in areas of high natural value, sightseeing and culinary tourism, it promotes rural areas, cultural heritage of national minorities, ethnic and religious groups, and multi-faith religious legacy of the macro-region.

Promotion will enhance the image of Eastern Poland as a place with a particularly valuable tourist potential, attractive for amateurs of all kinds of activity.

The website [www.pieknywschod.pl](http://www.pieknywschod.pl) is part of the campaign. It includes a database of tourist attractions, consisting of five categories: (1) monuments, museums, (2) nature, (3) activity, (4) health and beauty, (5) entertainment. This page is edited in four languages: Polish, English, German and Ukrainian ■

The value of the project is **PLN 23,944,117** entirely from the OP DEP

### **Bicycle routes** (Measure V.2)

The aim is to develop cycling tourism in Eastern Poland. As a result of the measure implementation bicycle routes will be created in all voivodeships of Eastern Poland, which will constitute a coherent whole. The resulting route will be one of the few, in terms of the type and scale, tourist attractions in Europe, which is likely to attract tourists and investors to Eastern Poland.

## „Bicycle routes in Eastern Poland“



### Beneficiaries: 5 voivodeships of Eastern Poland

A network of bicycle routes will be created, which will incorporate in a common system all existing and planned routes and will improve the availability of attractive tourist sites, and ensure safe access.

Each project consists of construction and marking of bicycle routes with hardened surface, that will enable safe and efficient riding in the city, and will connect places important for bicycle traffic (railway stations, bus stations, parking lots, tourist attractions). Bicycle routes

outside the city will be also delineated and marked, where due to the natural environment, it is not advisable to use hardened surfaces. In addition, there are plans to construct and install supporting infrastructure (bicycle stands, stop shelters, landscape viewing shelters).

The process of marking out the bicycle trails in Eastern Poland was carried out by the Ministry of Regional Development in cooperation with self-governments, tourist and environment organizations.

In addition, there will be a project involving promotion of bicycle routes which will, inter alia, create a system of visual identification and a web portal for users of the routes ■



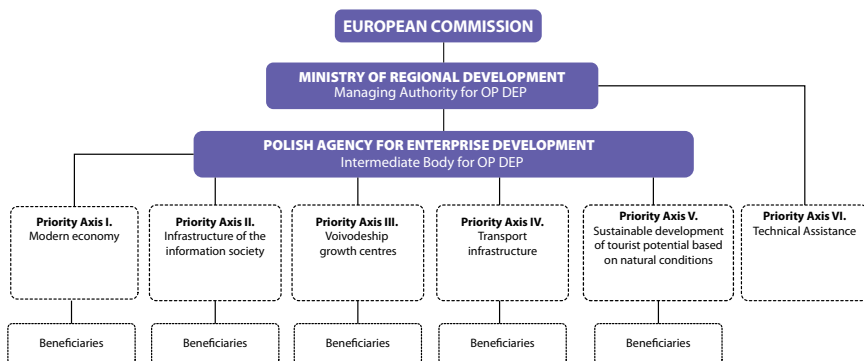
Project of the bicycle trails  
in Eastern Poland

Value of the comprehensive project: **EUR 50 million**

# Technical Assistance (Priority axis VI):

The aim of the priority axis is to support the efficient programme management and implementation and dissemination of knowledge on supporting voivodeships of Eastern Poland from the EU funds.

## Authorities implementing the programme



Managing Authority for the Programme is the Minister for Regional Development, which is responsible for the effectiveness, efficiency and accuracy of the programme management and implementation. Tasks of the Managing Authority are implemented by the Department of Supra-Regional Programmes. Intermediate Body, the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PAED) is responsible, inter alia, for carrying out the call for proposals for co-financing, signing project financing agreements, monitoring project implementation. Responsibilities of the Intermediate Body under the PAED are performed by Modern Economy Infrastructure Department and Infrastructural Projects Department.



The website of the Operational Programme Development of Eastern Poland  
[www.polskawschodnia.gov.pl/english](http://www.polskawschodnia.gov.pl/english)

More about the Programme Development of Eastern Poland you can read at:  
[www.PolskaWschodnia.gov.pl/English](http://www.PolskaWschodnia.gov.pl/English).



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