



ANNUAL REVIEW MEETINGS FOR REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Horizontal session

23 October 2019, Warsaw

*Unit F3, DG Regional and Urban Policy
Unit E5, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
European Commission*



PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION (1)

I. ERDF and ESF implementation in regions is gaining pace in terms of certification and project selection:

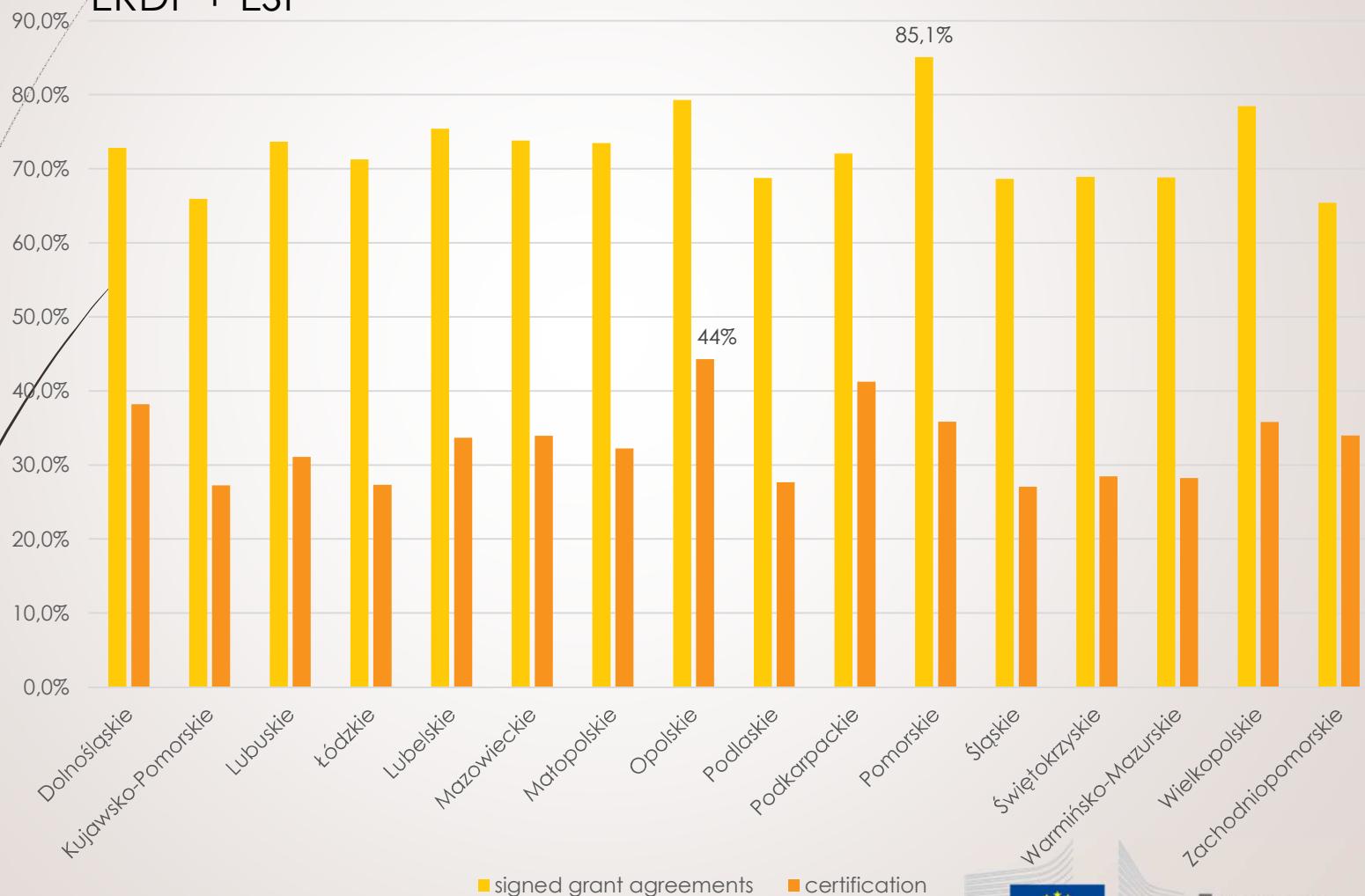
- ▶ **32.6%** certification as of 30 September compared to **17.1 %** last year (18 November 2018)
- ▶ **72.6%** project selection as of 30 September vs. **62.1%** last year

II. Still wide differences between regions:

- ▶ frontrunners with selection rate of **85.1%** and payments of **44.3%** (congratulations to Pomorskie and Opolskie – once again!)
- ▶ but also those lagging behind with selection rate of **65.4%** and payments of **27.1%**

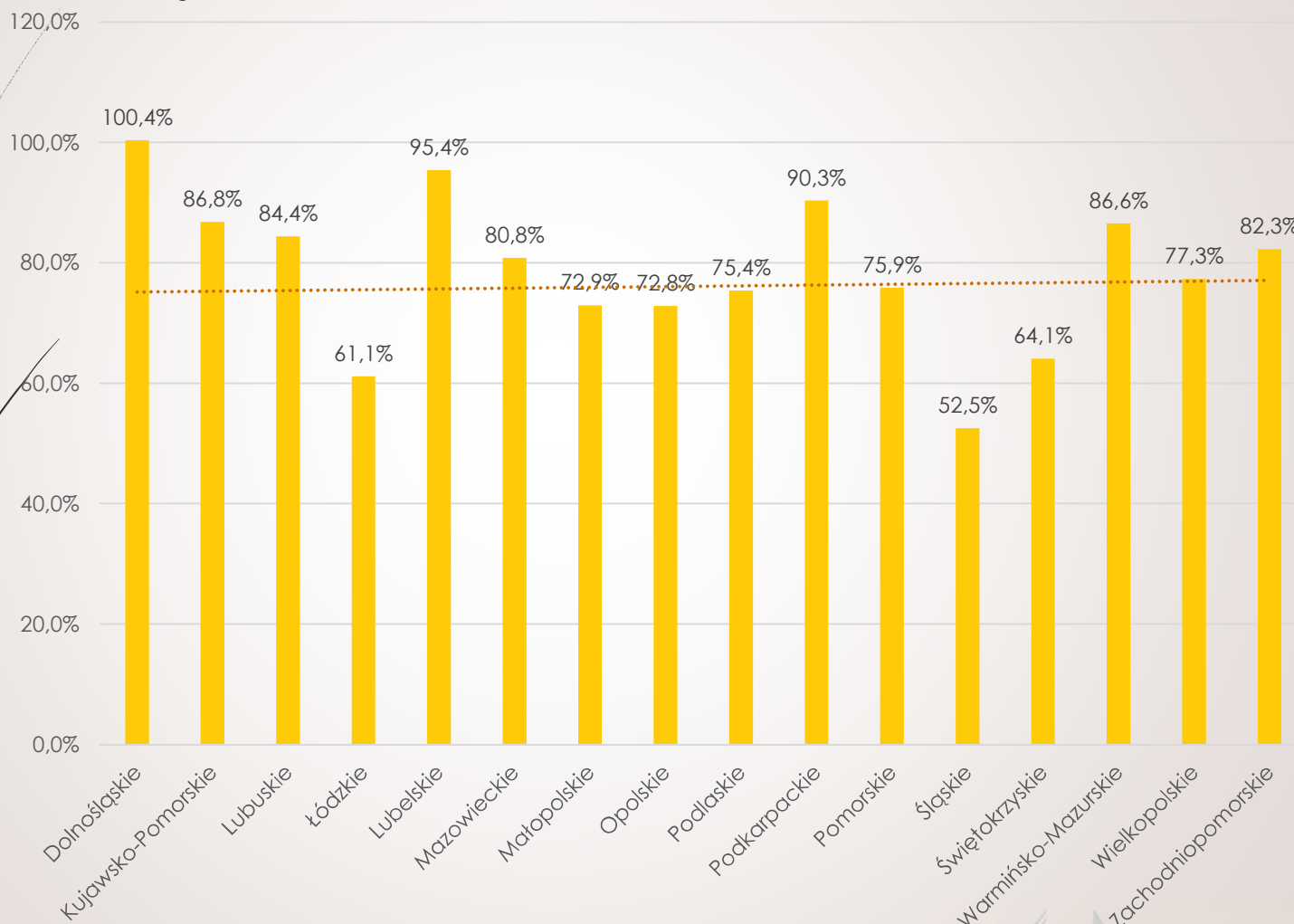
ROPs PROJECT SELECTION AND CERTIFICATION AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

ERDF + ESF



DISBURSEMENT VS FORECAST

ERDF + ESF





PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION (2)

- III. A final push in the implementation of all ROPs is necessary, also with a view to preparing 2021-27:
- ▶ Apply **good practices**
 - ▶ **Activate** beneficiaries
 - ▶ **Simplify selection procedures and criteria** particularly for small beneficiaries
 - ▶ **Review** organisation and HR of MAs and IBs
 - ▶ Make use of **simplified cost options**
 - ▶ And in view of closure, **use overbooking!**



PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION (3)

- IV. **N+3** rule for 2019 fulfilled for all ROPs: **well done!**
- V. **Payment claim forecasts:** importance of accurate and reliable forecasts
- VI. **To ensure full implementation of the 2019 budget**, submit your payment claims at latest by 20 December 2019
- VII. **Do your best to regroup certified expenditures** into larger claims and avoid sending payment claims for small amounts
- VIII. **Preferably** not less than 10 million euro (**requested for ERDF**)



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

Art. 30 CPR:

Requests for amendment of programmes submitted by a Member State shall be duly justified and shall in particular set out the expected impact of the changes to the programme on achieving the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and the specific objectives defined in the programme [...]



No request for amendment can be accepted without a sufficient justification!

ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

- ▶ MAs are requested **to flag reallocation** from FIs to grants.
- ▶ Each reallocation of resources from FIs to grants should be **justified** on a case by case basis. MAs are requested to provide detailed information on the state of implementation of FIs, by indicating amounts paid to FIs and disbursed to final recipients.
- ▶ MAs should also elaborate on **measures** aiming at addressing implementation bottlenecks, speeding up spending and prospects for further spending of FIs by the end of 2023.



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

SMART GROWTH: THEMATIC OBJECTIVES 1 & 3

- ▶ Need to **increase the innovative potential** of the Polish economy (Country Specific Recommendation): in principle the allocation for thematic objectives 1 & 3 should not be reduced
- ▶ To a limited extent, individual **exceptions** may be negotiated: the Managing Authority should prove that possible measures to improve absorption have already been taken
- ▶ Innovativeness remains **high priority** for 2021-2027



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

- ▶ **Thematic objective 4:** allocations should not be reduced (ring-fencing, climate expenditure, upcoming European Green Deal)
- ▶ **Thematic objectives 5 & 6:** allocations should be reshuffled within the environmental sector; if absorption is not possible, allocation can be shifted in favour of Thematic Objective 4



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

TRANSPORT

- ▶ **Increase** in allocation allowed only for sustainable transport modes
- ▶ **For road transport**, introduction of obligatory provision on axle load weight of 11,5 tonnes – applicable to **all** road investments



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ERDF

HEALTH

- ▶ Any additional allocation should be spent on support to **primary and ambulatory care** and in principle not on hospitals
- ▶ Support to hospitals only if this investment is for the purpose of **moving away from a hospital-centred model** to more person-centred approaches, such as development of day care wards / centres and community-based services.



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ESF

- ▶ **EMPL position guided by subsequent CSRs**
- ▶ **New places in institutional childcare as top priority**
 - ▶ No reallocations from IP 8iv
 - ▶ No reduction of indicator on number of places created
 - ▶ No additional funding for nannies and vouchers
- ▶ **Reallocations to IP 10i only if for**
 - ▶ teachers' training
 - ▶ inclusive education
 - ▶ places in kindergartens



ROP MODIFICATIONS: ESF

- ▶ **VET as a priority**
 - ▶ No reallocations from IP 10iv with the exception of small left-overs and when a regional VET strategy was in place
- ▶ **Reduction of target values - only if resulting from**
 - ▶ reallocation (proportionally) or
 - ▶ wrong assumption in the methodology
- ▶ **Increase of target values**
 - ▶ reallocation (proportionally) or
 - ▶ when already achieved and there is still available allocation
 - ▶ wrong assumption in the methodology

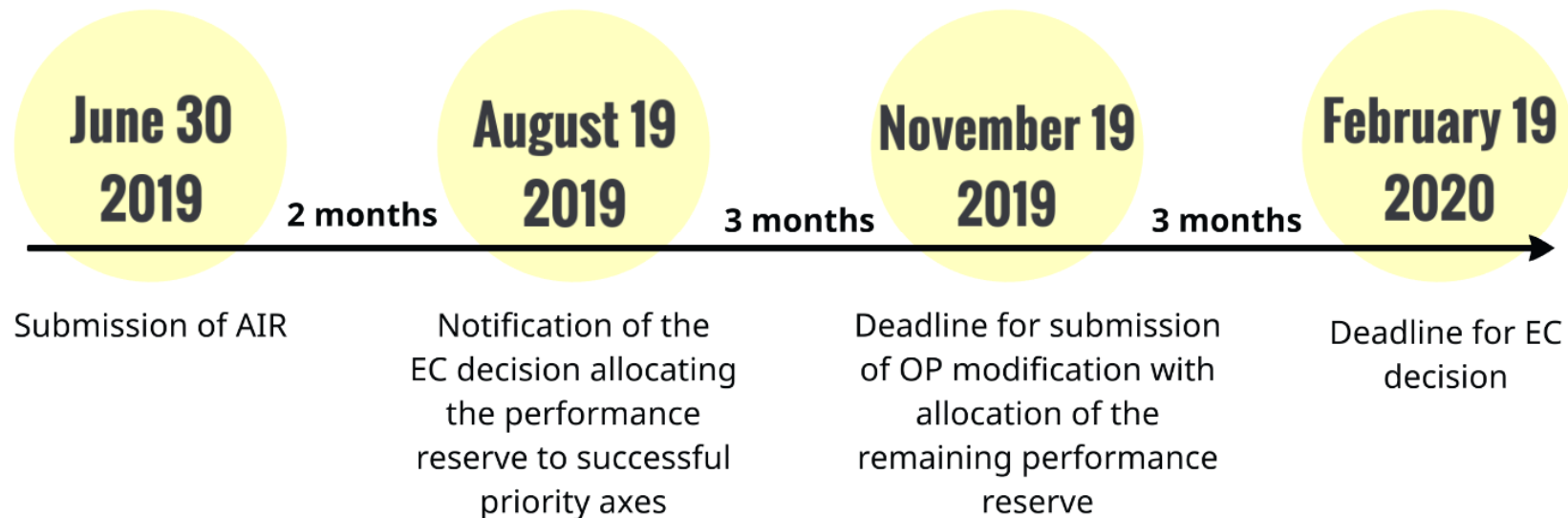
ROP MODIFICATIONS: TECHNICAL ISSUES (1)

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

- ▶ **EC issued decision** definitively allocating the performance for priority axis which achieved the performance framework targets on **16 August 2019, C(2019) 6164 – notified to PL on 19 August 2019**
- ▶ **Managing Authorities** have to submit **OP modifications** with reallocations of performance reserve **within 3 months** of EC decision's notification
- ▶ **EC decision** on OP modifications:
 - ▶ pure performance reserve modifications – **2 months**
 - ▶ **mixed modifications** – reallocations of performance reserve and other elements – **standard 3 months procedure**

ROP MODIFICATIONS: TECHNICAL ISSUES (2)

TIMELINE



ROP MODIFICATIONS: TECHNICAL ISSUES (3)

FINANCIAL PLAN – TECHNICAL CHANGES

Table 17: no changes to be made

Table 18a:

- ▶ **Priority axes which did NOT achieve their PF targets** – performance reserve to be moved from performance reserve of non-performing priority axis to performance reserve of performing priority axis
- ▶ **Priority axes which achieved their PF targets** – only main allocation can be moved between priority axes
- ▶ **Performance reserve in performing priority axes can NOT be moved** – it was definitely allocated by the EC decision.
- ▶ **5-7% rule of the performance reserve per priority axis is not applicable anymore** - SFC error message is changed into warning and does not block the submission of OPs



ROP MODIFICATIONS: TECHNICAL ISSUES (4)

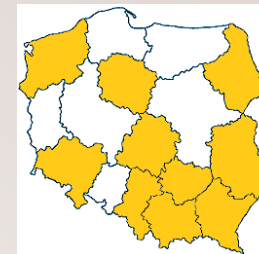
RESETTING TARGETS IN OP MODIFICATIONS

To improve the accountability of the cohesion policy achievements it is important to correct and adjust target setting:

- ▶ in line with the **financial reallocations** – not only those triggered by the performance review.
- ▶ for the indicators that are to dramatically **overachieve** the current 2023 targets.

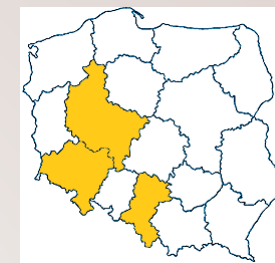
Managing Authorities need to submit **rationale for the target modifications**, which will allow understanding the new values.

CATCHING-UP REGIONS INITIATIVE



- ▶ Poland was among the **first MS** which implemented the CuRI
- ▶ 10 regions participated in **3 phases** of CuRI between 2016-2019 with **total 3,8 m EUR** support from the Commission technical assistance
 - ✓ Dolnośląskie, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Lubelskie, Łódzkie, Małopolskie, Podkarpackie, Podlaskie, Śląskie, Świętokrzyskie, Zachodniopomorskie
- ▶ Currently **4th phase** under preparation to accompany the national authorities in implementing the Clean Air Programme
- ▶ The CuRI approach involving the World Bank experts has achieved **concrete results** in providing political, administrative and legal advice **and concrete project design** in areas for ex. entrepreneurship support, financial instruments, energy efficiency, spatial planning, healthcare
- ▶ As a **next steps**, the Commission recommends:
 - ▶ **Share of results** with all the MAs with a view to roll them out to other Polish regions
 - ▶ **Mainstream the results** in the current and new programmes by working on the project pipeline (use of the programme technical assistance)

COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION



- ▶ 3 PL Regions involved: **Dolnośląskie, Śląskie, Wielkopolskie**
- ▶ **ESIF support focused** on energy, economic, technologic transformation with strong social fairness aspect
- ▶ **Projects supported** in 2014-2020 via reprogramming the ROPs and through OP Infrastructure & Environment & OP TA (130m EUR in Silesia)
- ▶ Projects, which cannot be supported in this period (due to financing shortages in ROP or maturity level), are being **prepared for the 2021-2027** period
- ▶ **Support tools via OPs:**
 - ▶ Separate set of **selection criteria**
 - ▶ **Non-competitive mode** of project selection
 - ▶ **Competitive projects selection** with bonus points for contributing to coal regions initiative
 - ▶ **Separate calls** in OP I&E focused only on Coal Regions in Transition in RES

INFORMING GENERAL PUBLIC

EUROBAROMETER 2019

Could your country do better outside the EU in the future?

➔ **47% of Poles respond in the affirmative.** This shows how shallow our Euro-enthusiasm is, despite 90% support for membership.

Do you think your country could better face the future outside the EU?



**Dolnośląskie
POSZERZAMY
PERSPEKTYWĘ**

Regionalny
Program
Operacyjny
Województwa
Dolnośląskiego
@RPOWD

Marszałek Województwa Lubelskiego Jarosław Stawiński na zarządzie Zdzisław Szwed w dniu 20 września br. Chelma, Jakubem Banaszkim, umowę na Centrum Aktywności Gospodarczej.

Wartość dofinansowania ze środków Regionu Operacyjnego Województwa Lubelskiego na lata 2014-2020 wynosi ponad 27 mln zł, co stanowi 65% kosztów kwalifikowanych.

Finalnie realizacja projektu przyczyni się do gospodarczej Chelma i subregionu, do zmniejszenia wpływu na strukturę zawodową lokalnego rynku pracy, do zwiększenia zatrudnienia, do poprawy sytuacji ekonomicznej przedsiębiorców, do poprawy jakości życia mieszkańców.

[Opis dla niewidomych i niedowidzących: zdjęcie uroczystego podpisania umowy.]

Fot. Biuro Prasowe UM Chelm.



Lubuskie
August 28

7,1 mln zł to łączna kwota dofinansowania jaką przyznał Zarząd Województwa Lubuskiego na realizację 11 projektów w ramach Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Lubuskie 2020. Pieniądze przeznaczone zostaną na realizację działań związanych z opieką nad dziećmi w wieku do lat 3.

więcej na: <http://lubuskie.pl.../Ponad-7-min-zl-na-op.../d.news-bootstrap/>



Pomorskie w Unii
1 hr

16 projektów z dodatkowym dofinansowaniem !!
Dzisiaj marszałek województwa pomorskiego Mieczysław Struk wręczył symboliczne czekie przedstawicielom 16 projektów, łączna kwota dodatkowego dofinansowania wynosi: 3139595 zł
Te pieniądze trafią do gmin i powiatów: Władysławowo, Rumia, Wejherowo, Luzhno, Puck, Jastarnia, Reda, Hel oraz Szemud.



jesienno-zimowy rozkład szkoleniowy i piracji i morze merytorycznego wsparcia i przyszytych – beneficjentów.

dla z RPO WP i niedowidzących: grafika przedstawia ludzi na białym tle, którzy się uśmieniają i przybijają sobie piątkę plus napis Rozwini skrzydła z RPO



Wini skrzydła z RPO

Kujawsko-Pomorskie
2 hrs

Dzisiaj rozpoczęliśmy remont, przebudowę i modernizację budynków oraz odrestaurowanie parku w kompleksie pałacowym w Wieniucu. W odrestaurowanym kompleksie powstanie Kujawskie Centrum Muzyki. Odbywać się tu będą duże i ważne wydarzenia kulturalne – teatralne i wystawy – a także warsztaty i...

min złotych. inansowane w ramach Regionalnego Programu 14-2020



Fundusze dla Mazowsza
23 hrs

SukcesPisanyDotacją
37 milionów złotych
Tyle pieniędzy łącznie otrzymały dziesiątka mazowieckie placówki medyczne i przedszkola.
Wicemarszałek Rafał Rajkowski odwiedził dziś Koźnice i Raadom. W obu tych miastach brał udział w podpisywaniu umów na dofinansowanie z funduszy europejskich informatyzacji sześciu placówek medycznych.

Pani dyrektor Elżbieta Szymank i Mirosław Adam Orliński – wicemarszałek Sejmiku Województwa Mazowieckiego zawitali natomiast w gminie Rybno, by przekazać dofinansowanie dla przedszkółki w gminie Rybno i gminie Młodzieszyn.



#RPOWM #FunduszeDlaMazowsza #FunduszeEuropejskie

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Województwo Podlaskie
September 30 at 5:10 PM

W Sokółce powstanie nowy terminal przedsiadunkowy! W poniedziałek (30.09) Marszałek Województwa Podlaskiego Artur Kosicki i przedstawiciele firmy Barter S.A. podpisali umowę o dofinansowanie budowy terminala intermodalnego. Firma otrzymała na ten cel prawie 40 mln zł unijnego wsparcia z Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego.

Operacyjny.



WAY FORWARD

INFO-PROMO AS INTEGRAL PART OF THE PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION

- I. Emphasis on **EU's contribution to Poland's development** and **Poland's participation toward the changes happening in the EU**, i.a. by:
 - ✓ Showing the **European dimension** of EU co-financed projects
 - ✓ Communicating European **added value** and its durable changes
- II. Intensified actions presenting the effects of the EU support addressed to the **general public**

EUROPEAN DIMENSION SEMANTICS

2021-2027: SIMPLIFYING THE LANGUAGE TO SUPPORT INFORMATION AND PROMOTION ACTIVITIES SHOULD START ALREADY AT THE PROGRAMMING STAGE

To facilitate the information and promotion activities and incorporate 'European Union' into specific programmes, **names of the programmes** should be kept simple and to refer to European Union's for example '**FUNDUSZE UE DLA MAZOWSZA**'.

Priority axes names should be based on the Cohesion Policy thematic menu: 5 POs:

- ▶ **A smarter Europe** (innovative & smart economic transformation including SME support, skills and digital)
- ▶ **A greener, low-carbon Europe** (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)
- ▶ **A more connected Europe** (mobility and ICT connectivity)
- ▶ **A more social Europe** (the European Pillar of Social Rights)
- ▶ **A Europe closer to citizens**

For example PA: „**BETTER CONNECTED EUROPA**” instead of „Supporting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructure ”



DEINSTITUTIONALISATION

- ▶ **It is not about the size** - more attention to assessment of the “soft part” of the definition of an institution
- ▶ Establishment of **an ex-ante compliance monitoring mechanism and advisory body** for MAs (example: accessibility)
- ▶ **Overview on progress in DI in a region** – common monitoring tool needed (social+health; ESF+ERDF)
- ▶ **Preparation of DI strategy to meet enabling conditions** – regional component needed

PRINCIPLE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

- ▶ Article 2 of the Treaty on EU
- ▶ Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU
- ▶ Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 (CPR)
- ▶ Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 (CPR)



USE OF SIMPLIFIED COST OPTIONS (SCO)

- ▶ The use of SCO **decreases administrative burden** of the managing authorities and beneficiaries, it helps to **focus on results** rather than on the processes
- ▶ Therefore the Commission encourages the managing authorities to **increase the use** of the SCO in the current and new programmes
- ▶ Commission support to the MS in developing **SCO methodologies**:
 - ▶ **Transnational network of SCO practitioners**
(https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/simplified-cost-options/)
 - ▶ **A mapping of the existing SCO practices** - 380 practices (out of which 14 in PL OPs) have been identified by MS in various policy areas: from R&D, business advisory support, CO2 reduction to education infrastructure as well as water and water sewage projects
 - ▶ **Peer to peer exchanges** – 7 PL OPs (both national and regional) already indicated an interest to be a beneficiary, several MS (including bigger beneficiaries MS) offer a possibility to provide training and share their experience
 - ▶ **A list of Commission SCOs practices** used in various EU programmes and funding instruments such as Horizon 2020, COSME, Erasmus +, CEF
- ▶ **A new Commission delegated act** on the flat rate financing of technical assistance projects – off the shelf rate of 4% to be applied to thematic priorities in the OPs other than TA OP

PREPARATION FOR THE 2021-2027 PERIOD



NEGOTIATIONS IN THE COUNCIL AND THE EP

- ✓ **Objective** to reach an agreement in trilogues on negotiation blocks which are the most important for the programming proces - **by December 2019.**

Block 1 – programming

Block 2 – enabling conditions and performance review

Block 5 – management and control system

+ specific objectives of ERDF, ESF+ and Interreg



PREPARATION OF FUTURE REGIONAL PROGRAMMES (1)

➤ **Fulfilment of enabling conditions - at regional level**

- Smart specialisation strategy
- Transport plans
- Strategic policy framework for health (mapping of needs)

➤ **Expanding integrated territorial tools**

- Preparation/ updating of Integrated Territorial Strategies
- Creation of new local action groups for Community-Led Local Development
- Capacity building at local level, for example through training for trainers, participation in networks, expert advice.



PREPARATION OF FUTURE REGIONAL PROGRAMMES (2)

- **Embedding cooperation in the programmes** - to describe under each specific objective for ERDF interregional actions planned with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State.
- **Just Transition Fund**
 - The aim is to **support regions** and people most affected by de-carbonisation process, for example in coal regions.
 - It will **build on cohesion policy experience** and on Coal Regions in Transition Initiative.
 - It will be delivered under **shared management** – within the legal framework for cohesion policy (Common Provisions Regulation).

PREPARATION OF FUTURE REGIONAL PROGRAMMES (3)

- ▶ Positive assessment of **regionalisation of ESF**
- ▶ **More flexibility** in programming to take into account regional differences

BUT

ROP MAs must demonstrate

- ▶ **strategic approach** => for ex. regional strategies as basis for interventions in VET and social/health services based on robust diagnosis of needs
- ▶ **capacity to deliver and work with the stakeholders**
- ▶ use of **existing models**, no reinvention of the wheel



USEFUL LINKS

Regional Innovation Scoreboard:

- ▶ https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/innovation/facts-figures/regional_en

Regional Competitiveness Index:

- ▶ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/maps/regional_competitiveness/

Upcoming events:

- ▶ **Berlin, 30 October 2019:** Cross-border meeting between administrations in the German-Poland border
- ▶ **Gdańsk 7-8 November 2019, Climate for metropolises, Metropolises for climate:** How to bring Europe closer to citizens in urban and rural communes?



DISCUSSION

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